

PRINCIPLES OF THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST AND FOUNDATION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

To understand this topic, you have to find out the meanings of principle, foundation and kingdom. The word principles is called "stichion" in Greek, and pronounced as stoy-khi-on", meaning something orderly in arrangement i.e. (by imp.) a serial (basal, fundamental initial), constituent (lit.), proposition (fig.): - element, principle, rudiment. The word stichion used in the plural, primarily signifies any first things from which others in a series, or a composite whole take their rest. On the otherhand, foundation in this context of the scripture is "Themelios" in Greek and pronounced as Them-el-ee-es", meaning something put down, i.e. a substruction (of a building, etc). the part of a building or other construction that supports the framework (lit. or fig.). Chambers Dictionary defines foundation as the underground structure on which a building is supported and built. The basis on which the theory rests or depends. The phrase "kingdom of God" is Basileia in Greek and pronounced as bas-il-i-ah, meaning royalty, (in abstract), rule (concrete) a realm (spiritual realm), (lit. or fig.). The word Basileia is primarily an abstract noun denoting sovereignty (absolute power, authority), royal power, dominion.

FOUNDATION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Psalms 11:3-5: How do you hold your foundation that it cannot be destroyed?

This simply means that if the basis or foundation on which it depends or rests, is however destroyed, what can the righteous do? The foundation on which righteousness rests is Love, because it is the love of God which is Christ Jesus that is the righteousness of God. And it is He who through the shedding of His blood, obtained the righteousness of God for the entire humanity that as many which believe in Him (who He is -the Lamb of God, and what He has done- He has taken away the sins of the world) should be called the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.

The righteous must uphold the standard of God, by obeying the Word of God or every present truth which is sound doctrine. This cannot be possible if the foundation of your Christianity is not laid according to the standard set up by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself (ref. John 3:1-8). You uphold your own foundation through your lifestyle and instant obedience to the Word of God, and this means that as you continue to hear His Word and obey it, your foundation will be more solid. (refs. Matt.7:24-27, John 8:31-32).

Hebrews 5:12-14: You must have the knowledge of this foundation and you must also make sure that your foundation is laid according to the doctrine of Christ because this is the main target of the enemy whenever he wants to attack you. Therefore if the foundation of your Christian life is not solid or laid according to the doctrine of Christ, your spirit man cannot grow and you will remain a babe in Christ who needs milk (i.e. the a b c of the word of God). And as a baby Christian you can never discern good or evil and you may be led into deception except you seek for strong meat (present truth or sound doctrine).

that the first principle of the oracles of God must be taught and implemented on before you can go on to perfection. This is because the Holy Spirit who is both the Architect and Builder cannot allow you to build on a wrong foundation. What this means is that the Holy Spirit cannot allow you to grow in walking revelation knowledge of the word of God until He has ascertained or made sure that your foundation is not only well laid but solid. And when He begins to minister to your spirit man, you will for the first time see and understand the word of God like you have never done before. If after your foundation is properly laid and you begin to grow in the walking revelation knowledge of the word of God and later turn away from the Lord, you cannot be restored because it is now sin against the Holy Spirit and you know that sin against the Holy Spirit is sin unto death.

I Corinthians 3:10-13: Apart from making sure that your foundation is solid it is significant to note that the foundation of any true fellowship or church is to be laid by an apostle of righteousness, because they are the pillars of the church sent by the Lord Jesus to uphold the truth or the righteousness of God. And this shows that any fellowship or ministry or true church that is not under submission to an apostle of righteousness (or a prophet of righteousness in cases where there are no available apostles) is not in the will of God. And such fellowship or ministry or church is building on a wrong foundation and in time of their visitation they will fall.

2 Peter 1:2-12: Grace and peace of the Lord Jesus Christ will be multiplied unto you if you continue to walk in the revelation knowledge of His word. That is, if you continue to hear His word and obey it, the grace which God had given you will be released the moment you need it so that you can resist the devil and he will flee from you, and this will cause you to have an abundant peace so that you will continue to resist him. Secondly, all the good things that pertain unto life or that you need in this life and also the good things that can make you to work in godliness or righteousness will begin to manifest in your life as you continue to work in the revelation knowledge of the word of God, and by so doing it will be possible for you to escape the corruption of this world through lust.

