

“How Shall the Young Secure Their Hearts?”

Psm. 119:9

Introduction

- I. Young people need to understand that there is a fight for their souls (1 Pet. 5:8-9).
- II. If the devil can corrupt them while they are young, then he will have them when they become accountable (Prov. 22:6, 15; 29:15; Deut. 6:3-9; Isa. 54:13; Eph. 6:4).
- III. What can our youth do to make sure that they are lead the wrong way?

Discussion

- I. Learn to separate yourselves from the world and it's influence.
 - A. Choose friends wisely (1 Cor. 15:33).
 - B. Don't be “conformed”, but rather be “transformed” (Rom. 12:2; 1 John 2:15-17).
 - C. Know what sin is and abstain from it (1 Thess. 5:22; 1 Tim. 5:22; 2 Tim. 2:22; cf. Prov. 6:27).
 - D. Learn to use your time wisely (Eph. 5:15-16).
 - E. Use wholesome language (Eph. 4:29; cf. Ruth 2:4).
 - F. Do not be afraid or ashamed of dressing differently (1 Tim. 2:9-10; cf. Isa. 61:10).
 - G. Keep a pure heart (Prov. 4:23; 23:7; cf. Phil. 2:5).
 - H. Understand denial of self (Luke 9:23; cf. Matt. 4:19-20).
- II. Accept that you are still growing physically, mentally, and spiritually.
 - A. Contrary to what some might think, young people do not know everything.
 - B. 4 years of Age - My Mommy and Daddy can do anything.
8 years of Age - My Mom and Dad know a lot, a whole lot.
12 years of Age - My Mom and Dad don't know quite everything.
14 years of Age – Mom and Dad don't know anything.
16 years of Age - Mom and Dad are hopelessly old-fashioned.
18 years of Age - I know so much more than Mom and Dad do.
25 years of Age - It's amazing how Mom and Dad have gotten wiser.
35 years of Age - Before I decide, let me get Mom's and Dad's opinions.
45 years of Age - What would Mom and Dad have thought about it?
65 years of Age - Wish I could talk it over with Mom and Dad.
 - C. “If you are tired of being hassled by unreasonable parents, now is the time for action! Leave home and pay your own way while you still know everything!”
 - D. Learn to love and obey your parents (Eph. 6:1-3).
- III. Decide to follow God (Jos. 24:15; Eccl. 12:1; Prov. 3:5-7).
 - A. Daniel (Dan. 1:8).
 - B. Three Hebrew youths (Dan. 3:24-27).

Conclusion

- I. The battle for our youth is very real.
- II. Young people need their hearts “secured”.