

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

—ECCLES. 12:1

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

Voice of the Reformed Baptist Y. P. A.

Editor: Lic. Ralph Ingersoll
Woodstock, N. B.

MESSAGE TO YOUTH

By Rev. R. C. Stabler*

Greetings to all our Reformed Baptist Young People and all the rest who chance to read these lines. It's a happy privilege to have this little chat with you and while doing so I want to say something that will help and encourage you in living for Jesus. As I write this I am thinking of the great character in the Old Testament, Daniel, a man who lived ahead of his generation. Perhaps one reason for his greatness was his prayer life. He talked with an angel, and the angel Gabriel addressed him three times as a man "greatly beloved."

This man had visions of God. You know, young people, there is a vast difference between seeing visions and being visionary. So many of us are only visionary. We think we can give advice and tell others how it ought to be done, but how much of a success have we made of our own lives? There are those who do first one thing and then another. Such remind us of a meteor that blazes brilliantly for awhile but soon goes out. These are a visionary people and the world has plenty of them. But, young people, the great characters of the past who have cut new channels, blazed new trails, opened up hidden secrets, and led humanity on to better days have been people of vision.

Daniel was this type of a man, and in my chat with you I want to point out some things that will help you not to be visionary but to grow up to be men and women of vision. One of the first things you will need is courage to express and stick by your convictions. In this day of indifference and unbelief it is hard to find young people of the Daniel type who can stand and face a frowning world alone. You will have to learn to say "No" and stand alone even at the cost of displeasing your best friends. This man stood the test and later on stood before the king, and the same can be true of our young people today.

You know, beloved, it is the little things that make character. Long before a town recognizes a boy as a crook or rascal, he has become so at heart, months or even years, before it gets out on him. I believe the secret in Daniel's success was his start in life. When a young man, though a captive and a prisoner, he entered into a covenant relationship with God. We read, "that he purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with a portion of the king's meat nor the wine that he drank." Where are the young people today who in order to give themselves wholly to God, and catch heavenly visions will volunteer to a cheap and coarse diet? We, as a rule, feed and pamper the flesh in order, we think, to enjoy life, but according to Paul we must mortify the deeds of the body, bring it under, if, like him, we would get a glimpse of the third heaven and hear words unspeakable.

The next thing I want you to notice is that he lived in advance of his day. Everyone who does this is misunderstood and not appreciated until the next generation, which is about forty years. Jesus said, "Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, and say, if we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets." Matt. 23:29-30. Yet while they

were lauding Moses and the prophets they were getting ready to crucify Jesus. It has always been so, men have, at least in spirit, stoned those who in their day have lived in advance of them, and then as one said, "When their children caught up with their advanced ideas they have gathered up the stones and built a monument to their memory." Now, young people, if you purpose to live in advance of your day, you will need to have courage and to prepare yourselves for some hard knocks, for you are bound to get them.

Daniel lived on a higher plane than most of those of his day and the vision that delighted him, frightened the others. How about the results? Did it pay Daniel and will it pay you? Some have the idea that to take your stand for God means nothing but contempt and reproach. While this in a measure may be true, and as a Christian you may lose a certain class of friends, yet in return God will give you a better and a more substantial group than you ever had before. He stood the test, therefore he stood before the king. Now, my dear young people, in closing, let me urge you to have a courage that can neither be coaxed or frightened, bought or sold.

Now how many of you who have read this are willing to give yourselves wholly to the Lord that in turn He might make out of you men and women of vision, who, like Daniel dare to live in advance of their day. Remember, you get what you live for; if you give up little you get little in return. "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."

* Many of our readers will remember Rev. R. C. Stabler as the evangelist at our Youth Camp in the summer of 1945.

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LILLIE MULLEN,
Treasurer

SOCIETY LETTER

Fort Fairfield, Me.,
August 8, 1946

Dear Young People:

We feel that a report from this corner of God's Vineyard is in order at this time.

Recently our society had its election of officers for the coming year resulting as follows: Pres., Geraldine Russell; Vice-Pres., Edith Emery; Sec., Norma Ginn; Treas., Elsie Hilyard; Self-Denial Treas., Iris Emery. We feel that God's directing hand was near when these officers were chosen.

The attendance at our Young People's meetings is small but God's blessing is abundant. We believe that we are being helped and strengthened as a result of our meetings together and we are looking forward to greater blessings as the new officers perform their duties.

Yours in Christ,
NORMA GINN

ATTENTION DISTRICT PRESIDENTS!

The Young People of the various districts are anxiously awaiting the announcement of their District Rally. These rallies have, for the past two years, been a means of great blessing and strength to our individual societies and our organization as a whole. Let us make this our **banner year** for **Y. P. Rallies** by getting away to a good start with some definite announcement for us in the next issue. We trust that our various presidents will not let us down.

STRIVE

"Strive to enter in at the straight gate."—Luke 13:24.

Strive to be—

- S. Steadfast in duty.
- T. True in every department of life.
- R. Righteous toward God and man.
- I. Industrious in your calling.
- V. Valiant for the Truth.
- E. Eminent in faith, love and piety.

—"Selected"

Think before you drink—it doesn't cost to think. What does it cost to drink?

The man who wants to do something finds a way, the other finds an excuse.