

The Years Go By

Ecclesiastes 11:9-10

Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from my heart, and put away evil from my flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity.

Ever wish you could go back? And if you wish that honestly, how many times have you said, "Well, knowing what I know now, I'd like to go back". Yeah, I gotta be brutally honest with myself, if I went back knowing what I know now I would probably use that to do more bad things and get into much more trouble. Why? Because unless what I know now included what I have learned about myself, I'd mess up just as badly and most likely worse.

I was a pretty messed up young man and have many regrets, but now, as an aged messed up man, I'm learning to rehearse God's mercies when I start to dwell on my messes. See all the stuff of youth is redeemed by the cross work of Jesus Christ. Trusting in that great work, and that it wasn't only for the whole world, but personally for me, allows me to remove the sorrow from my heart and not to have to wish to go back, but give me the courage and the hope to move forward. Hence I love Philippians 3:13 and 14. Paul said, "*Brothers and sisters, I don't consider myself to have taken hold of life. But one thing I do: forgetting that which is behind and straining toward that which is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the high prize which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus*".

You Ponder That

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