

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. **Hebrews 5:14**

Store In My Heart

Job 2:10

But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

The time of Job is not given, but the story is a powerful testimony of trust in God, no matter when it happened. Job was a man of great wealth who lost everything. A powerful example of one who had complete faith in his God.

Though sorely tested by Satan and those around him, and even bemoaning his own existence and situation, Job kept his trust that God knows what is best and would care for those who served Him faithfully. He knew not why he must suffer, but he never blamed God for his troubles. Job teaches us the importance of patient endurance in our service to God. Would I do as well?



Immaturity

Robert F. Turner

Irresponsible, short-sighted, rash and selfish conduct is often proof of immaturity. But we do not refer to years. People sixty and above may be immature — acting like little children when they do not get their way, or are forced to face the realities of this life. They are incapable of objectivity, their pride is easily hurt, and they throw a tantrum. That is bad enough in secular life, but it can be tragic in the church.

Bible knowledge maturity is found in those who dwell on something more than first principles (**Hebrews 5:12-f**). They have learned that justice, mercy, and faith are the grounds upon which their concern for tithes of mint, anise and cummin can have validity. Ignore the first, and one becomes a hypocritical nit-picker with all else (**Matthew 23:23-24**). He may strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

People-dealing maturity comes only after we learn that we are all sinners, and are completely humbled before God. The "babe" seeks an "issue" so he can "give 'em Hell" and perhaps make a "name" for himself. But maturity seeks for souls, hoping to "give 'em Heaven," and save them from Hell. The babe sees himself as a General in the Lord's army; the mature saint is an expendable servant of the Lord.

Doctrinal maturity is not compromise with error. It is simply wisdom enough to know we do not know it all. The babe paddles wildly about on the surface of the water, loudly

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ
1512 Tanner Street
Malvern, AR 72104
(501) 332-8806

Find Us Online

preacher@tannerst.com

tannerst.com
FB @TannerStCoC

For Our Information

Betty Ragsdale is wearing a boot for her foot. It is some better.

Annette Gray is dealing with a stiff knee if she sits for very long.

Paula Laubach is still on crutches but her knee is better.

JoBeth Henderson is healing well and is getting a lot of rest.

Tonight we start our study in 1Samuel 12 at 5 pm.

Wednesday at 7 pm we begin study in 2Corinthians 13.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

proclaiming his domination of the seas; but maturity is aware of the unexplored depths below. The fool has an answer, the wise, a reason.

Paul told Timothy to "*flee youthful lusts*" and "*foolish and unlearned questions avoid*" (**2Timothy 2:22-f**). There is no "instant maturity" for any of us. We must start with instructions to youth, and "*by reason of use*" we may "*grow up*" in Christ. All of us are in the process in many facets of the Christian life, not having attained (**Philippians 3:12-f**). We can be patient and tolerant of blustering spiritual babes without appointing them as elders, preachers, and editors. In time, with enough milk and nurture, we may all learn to act like men.

(I'm convinced many of the problems we face in society and especially in the Church are a result of a lack of maturity among otherwise grown men and women. "My way or the highway" is the same attitude we see among children who get upset when they do not get what they want. All too often selfishness, an immature attitude, keeps us from working together for the cause of the Lord.

This can be observed in many actions regarding our work. "I don't have time for Bible reading." "I am too busy to attend Bible class on Wednesday." "I need to spend time with my family when they visit." "I want my children to participate in sports with their friends." These have all been offered as reasons for not assembling with the saints. Each of them comes from an attitude of selfishness. We can also see an attitude of immediate gratification in several of these 'excuses'.

This is another of the immature attitudes that hinders our work for the Lord. We are not satisfied to "*desire a better country*", we want to get what we can right now. If worship does not give me what I want, I will look elsewhere. Bible study, we think, does not help me get ahead in life or get more contacts so it is laid aside for more profitable, right now, endeavors. This short sided attitude and it will lead us to eternal destruction.

We need to exercise our senses with the Word of God and put it into practice so that we can grow up in the Lord. Only then will we truly begin to know what God can really do with our lives. DLH)

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