Continuing, Peter said add to your faith virtue:- which simply means goodness or excellence, and what it means is being good or excellent in thought, in word and in action, i.e. everything you are told to do, you do it excellently or perfectly. And add to virtue the walking revelation knowledge of the word of God (perfect obedience to the word of God). After this the apostle said you should add to knowledge temperance which simply means self control, that is the ability to control your will or to subject your will so as to do the will of God at any circumstance. Add patience to temperance, which simply means the ability to wait on the Lord, for anything He has promised, for anything you are asking Him, for anything you want Him to do. Add to patience godliness or righteousness. And what it means is the ability to stand before God without feeling any guilt or inferiority complex. After godliness or righteousness the apostle mentioned brotherly kindness which the book of revelation explained to mean phileo love i.e. the type of love Christian brethren have among themselves or the type of kindness Christian brethren show themselves. And finally, the apostle mentioned charity which is agape love or unconditional love which simply means equal love to all humanity or to all creatures of God.

Furthermore, he said that if all these things mentioned are in you and abound they will make you, neither to be barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, but if you lack these things you are spiritually blind and have no vision. It is important to note that he or she who has

lling and election sure by being established in the present truth (i.e. sound doctrine of what the Holy Spirit is saying or doing today).

PRINCIPLES OF THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST EXPLAINED IN DETAILS

1. Repentance From Dead Works

This simply means repentance from your own ways, your own will, hard core beliefs, your own decisions, your own views, your own opinion, motives, human efforts. It also means repentance from doing your own will so as to do the will of God or to be led by the Holy Spirit. Your ability to overcome any former situation depends on how genuine your repentance is. If you have a genuine repentance, the grace of God and the peace of God will be multiplied for you to overcome that situation when next it comes and also continue to work in righteousness. How you have a genuine repentance is by:-

1. Acknowledging your sin, or that you have truly sinned (Jer.3:13);
2. Confessing your sin with your mouth, calling or mentioning the name of that sin. (I John 1:8-10);
3. Repenting of that sin after confessing it and total forsaking of that sin so that God can have mercy on you. (refs. Prov.28:13, James 5:16).

If you continue in this way, God will move you into the next stage of your maturity and before you know it the Holy Spirit will take over and start leading you. (Refs. Rom.8:14, 2 Cor.3:17, John 21:15-19, Rom.3:20, Gal.2:16, Eph.2:8-9, Titus 3:5).

2. Doctrine of Faith Toward God

There are two types of faith and they are the Natural faith and God's kind of faith. The Natural faith as the name implies operates with the natural senses (i.e. eyes, nose, ears, hands, the body, etc.) the Natural faith is the faith that believes in except you see you cannot believe. This is the faith that Thomas walked with, this is also the faith that the world believes in, and that is why it is impossible for God to walk with the world. It is for this reason that throughout the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, He hardly prayed with Thomas. But God's kind of faith is spiritual because it has to do with the heart first. What this is saying is that you have to believe the word of God in your heart first, confess it with your mouth and then go on to act on what you have believed and confessed so as to get the answer. There are also two types of God's kind of faith and they are:

1. the confession faith or salvation faith;
2. the doing faith or acting or total deliverance faith.

Confession Faith or Salvation Faith

This is the faith you have with which to confess the word of God that gives you a temporary safety, but does not give you permanent or total deliverance. It saves you from immediate danger, but if you do not continue to believe that word in your heart, and also continue to confess it with your mouth, after which you work it out, then you will lose that salvation (refs. Rom.10:8-10, John 1:12, Matt.11:28-30)

statement of our Lord Jesus Christ in this scripture, from the day John the Baptist was sent to announce the coming or the manifestation of the government of God which is what the kingdom of God or kingdom of heaven means, those that have agreed to be part of that kingdom or government, and are living the life of Christ had suffered great violence in the hand of the devil. And for us, that kingdom is our vessels which have continued to suffer violence in the hand of devil as we try to obey the word of God. And unless you violently resist the devil and all his distractions, and do the word of God, you cannot take your own kingdom by force or you cannot be able to live according to the principle of the doctrine of Christ.

b) Mark 11:22-26:- This part of the scripture shows that for you to work in this total deliverance faith, you have to believe the word of God in your heart once, but you will keep on confessing it with your mouth and acting on what you have already believed in your heart until it manifests. The day you stop confessing and acting, your belief is nullified because it is standing alone (ref. James 2:14-17). Again the Lord said that whatever thing you desire in your heart you will get it according to your belief. What this is saying is that you are the designer of your entire life through what you believe, confess and act on. Furthermore, He said, that you should forgive those you have fought against so that God may forgive you your own sins. The essence of this may, is because He doesn't know what your will is, whether you want to forgive or not. Therefore if you do not want to forgive, you will now face His own will, which is, you will never be forgiven.

