

Proverbs 16:31-32 (NKJV)

31 The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, if it is found in the way of righteousness.

32 He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

Smyrna the Faithful fundamentals

1. CHARACTER

3. QUALITY OF BEHAVIOR,

WHICH IS BASED ON OUR LOVE FOR GOD;

WHICH IS BASED ON OUR OBEDIENCE TO **SPECIFIC** DOCTRINE

2. IF WE ARE GOING TO STAND FIRM IN THE MIDST OF ADVERSITY:

3. We must first exercise the Scriptures teaching us to become skilled in family relationships.

3. BEGINNING OUR STUDY WITH A FEW THOUGHTS:

3. Levels of Maturity:

There's a significant difference between Smyrna's level of maturity and Jude's level of maturity

There is a much greater difference in Jude and Michael's level of maturity and Smyrna's level of maturity

In the same way there's a significant difference in my level of maturity from the time I first believed Christ, to the time that Stonehouse church broke up

And then again there is a significant difference in my level of maturity from the time the stone house church broke up, to where I'm at today

Respect:

Learn to hold your tongue when the older generation speaks.

Don't accuse the older generation, but show respect and be silent

Leviticus 19:32 (NKJV)

32 You shall rise before the **gray headed** and **honor the presence of an old man** and **fear your God: I am the Lord.**

Proverbs 20:21 (NKJV)

21 Listen to **rebuke** when you are **scolded**, who forget you, And do not despise **your mother** when she is old

Genesis 17:18 (NKJV)

18 And she said to her father, **Let it not displease my lord**, that I cannot **see before you**, for the manner of women is with me. And he heeded her but did not heed the heavenly voice.

Genesis 40:27 (NKJV)

27 Then he **asked them** about their well being, and said **to the chief butler**, **well, the old man of whom you speak** is he still alive?

1 Kings 2:19-20 (NKJV)

19 Bathsheba therefore went to King Solomon, to speak to him for Adonijah, **and the king rose up to meet her and bowed down to her, and sat down on his throne and had a throne set for her to sit on at his right hand.**

20 Then she said, "I desire one small portion of you; do not refuse me." And the king said to her, "Ask it, my mother, for I will not refuse you."

21 So she said, "Let Adonijah the Sonamite be given to Adonijah your brother as wife."

22 And King Solomon answered and said to his mother, "Now why do you ask, bringing the Sonamite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom also... for he is my older brother... for him, and for Balthazar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah."

23 Then King Solomon arose by the Lord, saying, "May God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word against his brother."

24 Now therefore, as the Lord lives, who has confirmed me and set me on the throne of David my father, and who has established a house for me, as the promise, Adonijah shall be put to death today!"

25 So King Solomon sent by the hand of Balthazar the son of Jehoiada, and he struck him down, and he died.

Job 32:4-6 (NKJV)

4 Now **because they were years older than he, Eliphaz had waited to speak to Job.**

5 When Eliphaz saw that there was no answer in the mouth of some times men, his wrath was aroused.

6 So Eliphaz, the son of Bezael the Thubian, answered and said, "I am young in years, and you are very old; Therefore I was afraid, and dared not declare my opinion to you."

7 I have heard things which should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom."

8 But there is a spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding."

9 Great men are not always wise, Nor do the aged always understand justice.

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Proverbs 20:29-30 (NKJV)

29 The glory of young men is their strength, **And the splendor of old men is their gray head.**

30 Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, As do stripes the inner depths of the heart.

Isaiah 54 (NKJV)

5 The people will be oppressed, Every one by another and every one by his neighbor, **The child will be insolent toward the elder, And the base toward the honorable.**

Amos 6:1-2 (NKJV)

12 Princes were lying on by their hands, And others were not expected.

Romans 12:7 (NKJV)

7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, **fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.**

Galatians 3:1-3 (NKJV)

1 **Children, obey your parents in the Lord**, for this is right.

2 Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise.

3 That it may be well with you and you may be long in the land.

1 Timothy 3:1-2 (NKJV)

1 Do not receive an elder man, but what him as a father, younger than as brothers, **as one would as mothers, you must without as fathers, with all purity.**

4. Faithful THE FUNDAMENTAL BASICS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Begin with cleansing

Revelation 2:8-11 (NKJV)

8 And to the **angel** of the church in **Smyrna** write.

These things says **the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life.**

9 I know your **works**, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich), and I know the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

Behavioral standards:

10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days.

11 And I will give you the **Crown of life**, and you will not overcome.

12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the church, and he will not go out of it. I will write my name, and the name of my Father, on him.

13 He who is thirsty, let him come and take freely and without cost.

14 Blessed is he who washes his robes, that he may not defile his garment, and that he may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter the city.

15 Outside the door are the dogs, and the sorcerers, and the fornicators, and the murderers, and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices a lie.

16 I Jesus have sent my angel to testify to you these things, and I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright and morning star.

17 The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And he who hears, let him come. And he who is thirsty, let him come and take freely and without cost.

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