



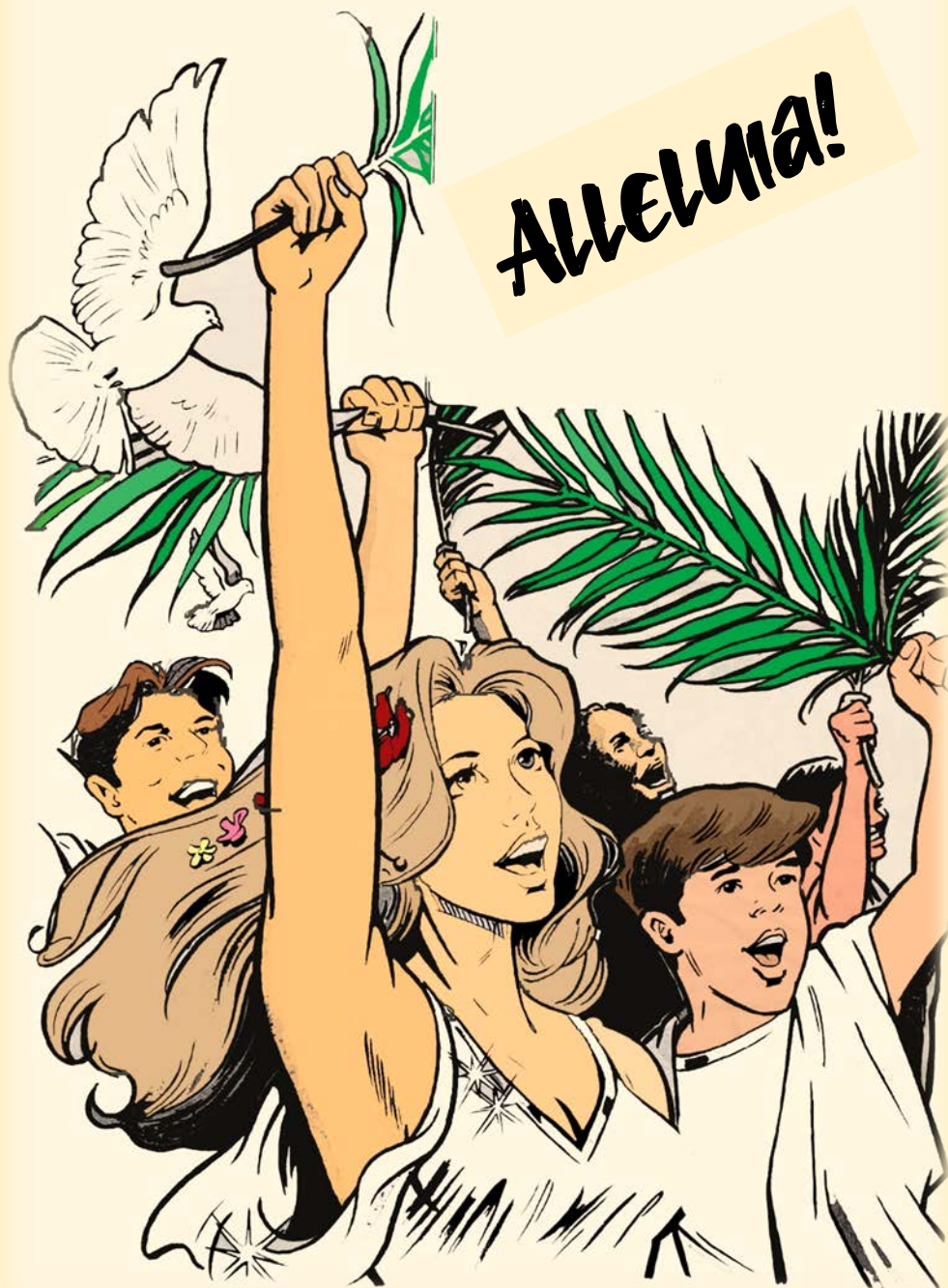
REVELATION CHAPTER 19, part 1

The Marriage of the Lamb (Verses 1 – 10)

Basic Study of Revelation compiled
by Gaetan.

