

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
 Study Sunday 10:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

Preacher / bulletin editor:

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“...Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica,”

—2 Timothy 4:10

**Servants during March:**

Songleader: Stanley (2), Larry (9),
 Dwight (16), Stanley (23), Larry (30)

Reading: Stanley

Announcements: Larry

Table: Mike M, Marty, Stanley

Wednesday Lesson: Stanley (5), Kris (12),
 Larry (19), Stanley (26)

Area Meetings:

Jackson Drive, 16-21, Steven McCrary;

Anderson, 16-19, Bill Hall;

Danville Road, 16-19, Jared Hagan

Hays Mill church of Christ

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The Bible . Examiner

“Examine everything carefully...” 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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When a Young Person Grows Old

By Mark White

Unless thwarted by the Lord’s return, or an “untimely” death, all young people will eventually grow old. Regardless of how many creams and rinses are used, the aging process takes its toll on most members of the human family. Aging is an irreversible part of life, for if you live at all, you get older. The curse of our generation is an inordinate preoccupation with youth. No one wants to be old. At least, no one wants to look old. People do not mind feeling old as much as they detest looking old. But while the human family may take such a grim view of aging, the Bible does not so regard the aged. In fact, a special and significant honor is bestowed on the “hoary head,” Lev 19:32; Prov 16:31. God enjoins us to


“rise before the gray headed and honor the presence of an old man.” And “a silver-haired head is a crown of glory, if it is found in the way of righteousness.”

When a young man grows old, there are some definite changes which take place. Solomon gives a detailed description of the aging process in Ecclesiastes 12:1-7. Old age is called the “difficult days” in verse one. These days of difficulty are brought through hampering physical maladies which make it hard to really enjoy living. When our hands are racked with arthritis; the legs cease to carry our weight; our teeth are few and brittle; and our eyes grow dim, it is a “difficult” day indeed, v3. Even worse, the slightest of noises awakens us and robs our

tired bodies of needed rest. Our ability to make melody with a clear, strong voice is gone, v4. And we are now frightened easily by heights and are more prone to worry about the dangers in our path. Sexually, we are either powerless or completely devoid of desire. Our physical strength wanes, and even the weight of a “grasshopper” is a burden too heavy, v5. In the difficult days of old age, the “silver cord” (nerves / spinal cord) is loosened and the “golden bowl” (brain) is broken, and senility takes hold. The heart and circulatory system is “shattered” and “broken” and death is not far behind, v6,7. A more complete and graphic description of what happens when a young man grows old has never been penned! But Solomon was not writing to an old man about something he was already experiencing in his aging body. There would be little value in telling an old man that his dusty frame was returning to the earth. He would know this without being told, being in the midst of the process himself. Solomon addresses the young who are not yet to this point of life. He said to the young, “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.’”

Solomon addresses the young man before he wastes the precious

time of his youth on frivolity. He is hoping that the young man will listen to wisdom and do something constructive with his days of brightness and strength. Solomon urges that the young “remember” the Creator, but this involves more than a mere mental recall of God. Consider what God did when He remembered Hannah, 1 Sam 1:19. God did something for her. He gave her a son. Likewise, the young are to remember God by serving Him with the strength and vitality of their youth. This will also keep the young man from looking back on his youth with regret, as he remembers how he forgot God and wasted his time with vanities.

To be sure, it does not miraculously become easier to serve God as we get older. In fact, there is no time in life when worldly things automatically lose their appeal. Solomon advises that we get ourselves on target early in life. He labors to get us to see that it is ridiculous to put off commitment to God until later in life. While we may think the young deserve a chance to have their fling with life and settle down to spiritual things later, Solomon teaches just the opposite. In fact, age may work against us in our struggle to shun the world and obey God. And when we look back on a youth misspent—what a sad, empty, haunting gaze it will be. 

“Unless a grain of wheat...”

By Brent Lewis

“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit,” Jn 12:24.

Jesus was here describing the sacrificial life. He was first of all predicting His death, made necessary by man’s sins. God prophesied through Isaiah concerning Christ: “Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death...,” Isa 53:12.

It was thus necessary that the grain of wheat should fall into the earth and die—for much fruit to be borne. The church could not have come into existence had this not been so; our redemption could not have taken place. He was made perfect through His suffering and death—for it was necessary “in bringing many sons to glory,” Heb 2:10.

But, Jesus apparently applies the same principle to His followers, for He continued in Jn 12:25: “He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal.”

We, too, must die to bear much fruit. We must become dead to sin. Paul says, “How shall we who died to sin still live in it? ...knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with... Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus,” Rom 6:2,6,11.

Those who would follow Christ must hate their life in this world. Paul was able to say: “But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course...,” Acts 20:24.

All of those who are Christ’s disciples must be of Christ’s disposition: they must be willing to live the sacrificial life. It will be said in heaven about them: “And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death,” Rev 12:11.

We must die unto the world and lose our lives in the Master’s service. To do so is to spring forth unto life Eternal.

—via *With all Boldness*, May, 1967 

Remember in Prayer

Mike B had trouble breathing again, so was intubated and is now in HH ICU. **Pam McNatt** has some form of breast cancer, and is awaiting test results. Please continue to pray for

Barbara; Betty; Carolyn; Deborah and Serenity; Hazel; Joshua V; Kathy M; Pam, Julie, Kaylee and Violet; Mark and Vickie H; and John, Sylvia, and Paige Pollard. 