Christian Duties for Young and Old
Acts 2:17,21

Introduction:

A. Age groups.

   1. All one in Christ. (Gal. 3:28).
   2. Spirit on all flesh: male, female, old, young, etc. (Acts 2:17)
   4. Church activity not divided into special programs catering to each physical class.
   5. Amazing how little attention in epistles paid to age differences.

C. Modern Christianity magnifies rather than reduce fleshly differences.
   1. Denominational “ministries”: youth, singles, married, aged.
      b. Why not add various ethic groups?
   2. Brethren follow suit.
      a. Some “Liberal” churches fast catching up with denominations.
      b. Some “Conservative” churches heavily tilted toward youth.
         (1) Barrage of “specials” geared to young people.
         (2) Have not learned lessons of history.
         (3) Preachers become de facto youth directors.

D. Christians, old and young, have been assigned two basic kinds of duties:
   1. Those things that pertain to this present world (cf.1 Cor. 6:3,4).
   2. Those things that pertain to the kingdom of God. (cf. Acts 1:3)

Discussion:

I. Christian Duties In Things That Pertain To The Present World.

A. Duties due to our domestic status.
   1. Married or unmarried. (1 Cor. 7).
   2. Husband or wife. (Eph. 5:22ff).
   3. Parent or child. (Eph. 6:1-4)

B. Duties due to our economic status.
   1. Rich or poor. (1 Tim. 6:6-10, 17-19).
   2. Master or servant. (Eph. 6:5-9).

C. Duties due to our age status.
   1. Older people. (Tit. 2:1-10).
   2. Younger People. (1 Tim. 4:12; 5:1-2; 2 Tim. 2:22).

D. Duties due to our physical location: Neighborhood, state, country.

II. Christian Duties In Things Pertaining To The Kingdom Of God.

A. All one in Christ regardless of age, etc. (Gal. 3:17).
   1. Common faith regardless of age or other fleshly consideration. (cf. Jude 3)
   2. Common duties regardless of age or other fleshly consideration.
      a. Plan of salvation.
      b. Church.
      c. Worship.
      d. Work (In keeping with individual ability).
      e. Rules of living.

B. Duties may vary due to ability and/or spiritual maturity - not physical age.
   1. Each does duty to benefit whole body. (Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:12-25).
   2. Each joint to benefit whole body nor just one segment. (Eph. 4:16).

C. Attention may vary according to spiritual age, not physical age.
   1. Babe in Christ, whether initially or reverted back, may need more attention.
2. No physical age deserves more attention based on mere age.

Conclusion:
   A. Let all young and old do duty in things that pertain to this life.
   B. Let all young and old do duty in things that pertain to life to come.