This chapter is one of the most dramatic in all the Bible. In it, the Church, the Bride of Christ, is the guest of honor at the marriage of the Lamb in Heaven (v.1-10). Then the Bride is seen returning to Earth, riding with Christ to fight in the battle of Armageddon (v.11-21). It is the only chapter in the New Testament where this word "**Alleluia**" is found, and it appears four times. This opening scene incorporates all believers, the Old and New Testament saints as well as the Tribulation saints. Together they join this great chorus proclaiming "**Alleluia!**"

Now, although this Chapter doesn't mention anything about the Rapture, obviously the Rapture has already occurred because many people are in Heaven. There are oodles of people there, and they're celebrating the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. You couldn't have that without the Bride, could you?



REV.19:1 And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, **Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:**

**** 1CHR.29:11** *Thine, O LORD is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; **thine is the kingdom, O LORD,** and thou art exalted as head above all.*

REV.19:2 For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.

**** DEU.32:43** *Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: for **he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries,** and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.*

**** REV.6:10** *And they cried with a loud voice, saying, **How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?***

The Bible says that God is love. (1 John 4:8) The Bible also says that God exercises wrath. (Co.3:5, 6; Rev. 15:1)

Both of these features may be found in God's character, and it is sometimes difficult to reconcile these two attributes. So, let us just say here that there is a perfect balance between God's love and God's wrath. Most people welcome and understand God's love. But what about

God's wrath? If the Bible teaches anything about God's wrath, it reveals that God takes action when a majority of people violate His laws and do evil. The Bible speaks of the flood in Noah's day, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, the destruction of old Jerusalem twice and in the previous chapters 17 and 18, the devastation of Babylon the Great Whore. A lot more could be said about this subject but in order to keep this class short, let us just say that *“true and righteous are his judgments”*. (Ps 19:9, Gen.6:5-8; 18:20-21; 19:13; Jer.25:8-11; Mt.23:37; 1Thes.2:16)



Of course, there will always be those who think that God is being too mean, while others will complain over why God didn't act sooner.



**** Jer.9:22-23** *Thus says God: Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might; let not the rich man glory in his riches. But let him that glories, glory in this: **that he understands and knows Me, and that I am God, Who practices mercy, justice and righteousness on the earth; for in these things I delight, says God.***"

REV.19:3 And again they said, **Alleluia** and her smoke rose up for ever and ever.

REV.19:4 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; **Alleluia.**

REV.19:5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, **Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.**

**** PSA.150:6** *Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.*



*...for the Lord God
omnipotent reigneth!*

REV.19:6 And I heard as it were **the voice of a great multitude**, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, **Alleluia**: for the **Lord God omnipotent reigneth**.

**** REV.11:15** *And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, **the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.** And the four and twenty elders...worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O LORD God Almighty, which art, and was, and art to come; **because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.** And **the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come**, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and **that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.***

Everybody's shouting Hallelujah! If you're in Heaven when all this is going on, you're going to be shouting Hallelujah, when you see what's happening on Earth. ***"For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth!"*** Hallelujah!

Who is taking over? Who's going to reign now? God is going to reign! Here the ***Whore*** empire Babylon has been destroyed, and now God is about to pour out His judgment on the final empire of the Beast. As for God's children, we will be celebrating in Heaven, along with the rest of the Heavenly host, during the Marriage of the Lamb!



REV.19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: **for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.**

God's Word, the Bible, refers to His people as His Wife and Himself as the Bridegroom, our Husband. He is our all in all and we want to be as close to Him as we possibly can. We are honored to be the Bride of Christ, and we can love Him in spirit and He loves us in return. We want to be close to Jesus and enjoy all the benefits of a strong, loving relationship. And like love between an earthly husband and wife, we become one with Him. We are closer to Him and we find strength, comfort, and solace, and receive many spiritual blessings that we don't get any other way. The resultant closeness we achieve with Jesus when we love Him gives us strength, which we know will help us pull through victoriously during those troubled times ahead – those fast approaching End Time upheavals. (See *Psa.45:11; Isa.54:5, 62:3-5; Hos.2:19-20; Matt 25:1; John 3:29; Rom.7:4; 2Cor.11:2.*)



REV.19:8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, **clean and white**: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

**** ISA.61:10** *I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a*



bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

And they are all praising God, thanking God for something!--A great victory over the enemy! Because they have been released and rescued out of this Hell on Earth, this corrupted World and they're in Heaven with Jesus having a wonderful party, a Marriage Supper, a Wedding Reception, a wonderful time while there's Hell on Earth as God pours out His judgements upon their wicked enemies they left behind!

