

ST. JOHN'S-ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

"BEARING FRUIT: GROWTH IS FROM GOD"

PSALM 92:12-15

MATTHEW 13:19-23

REVD DINO THANGAMANY | 28/29 JUNE 2025

**“...called to adapt to our changing circumstances;
.....understanding the roles of age and experience,
while maintaining our commitment to God's service.**

Numbers 8:25-26

“... the Levites were required to retire at age 50..”

“.....active service for God requires both strength and wisdom.....”

Psalm 92:14

"They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green." (ESV)

"They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing." (NIV)

GOD'S USE OF OLDER PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE

MOSES AND AARON - chosen to lead the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage at 80 and 83 years old - *cf. (Ex.7:7; Acts 7:23a,30)*

JOSHUA AND CALEB - *Joshua in charge of leading the conquest of Canaan, at 80+; (Josh.24:29)*
Caleb was in his eighties - cf. Josh. 14:6-10

DANIEL - He served God from his youth, for over 70 years!
cf. Dan 1:2,1 Dan 6:1-3

GOD'S USE OF OLDER PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE

ZACHARIAS AND ELIZABETH-"both well advanced in years"- Lk 1:7

EUNICE, and her mother, LOIS - played a vital role in nurturing Timothy's faith

GOD'S USE OF OLDER PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE

SIMEON AND ANNA – Both elderly, witnessed the Christ child presented to be circumcised - Lk 2:25-38

PAUL, THE AGED – (Philemon 1:9) writing letters (Eph, Col, Phi); on his release, visiting, encouraging churches.

**“God gave growth to their work, their
Ministry! cf. 1 Corinthians 3:6
Rejuvenation in their Ministry and
Spirit.**



John Piner



Richard Bauckham



s Ponniah

PALM TREE ANALOGY

“The righteous (*continue to*) flourish like the palm tree..,”(Ps.92:12, ESV)

Symbol of Righteousness

Flourishing Amidst Trials

Upright Nature

Everlasting Growth

Withstanding Storms

Enemies of Growth

Fruitfulness

THE OLD AGE OF PIETY

“They shall still bring forth fruit in old age.” (Psalm 92:14)

- **The old age of the Christian is the old age of a life of faith and communion with God; characterised by**
- **hope,**
- **cheerfulness**
- **affection**

“.....recognize the invaluable contributions of experienced believers in nurturing the next generation;contributions can foster growth and produce lasting outcomes in the lives of others