

The Age of a man – 12/18/2018

What is the age:
of a man?
of age of accountability? and
the age to be baptized?

The age of 20 shows up several different places in the Old Testament:

- i) You have to be 20 years old to be in the military (Ex 30:14, Num 1:3, 1:45).
- ii) You have to be 20 years old to do the work of the service of the house of God (1 Chron 23:27).
- iii) You are taxed starting at 20 years old (Exodus 30:14).
- iv) Those 20 years and older were denied entry into the Promised Land (Num 14:30).

That should settle what age a man should be considered 20 years old... however the Old Testament described the New Testament but it wasn't an exact match. There are many examples of types of things in the Old Testament that were similar but different in the New Testament such as no more a physical temple since our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit (1Cor6:19).

Old Testament	New Testament
Temple in Jerusalem	1 Corinthians 6:19 .. your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit..
Blood on the doorpost, passover	Jn 10:7 I AM the door Mt 26:28 blood of the new testament
Lights in the temple	Jn 8:12 I AM the light of the world Mt 5:14 You are the light of the world
Bread - Manna	Jn 6:35 I AM the bread of life - communion

The Mosaic law was done away with at the cross leaving the already in place Royal law (which was there prior to the Mosaic law).

What's the age of responsibility according to the Royal law (James 2:8)?
Breaking the Royal law would be a sin so what is sin in the new testament?

1st John says "sin is lawlessness" and "all unrighteousness is sin" but James 4:17 clarifies it as knowing that you are doing the wrong thing. Jesus supports this in John 9:41 when he said if your blind then no sin has been committed.

1 Jn 3:4 Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and **sin is lawlessness**.

1 Jn 5:17 **All unrighteousness is sin**, and there is a sin not leading to death.

James 4:17 Therefore, **to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.**

Jn 9:41 Jesus said to them, "**If you were blind, you would have no sin**"; but since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

When do you know right from wrong or knowing good and evil? Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:11 when you change your speech, thinking and reasoning.

1 Cor 13:11 **When I was a child**, I used to **speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child**; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

The Old Testament (Judges 8:20) backs this up as Jether's son was afraid to act because he was a "youth"

Youth physically & mentally (think like a child)

Judges 8:20 So he said to Jether his firstborn, "Rise, kill them." But **the youth did not draw his sword, for he was afraid**, because he was still a youth.

Jether's son was physically and mentally a youth but there are several examples which show you can be a youth physically in age but mentally a man. Josiah became king at the age of 8 (2 Chron 34:1) and in the 8th year of his reign, when he was 16 years old, he sought the Lord. King Josiah changed his mind to a man at age 16 when he sought after the Lord and did his will by tearing down the high places.

Youth physically but man mentally

2 Chron 34:3 For in the eighth year of his reign (Josiah) **while he was still a youth, he began to seek the God** of his father David; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherim, the carved images and the molten images.

Samuel the prophet anoints David in his youth in 1 Sam 16:13 and the Spirit of the Lord came on David – David's thoughts and action changed.

1 Sam 16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; **and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward**. And Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

As a youth, 1 Samuel 17:33, David fights in the army (in violation of the military age of 20 yrs old) and kills Goliath. Goliath was a warrior from his youth as well. David responds to King Saul claim he is a youth by saying the actions he has taken – killing lions and bears and rescuing the sheep.

1 Sam 17:33 Then Saul said to David, "**You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are but a youth while he has been a warrior from his youth.**"

1 Sam 17:34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant was tending his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock,

1 Sam 17:35 I went out after him and attacked him, and rescued it from his mouth; and when he rose up against me, **I seized him by his beard and struck him and killed him.**

1 Sam 17:36 "**Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear**; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has taunted the armies of the living God."

How old was David at the time? Maybe 17? Jacob was a youth and was 17 at the time of his being out as a shepherd in the field.

Gen 37:2 These are the records of the generations of Jacob. Joseph, when **seventeen years of age**, was pasturing the flock with his brothers **while he was still a youth**, ...

Not all youths are man upped. What is supported is that if you have been placed and taught responsibility from a young age by your parents then you will be ready for manhood earlier. Lamentation 3:27 says that the youth should have a yoke early so that they will be able to grow up to be a man. King Solomon called himself a little child because of his inexperience – 1 Chron 22:5, 1 Kings 3:7.

Lam 3:27 It is good for a man that he should **bear The yoke in his youth.**

1 Chron 22:5 David said, "**My son Solomon is young and inexperienced**, and the house that is to be built for the LORD shall be exceedingly magnificent, famous and glorious throughout all lands. Therefore now I will make preparation for it." So David made ample preparations before his death.

1 Kg 3:7 "Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king in place of my father David, yet **I am but a little child**; I do not know how to go out or come in.

To sum it up.

The age of 20 may be the general age of “adult” as being the final locking in of the frontal lobes which controls morality and awareness of good/evil; however if the child has been raised with responsibility, with work, with dealing with stressful conditions and overcoming them .. then they are able to be mentally a man even though they are physically a youth.

Meaning if the youth truly seek the Lord in their youth as King Josiah and King David and Joseph and King Solomon did then the Spirit of the Lord will be upon them and they would be ready for baptism.. Basically it's train up your child in the way that they should go. Do it early and often and being over protective of them will stunt their ability to learn how to be an overcomer.

Regards,

Called/Chosen + Hear + Believe + Repent + Confess + Baptize + Abide = Salvation -> Proclaim
Mt22:14 + Lk11:28 + Jn3:16 + Mk6:12 + Rm10:9 + Acts2:38 + Heb10:26 = 1 Pt 3:21 -> Mt28:19-20