

**“Who Are Only Undefeated
Because We Have Gone on Trying’:
An Apology for the Young of the Church”—I**

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□ **Six observations:**

- #1—The _____ movement in Iran, where nearly 50% of the population is _____.
- #2—Charles Habib Malik, former president of the U.N. General Assembly: “Change the _____, and you change the world.”
- #3—As of 2009 over 3.5 billion of earth’s population (over half) are under _____.
- #4—The most _____ person on the planet today is a _____.
- #5—God’s _____ of Israel proves he places a high premium on _____.
(See Numbers 1)
- #6—In planning the D-Day invasion (June, 1944), General Dwight D. Eisenhower intentionally chose _____ *but highly trained* troops for the assault.
 - Stephen Ambrose: “There is something to be said for _____.”

□ **One Prediction:**

- There is coming a movement of _____ that will sweep the _____ and shake the _____.
- Psalm 110:3 TNIV—“Your [the Messiah’s] troops will be willing on your day of battle. Arrayed in holy splendor your _____ . . . will come to you like dew from the morning’s womb.”
 - “If [v 3] speaks of the young warriors who flock to Him [the Messiah], it apparently describes them as dressed in priestly garb [a worshiping community], ready for participation in a _____, and pouring into His camp morning by morning as copious as the dew.” (*NASB Study Bible* 857)
 - Derek Kidner: “. . . a splendid _____ silently and suddenly mobilized.”
 - “With such an _____ of workers as our youth rightly trained might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come—the end of suffering and sorrow and sin!” (*Education* 271)

□ **A Ten-year Study:**

- Roger Dudley, *Why Our Teenagers Leave the Church*
 - A conservative analysis of the data reveals that between _____% of young adults are dropping out of the church.
 - Of the approximately 50% who do remain, only _____% attend church regularly, _____% return a tithe, _____% attend Sabbath School, and _____% hold some type of church office.
 - Moreover, only _____% read the Bible daily and _____% weekly, while _____% rarely or never do.
 - “Many are finding a good experience in the church, love it dearly, and are deeply committed to it. But as we have seen, 40 percent to 50 percent of those who are baptized members in their midteens will drop out of the church by the time they are halfway through their 20s. *This is a hemorrhage of epic proportions.*” (60, emphasis supplied)
 - “The church can have no higher priority than stemming the loss of young adults and winning back those who have left its ranks.” (37)
- Dudley: “Many teenagers and young adults are leaving the church because they perceive it to be behavior-centered when they are looking for relationships. . . . ‘Without [new] effort we will never retain our youth. They will not continue to struggle in a contest they cannot possibly win.’” (58, 59)
- With the young have we come across as being all about _____, when we should be all about _____?

“The Captain Calls for You”

youth; under 25; university; 30; famous; young adult; census; young adults; young, inexperienced; inexperience; the young; world; church; young; holy war; army; army; 40-50; 55; 45; 34; 21; 13; 30; 36; giving up; signing up