



# THE GATES TO MATURITY (YOUTH AND MARRIAGE)

(Pastor Joey Faust)  
(1-24-21)



**TEXT: Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of **thy youth**, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;**

**13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.**

**14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.**

**Proverbs 19:20 Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.**  
**27 Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.**

**Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the **days of thy youth**, while the evil days come not...**

**13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God, and keep his commandments**: for this is the whole duty of man.**

**14 For God shall bring every work **into judgment**, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.**

**Ecclesiastes 11:9 Rejoice, O young man,  
in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee  
in the days of thy youth, and walk in the  
ways of thine heart, and in the sight of  
thine eyes: but know thou, that for all  
these things God will bring thee into  
judgment.**

1 Corinthians 13:11 When **I was a child**, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I **became a man**, I put away childish things.



**John 9:23** Therefore said his  
parents, He is **of age**; ask him.  
**24** Then again called they the  
man that was blind...

**Hebrews 11:24** By faith Moses, when he was **come to years**, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

**25** Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

**26** Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

**27** By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

**"...this was when Moses was newly come to age, in the prime and vigour of his time, when he had just began to taste the sweetness of youthful pleasures. The world...looks green and beautiful in the spring of youth: but Moses, when...just come, to years, refused it." (*Burkitt*)**

**Genesis 21:12** And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of **the lad**, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

**16** And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bowshot: for she said, Let me not see the death of **the child**. And she sat over against him, and lift up her voice, and wept.

**18** Arise, lift up **the lad**, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation.

Genesis 16:16 And Abram was **fourscore and six years old**, when Hagar bare Ishmael to Abram.

Genesis 21:5 And Abraham was **an hundred years old**, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

**Genesis 21:8** And the child grew, and **was weaned**: and Abraham made a **great feast** the same day that Isaac was weaned.

**Psalms 131:2** Surely I have **behaved and quieted myself**, as a **child that is weaned** of his mother: my soul is even as a weaned child.

**Isaiah 28:9** Whom shall he teach knowledge?  
and whom shall he make to understand doctrine?  
them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn  
from the breasts.

**2 Chronicles 31:16** Beside their  
genealogy of males, from **three years  
old** and upward, even unto every one  
that entereth into the house of the  
**LORD, his daily portion** for their  
service in their charges according to  
their courses;

"...O my son, have pity upon me that bare thee nine months in my womb, and gave thee suck **three years**, and nourished thee..."

*(2 Maccabees 7:27)*

**Genesis 37:2** These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, **being seventeen years old**, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and **the lad** was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and **Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.**

29 And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes.

30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, **The child** is not; and I, whither shall I go?

2 Chronicles 25:5...and he  
**numbered** them from **twenty**  
**years old** and above, and found  
them three hundred thousand  
choice **men**, able to go forth to  
**war...**

**Numbers 1:2 Take ye the sum of all  
the congregation of the children of  
Israel...every male by their polls;  
3 From twenty years old and  
upward, all that are able to go forth  
to war in Israel:**

**Numbers 14:28** Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:

29 Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and **all that were numbered of you**, according to your whole number, **from twenty years old and upward**, which have murmured against me,

31 But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised.

**Numbers 26:2** Take the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, from **twenty years old and upward**, throughout their fathers' house, all that are **able to go to war** in Israel.

64 But among these **there was not a man** of them whom Moses and Aaron the priest **numbered**, when they numbered the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.

65 For the LORD had said of them, They shall surely die in the wilderness. And there **was not left a man of them**, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

**“Twenty was the age at which  
an Israelite was reckoned a  
man...”**

***(Pulpit Commentary)***

**Deuteronomy 20:7** And what man is there that hath betrothed a wife, and hath not taken her? let him go and return unto his house, lest he **die in the battle**, and another man take her.

**Deuteronomy 24:5** When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not **go out to war**, neither shall he be charged with any business: but he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken.

**Genesis 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.**



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**Ezekiel 16:7...thou hast increased and waxen great, and thou art come to excellent ornaments: thy breasts are fashioned, and thine hair is grown, whereas thou wast naked and bare.**

**8 Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, **thy time was the time of love**...yea, I swear unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.**

**"...girl's...are typically fully developed by age 17 or 18..."**

***(Texas Children's Hospital)***

Wicked: "...and they gave him Rebecca, the daughter of Bethuel, for a wife for Isaac. And the young woman was of very comely appearance, she was a virgin, and Rebecca was **ten years old** in those days." (*Book of Jasher*, 24:39-40)

**1 Corinthians 7:36** But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if **she pass the flower of her age**, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry.

**"In 2010, 158 countries reported that 18 years was the minimum legal age for marriage for women without parental consent..."**

**(<https://www.unfpa.org/>)**

"While marriages at very young ages could and sometimes did take place, particularly for girls of high social status, it would be a mistake to see marriage below or around the age of puberty as the norm even for young noblewomen...Emerging evidence is eroding the stereotype...a large proportion of the sample married **between the ages of eighteen and twenty-two...**"

*(Medieval Maidens: Young Women and Gender in England, C.1270-c.1540)*

1 Corinthians 7:9 But if  
they cannot contain, let  
them marry: for it is **better**  
**to marry than to burn.**

