

The Caller

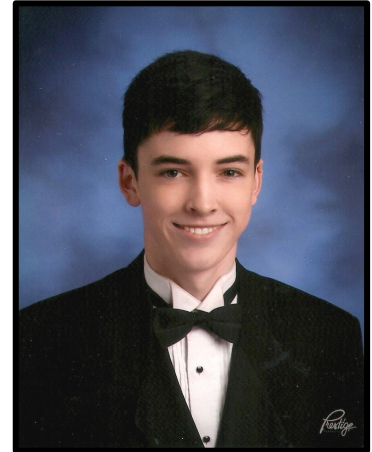
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C. J. CARROLL
Central Hardin H.S.



BRANDON CARTER
Central Hardin H.S.



LUKE GATTIS
Elizabethtown H.S.

Congratulations
2017
Graduates!



EMALEIGH BOARD
Central Hardin H.S.



DARREN HENRY
Thomas Nelson H.S.



JACKSON PAWLEY
Central Hardin H.S.



ETHAN WILKINS
Home School

Have I Become an Old Man?

I had a wonderful discussion, brief as it was, with Ronda's mom the other evening. She was here for Ethan's graduation and she had the opportunity to hear Ethan speak for our young people's night. She was telling me how much she appreciated our worship. She appreciated that people were not up and down...going in and out...and that everyone had not brought some drink into the assembly of worship and was sitting there drinking it. I told her how much I appreciated her perspective as I have taught here for years—we do not want to bring the mundane of this world into the high and holy worship of Deity. It was refreshing to hear this line of thought. But then again, Ronda's mom and I are a little bit older than the young people. Are we missing something? I would suggest we are not.

In order to have a proper perspective on our attitude toward our worship of Deity, we need instruction but we also need the application of that instruction—wisdom. Today often people seek their own wisdom above that of God's wisdom. It is hard to fathom that on any given assembly today there could be adults and teens who have complete disregard for anything that is going on in worship to God. So many people think, "It's my hair, my choice of clothes, it's my day, I'll do with it as I wish." But interestingly enough to me, let some of those same people enter into the Supreme Court or even a job interview, and many all of a sudden have great respect for things worldly...sadly that respect can be missing when it comes to the worship of God.

I've known of young people who write notes back and forth instead of paying attention to the message presented from God's Word. Today I wonder how much of such activity takes place on our phones. I don't have an issue with phones at all, but I do expect those who have them to be respectful enough to God to use them as a tool in worship—not a distraction!

In Exodus 19 God has Moses prepare the people to come before Him in worship. The people needed to understand they were coming into the presence of a Holy God! It has always been fascinating to me that even something God intends as beautiful and good, the sexual relationship, was to be ceased three days prior to their appearance before God. Now that is not to say such is required today, but I do believe there is an underlying principle. God wanted His people to have clear minds focused upon Him when they were going to come into His presence for worship.

Perhaps that is part of our problem today—that is—we don't think enough about the fact that we are coming into the presence of God when we gather to worship Him. Do we stop and think about such? I believe if we did, our attitude toward our focus upon worship, our attitude in our appearance, and just the general thought of respect would be enhanced greatly.

*John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY*