



CELEBRATING MARRIAGE AND FAMILY "Old and Gray with Something to Say" Psalm 71

No. 5980

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In biblical times the extended family structure, which included various generations, differed widely from the nuclear family we experience today. In our current culture we may be in danger of losing generational interaction. Psalm 71 can help us.

I. PAST – Family Background: Looking Back and Gaining Trust.

- A. "You have been my hope O Sovereign Lord, my confidence since my youth." v. 3
- B. Hearing God's voice:
 - 1. Learning to be alone and know God. v. 17
 - 2. Learning to trust and not be afraid. vv. 1-5
 - 3. Making the most of circumstances. vv. 20-21

II. PRESENT – Family Breakdown: Looking Around and Finding Help.

- A. "For my enemies speak against me; those who wait to kill me conspire against me." v. 10
- B. Keeping perspective:
 - 1. My refuge. v. 1
 - 2. My redeemer. v. 23
 - 3. My restorer. v. 20

III. FUTURE – Family Blessing: Looking Ahead and Finishing Strong

- A. "Even when I'm old and gray, do not forsake me, Oh Lord, until I have declared your power to the next generation, your might to all that are to come." v. 18
- B. Praying for strength:
 - 1. To praise his name. v. 22
 - 2. To bear some fruit. v. 9 and Psalm 92:14-15
 - 3. To declare His power. v. 18

Conclusion: The next generation is waiting.