c) Hebrews 11:1,6:- Faith is now, it is not tomorrow, or later today or yesterday but faith is right now. Faith like submission or love is instant acting on the word of God. That means if you hear the word of God and fail to act immediately, it is no more faith you are walking in, it is now hope. It is important to note that most of the things you hoped for may never manifest because the substance of that hope which is faith has not been applied in or on it. Again faith is the evidence of the things you hoped for, but not yet seen. What this means is that faith is the evidence that things you hoped for will soon manifest or have been seen physically. Faith is spiritual because God who instituted it is a Spirit. Verse 6:- Without acting on the word of God or by faith it is impossible to please God. No matter how long you have been over a situation of discomfort, God cannot be brought to you or that situation unless you are ready to act on His word. If you desire to follow the Lord or be His disciple, you must believe that God is the bible you are reading or the word of God you are hearing and that you He will reward you if you diligently seek to do His word. Because if you do not have this notion in your mind that God is the word of God, you will not believe what you are reading from the bible or what you are hearing about Him, and He will never reward you.

d) James 1:22-25:- According to the Epistle of James, we are commanded to be the doers of the word of God and not hearers only. Because if you are only a hearer, you must enter into self-deception. The hearers of the word of God only can neither be justified nor blessed in their endeavours. This is because a man cannot be justified by faith alone, except the faith goes with love (i.e. perfect or instant obedience to the word of God). Why is it so? It is simply because it is love that enables one to work by faith. Therefore faith and love are inseparable because it is faith that worketh by love which overcometh the world.

There are seven baptisms recorded in the bible:-

a. Baptism unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea (ref I Cor. 10:1-4).

This was done by the Lord to the children of Israel in the wilderness when they came out of Egypt. It is also a symbol of Holy Ghost and water baptisms. The Lord had to allow them (the Israelites) pass under the sea and the cloud so as to have the foundation of His kingdom, which is very vital to not only becoming a disciple of the Lord, but also being part of His government.

b. John's baptism in water for the remission of sins in preparation for the coming of Christ.

As a forerunner of Christ, and he who was sent to prepare the new way or the new government, John needed to follow the laid down procedure for this new government, which is baptism of repentance for the remission of sins and the restoration of the fathers back to the children and the children back to the fathers, so as to prepare for the manifestation of the kingdom or government of God (refs. Matt.3:11, Luke 3:2,3,16, Mark 1:4,8, Acts 19:2-4.)

c. Christ's baptism in water in order to show us the way and to fulfil all righteousness.

He did not actually need to be baptized because He was not a sinner, but because He is the Beginner and Finisher of our faith, and where government is about to manifest, He needed to show us an example to follow. And His example is simply the foundation of what His government will be (refs. Matt. 3: 13-15, Luke 3:21).

d. Believer's baptism in water (immersion).

Baptism is a Greek word called *ōbaptismaō*, meaning to immerse, dip into, to bury, to overwhelm with. This is done by a believer so as to identify with the death and resurrection of Christ which you acknowledge as having been done by the Lord Jesus on your behalf. It is a process of remitting our past sins, thus paving the way for you to enter and become part of the government of our Lord Jesus which is coming to take over the rulership of this world. (refs. Acts 2:38, 8:13,10:47,48, 19:5, Mark 16:16, John 4:1,2).

It is a symbol of immersion into the water and it is done by the Son.

e. Holy Ghost baptism

This has an outward sign of speaking with new tongues or languages. This is done when the Holy Ghost directly or indirectly through the minister that is ministering the baptism, gives you an utterance to speak with new tongues or the language of another country which you don't know, as a means of praying and communicating with the Lord. And thereby deceiving the familiar or ancestral spirits who know you and your former tongue or language intimately. Interestingly, the tongue or language which you speak is the tongue or language of another country which will be assigned to you to rule in the coming kingdom (refs. Acts 2:2-4, 8:17, 10:44-46, 19:6, Mark 16:17, Isa.28:11). It has a physical symbol of speaking in tongues which is done by the Father.

f. Baptism unto Christ and His Body.