REV.19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, **Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb...** these are the true sayings of God.

When Jesus comes back to rescue His children, His Church, out of the terrible Great Tribulation, it will be our glorious Exodus from this World! He will come and *"gather together"* His saints, His children, *"from one end of Heaven to the other"* and *"so shall we ever be with the Lord!"* (Mt.24:31; 1Th.4:17.) He comes back to catch His bride out of the evil clutches of the enemy and to take her into His bosom!--A union which is so thrilling, exciting and will be such ecstasy that it is called the Rapture!

As you are heading up into the clouds to join Jesus and all the resurrected saved, you might be wondering *"What next?"* Well, my friends, it is time to celebrate, and you are going to be one of the guests of honor. You are cordially invited to your wedding party. Welcome to the great *"Marriage Supper of the Lamb,"* where you, one of Jesus' brides and part of His Church, the elect, the *"ecclesia"*, the called-out ones, finally get to celebrate your marriage with Jesus.





The Bible calls it the ***"Marriage Supper of the Lamb"*** because it will be the great Wedding of the Bride, His Bride--all believers, the entire true Church of God, the true believers in Christ, all of them counted as one great Bride though it be composed of millions--marrying Jesus at this great celebration in Heaven, this great Wedding Feast! You became part of His Bride the minute you accepted Him into your heart, and now you finally get to have the wedding supper. From that point on, the Bible is silent as to what the celebrations consist of, but we can rest assured that if Jesus is planning the party, its beauties, glories, celebrations, and reunions will far exceed our wildest imaginations.



There is another event that will apparently take place at this time, referred to in Scripture as the Judgment Seat of Christ. This is when the saved will come individually before Jesus Christ to receive their rewards. Paul writes:

***** ROM.14:10, 12 ...for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.***

***** 2CO.5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.***

Jesus said:

***** Rev.22:12 Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.***

***** Mt.16:27 The Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.***

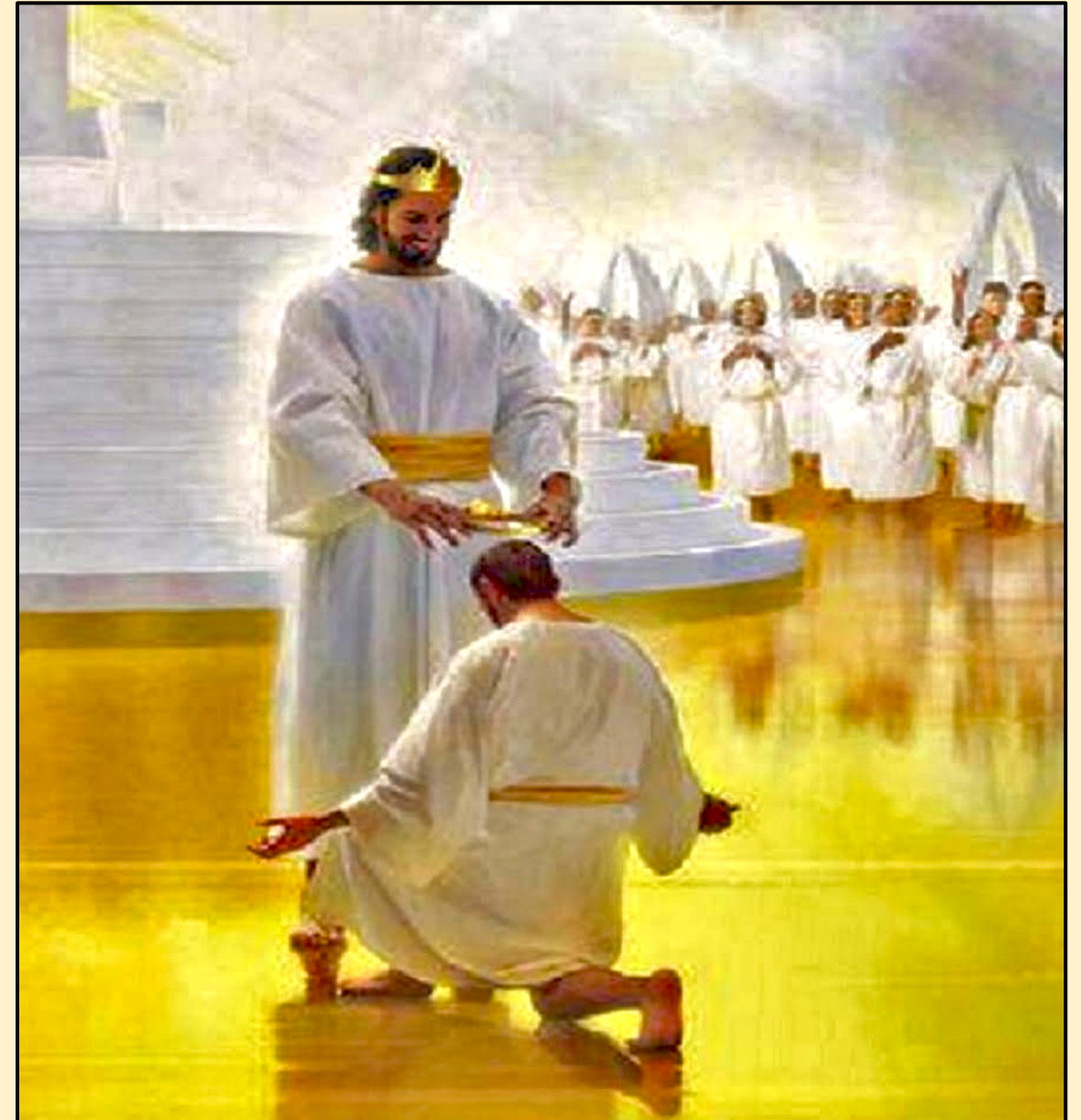
***** Rev.2:10 Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.***

