

Intro:

Main Point of Text: God commands our youth to show special honor to our elders as a key way of showing honor to Him.

Sermon Point: *Appreciate the Ancient of Days through Your Aged.*

Move 1: Old age is to be appreciated.

“hoary head [gray-headedness]/old man [elder, beard (vs. 27)]”. As Prov. 20:29: ... the beauty of old men is the gray head. And Prov. 16:31: The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness. Seniors, you have something to share. From your years of experience, you can call on us to hold fast, singing Ps. 37:25: *I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.*

Move 2: Younger people must show our older people appreciation.

“Rise/honour [lit., swell]”: prior shows latter. Pride in elderly shows by giving them priority. J. Gill: young King Solomon gives good example in 1 Kg. 2:19. Another in Job. 32:4-7: Now Elihu had waited till Job had spoken, because they were elder than he ... And Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite answered and said, I am young, and ye are very old; wherefore I was afraid, and durst not shew you mine opinion. I said, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom. (Job 32:4-7) Young people, you have something to learn by hearing and following adults/aged. Don’t make the mistake of King Rehoboam, 1 Kg. 12:1-16. Mind Jer. 6:16-17) and be in the habit of Acts 7:2; 22:1. Prov. 23:22: Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old. Be warned by Lam. 5:12; Isa. 3:5; Job 30:12. All applies Ex. 20:12: honor, “make heavy”. Lev. 19:3. James 1:17 because of 1 Cor. 12:22-24.

Move 3: When you appreciate your aging brethren you show you appreciate our God.

Dan. 7:9: I beheld ... the Ancient of days ... whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool ... Rev. 1:13-14: And in the midst of the seven candlesticks ... the Son of man ... His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow ... “and fear [reverence/awe] thy God: I am the LORD”. Those who respond with respectful attention before superiors in serving the Lord show they actually fear Him as their God. Prov. 1:7; 9:10; 16:6. Rom. 1:30; 3:18. Chiasm (literary parallel) in construction of first part of verse, lit. “From face of hoary head you all shall rise, and you all shall swell before the face of the old.” Emphasis: the elderly are to be revered. Ex. 20:12/Eph. 6:1-3: You get favor and long life when you value how God gave those older than you favor in long lives. Studying those older than you teaches you Psalm 90:10, 12!

Conclusion:

Appreciate the Ancient of Days through Your Aged.