

Gray Hair

Proverb 20:29

I have a picture of Maria and me on the desk I work. It is one of those daily reminders of how blessed I am. In fact, I would sign on the dotted line that she has not changed since we married – beautiful as ever. But the grayer my hair, the more I realize life's color changes as the years move on. The youth brilliant flashes of blond soften to older warm glows of amber or gray and then to no color... (that is coming, amen).

Besides the physical element, I think that the weight of memories is a partial reason. The continuing addition of life's "memory color" tends to deepen the beauty of the heart hue. I am deeper in pigment because a friend passing away and it must be this way. It seems like the deeper hue of my heart, the lighter the hue of my head. I am not saying that I live a life of "light-headedness" although some would disagree.

I have always looked forward to the graying of my hair because with it comes some form of wisdom, hopefully. John states that the elder have "known Him from the beginning" which is a huge blessing itself. Of course Moses writes that the young are to "rise before the gray-headed and honor the presence of an old man". One reason is probably that he can't rise himself. Nonetheless, there are blessings that come with the gray hair and ones that are not, usually, appreciated by our youth honoring culture.

The wise man states in **Proverbs 16**, "**The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, If it is found in the way of righteousness**". A "crown of glory", now that is a joy to enjoy. But the center touch is "if it is found". Ahh, now that is the view. A life of living in righteousness is a true glory before God and man. So gray head - bring it on. But bring it righteous.

Maybe we can think of it this way in the opposite direction. When Christ died and arose, all heaven's glory exploded across the world in bright and brilliant fire as it changed forever the heart and eternity of luster. All of life is deeper now in color and will always be for the "Painter of the Sky" has brushed His eternal canvas. One of the wonders of heaven is that the God-created colors will not fade, diminish, or discolor. The beauty of Christ will not allow gray but will remain brilliant forever, to our eternal delight. So two things for us, enjoy the wisdom and glory of gray but know that it is for a season. For the seasoned soul is colorful forever.

A righteous gray is an earthly and eternal display of color.