

# Stricken in Years

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## I. Old and stricken in years

### A. David

1Ki 1:1 Now king David was old *and stricken in years*; and they covered him with clothes, but he gat no heat.

1Ki 1:2 Wherefore his servants said unto him, Let there be sought for my lord the king a young virgin... and let her lie in thy bosom, that my lord the king may get heat.

1Ki 1:5 Then Adonijah...exalted himself, saying, I will be king...

1Ki 1:33 The king also said...cause Solomon my son to ride upon mine own mule...

1Ki 1:34 ...and blow ye with the trumpet, and say, God save king Solomon.

1Ch 23:1 ...when David was old and full of days, he made Solomon his son king...

1Ch 28:1 And David assembled all the princes of Israel...with all the valiant men...

1Ch 28:2 Then David the king stood up upon his feet...

1Ch 29:20 And David said to all the congregation, Now bless the LORD your God...

1Ch 29:21 And they sacrificed sacrifices unto the LORD...*even* a thousand bullocks, a thousand rams, *and* a thousand lambs...

1Ch 29:22 ...And they made Solomon the son of David king the second time...

1Ch 29:28 And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honour...

### B. Abraham

Gen 18:10 ...I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard *it* in the tent door...

Gen 18:11 Now Abraham and Sarah *were* old *and* well **stricken in age** (*Abraham 100 years old; Sarah 90*); *and* it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

Gen 18:12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself...  
Gen 18:13 And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh...  
Gen 18:14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? ...

Gen 24:1 And Abraham was old, *and* well **stricken in age** (*140 years old*)...  
Gen 24:2 And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house...  
Gen 24:4 ...go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

Gen 25:8 Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age (*175 years old*), an old man, and full *of years*; and was gathered to his people.

### C. Joshua

Jos 13:1 Now Joshua was old *and* stricken in years; and the LORD said unto him, Thou art old *and* **stricken in years**, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed

Jos 23:1 And it came to pass a long time after that the LORD had given rest unto Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua waxed old *and* **stricken in age**.

Jos 24:15 ...as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

### D. Zacharias and Elizabeth

Luk 1:18 And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well **stricken in years**.

Luk 1:19 And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.

Luk 1:20 And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words...

## II. The last days of Jacob (also known as Israel)

Gen 47:29 And the time drew nigh that Israel must die: and he called his son Joseph...

Gen 47:31 ...And Israel bowed himself upon the bed's head.

Gen 48:2 ...Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon the bed.

Heb 11:21 By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, *leaning* upon the top of his staff.

Gen 48:10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, *so that* he could not see...

Gen 49:1 And Jacob called unto his sons, and said...

Gen 49:2 Gather yourselves together...and hearken unto Israel your father.

Gen 49:33 And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he **gathered up his feet** into the bed, and yielded up the ghost, and was **gathered unto his people**.

### III. The glorious idea of “*Gathered to his people*”

Gen 25:8 Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was **gathered to his people**.

Gen 25:9 And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him...

Gen 35:29 And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was **gathered unto his people**, *being* old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

Num 27:12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel.

Num 27:13 And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be **gathered unto thy people**...

Deu 34:5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab...

Deu 34:6 And he (*God*) buried him...but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

### IV. Jesus knew what it was to be stricken with much more than years

Isa 53:4 ...we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Isa 53:8 ...for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

#### A. Yet, you can be assured that Jesus knows how it feels to be weary

Joh 4:6 ...Jesus therefore, being wearied with *his* journey, sat thus on the well...

#### B. You can also know that Jesus cares about those who feel weary

Isa 50:4 The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to *him that is* weary...

#### C. You can take comfort in the idea that God’s people have always grown weary

##### 1. In his great troubles—Job grew weary of life

Job 10:1 My soul is weary of my life...

##### 2. In their wilderness journey—Old Israelites grew feeble, faint and weary

Deu 25:18 How he (*Amelek*) met thee by the way, and smote the hindmost of thee, *even* all that were feeble behind thee, when thou *wast* faint and weary...

##### 3. In his times of discouragement—David grew weary with groaning

Psa 6:6 I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears.

##### 4. Eleazar, son of Dodo (one of David’s three ‘mighties’) grew weary in the battle

2Sa 23:10 He arose, and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand clave unto the sword: and the LORD wrought a great victory that day...

#### D. God knows all about what happens with “stricken in years”

**Ecc 12:1** Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

**Ecc 12:2** While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain:

**Ecc 12:3** In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened,

**Ecc 12:4** And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low;

**Ecc 12:5** Also *when* they shall be afraid of *that which is high*, and fears *shall be* in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets:

## **V. The Bible bestows much honor upon—And recognizes much wisdom in old age**

**Lev 19:32** Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man...

**Pro 16:31** The hoary head *is* a crown of glory, *if* it be found in the way of righteousness.

**Job 12:12** With the ancient *is* wisdom; and in length of days understanding.

**Job 32:6** And Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite answered and said, I *am* young, and ye *are* very old; wherefore I was afraid, and durst not shew you mine opinion.

**Job 32:7** I said, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom.

**1Ki 12:6** And king Rehoboam consulted with the old men, that stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, and said, How do ye advise that I may answer this people?

**1Ki 12:7** And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day...and speak good words to them, then they will be thy servants for ever.

**1Ki 12:8** But he forsook the counsel of the old men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young men that were grown up with him...

## **VI. God has been known to use those who are stricken in years for great causes**

### **A. Abraham was 75 / Sarah 65**

**Gen 12:1** Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

**B. Moses at 80 / Aaron 83:** *'Thus saith the LORD God...Let my people go...'* (**Exo 5:1**)

**C. Caleb:** At 85, said: *"Give me this mountain..."* (**Jos 14:12**)

**D. Simeon:** Before he saw death—saw God's salvation—held Jesus—spoke well of Him

**E. Anna:** *'Was of a great age'*—When she *'gave thanks'* and *'spoke well of Him'*

**VII. A famous Bible passage that speaks of: ‘Weary—But Walking—While Waiting’**

**Isa 40:28** Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, *that* the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? *there is* no searching of his understanding.

**Isa 40:29** He giveth power to the faint; and to *them that have* no might he increaseth strength.

**Isa 40:30** Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

**Isa 40:31** But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.