This is done by the Holy Spirit through the blood of Jesus. This means when the Holy Spirit has inspired you to willingly yield yourself to be separated not only from the camp but from the

and where the blood of Jesus will start sanctifying the blood of Jesus does not sanctify anyone in the camp or in the system of the world, because it is for the purpose of sanctification that Jesus had to die outside Jerusalem (representing the camp). Therefore if you refuse to yield to the Holy Spirit to baptize you into the body of Christ through the blood of Jesus by separating you from the system of the world, you will never attain the realm of sanctification and holiness unto the Lord. As the Holy Spirit separates you from the camp and the system of the world, He expects you to consecrate or dedicate yourself unto the service of the Lord, and willingly surrender yourself to the Lord, by submitting yourself to the authority channel of God and obey the word of God. The Lord on the other hand will begin to lead you by His Spirit as He starts crucifying your flesh by removing your will and imparting God's own will in you (refs. Heb.13:11-14, Eph.4:1-6, Rom.12:4-5, I Cor.12:12-30). It has a physical symbol of total separation from friends, families, camp, religious organisation, denomination, entire separation from jobs, business, etc., that is what Paul called High Calling, if not you are not in the body of Christ. This is done by the Holy Spirit through the blood of Jesus.

g. Baptism unto death or baptism of fire or indwelling of the Holy Spirit or suffering with Christ. This is done when the glorified Lord Jesus Christ Himself (i.e. the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost) releases the liquid fire unto His body or His armies which are on earth to empower them to preach the gospel of the kingdom. When this liquid fire comes, it will drain or dry the human blood in the bodies of the members of Christ who will receive it. This human blood is where their sins or wills lie. This process has to take place because God is a Spirit and He has to dwell only in spirit bodies, and not in terrestrial bodies full of flesh and blood. Secondly, He cannot dwell permanently in human flesh that exercises or does his will. And that is why He releases the fire to make an end of human will in the person's body and destroy all kinds of sins that the person couldn't drop in his entire Christian race. It will also refine them (their bodies) as a burnished brass and they will look very glorious. The men or male part of the army will look like the sun (i.e. shining as bright as the sun), while the women or female part of the army will look like the moon in its full form. God therefore will manifest His visible pillar of cloud before and behind this army in the day time, and in the night He will manifest His visible pillar of fire before and behind them, thus making them to be immortal and they will stand against any power or forces of darkness as they march out to preach the gospel of judgment with great power and authority (refs. Phill.3:10-14, Acts 9:16, 1 Tim.2:3-13, 3:10-12, Acts 14:22, Matt.20:22-23, 3:11, Luke 3:16-17).

It has a physical symbol, the manifestation of the visible cloud covering you and a physical fire. This is done by the combination of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, through the glorified Lord Jesus.

4. Laying of hands.

a. Laying on of hands to consecrate an offering: You lay hands to consecrate an offering. This is the process whereby we consecrate or set apart an offering whether material or financial unto the Lord as His own special portion (refs. Lev.1:4, 3:2, 4:15)

b. Laying on of hands to ordain men/women for the service of God: We lay hands to ordain men/women for the service of the Lord (refs. Num.8:10-11, 29:22-23, Deut.34:9, Acts 6:56, 13:2-3, I Tim.4:14, 5:22, 2 Tim.1:6). Hands are laid upon men/women (Note: women are

ment) for the service of the Lord by anointed ministers of God, either to start waiting on the Lord in training or for the person to start his ministerial work. In the case of waiting on the Lord in training, the minister of God in question lays hands on such to accept the person's total surrender of his/her will or total submission to the will of God or to the authority channel of God. On the other hand, apostles or prophets of God ordain or commission men/ women for the service of the Lord using anointing oil. But this is done after the minister of God in question has carefully studied the lifestyle of the person he's laying his hands upon. This is simply because if he lays hands anyhow without approval from the Lord he will be a partaker of the person's sin if the person is missing it and God will deal with him.

c. Laying on of hands to bless people: Ministers of God and those in the position of authority lay hands on people to call down the blessings of God upon them. (refs. Mark:10:15-16, Gen.48:13-16, Matt.19:14-15). However, it is important to note that if you bless anybody whom God has not blessed, God will never manifest His blessings (refs. Num 23:8,20, 2 John 10-11).

d. Laying on of hands to heal (Mark 16:18, 7:32-34, 6:5 Luke 4:40, 13:11-13, Acts 28:8). According to the scripture, laying on of hands is one of the ways to heal people that are suffering from divers diseases or sicknesses. When hands are laid on such people, it is important to note that the officiating minister has to pronounce the person's healing after casting out the demon causing the sickness so that the power of God will actually manifest.

