

Concern for Those Older than Us

I Timothy 5

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Concern for Those Older Than Us

- Introduction: I Timothy 5:1-3
(Instructions to the Young Man Timothy)

“Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers, the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity. Honor widows who are widows indeed.”



Concern for Those Older Than Us

- Our Study Will Include:
 - Bible Statements and Principles Concerning the Elderly.
 - Bible Characters Who Accomplished Much in Old Age.
 - What are my responsibilities toward the Elderly?
 - What Can I do Now?
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Concern for Those Older Than Us

- What does the Bible Say About the Elderly?
 - Gray Hair Regarded as Splendorous/Glorious.
Proverbs 16:31; 20:29
 - Old Testament Law said to Rise Up and Honor the Grayheaded. Leviticus 19:32
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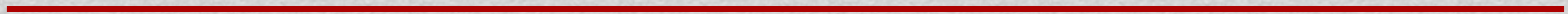
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- What does the Bible Say About the Elderly?
 - Old Age Associated with Experience and Wisdom. Job 12:12; Deuteronomy 32:7
 - Job's friend Elihu showed respect to Job's other friends even though he disagreed with them.
Job 32:4-7
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- What does the Bible Say About the Elderly?
 - Old age does bring some pain, uncertainty and fear. Ecclesiastes 12:1-8





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- Bible Characters Who Did Much when Old.
 - Abraham
 - 75 years old when God told him to leave Haran
Genesis 12:7
 - 100 when he fathered Isaac. Genesis 21:5
 - 175 years old when he died. Genesis 25:7
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- Bible Characters Who Did Much when Old.
 - Moses
 - 80 years old when he stood before Pharaoh. Exodus 7:7
 - Led Israel for 40 more years (to age 120). Deut 34:7
 - Joshua: Led Israel through invasion and conquest (approx. 30 years) and died at 110. Joshua 24:29
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- Bible Characters Who Did Much when Old.
 - Caleb: Played a major role in invasion and conquest in 80's. Received inheritance at age 85 Joshua 14:7-12
 - Daniel: Served God from his youth. Historical details from the book of Daniel indicate he was in his 80's when thrown into the Lion's Den.
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Concern for Those Older Than Us

- God has and continues to use those who are older. They can do great things for Him and us and are worthy of our attention and respect.
 - They have experience and wisdom that can be of great value to us.
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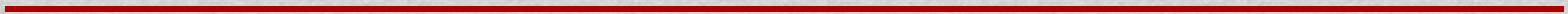
Concern for Those Older Than Us

- What are my responsibilities?
 - “Sharp” Rebuke of an Older Man Prohibited.
(I Timothy 5:1, see also Galatians 6:1)
 - Exhort an older man as a Father. (5:1)
 - Requires the proper respect and sensitivity.
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- What are my responsibilities?
 - Older Women are to be treated as Mothers. (I Timothy 5:2)





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- What are my responsibilities?
 - “Honor” True Widows (Widows “Indeed”).
Local church may continually care for certain widows. (I Timothy 5:2).
 - Children and Grandchildren have a financial responsibility to care for their parents. (5:4)
 - One who does not provide for his own is worse than an unbeliever! (5:8)
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- What are my responsibilities?
 - Note Mark 7:9-13. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees because of their tradition.
 - “Honor your father and mother.” Honor means respect, but also includes a financial responsibility.
 - The Pharisees claimed they didn’t have to help their parents because they had given it to God.
 - Jesus made it clear this was wrong.
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- What are my responsibilities?
 - We must practice pure religion toward the elderly. James 1:27
 - Visit the “fatherless and widows.” Use of these two classes of people is likely used to stand for anyone in need.
 - “Visit” implies personal contact and seeing to the needs of those who need our help.
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- So what Can I do Now?
 - Go and “visit” the elderly. Elderly people enjoy visits. They are full of wisdom and stories about events that happened years ago.
 - Offer to take elderly to Dr. visits.
 - Take them to eat.
 - Drive them to services, stores, etc.
 - Assist them around their homes.
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Concern for Those Older Than Us

- So what Can I do Now?
 - Plan your life so that you will be able to take care of your parents when they are old. It will be your spiritual responsibility to care for them, just as they have done and are doing.
 - Remember, if you live long enough, you will be old one day. Treat elderly people the way you want to be treated one day.
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