**Assistant Living But No Retirement!**

(Psalm 71:9 KJV)

*Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth.*

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e don’t know for sure who wrote this particular Psalm—some theological scholars believe it was the prophet Jeremiah. But I concur with those who think that David wrote this psalm at the time of Absalom’s rebellion against him.

In the text David has lived a long and prosperous life. And here he is now praying his final prayers as his life seep away as a brick thrown into the ocean waiting to sink to the bottom. I can hear David speaking on behalf of how it personally feels to be an aged believer in God—needing assistant living from God but no retirement in the goodness of God. David has gotten old now and he can't accomplish in his old age—what he achieved in his youthful age. So what does he do? Instead of being perplexed he prays because he know that Prayer has brought him this far.

It’s no doubt in my heart that many of our elders in this awaiting congregation know what it means when I say “Prayer Changes Things” or “Prayer Will Fix It Every Time.” If the truth is told, we wouldn’t be here today if God would not have establish the toll free line called prayer which is available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. When you have been saved, sealed, and set apart by the sovereign—you can’t help but as His creature have constant contact with Him as your Creator.

I can hear old man David saying in the text. I know I am sometimes forgetful. But there again some of life is just as well forgotten. And I eventually remember the important things that God has brought me through. And surely over the years my heart has been broken in pieces.

But that's alright! I am so blessed to have lived long enough to have and see my hair turning gray, and to have my youthful laughs to be forever etched into deep grooves on my face. So many have never laughed and so many have died before their hair could turn silver—but thank God that I'm still here! I can hear him saying, "I like being old. It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will continue to give God the glory until my change come."

So how do you know when you’re getting old? Well, here’s what some “old people” had to say that I've interviewed in the past—you definitely know you’re getting old when:

* Almost everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
* All the names in your little black book end in M.D.
* You try to straighten the wrinkles in your socks and find you aren't wearing any.
* You know you are old when you spot that first gray hair on your grandkids head.
* You know you are old when Happy Hour is a nap.
* You know you are old when you can cough, break wind, and sneeze all at the same time simultaneously.

**Do any of you feel old yet? The fact is each and every one of us is getting old.**