

CASTING CROWNS

Revelation 4

Even heaven's royalty cast their crowns before the Lord.

I. TWENTY-FOUR ELDERS SITTING TWENTY-FOUR THRONES

A. **Revelation 4:4_a**

The throne of Christ is surrounded by 24 others on which are seated 24 elders.

B. **Matthew 19:28**

Jesus had already told the apostles they would sit 12 thrones in heaven.

C. **Revelation 21:12, 14**

So, besides the 12 apostles, the other thrones must be occupied by the 12 patriarchs.

II. WEARING GOLDEN CROWNS

A. **Revelation 4:4_b**

The 24 elders are crowned with gold.

B. **1st Corinthians 9:24-27**

Christians are promised imperishable crowns.

C. **2nd Timothy 4:7-8**

Crowns of righteousness await those who faithfully served Christ.

D. **James 1:12**

These are crowns of life which await those who love Him.

E. **2nd Timothy 2:11-13**

Why crowns? Because we are assured we will reign with Him!

III. OFFERING WORSHIP

A. **Revelation 4:9-10_a**

These crowned and enthroned elders worship along with the four living creatures.

B. Acts 12:20-24; 10:24-26

Mere men, even kings and apostles, are not worthy of worship.

C. Matthew 2:11; 8:2; 9:18; 14:33; 15:25; 28:9

Throughout His life, from birth to the resurrection, and in between, Jesus received worship.

D. Philippians 2:9-11

Someday, every knee will bow to Jesus; even those in heaven will kneel.

IV. SURRENDERING THEIR CROWNS

A. Revelation 4:10,

Across the crystal sea, these elders cast down their crowns, knowing their reign is subservient to His.

B. 1st Chronicles 29:10-12; Daniel 4:34-35; 6:25-27

Other kings on earth paid homage to God in His supremacy.

C. 1st Timothy 6:11-16; Revelation 17:14; 19:16

There are other kings, but Jesus is King of kings.

D. Luke 17:7-10

No matter how well we serve our Master, He remains Master and we are mere servants. Obedience is real and necessary, but it never means we earn our place in heaven.

CONCLUSION

A. 1st Peter 2:9-12

The royal priesthood that receives mercy is composed of those who have forsaken darkness for light, full of good works and abstinence from sin.

B. John 3:3-5

Rebirth in water and spirit is essential to entrance into the divine kingdom.