

In The Days Of Youth

There are numerous passages in the Bible directly aimed at young people. Solomon near the end of Ecclesiastes said, "Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; Walk in the ways of your heart, And in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, And put away evil from your flesh, For childhood and youth are vanity. Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, "I have no pleasure in them": (Ecclesiastes 11:9 - 12:1)

David wrote, "Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; According to Your mercy remember me, For Your goodness' sake, O LORD." (Psalms 25:7)

Paul in writing to Timothy penned, "Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart." (2 Timothy 2:22)

There is nothing wrong with being young. In fact, many wish they could be young again. But the Bible points out the dangers of young. Recently charges were leveled against a candidate appointed to the Supreme Court by the President. (This article is not intended to take sides on this issue but to see why one needs to remember God in one's youth.)

The following accusations have been said about Brett Kavanaugh; he drank alcohol to the point of being a drunk, he was in a bar fight, he sexually assaulted a young woman in 1982. Whether or not he is guilty of the later charge is unknown, but it appears he did drink to the point of getting drunk, and he did indeed get into a bar fight. I doubt very seriously whether Brett Kavanaugh thought about the impact of those actions could have on his life later on.

Again, the Bible warns us of being ungodly and foolish in our youth. "Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive

it far from him." (Proverbs 22:15) I remember in college, some very foolish things the young men did in my dorm. One joined the Communist Party as a joke! How would you like to explain that as you apply for a government job? Many were sexually immoral and then boasted about their conquest. Many were drunk to the point of throwing up and passing out. These were a few antics I knew about. I dare say, no one was thinking about the consequences of their actions thirty years in the future.

Solomon points out that one is accountable to God, even in one's youth. A young person who dies will appear before the Judgement seat of Christ just as an older person who dies, 2 Corinthians 5.10.

Young people are often ignorant of the consequences of their actions. One elder I worked with often said, "Experience is a hard teacher, it gives you the test first, and then the lesson."

If you live a godly life you won't have to worry about the sins of your youth coming back to haunt you. -- Dennis Tucker