5. Resurrection of the dead

The word resurrection is anastasis in Greek, and pronounced as an-as-tas-is, meaning a standing up again, i.e. (lit.) a resurrection from the dead, (individual, general or by implication (His authority), or (fig). A (moral recovery), (of spiritual truth): raised to life again, resurrection, raise from the dead, that should rise, rising again. There are three kinds of resurrection mentioned in the bible, one of them is specifically talking about the Jews, and could be termed as the national resurrection of the State of Israel. The other two are universal (i.e. for the whole world, both believers and unbelievers).

1. National Resurrection: When Jesus was rejected by His people as can be seen in Luke 19:37-44 and Matthew 23:29-39, He forewarned them of the impending danger they were going to face. He went further to place a curse of spiritual blindness on them until they repent and begin to seek Him. The Jews compounded their problems and that of their children up to many generations in Matt.27:19-25, when they were persuaded by the Pharisees to ask for the release of Barabbas in the stead of Jesus. Even when Pilate told them that He was innocent from the blood of the just Jesus, they said and I quote, "His blood be on us and on our children". With this confession, the story of what the Jews went through and are still going through, cannot be easily told now. But bear in mind that this their confession was fulfilled as they like Jesus were buried in the graveyard of the nations of the world by England, France, Germany, Spain, Russia, etc., and so began the death of the nation of Israel. This their predicament therefore fulfilled the prophecy of Hosea 3:4-5, the Lord Jesus in Luke 21:24, Apostle Paul in Roamns 11:21-28. With the removal of the curse placed on them by the Lord Jesus through His death (Note: He nailed all curses on the cross). A new chapter began in their lives, and this is the

Ezekiel in Ezek.34:11-16, 36:38, 37:1-28, and that of Hosea. The messages received from the throne of God and given to the church by these great prophets, the revival of the Jews has long started and they are being raised or resurrected from the graveyards of nations where God drove them to, unto their own land which is the land of Palestine, waiting to be passed under the rod of Antichrist (ref. Ezek.20:33-38) for their final resurrection.

Like I earlier mentioned the other two resurrections are universal (i.e. involves all human beings).

2. The first universal resurrection is for believers in Christ Jesus that they may reign with Christ. It behoves on me to explain in details what is actually meant by first universal resurrection because large majority of believers believe that rapture is actually the first resurrection. With this belief, they have automatically shut the door of the first universal resurrection to those who may not be privileged to be raptured. There is no word by name rapture in the Bible, it is rather coined from "caught up" which is *harpazo* in Greek and pronounced as *hav-pad-zo*", meaning to seize, catch up, take by force, to snatch or catch away as he said of:

a) the act of the Spirit of the Lord in regard to Philip (Acts 8:39);

b) the act of the Spirit of the Lord in regard to Paul being caught up to Paradise (2 Cor. 12:2,4);

c) the act of the Spirit of the Lord in regard to the rapture of the saints to meet with the Lord (1 Thess.4:17);

d) the act of the Spirit of the Lord in regard to the rapture of the man-child company (overcomers) in the vision of John in Revelation 12:5.

Rapture is also the same thing with the translation of the saints to heaven. In continuing the teaching on first universal resurrection, it is important to note that some people who may not be privileged to be raptured or to be translated to heaven, may still make the first universal resurrection. For example, the Jews or the nation of Israel will not be part of the rapture of the saints but they will make the first resurrection. But we have to note that the first universal resurrection is only for believers in Christ Jesus. What this is saying in essence, is that those who miss the rapture or translation of the saints both the Jews and Gentiles have the second chance of being part of the first resurrection during the seven horrible year reign of the Antichrist as you can see in the book of Revelation 20:4-6.

The first universal resurrection includes those that were able to make it or pay with their blood during the reign of Antichrist and who were not privileged to be raptured. Notably, all who will make the first universal resurrection must have been in one way or the other believers in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and they like Christ must have died and resurrected or must have their flesh and blood which is corruptible changed to flesh and bones which is incorruptible like Paul said 1 Cor.15:50-54 (refs. John 5:28-29; 6:39, 40, 44; Dan.12:2; 1 Thess.4:15-17).

3. Second Universal Resurrection: This is talking about the rising from the dead of unbelievers throughout the world that they may face eternal damnation or judgment and be cast into the lake of burning fire and brimstone (refs. John 5:28-29; Dan. 12:2; Rev.20:11-13). This second universal resurrection will take place immediately after the 1000 year reign of Christ and it will happen almost like the first resurrection, as you can

believing world will also hear the voice of our Lord Jesus
p from their graves, even the sea, oceans, rivers, hell (i.e.
bottomness pit, Hades and tartaros) will also surrender those they swallowed as they hear
the voice of our Lord Jesus Christ in readiness for their final judgment.

