

Pastor Barry Mello

SPIRITUAL PRIME TIME

There is an old saying that states: "Youth is wasted on the young." The implication is that while we are at our best physically in our youth, the young are still foolish and impetuous with many youthful indiscretions and are never able to fully take advantage of their best years physically.

It further implies that as we get older we are no longer at our best physically and we have wasted the best years of our life physically at an age when we were too young emotionally, mentally, and spiritually to capitalize on it.

The cruel irony in life is that for most people this is a true depiction of their life. However, let's introduce God's wisdom and truth to this equation. According to God's Word, the best years of our lives spiritually are as we get older or, as I call it, this is our "*Spiritual Prime Time*."

II Corinthians 4: 16-18 reads: "*For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*" [KJV]

There is no denying that as we get older our

outer man will eventually perish. It is a corruptible body (I Cor. 15:42). This is our inheritance from Adam. There is a slowing down of life in our older years, but that does not mean we have to be full of disease and sickness. Most people have bought the lie that the inevitable result of old age is sickness. This truly is fallen man's wisdom through observation of people who live by man's wisdom rather than God's. They observe those who eat man's dead, non-food and live by man's wisdom and lifestyle. If sickness is an indicator and predictor of old age setting in, then old age is beginning in people in their 40s and 50s. This is when we see more and more people with symptoms of disease. There is an increasing number of people in this age bracket who need drugs to help them manage their high blood pressure, diabetes, allergies, arthritis, migraines, acid-reflux problems, auto-immune diseases, etc.

Biblically speaking, old age should begin much, much later than this with a gradual slowing down of the body, not being debilitated by chronic degenerative disease. For most, old age today is starting in people's middle age years, which are the prime years of our spiritual life, or is our "*Spiritual Prime Time*."

Let's go back to II Corinthians 4:16-18. God says our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Our inner spiritual man is daily acquiring new strength and renewal from God as we get older physically if we are obeying God. This is if we are governing our life by the eternal principles set by God, rather than the fleeting temporal deceptions of life.

Look at this paradox set up here in life by our adversary if we don't walk in God's wisdom regarding diet (Genesis 1:29) and The Hallelujah Lifestyle. We are getting better and better spiritually as we get older physically. If old age (*as indicated by disease symptoms*) is creeping more and more into our middle age years, then fewer and fewer people will be able to take advantage of their Spiritual Prime Time years because of physical deterioration.

Here we are in our middle age years, when we can finally be at our best for God, no longer making foolish, youthful decisions and no longer governed by youthful lusts and indiscretions, and our physical bodies are often reaping the corruption we have sown and robbing us of our Spiritual Prime Time through premature disease. This is the ultimate robbery: being robbed by the thief who comes to steal, kill, and destroy. Truly, for many, youth is wasted on the young.