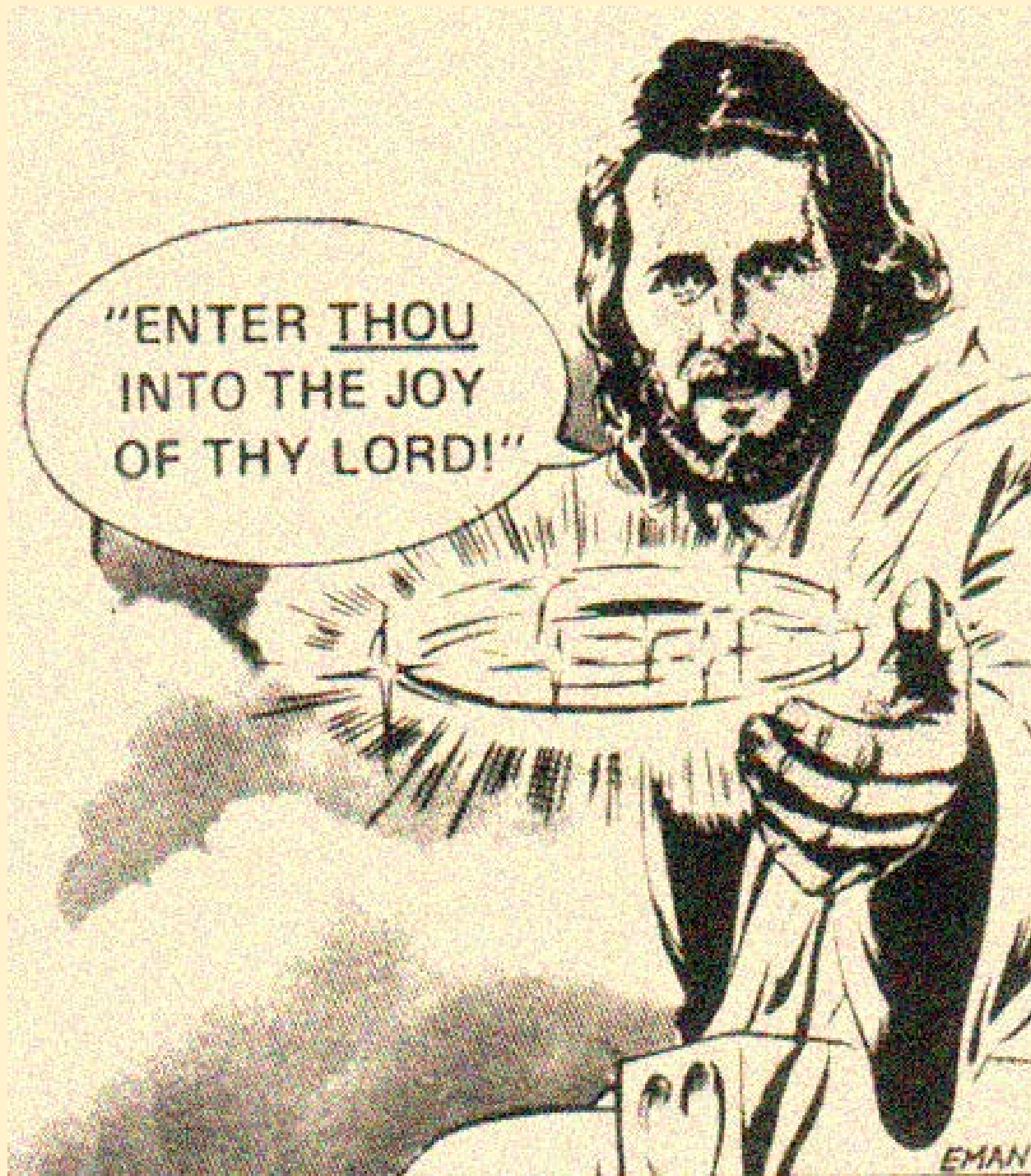
The apostle Paul, at the end of his ministry, shortly before his death, said,

