

Remember Now.

WHEN Charles was nine years old his father gave him a Bible in which his name and the date were written, and then these words—"Many happy returns of the day may be yours, if you obey the command found in Ecclesiastes xii. 1."

Charles thanked his father for his birthday present, and then looked up the text. Slowly he read,—“Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.”

The lad thought for a moment and then said, “I won’t forget that text, father, I’ll try to become a good man.”

“It means more than that,” said his father. “I want you to become a good man, and I hope you will be one, but it means that you are to be a good boy. The text says, ‘Remember now thy Creator.’ Do you know what that means?”

“I think I do,” said Charles. “It means that God made me, and that I must not forget Him.”

“Yes, it means that because God made you, you are not your own. You do not belong to yourself to do as you like. Every part of you, your body and your soul, belong to God. They are both His and He made you to serve Him.”

“Can a boy serve God as well as a man?”

“Boys and girls can serve God just as well as men and women. Don’t you think it is very unfair to please yourself when you are young, and then turn to God when you are old? If you do not serve Him now, in the days of your youth, and you die young, you may never serve Him at all, and if you do grow old you may not wish to serve Him, after spending the best years of your life in pleasing yourself.

Charles was silent for a moment. He was only a young boy, and he had not thought much about these things, but he saw that as God had made him, He had a right to his whole life.

“I will try, father,” he said, “to remember God every day of my life.”

“Do so,” was the reply. “Remember Him in your young days, and when you are old He will not forget you.”