6. ETERNAL JUDGMENT

Four judgments are mentioned in the Bible as eternal. One of the judgments is specifically for the Jews while the other three judgments are universal judgments.

The first universal judgment is "Bema Judgment Seat of Christ" which will take place in the air, and it is for believers in the death and resurrection of Christ only (refs. 2Cor.5:10; Rom.14:10)

The second universal judgment is the "Throne of His Glory" and it will take place on the earth for all the nations of the world. (ref Matt.25:31-34).

The third universal judgment is the "Great White Throne" which will take place in heaven for the wicked or unbelieving dead (ref. Rev.20:11-15).

The other specific judgment is for the Jews and it will be done by the Antichrist in Jerusalem and its vicinity or its environs.

1. Bema Judgment Seat of Christ (refs. 2Cor.5:10; Rom.14:10): This judgment is still in the future and will be after the church is caught up or raptured. It will be for believers in Christ Jesus only and will be performed by Christ Himself. It will also take place in the air (NB: This air is likely going to be the second heaven where Satan and his agents are dwelling now). But we would have thrown them out of that place before then (Ref. Rev.12:1-12). The basis of this judgment will be the outcome of the works of the believers while on earth and the result will either be reward or loss. This will not be a judgment in the sense of trying the believers again, no far be it, for they have gone through such trials on earth, and their sins are already judged and they are declared innocent and saved. But it will be like the presentation at a competition such as Olympics where judges present rewards or medals to the successful contestants according to their performance. This is actually what Apostle Paul was describing in 1Cor.9:24-27 and 1Cor.3:11-15.

It is not a judgment for sin because that has taken place while you were running your race on earth, but for the works of the believers. The result of this judgment is reward or loss. All the believers bad deeds and dead works, which the wood, hay and stubble mentioned here represented will be consumed and only our good works shall remain. There are so many things we do all in the name of working for God which is just our own will or dead works, and such service does not get any eternal reward. A careful look at how games are organised, shows that after the games are over, successful contestants assemble before the Bema or judge's stand, which is normally an elevated seat on which the umpire sits or will stand, and the winners are given a crown or laurels, which is what Paul referred to as corruptible crown.

Some may not receive any reward because they have lost the victor's crown. There was no punishment meted out to them and they were not cast out but rather commended and urged to try harder next time. This is how it is going to be, but the only thing is that there can't be a next time in this race for believers. And for those who deserve rewards, a crowning day will be glorious for the scriptures speak of five crowns.

martyr's crown and it is mentioned twice in the scripture

martyr according to Chambers Dictionary means:

- a. someone who chooses to be put to death as an act of witness to their faith rather than abandon his or her religious beliefs;
- b. someone who suffers or dies for their beliefs, or for a particular cause;
- c. someone who suffers greatly on account of something e.g. an illness, ailment or misfortune;
- d. someone who wishes or chooses to be or to be seen as a suffering victim, especially in circumstances which they could have chosen to avoid.

The scripture did not say until but unto death, which means you will remain faithful unto a martyr's death. If you recount or renounce your belief you lose the crown. It also referred to martyr's or the tribulation period.

b. Crown of Glory: This is the crown given to "elders or true shepherds" by the Chief Shepherd Himself when He shall appear (ref. 1Pet.5:2-4). This is given only to those who faithfully fulfilled their office or calling as shepherds, and not to those who serve for "filthy lucre (dirty gain or dishonest profit)", or lord over God's heritage (the Lord's sheep). It is important to note that true shepherds lay down their lives for the sheep (refs. John 10:1-18; Prov.27:23). This laying down of life involves a lot of sacrifices on the part of the shepherd.

c. Crown of Rejoicing: This is talking about "soul winners crown" (1 Thess.2:19,20; Phil.4:1). It is good to remember that what the Lord is saying here is far different from what large majority of believers do in the system. What many ministers of God will do is that they win multitudes of flesh or human beings who are not ready to sacrifice their will and by doing this, they satisfy their conscience and belief that they have won souls for the Lord. But instead, they help in making those souls two-fold children of hell or Satan than themselves, by helping those people to establish their chosen way of deception. Winning souls for the Lord means those that were not only brought out of darkness to light, but also were transformed as the light and eventually had their soulish bodies redeemed that they are also made citizens of New Jerusalem.

