The Problem With Young People

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INTRODUCTION

- All three of these men were better as youths. As young men, as young kings as they were when they got a little bit older.
- It seems like in every generation there's somebody who's proclaiming all the woes of our young people, as if there is not anything at all redeemable in them.
- It seems like nothing is new under heaven, like Solomon said in Ecclesiastes chapter 1. Every generation says the same thing.

1 Sin Is the Great Equalizer

Matthew 5:43–48; 1 Peter 2:1–2

- Let me say first that sin is the great equalizer. And that we are all equally on the verge of destruction because of sin.
- All sin is reckless, even if I am adept at keeping it concealed, so that I don't make as big of a splash in it.
- Heart problems like lust and selfishness and pride and hatred and envy on the last day. Those will be as equally condemning as the aforementioned intoxication and sexual immorality.
- You do good to me, I'll do good to you. You love me, I'll love you. We're called to more than that. What do you do more than others?
- Therefore, putting aside all malice and all guile and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.

2 The Devil's Sandwich: Issues of the Heart

Galatians 5:19–21

- Enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envy. Issues of the heart.
- Those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of heaven.
- I have never seen young people destroy a local church, but I've seen a lot of older people do it.
- The weapon of mass destruction for Satan is not sexual sin and drunkenness, particularly in young people. It is instead hate and slander and envy and divisiveness and pride in older people.

3 Flee From Youthful Lusts

2 Timothy 2:21–22; Galatians 5:22–25

- Now flee from youthful lust … pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord with a pure heart.
- Learn to practice self-control now. Learn to practice it now.
- I want to tell you, people struggle with youthful lust well up in years.

- It's going to require the next few verses in Galatians 5, pursuing the fruit of the Spirit, one of which is self-control, but pursuing the whole package and walking by the Spirit and not after the flesh.

4 The Problem for Young People Is That They're Young

Philippians 4:8; Proverbs 4:23; Colossians 3:12–13

- The major problem with young people is a lack of experience.
- Experience, you see, is a magnifier. And it will exponentially multiply what you are.
- I want to tell you the solution is how you think. The things you allow your mind to pursue.
- Watch over your heart with all diligence. For from it flows the springs of life.
- Some of the hardest parts of being an adult are the need to bear with one another, to forbear with one another, to learn to work out problems in relationships.

5 The Problem With Young People Is Sometimes Parents

Romans 1; John 12:35

- Problem with young people is sometimes parents. Or the lack of parental guidance, the lack of necessary parental guidance.
- When kids start coming to that conclusion, my question is, where's mom and dad?
- People are not being exposed to the only book that brings sanity to an insane world.
- When you remove God from the picture, then what's left? Experimentation.
- He who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes.

THE CHALLENGE

Discover your destiny by making right choices in a world filled with wrong. Choose worship, young people. Choose the spiritual and make it a priority in your life. Think pure thoughts. Consciously choose to place yourself second to others and be like your Savior.

MY NOTES