**** 2 Tim.4:7-8** *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. This crown is your reward.*

**** MAT.25:23** *His lord said unto him, well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

Every follower of Christ will be rewarded at the Throne of Christ according to his works. Now don't get this judgement and rewarding of Christ's followers, the born-again, mixed up with the great final judgement of the unsaved, which is an entirely different occasion at an entirely different time! The judgement of the unsaved dead takes place a thousand years later, after the Millennium, when they are all raised to meet God at the Great White Throne Judgement described in the 20th Chapter of Revelation, which we will cover in an upcoming chapter.





But we who are resurrected, raised and raptured to be with the Lord at the end of the Tribulation in the First Resurrection, we'll get our rewards right away up in Heaven at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb!--There will be a great feast, a great ceremony and God will pass out the gifts, the presents, the rewards to all of those who loved and served Him!--Isn't that wonderful?

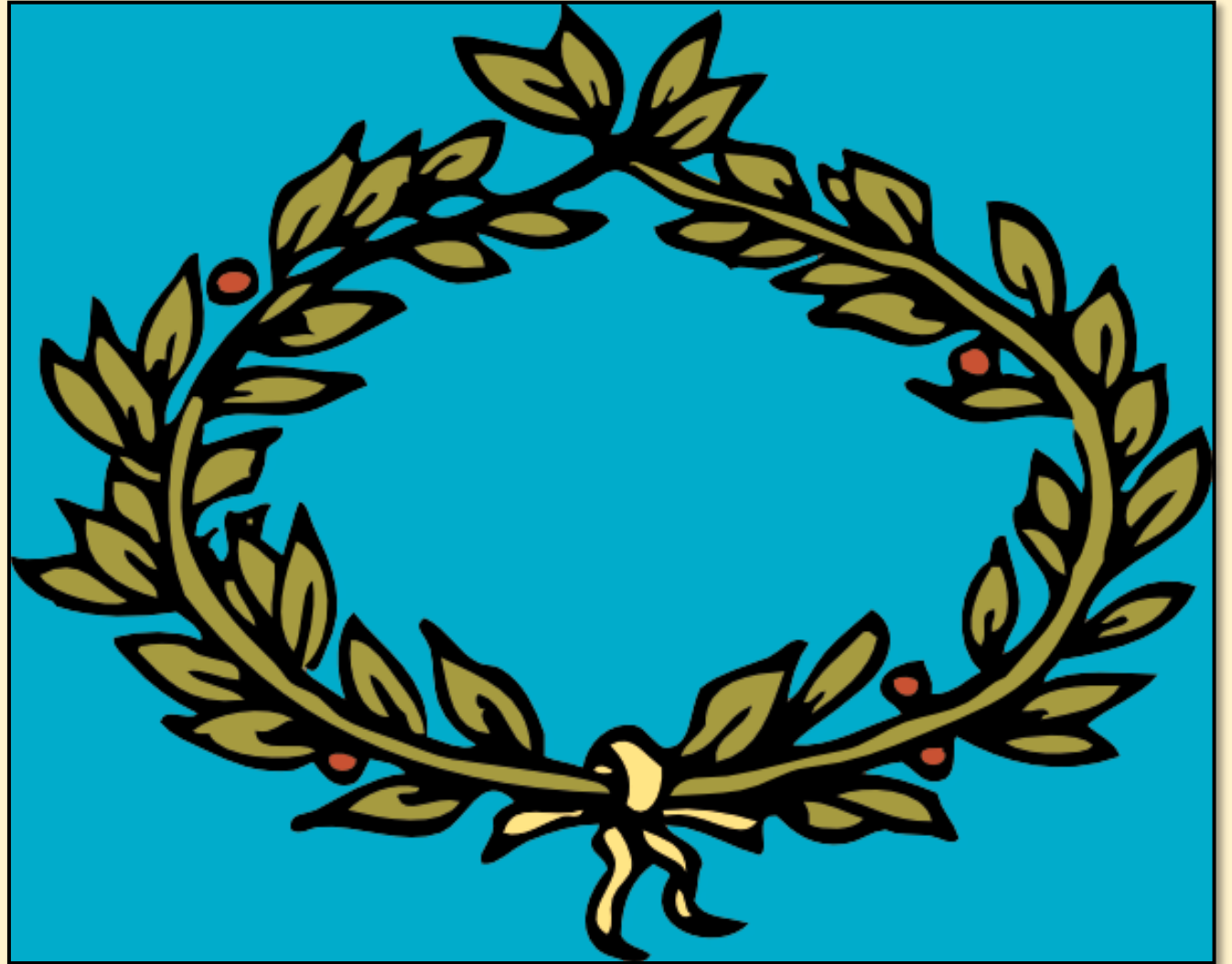
But remember, rewards have nothing to do with your salvation! The rewards are something you work for and you earn by your faithfulness, your diligence, your hard work and soul-winning! But a lot of Christians get confused by the Bible verses on rewards and crowns and apply them to salvation, and then think they've got to work for their salvation.--But you can't work for your salvation!--It is a free gift of God! (See *Eph.2:8, 9; Tit.3:5; Mt.16:27; Rev.22:12.*) We don't earn salvation. We can't work for salvation—it's a gift! But we can work for rewards, we can earn special praise and special commendation from the Lord!

