

FOREVER YOUNG – ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT GETTING OLD?

By Nino Boezio

Most of us don't like getting old. Those who are advanced in age may wish they were young again. The only ones who may like getting older (at least for a short while) are the very young, because increasing age may mean increasing freedom and responsibility - but once such a person reaches the latter teens, it may seem like it's all 'downhill' from there. Young people like to sometimes flaunt their youth to those that are older, but it only takes about a decade before that younger generation is pushed aside by the generation coming up behind it, and twenty years to put a generation into the 'old' category.

I recall a situation in the workplace where a girl was crying very badly and was extremely sad. I asked around as to what bad thing happened to her. Someone replied, "She has just turned 25, and she is crying because she is getting old!" I never saw someone get so upset at such a young age about getting older. I was in my thirties, and relative to her, I guess that made me ancient. I recall as a teenager, I was thinking it would be good to die before age 40, because after passing that threshold I would be old, and I didn't want to see myself reach that.

Scientists have spent a tremendous amount of time, money and effort trying to theorize how the universe and earth was created, how human beings came upon this earth, and how what we physically see around us originated. But they spend very little to no time bothering with what happens after death because it's a big mystery and they realize that science cannot penetrate through to answer it. They usually like to ignore what happens after death and act as though it's irrelevant, but this is one of the most important questions of our existence and of all time.

One of the occurrences in history that turned everything upside down (if we are willing to see and admit it) was the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus indicated that there is life after death. Christianity in its purest form was driven in part by an unstoppable belief in eternal life that also entails an ageless existence forever. Jesus also preached a way of life that is essential for us to live happily throughout eternity. Many eyewitnesses were a testimony to Jesus Christ rising from the dead, so this is not a myth. But our society likes to dwell on many relatively unimportant issues that in the grand scheme of things don't add up to very much. We may think that having money, status or 'standing up for a cause' is important, but in the final analysis, what Jesus brought to our knowledge was vastly bigger and arose to a much higher level than anything else.

Subsequent to His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples for several weeks and then ascended to heaven (where He would be glorified), and His disciples were told He would return again (Acts 1:9-11). As humans count time, Jesus is now over 2000 years old, but He is not 'old' as we think of it at all (we would also point out that before Jesus became human, He was actually God, so His existence did go farther back). Jesus is described today in these glorious terms: *Rev 1:14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; 15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.* Upon His return to this earth, Jesus is described similarly in Revelation 19:12-13.

So do you want to live forever in eternity, and in a prime state of existence, far greater than just being 'young' today? But also in a state of happiness and in a way of life that Jesus provides, especially upon His return to this earth? Getting old is actually only a temporary thing.

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