

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4-12

Editor: REV. B. COCHRANE, Moncton, N. B.

A MESSAGE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

By Mrs. J. A. Owens

Easter Greetings to all our Young People. I have some thoughts on my heart that I would like to share with you, so please give heed, and I will bring you a message that, if heeded, will bring you great joy and peace as long as you live.

First, let me read a portion of Scripture found in Ecclesiastes the 12th chapter and the first clause of the first verse. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." Youth is a wonderful period in the life. It is the moulding time. I am talking to boys and girls who have passed through early childhood and are now in school. Some of you are perhaps nearly through High school. You have reached that time in life when you are beginning to look into the future and make plans for your life's work; and as you begin each day with these thoughts in mind, how vital and necessary it is to begin aright and learn to put first things first. So I would say to you, if in your thinking and planning, you have not considered God and His Will for your life, do so now, and see how He will help you in so many of the problems that will arise in each one of your lives.

Young people do have their temptations and their problems as well as older folk, and that is why you should recognize your need of Divine Guidance.

In remembering your Creator, remember He wants to save you in your youth. The enemy of your soul would have you wait until you are older, but he is a deceiver and is only trying to rob you of what is the most important factor in your lives—the salvation of your souls and a personal knowledge of God's saving grace in your hearts. So I would urge each one listening to accept Christ now as your Saviour. Don't delay! Delays are dangerous! How different would be the story of many a life today if multitudes had heeded this admonition of God's Word to "Remember their Creator in the days of their youth. Of course, God is merciful, and many have been forgiven and saved in the eleventh hour of life, but while the soul was saved the life was wasted, and influences shed for evil that will go on and on; whereas if that had been saved in youth the life would have been saved and lived for the glory of God.

No doubt many who are listening in this morning are thinking, "Oh! there is plenty of time to get serious. Youth is the time for fun and frolic. No need to get old and pious before our time!" Well, dear young people, God does not want to make old people out of you nor prohibit you from having a good time providing your good times are clean and harmless and such as He can smile upon. Of course if you are saved and have a desire to please your Master, your first thought will be, "Will this or that pastime or recreation be for His glory?" The fact is, many "so-called" good times of today cannot be considered clean and harmless, and young people who are Christians and who mean to serve Christ, find that they have to refuse the offered cigarettes and social glass and decline invitations to shows and dances. Such a firm stand often brings a frown and even scorn from worldly friends and companions but Jesus said "Marvel not if the world hate you," and, again, "If ye were of

the world the world would love its own; but because ye are not of the world but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore this world hateth you."

Young people, if you want real and lasting joy give yourselves to the Lord and He will work a work of grace in your hearts that will surpass anything this world has to offer you. Don't be led to believe you are too young for such serious thoughts, but listen to Jesus' words again when He says, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness." And I can truthfully tell you from personal experience that in making such a choice and decision early in life there is a deep heart-felt satisfaction with no remorse or regrets to haunt you. On the other hand, if you refuse to remember your Creator and refuse to take Christ as the Man of your council, and live only for self and worldly pleasure, there can be nothing but bitter disappointment. In the preceding chapter we read "Rejoice, oh young man in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart and in the sight of thine eye, but know thou that for all these things God will bring you into judgment." May God bless you one and all and help you to choose Christ this day as your Saviour and Guide.

In closing, I would like to remind the mothers that the life we live in our homes and the teaching we give our children will have a great deal to do in helping them choose the better way. I realize that in many instances children of Godly parents have gone the downward way, but if you are conscious of having done your best for them, keep on praying and instructing, and God will eventually verify His promise that if we "train up a child the way he should go, when he is old he will not depart from it." Yes, he may wander for a while, but will come back to mother's God according to the promise. God bless you all!

FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE AT THE SEPULCHRE

"He is not here," Love said, while down her face

Slowly the large tears of her trouble flow;
"They've borne him hence, and whither, who
may know?"
Then straightway Faith and Hope with rapid pace

Came running toward the tomb—a holy race.
And Faith did outrun Hope, and, stooping low,
Saw the sweet-smelling cerements, pure as snow,

Each calmly folded in its proper place,
But paused on the threshold gazing, Hope, not
grieved,

At his defeat, soon followed, nor delayed
To enter in, and presently was cheered;
Faith also entered with him, and believed,
Then homeward both returned; but Love
there stayed,

And wept and waited till the Lord appeared.

—REV. J. D. BURNS

ACHIEVEMENTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Benjamin Franklin was writing for publications at fourteen.

At the age of twenty-two, Whitefield was one of the world's greatest preachers.

William Gladstone was a member of the British House of Commons at twenty-four.

John Wesley was a polished and forceful

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writer, a skilled logician, and a professor of Greek at twenty-four.

At eight years, Beethoven created astonishment by his musical ability. At thirteen, Mozart was without equal in music.

At the age of eighteen D. L. Moody was preaching; and during his twenties he became one of this century's greatest evangelists.

Louis Agassiz began the study of science at eleven years of age, and was recognized as one of the most profound scholars of his age, while yet in his twenties.

Elihu Burritt, the learned blacksmith, by patient application during his spare moments at the forge, and during the long hours of the evening, had mastered fifty different languages by the time he was twenty-seven.

Martin Luther was professor of philosophy at twenty-four, and at twenty-seven, while ascending the Scala Santa in Rome, heard the voice of God say, "The just shall live by faith," and at once the great Reformation began.

William Cullen Bryant wrote "Thanatopsis" at seventeen. Tennyson's first volume of poems appeared when he was but twenty. Southey was a writer at eighteen, and Milton wrote one of his best poems at twenty-two. John Greenleaf Whittier was editor of the "New England Review" at twenty-three; Edgar Allan Poe's first volume was written at twenty; and Byron's appeared at seventeen. Robert Burns was a poetic genius at twelve, and a brilliant, gifted writer at sixteen.—Target.

CROWNED OR CRUCIFIED

I stood alone at the bar of God,
In the hush of the twilight dim,
And faced the question that pierced my heart:

What will you do with HIM?
Crowned or crucified? Which shall it be?
No other choice was offered to me.

I looked on the face so marred with tears
That were shed in His agony;
The look in His kind eyes broke my heart,
'Twas full of love for me.
The crown or the thorns, it seemed to say;
For or against Me—choose thou today.

He held out His loving hands to me,
While He pleadingly said, "Obey,
Make Me Thy choice, for I love thee so";
And I could not say Him nay.
Crowned or crucified thus it must be,
No other way was open to me.

I knelt in tears at the feet of Christ,
In the hush of the twilight dim,
And all that I was, or hoped, or sought,
Surrendered unto Him,
Crowned, not crucified; my heart shall know
No king but Christ who loved me so.

—God's Revivalist