d. Crown of Righteousness: This is the crown made for "those who love His appearing" and will be given by the Lord on the day of His appearing (ref. 2Tim.4:7-8). It is only when we walk or had walked in righteousness, which simply means "ability to stand perfectly before God without feeling guilt or inferior", that you can wish to see Him. For example, if after you have failed to fulfil your calling or you did not do exactly what the Lord wants, it will be impossible for you to wish to see Him (refs. Gen.3:7-12, Luke 22:50-62; Rev.6:14-17). Only those who have righteously fulfilled their calling will love to see Him and they will be rewarded with a beautiful crown.

e. Crown of Incorruption or the Incorruptible Crown: This is what is called "the victors crown", and it is for those who were able to "keep their bodies under" (1Cor.9:25-27). It is for those who were able to subject their will so as to do the will of God. It is for people

of the flesh (i.e. those who do not allow their fleshly lusts to rule in the master's work). It is for those who do not allow their worldly amusements and pleasure to affect their calling. If you do not want to be ashamed at His coming as written in I John 2:28, try and keep your body under and subject your will to the will of God so that you can live a life worthy of securing a crown.

2. Judgment of the Jews: This judgment is in the future and it will take place in Jerusalem and its vicinity or environs. The judgment will be executed or carried out by the Antichrist during the period of great tribulation. The reason for the judgment is the rejection of the Godhead (Trinity) and this will exalt in their conversion and reception of Christ as their Messiah. As the judgment of the church is going on in the air (heaven) at the judgment seat of Christ, Jews at the same time will experience their own judgment under the reign of the Antichrist on earth. It is of great importance to note that since the Jews are earthly people, with earthly promises from God, it follows therefore that their judgment will be of an earthly character. Like I earlier mentioned, it is their "rejection of the Godhead". Let us throw more light on this word "Godhead". Godhead is talking about the Trinity (i.e. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost). The explanation of how they rejected the Trinity can be summed up like this:-
In the days of Samuel the prophet they rejected God the Father for ruling over them (refs. I Sam.8:6-7; 10:18-19).
In the days of Christ Jesus, they rejected God the Son (refs. Luke 19:14, 23:18, John 18:39-40, Acts 3:14-15).
In the days of Stephen they rejected the Holy Spirit (refs. Acts 7:51, 54-60).
When finally they rejected the Holy Spirit that spoke through Stephen, the rejection of the Trinity became complete as the Lord turned their judgment to man (Anti-christ) whom they agreed to accept (refs. John 5:43-47).
And for these grievous sins they were scattered among the nations of the world until the "Times of the Gentiles be fulfilled". As we approach the end of the times of the Gentiles, the Jews are about now being gathered back to the Holy land as an unconverted and rebellious nation waiting to "pass under the rod of the Antichrist" (ref. Ezek.20:34-38). And they will be cast into God's "melting pot" (Ezek. 22:14-22). And pass through an ugly experience described by Jeremiah and Daniel as the "time of Jacob's trouble" (refs. Jer.30:4-7; Dan.12:1). This is what the Lord described as "the great tribulation" (Refs. Matt.24:21-31).
Prophet Zechariah called it the "Return of the Lord" because the physical second coming of the Lord will follow immediately after the reign of Antichrist and the wrath of God. The end result of this great judgment on the Jews is that when they will be in misery, they will call upon the Lord. And the Lord will come back to the Mount of Olives (ref. Zech.14:34), and they will look upon Him whom they pierced (Zech.12:10), and the Jewish nation of Israel will be born again or converted in that day (Isa.66:8). And the Lord will forgive their sins, give them a new spirit, put the law in their hearts, and write it in their minds and therefore make an everlasting covenant with them and receive them back as a wife (refs. Ezek.36:19-38, 37:21-28).
3. Judgment of the Gentile Nations (i.e. the second universal judgment):- It is very important to note that this judgment is for all nations of the world. This is because only

a Gentile Nation. This judgment will take place at the time the Lord is physically revealed during His second coming. He will seat on the "Throne of His Glory" judging the gentile nations of the world for all the ways they maltreated the Jews who are Christ's brethren according to the flesh. The outcome of this judgment is that some nations will be saved while others will be destroyed and wiped away from the face of the earth. This judgment is still in the future but it will take place before the millennial reign of Christ and therefore has nothing to do with the judgment of Revelation 20:11-15, which will take place at the great white throne after the millennium. This judgment of the gentile nations is mentioned by the Lord Himself in Matthew 25:31-46, by David in Psalms 9:17, by Isaiah in Isaiah 60:12, by Zechariah in Zech.14:16-19.