A special, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord!" (Mt.25:21.) He says that some He'll make rulers over one city, some over a few cities, and some over many cities. "For he that is faithful in that which is least is also faithful in that which is most." (Lk.19:17; 16:10.) So although your works in this life aren't going to help to get you into Heaven, they'll have a great deal to do with your reward, a great deal to do with the way you shine (Dan.12:3), and a great deal to do with your position once you're there.

**** 1PE.5:4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.**

**** 1CO.9:24-25 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we, an incorruptible.**

In Corinth, racing was a common public sport, and the winners were given a crown of laurel leaves that withered within days. Paul said the crown that the Lord will give us will not fade away but will last forever.





REV.19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, **See thou do it not: I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**

When John went to fall down and worship him, he said, *“Don’t worship me, I’m just one of your your brethren. I’m just a saint of God like you, only I’m in the Spirit World now. I died and went to be in the Spirit World with the Lord. I’m just an ordinary guy like you, John, so don’t fall down and worship me. I’m just another prophet, I’m still continuing my job here on the other side of death, and I’m helping to describe and explain these things to you”* (just like Gabriel did for Daniel). (Rev.22:8, 9)

What is the spirit of prophecy? You say, "Well, I'm not a prophet, I can't prophesy." Your very witness, upholding Christ in your speech and activities, is the spirit of prophecy! See, the trouble is that most people think of prophecy as predicting the future, but the word prophecy here is taken from a Greek word called "*prophetes*" which actually means "*forth telling*". Not foretelling, but forth telling, being a spokesperson for truth, especially the truth of preaching the Gospel to all the World, to every creature!

The gift of prophecy is a special thing, but in the sense of your actual prophesying, every single one of you is prophesying when you witness and give out the testimony of Jesus! When you're talking about the Lord, guiding others on the road to salvation, you're prophesying! When you're preaching the Gospel you're prophesying!--Because it is the testimony of Jesus!

You can have salvation at this very moment. It is the gift of God. It's free; you only have to be willing to receive it. Please pray this simple prayer:

"Jesus, please forgive all my faults and sin. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died for me. I invite You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit so I can change my ways and make a difference for good in others' lives. And help me to read and understand Your Word as I want to know You better and follow You more closely. Amen"

