



THE STORY OF THREE CROWNS

INTRODUCTION

"Where did I come from? Why am I here? Where am I going?" These are three important questions everyone thinks about, eventually. The answers can be found in a story called, 'The 3 Crowns.' It is the main story of the Bible, which reveals the true and perfect record of mankind's origin, purpose and destiny.

CROWN 1: GOD

The story of 3 Crowns begins with God, because the first four words in the Bible are, 'In the beginning God'. The first **CROWN** represents God; He is king over all creation! Before anything existed, God was there. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and present everywhere. God spoke and, out of nothing, he **CREATED** the heavens and the earth. He created everything everywhere! Because of this He is in authority of all things. God is **LOVE**...and He **MADE MANKIND** in his image so that we could love, worship, and glorify him forever.

CROWN 2: MAN

The problem is that we have chosen to turn and go our own way. In our pride we rejected God's plan for our lives, we rebelled against the authority of **HIS CROWN**, and we **CROWNED OURSELVES**. This is the second crown. We have made ourselves king. The Bible calls this **SIN**. Sin **SEPARATES** us from God. The ultimate penalty for our sin is **DEATH**, both physical and spiritual in Hell. Our sin has brought a curse on creation and **BROKENNESS** into the world. Sadness, sickness, suffering, and pain now touch all our lives.

CROWN 3: CHRIST

The good news is that God so loved the world that he sent his **SON**, Jesus, into the **WORLD**. He came from heaven to save our broken world and to shine his light into our darkened hearts. Jesus taught us that by following Him as King we could have a relationship with God and one day, live in his kingdom forever. He challenged us to love God and others first. He used his great power to heal our sadness, sickness, suffering, and pain. Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life and then he died on a **CROSS**, offering His life as payment for the debt of our rebellion against God. His sacrifice not only demonstrates His absolute love for us but it also pays the price of **SIN** and removes the curse of **SEPARATION** from God for all who believe.

Miraculously, three days after Jesus died and was buried in a tomb, He was **RAISED** to life again; defeating sin, death, and the powers of darkness! Then he ascended back to heaven and was **RESTORED** to his former glory at the right hand of God the Father. Jesus now **RULES** and reigns over God's kingdom as Lord of all. This is the third crown. Christ is King. God has sent His **SPIRIT** to open hearts and minds to this Good News. His Spirit also empowers and encourages those who follow Jesus as King to fulfill His mission to love the world and spread this story through His **CHURCH**.

RESPONSE

So which circle reflects your spiritual condition today? Are you wearing the crown? Or is Christ the King and Savior of your life. To **MOVE** from the right circle to the left, you must first **TURN** from depending upon yourself to be good enough to earn God's favor or as the way to find purpose and value in your life. Then you **TRUST** in Jesus Christ, what He accomplished on the cross and through His resurrection, as the only way you can have a restored relationship with God. You remove the crown from your head and come to Jesus for forgiveness. Which circle would you like to be in now?