

“The Glory of Our King”
Matthew 21:5 & 27:27-31

*I. Behold, consider, think about: Who He is Who is
crowned with a crown of thorns ...*

*1. He is the eternal Word, He is God, Our Creator, the Word made
flesh –*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was in the beginning with God.³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. (John 1:1-3 NKJ)

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14 NKJ)

- A. *“In the beginning was the Word” means Jesus was and is eternal –*
- B. *“and the Word was God” means Jesus was and is God*
- C. *“and the Word was with God” in between A. & B. in verse :1 demonstrates Jesus was / is a separate member of the Godhead.*
- D. *“All things were made through Him” tells us He is along with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit, one of the members of the Godhead Who created our world, our universe and us – see Genesis 1*
- E. *Verse :14 tells us Jesus (the Word) became flesh!*

2. He is the Christ, the Son of God –

Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 16:16-17 NKJ)

*3. He is the express image of the Invisible God and our only way to
the Father, our only hope of salvation –*

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,² has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;³ who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power,

when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (Hebrews 1:1-3 NKJ)

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6 NKJ)

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12 NKJ)

*4. He is King of kings and Lord of Lords, He will one day judge our
world –*

“These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are with Him* are called, chosen, and faithful.” (Revelation 17:14 NKJ)

And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (Revelation 19:16 NKJ)

²⁰ **“For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.**

²¹ **“For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.**

²² **“For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,
(John 5:20-22 NKJ)**

*5. What a dread, amazing thing it that such a person should be
crowned with a crown of thorns, beaten, made fun of?*

A. *It is a huge MISTAKE; they were messing with the wrong MAN!*

B. *It is a Life (eternal life) or Death mistake –*

³⁵ **“The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.**

³⁶ **“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”
(John 3:35-36 NKJ)**

C. *Some who make this mistake repent –*

³⁶ **“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?”³⁸ Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:36-38 NKJ)**

II. Behold, consider, think about: How, in what manner, this crown of thorns is given to Christ –

- 1. It is placed on Jesus' head with great disdain, cruelty and hatred by unruly wicked men –*

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him.²⁸ And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him.²⁹ When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"³⁰ Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head.³¹ And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified. (Matthew 27:27-31 NKJ)

- A. These were common, Roman soldiers στρατιώτης stratiotes {strat-ee-o'-tace} Meaning: 1) a (common) soldier*
 - B. The whole garrison meant there were between 400 and 600 men mocking Christ –*
 - C. The verbs here are aorist active implying continuous action, meaning when they mocked Him, they continually mocked Him, when they spat on Him, they likely all spat on Him, when they struck Him they struck Him repeatedly, possibly each man had his turn?*
- 2. As He is called "king of the Jews" they thought Him lower and weaker than themselves, as the Jews were a defeated people!*
 - 3. As they strip Him, clothe Him with a mock robe and craft a crown of thorns (these were likely large, sharp thorns) they both humiliate and torture Him, maybe they think themselves more manly for such and yet the prophecy of Psalm 22 seems to compare them to dogs –*

¹⁶ **For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. (Psalm 22:16 NKJ)**

Rev. Reginald Cranston refers to them as "The Hounds of Hell"

III. Behold, consider, think about: How, in what manner this crown is received by Christ –

- 1. It is received quietly, humbly –*
- 2. Why?*
 - A. Surely the soldiers thought He was helpless to do otherwise*
 - B. But, other Scripture shows something different:*

³ Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

⁴ Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?"⁵ They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them.⁶ Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. (John 18:3-6 NKJ)

⁵² But Jesus said to him, "Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword."⁵³ "Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? (Mat 26:52-53 NKJ)

This would mean 84,000 angels vs. 600 men, considering one angel can easily defeat 185,000 men – Isaiah 37:36 – this would be quite a mismatch!

- C. Jesus received such a crown, along with the beating, etc... humbly because He (1) Loved us (2) He was receiving, or beginning to receive, the wrath due sinful men –*

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJ)

IV. Behold, consider, think about: the Biblical symbolism in a crown of thorns –

- 1. Thorns were part of the curse brought by sin –*

⁷ Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life."¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. (Gen 3:17-18 NKJ)

- 2. Consider too, because of our shame, Jesus had to endure the shame of nakedness, at least for a time – Matthew 27:28*
- 3. Obviously His crucifixion would mean He was bearing our curse –¹³ Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), (Gal 3:13 NKJ)*