These Old Bones of Mine

By Dr. James L. Snyder

I had a frightening experience the other day. I know I must be getting old because things that never frightened me before frighten me. I also see things I never saw before.

Going into the bathroom one morning, I
looked in the mirror,
and my grandfather
looked back at me. I
almost passed out.
With great haste, I left
the bathroom, rushed
to the living room,
and sat down to think
a little bit. What just
happened?

I hadn't thought of my grandfather for a long time, and now here I am, looking at myself in the mirror and seeing my grandfather. Oh boy. How did he get in my mirror?

I knew my grandfather was old, at least from my perspective when I knew him. One thing I remember about him was how much he complained about his bones. You could hear his knees crack whenever he would get up from a chair. I never could understand that.

Not until recently did I discover that this was not a ploy; rather, he had aching and creaking bones.

It seems that I have inherited his creaking bones. Now I know what he was going through back then, and it wasn't a ploy.

I have no idea how many bones I have in my body, but I am discovering new bones that are starting to creak daily. I didn't know I had so many bones.

After thinking about my grandfather and his creaking bones, I went back into the bathroom to chat with him, but instead of him being in the mirror, there I was. I am my grandfather!

If it were just creaking bones, I wouldn't be too concerned. But looking in the mirror this morning caused me to see that old age is really ugly. I have more wrinkles than I

can count on my face. Where do those wrinkles come from?

I should start counting my wrinkles every morning to ensure I have the same amount from the day before. Of course, there must be some good to these wrinkles, or I wouldn't have so many.

I think I have become the standard for old age with my musical bones and flourishing wrinkles. I sure could use some advice from my grandfather about this situation.

I went to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and told her I thought I needed to go to a body shop to see if I could get a new body. "Do you have any recommendations?"

She looked at me up and down and then said, "Just remember, it'll cost you an arm and a leg." And then she laughed as though it was funny.

I wasn't laughing on

the inside.

Later that day, I checked my Bible for verses dealing with bones, but I had never thought of these verses before.

Psalms 51:8, "Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice."

Psalms 34:20, "He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken."

I am a proponent of joy, but I never thought of bones being associated with joy. As I get older, I am discovering just how important my bones are. From now on, whenever one of my bones creaks, I will rejoice to know that God keeps all my bones.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail james-snyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com.





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