



Growing Older, Gracefully

(Proverbs 9:10-11 & Psalms 37:25)

INTRODUCTION: *Grandma... do wrinkles hurt?*

I. **MANY OF US HANDLE OUR AGING BY DENYING IT**

- A. We tell ourselves we are not getting older
- B. Some live in a make believe world where no one ages... or everyone does but me
 - *the 50th high school reunion*
 - *living in "Neverland" with Peter Pan*
- C. God's Word is realistic (Psalm 37:25)
 - *Robert Browning's poem: "Grow Old Along with Me!"*

II. **OUR MODERN WAY OF LIFE OFTEN DEVALUES OLDER PEOPLE**

- A. Many modern assumptions are anti-Christian
 - *the Broadway play: "Cats"*
 - *Rutgers University TV study*
- B. But... what does God's Word say? (Proverbs 9:10-11 & Psalm 71:17-18)

III. **WRINKLES DO NOT HURT, THEY ARE A GIFT OF GOD & A LOVING REMINDER**

- A. They are a gift of God, a badge of honor, a sign of mercy
- B. They tell us that this life is not our final home
- C. They can be a sign of joyful surprises

CONCLUSION: *The 100 year old birthday girl!* ☺