A careful look at the statement of our Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 25 about this judgment shows that three different classes were mentioned here:

- a. The sheep
- b. The goats
- c. the Brethren

The sheep and the brethren here cannot be the church because they have judged and rewarded prior to this time, and they will be the ones to judge the world. The Jews will also not be part of this judgment because God has used the man (Antichrist) when they accepted or received to judge them. Again in Num.23:9, it is evidently clear that the Jews cannot be reckoned among the nations, for God commanded them to dwell alone. Therefore since this judgment is talking about nations, the Jews are clearly exempted from it. And as for the church, she would have been raptured, rewarded and will even come back with the Lord to take the mantle of rulership or governance after this judgment. They will begin to rule the nations that were saved from this judgment. It is also not going to be the judgment of the entire world or individuals because this will be done by the church at the great white throne. It is rather the judgment of the nations of the world for the way they treated the brethren of the Lord (i.e. the Jews).

The sheep nations will inherit a kingdom (i.e. they will not only be saved and enter the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, but they will be part of the governance). While the goat nations will be destroyed and have their names wiped from the coming kingdom of our Lord Jesus. The brethren like I earlier mentioned, represent the Jews. Significantly, it is good to note the time and place of this judgment, so as to avoid any confusion that may arise from comparing it with the great white throne judgment. The time of the judgment is the Revelation of Christ and the place of the judgment is at the valley of Jehoshaphat within the environs or vicinity of Jerusalem when He comes to set up His millennial kingdom (ref. Joel 3:1-2).

During the period of tribulation, when many nations will come against Israel, there will be some nations that will show kindness to the Jews by feeding, clothing and visiting them in prison. These nations and all other nations who have always been of great help to the Jews since after the death and resurrection of Christ will be the sheep nations, but those nations that not only maltreated them, but inspired others to do so will be the goat nations and they will be punished severely by the Lord when He comes to avenge on behalf of His brethren. The nations which will be wiped away will not be in the New Earth (ref. Rev.21:24-27).

2 Pet.2:4-10; Jude 6; Rev.20:11-15).

After the millennium at the great white throne, during the final destruction and renovation of the earth by fire, for this is reversed or kept until the time of this judgment which Peter called in his letter in 2 Peter.3:7 as "Day of Judgment and perdition of ungodly men". It will be performed by the saints (I Cor.6:1-3, Dan.7:22). All the righteous dead will have risen in the first resurrection before the millenium starts and therefore will not partake of this second resurrection. Some people ignorantly believe and say that there will be some righteous people who will resurrect with this wicked dead at the second resurrection. Their is borne out of the fact that they thought rapture or translation of the saints to heaven is the first resurrection. This is why it is very dangerous to believe and accept any lie for it will open the door to so many lies. Any righteous who fails to make it during rapture of the saints has a second and final chance or opportunity during the tribulation period. But after the tribulation, if the people fail to make it by paying with his/her blood in order to make it or be part of the first resurrection, the person is doomed for life. This is simply because those who did not die during the great tribulation because of their insistence in obeying the word of God will still die during the millenium, but they are adjudged as sinners and will be accursed (i.e. separated from God, ref. Isa.65:19-26).

Anyone who fails to be part of the first resurrection, which comes up just before the millenial reign of Christ, will partake of both the second resurrection and second death (i.e. second or great white throne judgment) which is eternal separation from God (ref. Rev.20:6). It is evidently clear from Revelation 20:6, that the only escape from second death is to make the first resurrection. What is this judgment all about? It is simply to ascertain the level of punishment that should be meted to those wicked and ungodly people who rejected Christ as their Saviour and whose names are not written in the Lamb's book of life. The record of each person's activities or life which are being kept, will be brought by the "Recording Angel" to the saints assigned to judge the victim, and the saint will sentence the accused according to the level of punishment already determined by God. Some will be sentenced to more severe punishment than others but nobody will escape the punishment because all of them are already adjudged guilty (ref. Luke 12:47-48). The most painful thing here, there will be many who are good according to the judgment of the world or the understanding of the world, that will spend eternity with the wicked in the Lake of Burning Fire and Brimstone" because they did not receive Jesus as their personal Lord and Saviour and therefore their names are not written in the book of life. There punishment is that they will face the second death, which means they shall loose their resurrection bodies to which they were judged, and become bodiless spirits again so as to be able to stay in the Lake of Burning Fire forever.

The fallen angels who left their first estate and are reserved in everlasting chains, will be judged at this time. Satan and his demon angels too, will also be thrown into the Lake of Fire which prior to this time, has been housing Antichrist and the false prophet. And the earth will have been purged of all evil as hell and death will also be thrown in the fire, and righteousness shall reign on the new earth.