



"...In the Days of Thy Youth" Ecclesiastes 12: 1

Statistics Canada classifies youth as the age bracket of persons between the late teens and the early thirties. The government of Canada uses these statistics to target strategic programs towards developing youths. The world recognizes the potentials of this segment of the population, so does the word of God. **"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, ..."** (Ecclesiastes 12: 1). This is one of the Scriptures that directly counsels young people. The counsel here is the foundation of all wisdom; the God factor. The fear of the Lord is the **"beginning of knowledge"** (Proverbs 1: 7); and **"wisdom"** (Job 28: 28; Psalm 110: 10; Proverbs 9:10). We ought to note the tones of urgency and priority in this counsel. The government recognizes that the privilege of youth is time bound, and the Scripture takes the recognition of the privilege further by prompting youths to what to prioritize while the time of the youth lasts. As modern-day young adults, the urgency and priority of remembering God cannot be taken with a light hand. The Scripture discerns the opportunities and the vanities of our time as young people and how we should occupy the time. As Christian young adults in Canada, the counsel to remember God **"now"** challenges us to urgency and prioritizing the **wisdom** of God, the **word** of God, our **walk** with God, the **way** of God, the **will** of God, and the **work** of God.

The Wisdom of God. According to the New Testament, prioritizing the Wisdom of God is personalized in Christ and His sacrifice for all of us that believe in Him. We are called to prioritize seeking Christ as our redemption, sanctification, wisdom, and righteousness (1 Corinthians 1: 30). That is the wisdom of God. Seeking God for our personal spiritual experiences is the wisdom that we should be pursuing at this age (Proverbs 9:10). Let us steep ourselves into seeking God above any other thing this country throws at us.

The Word of God. Psalm 119:9 says **"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word."** Remembering God is remembering His word by reading, regurgitating (meditating), remembering, and relying on the word of God continually.

Our Walk with God. Micah 6:8. Our continual walk with God is in the light of His word. The revelation of the Bible must continually be what we seek for everyday living as young people. Our walk with God is understanding that He has leadership over our lives. We have to walk with Him in His terms, not ours. His word guiding our actions and daily choices is remembering God in the days of our youth.

The Way of God. Isaiah 35:8 says **"An highway shall be there and it shall be called the highway of holiness"** for "wayfaring" (active) people of God. The Lord calls us unto holiness in the days of our youth (Psalm 119: 9; 1 Thessalonians 4: 7). Our choice of holiness lifestyle is our effort to abstain from all appearance of sin, and it leads us to seek more of God for the sanctification experience. Holiness promoted Joseph in his youth, holiness promoted Daniel and his friends, holiness will promote us as we remember God in our youth.

The Will of God. Getting into the will of God for our lives at a personal level should be a prioritized concern of young adults. It's something we learned from Jesus at His youth life even (Luke 2: 49; John 6: 38). Let's know that we cannot get a fulfilled life all on our own; life's key decisions in career, marriage, personal calling, purpose in life, ministry, service and so on must be driven by the spiritual energy of God as our Creator and Redeemer. Let us dip ourselves into locating His will for every area of our lives. Then we will under our purpose in life.

The Work of God. The will of God for us ties into our work for God. The strengths and skills of our youth are massive assets to the kingdom of God, and channeling them in God's cause is remembering God in our youth. That is the example that Jesus sets for us in John 9:4. **"I must work the works of him that sent me,**

while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.” My challenge to our young adults is how are we involving ourselves in God’s work while we are in the “day” of youth? We should not see ourselves as shielded from spiritual responsibilities, let us take personal responsibility for personal evangelism and modeling God in the public spaces where we find ourselves in this country.

When we prioritize God in the days of our youth, we are setting ourselves up for the **Wonders of God** beyond the days of our youth (Isaiah 8: 18). Let us deepen our personal drive to be involved with God as young adults. Let us determine to walk with God in our everyday actions and seek only His will in our decisions. Let us ask for His plan and purpose in life. Let us get motivated to take-on His service in evangelism and modeling God to our society. *“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, ...”*

ANY QUESTIONS?

DISCUSSION

As we enter the warmer months of the year, how would we prioritize the work of God at our localities in this country?

REFERENCE

Statistics Canada (February 7, 2018). A Portrait of Canadian Youth. StatCan.
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-631-x/11-631-x2018001-eng.htm>

PRAYERS