

“Help for Our Youth”

Eccl. 12:1

- I. It has become increasingly more difficult to nurture young minds to serve and follow the Lord.
- II. With so many distractions, our homes must be diligent to teach and train our children while we can.
- III. Perhaps the sermon can help us see the need to help our youth before it is too late.

Introduction

- I. Children must be taught to respect and obey authority (Eccl. 12:1).
 - A. While independence and freedom are special, they should not go unfettered.
 - B. If young people do not learn to respect authority in the home, then they will not be prepared to respect the authority in the church and society (Eph. 6:1-3; Col. 3:20; Heb. 13:17; Rom. 13:1).
 - C. Young people do not need to follow the trend of other youth who defy authority (Exo. 23:2).
- II. Children must be taught to work, and at times, work hard (Lam. 3:27).
 - A. Allowing children to become lazy and constantly engaged in entertainment will cause them to be crippled in a working society (Prov. 6:6-9; 10:4; 12:24; 13:4, 11).
 - B. The New Testament includes verses that encourage work (Rom. 12:11; 2 Thess. 3:10; 1 Thess. 4:11-12).
 - C. The most important work in which to engage is the work of the Lord (1 Cor. 15:58).
- III. Children must understand that Biblical education is more important than secular education (2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Tim. 4:12-13).
 - A. Stressing the secular is going to cause much grief and sadness (Eccl. 1:18; 12:12; Luke 21:34).
 - B. Biblical knowledge and wisdom is of great value (Prov. 1:7; 4:7; 23:23; 1 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Pet. 3:18; James 1:21; cf. Ezra 7:10).

Conclusion

- I. Our young people are constantly being bombarded by the things of the devil and the world.
- II. We only have a short amount of time to help them start on the right foot with God.

