

## ***“IS THE YOUNG MAN SAFE?”***

### **INTRODUCTION:**

#### **1. The question is found in this setting:**

**(1) Absalom, the son of David, wanting to be king, stole the hearts of the people. II Sam. 15:6**

**(2) He rebelled and waged war against his father David, who was king. II Sam. 17; 18**

**(3) David specifically commanded his generals to “*deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom...*” II Sam. 18:5**

**(4) When a messenger brought news of the battle, David’s first concern was: “*Is the young man Absalom safe?*” II Sam. 18:29**

**(5) Joab, contrary to David’s orders, deliberately killed the rebel Absalom. II Sam. 18:14**

**(6) David laments for his rebellious son. II Sam. 18:33**

#### **2. We see David grieved over the lost of TWO children.**

**(1) The first was an infant child ( II Sam. 12:16, 21, 22)**

**A. He had hope of being with this child again in heaven. II Sam. 12:23**

**B. He was much more grieved over Absalom.**

**a. Absalom had died a sudden, violent death in a sinful war against David.**

**b. Absalom died unrepentant and unforgiven.**

**c. Many parents have had to suffer this grief that David did.**

**C. The sorrow of parents that lose grown-up children in death.**

**a. It is the sorrow of natural affection. II Tim. 3:3**

**b. The sorrow of disappointed hope.**

**c. It may be the sorrow of painful fears –a child dying in sin.**

**d. It may be the sorrow of self-reproach.**

**i. The home may have been indifferent to the child's spiritual needs.**

**I. THIS QUESTION IS ONE OF THE GREATEST, FOR IT HAS TO DO WITH OUR CHILDREN:**

**1. Youth is the world of tomorrow; as goes the youth, so goes the world and the church.**

**2. The youth today has fallen heir to a chaotic, troubled, and sinful world filled with drugs, fornication, abortion, homosexuals, materialism, and disbelief in God.**

**3. The church faces apostasy – a battle to keep the church pure and free from error.**

**4. The safety of youth is conditional, as we shall see in this lesson.**

**II. THE YOUNG MAN'S SAFETY IS DEPENDENT UPON HIS TEACHING.**

**1. Man is the product of his teaching, whether it be by word or example.**

**2. The religion of Christ is a taught religion. Matt. 28: 19 – 20; Mk. 16: 15 – 16**

**3. The mind of youth is pliable and must be taught the right WAY. Eph. 6:4; Prov. 22:6**

**4. The Holy Scriptures must be taught to the young. II Tim. 3:15**

**(1) They make them wise unto salvation. II Tim. 3: 15**

**(2) They must be taught "*all the counsel of God...*" Acts 20: 26**

**(3) They must be warned and taught about error. Matt. 7:15; 15:9; 16: 6, 12; Acts 20:31**

**(4) They must be taught not to love the world. I John 2: 15 – 17**

**III. FOR YOUTH TO BE SAFE, THEY MUST HONOR PARENTS.**

**1. Eph. 6: 1 – 3; Prov. 13:1**

**2. Absalom's downfall was brought about by his perverse attitude toward his father.**

**(1) The same thing which causes a child to disrespect parents will cause him to disrespect others.**

**(2) Such a spirit can only lead to ruin.**

**3. Jesus was subject to His parents. Lk. 2: 51**

**(1) Many parents have marred their children for life, and maybe for eternity, by failing to teach them obedience. II Tim. 3:2**

#### **IV. WORK IS ANOTHER SAFEGUARD FOR YOUTH.**

**1. Prov. 10: 5 “He that gathereth in summer is a wise son; but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame...”**

**2. Thousands of parents have done their children a lifetime of injustice by not teaching them to work. Eph. 4:28**

#### **V. ANOTHER PERIL FOR THE YOUNG MAN IS HIS ASSOCIATES.**

**1. Evil associations corrupt good morals. I Cor. 15:33; I Cor. 5:6**

**2. Evil associates influenced Herod to murder John the Baptist. Matt. 14: 6 – 10**

**3. Parents must be careful who their children associate with.**

#### **VI. FLESHLY ENTERTAINMENT AND UNCLEAN RECREATION HAVE IMPERILED THE SAFETY OF YOUTH.**

**1. What some people call “recreation” is nothing more than sinful conduct.**

**2. For entertainment to be helpful to man, and acceptable to God:**

**(1) It must not be a work of the flesh. Gal. 5: 19 – 21**

**(2) It must not destroy your identity as a Christian by causing you to be regarded as “of the world”. Rom. 12:2**

**(3) It must not be destructive to your body. I Cor. 6: 19 – 20**

**(4) It should not arouse the impure in one’s mind. Phil. 4:8**

#### **VII. ANOTHER PERIL FOR YOUTH IS DRUGS AND ALCOHOL.**

**1. One of the greatest problems that faces this nation is the drinking of alcohol and the use of drugs.**

2. This is a problem in every city in this nation.
3. The New Testament teaches that the use of drugs is a “work of the flesh”.
4. In Gal. 5:20, the word “WITCHCRAFT” literally means: the use of drugs.

(1) The use of drugs were connected with witchcraft and sorcery.

5. The Greek word is *PHARMAKEIA*.

6. *PHARMAKEIA* means: “The use of the administering of drugs” p. 649, *J. H. Thayer*

7. There are all kinds of drugs: Marijuana, Nicotine, Barbiturates, Amphetamines, Cocaine, Heroin, L.S.D., Inhalants, Ecstasy, and even prescription drugs are abused.

8. The drinking of Alcohol is sinful. Gal. 5:21; I Cor. 6: 10

(1) More than 4 million teenagers drink alcohol each month.

(2) In a recent survey, 25 percent of 8th graders, 40 percent of 10th graders and 53 percent of 12th graders reported drinking alcohol during the prior month.

(3) By age 14, 41 percent of children have had least one drink. (*Focus Adolescent Services*)

(4) It has been estimated that over three million teenagers are out-and-out alcoholics. (*Focus Adolescent Services*)

## CONCLUSION:

1. Let all of us as Christians do everything we can to make the young man **SAFE!**
2. Let young people stay away from things that will destroy their safety and their soul.