When a man or woman is employed, they expect to be paid on “payday”, either by money or in poorer nations by exchange of goods. 

Similarly God rewards His servants.

**Heb 11:6** But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarde of them that diligently seek him.

God rewards diligence.

**1Tim 5:18** For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, "The labourer is worthy of his reward.

God has a work ethic. He rewards effort in the field.

**1Cor 3:11** For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

It is not clear how God does the numbers, but all the columns will be added correctly and those who fulfill the will of God and finish His work will receive a full reward for their ministerial work here on earth.

**1Cor 3:8** Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

**Matt 5:12** Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Laziness cannot be rewarded:

**Pro 6:6** Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: 7Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, 8Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.
CROWN OF RIGHTHEOUSNESS

2 Tim 4:8  Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that loves his appearing.

This was a soul-winner or impartation crown.

2 Tim 4:7  I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

This was a crown that Paul had worked for. What is your work ethic? Some people want payment without effort. You can’t receive wages without working.

Esth 1:4  When he shewed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty.

There are also riches in God’s kingdom. Esther was given favour, chosen from anonymity. Actually, she was a “nobody” who was crowned queen.

Esth 5:3  Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? it shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom.

As Christians “we are joint-heirs with Christ”. We are “royal members.”

Esth 5:7  And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,

Haman sought personal honour by deception. Esther’s personal integrity and her love for God was what the king rewarded.

Esth 6:2  And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

A crown displays:  1) Splendor  2) Favour  3) Honour

In Christ we are “born into privilege”. As a “born again” child of God we are born again into privilege. God has given us favour for a purpose. We must wear the favour of God as a royal family member wears a crown.
**Rom 5:17** For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness **shall reign in life** by one, Jesus Christ.

Note* “reign in life”. Kings reign on thrones. We must reign over our lives.

**1 Pet 2:9** “Chosen, royal people”

**1 Pet 2:9** But ye are a **chosen** generation, a **royal** priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him **who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light**:

**Rev 1:6** And **hath made us kings and priests unto God** and his Father; to him **be glory**

**Rev 5:10** And **hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth**.

When a King wears a crown, they wear it with new responsibilities. They don’t wear a crown for the sake of telling people who they are, but they must have a new vision, they must look with new the eyes.

1) They wear their crowns with an eye to their God.
2) They wear their crowns with an eye to their ancestry. Read Heb ch. 11)

The Queen of England wears the “imperial state crown every year when she addresses the parliament. There are jewels in that crown that were worn by royal family members more than a thousand ago.

3) They wear their crowns with an eye to their subjects.
   “For the benefit a somebody else”

4) They wear their crowns with an eye to their enemies.
   “Someone will want to take the authority of your crown.”

John said, “Be careful, least someone takes your crown” (Rev 3:11)
When I first went over seas to preach, pastors wanted me to eat every time prayer was offered for the sick, but I soon had to make a decision regarding fasting, even if it meant offending somebody. It was His anointing, and it needed protection. Similarly, it is not your crown. It must be protected.

5) Wear their crown with an eye to their descendants.

**Pro 27:23** Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds. 24For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown **endure** to every generation?
Pass on your crown!
Some years ago an Australian woman Mary Donaldson became Princess Mary of Denmark. But before she could marry the prince she was asked to take a medical check to find out if she was fertile. Could she bear children? Would the royal line in Denmark continue?
Are you humble enough to pass on the crown? Are you humble enough to pass on the anointing of God?
Heaven’s monachy is bigger than you are, so pass it on.
Your life is not your own.

Matt 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

The kingdom is bigger than we are; we are not the only members of His “royal” family. In the Tower of London there is a “crown room” which houses the royal jewels. The jewels are always protected against theft. We need to look at, appreciate and protect what God has given us. For in heaven all crowns and jewels will be on display for eternity for all royal members.

The crown of Glory.

Heb 2:7-9  Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:
v.8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. V.9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour;

Without God man has no spiritual value, but as God’s ministers we have ministerial value and this should be honoured.

The word for “glory” means weight or value.
Missionaries serving God in many nations soon discover that “family cast” or family line due to riches or education gives men and women more value and position in the community. Sometimes these rich or educated persons are given positions as pastors. However, the Bible shows us a very different way in which God selects His people. Christ is not selective in whom he calls. Rich or poor, we have the same birthright in Him. Christ gives us the right to wear these crowns. Once spiritual crowns or rewards are given, earthly men have no authority to steal such crowns.

Crown of life
The crown of life is given freely of God.

**Jas 1:12**  
Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

**Psa 103:4**  
Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

We wear this crown because “he first loved us.”

**Crown of Rejoicing:**  
This is the overcomer’s crown.

**Isa 35:10**  
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**1Thess 2:19**  
For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

“To be found in His presence at His coming”

**Crown of Glory**

This is a pastor’s crown or a “five-fold minister’s crown.

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

**Martyr’s Crown**

**Rev 3:11**  
"Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown."

**Rev 4:4**  
And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold

**Rev 4:10**  
The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,
**Isa 40:10**  Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

**Rev 22:12**  "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

**OTHER CROWNS:**

“Beauty”  Isa 61:3  
“Blessing”  Pro 10:6; 11:24-26  
“Fruitfulness”  Phil 4:1

Our fruit bearing is our crown of rejoicing.  (1Thess 2:19)

1Th 2:19  For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

We wear our crowns with:  1) humility  (Jn 15: 1-5)  
2) hold onto them  (Heb 12:1-2)  
3) lay them down (Rev 4:10)  The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne,