

We Are Never Too Old To Learn New Things

One of the saddest things is that sometimes when people pass their final examinations or when they receive their degree, or when they gain a job, they think their days of learning are over.

Some students even sell their textbooks when their college course ends.

To keep on learning certain things, must always be kept in the forefront of our mind.

Quintilian, the Roman teacher of oratory, said of certain of his students, *“They would doubtless have been excellent students, if they had not been convinced of their own knowledge.”*

There is an old proverb that reminds us of this trap we can fall into.

“He who knows not, and knows not that he knows not, is a fool, avoid him. He who knows not and knows that he knows not is a wise man, seek his company.”

We must never think that there is an age at which we stop learning.

Age has its opportunities to learn no less than youth.

In fact, one of the surest ways to stay young is to stay interested, and the only sure way to stay interested is to go on learning to the end of our days.

We must always be ready to learn about ourselves

The last thing that most of us know is ourselves, for it takes humility to know oneself.

Jeremiah 17:9 [New King James] *“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?”*

Our mind will deceive us into thinking that we have all the knowledge we need.

“Who can know this?” We cannot without help from outside of ourselves.

Jeremiah 17:10 [New King James] *“I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.”*

Scripture answers this question, the outside help we need comes from our Creator God.

King David knew that only his Creator God was qualified to teach us about ourselves.

Psalms 139:1-16 [New King James] *“O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it. Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall fall on me,’ even the night shall be light about me; indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You. For You*

formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvellous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skilfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them."

No human being could ever know us this well, not even ourselves, for our natural pride and vanity blinds us to the real person that we are.

Psalms 51:6-13 [New King James] *"Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me hear joy and gladness, that the bones You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You."*

Until we have this attitude of mind, a continual desire to learn we will never be able to fulfil the desire of our Creator God.

2 Peter 3:18 [New King James] *"but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen."*

We have been given life to accept God's grace and to grow in the knowledge of the very character of the Creator God, Jesus Christ, [Galatians 5:22-23].

We must always be learning about the Creator God

1 Corinthians 13:9-12 [New King James] *"For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known."*

There is a difference between a childlike attitude, [Mark 10:13-15] as a young child we are teachable, and childish faith.

It is often the tragedy of life that people mature in years, in the physical sense, but remain childish in the spiritual sense.

Our faith in our Creator God must grow deeper and deeper as the years go on.

John 17:3 [New King James] *"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."*

There is so much of God to know that not all eternity is time enough to know Him.

1 John 5:11 [New King James] *"And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son."*

The Creator God wants us to set on this personal quest to know Him more intimately that He gives us now in the physical life a down-payment of eternity.

This eternal life, which is a gift from God, [Romans 6:23], is found in the teaching of Jesus Christ, [John 6:66-68].

John 16:13 [New King James] *“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”*

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit will lead us into a full understanding of the Words of God, the Christian Bible.

John 14:26 [New King James] *“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”*

The Holy Spirit, working within us, will bring into our mind the words of Jesus Christ as we need them to make the right decisions in our life.

Romans 8:11 [New King James] *“But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”*

It is the Holy Spirit in us that will give us our spiritual bodies in which we will dwell for eternity, [1 Corinthians 15:35-44].

Death must only be a pause in our seeking to know our Creator God more intimately.