

"The Christian And The Palm." Ps.92:12; 14
Sermon Number Eight

Psalms 92:14;

They shall still bring forth fruit
in old age; they shall be fat and
flourishing-Hebrew; means green.

1-The Palm tree:

yields about 300 pounds annually and has
been know to yield as much as 600 pounds.

Actually, the palm is most fruitful from
the 80th year up to one hundred years.

2-Christians-God's Children.

1-The young Christian is lovely, like a
tree in the blossoms of spring.

2-The aged Christian is valuable, like a
tree in autumn, bending with ripe fruit.

3-The last days of God's saints are some-
times their best days, and their last
work is their best work. *Knowing our own
faults more we are more mellow, considerate, & often*

4-Age makes other things decay, but the god
godly soul flourishes and is fruitful in
age.

3-How man deals with his servants:

1-The aged are cast off in favor of the
young and more active.

2-Their faithful service through the years
is no longer recognized-their honor is
taken from them.

4-How God deals with his servant:

1-God does not cast them off in time of
their old age-as men do their servants.

2-As men take honor away from their servants
God puts more honor on his servants.

3-To the aged-Faith opens a vista through
which the soul looks forth in hope beyond
the deeping shadows around him.

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1-The Christian race: Heb. 12:1;

Wherefore seeing

2 Tim. 2:5
we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

1-In this race;

Some are like hot horses, mettlesome at the beginning of a journey and tired a long time before they come to their journey's end.

2-Matthew 26:14-16;

Judas had a fair beginning but destroyed all in the end by betraying his Master.

2-The old age of the Christian, as distinguished from the old age of the ungodly, is characterised by hope.

1-Thess. 4:13;

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. As the heathen.

2-The heathen has no hope of immortality beyond death.

3-The heathen has no hope of the resurrection

4-Because the heathen had no hope of a future life they mourned over the death of their friends as an irreparable loss.

3-The old age of the Christian is one of cheerfulness:

1-John 16:33;

These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace.

In the world ye shall have tribulation:

But be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

2-The summons to have "good Courage" suggests the faith which is to have overcoming power

3-1-John 5:4: For whosoever is born of God, overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world - even our faith.

Sermon number eight.

5-The old age of the Christian is characterised to the last by usefulness.

1-Their last days are rich in the results of a long experience.

2-Genesis 30:27; Laban said to Jacob;

I pray thee, if I have found favor in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the Lord hath blessed me for thy sake.

3-Experience a good teacher:

1-We learn many things by experience that we do not learn otherwise.

2-The aged Christian's efforts to do good are wise, and are sustained by a deep faith in God.

1-Hebrews 11:1;

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

SO

2-Hebrews 6:19;

Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the vail.

6-William Wordsworth's picture of the "Sea Of Life" from birth to death. *Romantic Period*

Hence in a season of calm weather
Though inland far we be,
Our Souls have sight of that immortal sea
Which brought us thither
Can in a moment travel thither,
And see the Children sport upon the shore,
And hear the mighty waters rolling evermore

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1-Robert Browning philosophizes upon the
art of growing old. Victorian Period.

Grow old along with me!

The Best is yet to be,

The last of life, for which the first was
made:

Our times are in his hands

Who saith, "A whole I planned,

Youth show but half; trust God: see all,

nor be afraid!"

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