



Matthew 11:16-19

Introduction: In the time of Christ, for example, Jesus makes several remarks about those of his generation (Matthew 12:39, 45; 17:17; Mark 8:38). Other apostles also chimed in with similar statements (Acts 2:40; Philippians 2:15). So, what did Jesus and His apostles think of the people of the first century? They were 1) _____ 2) adulterous 3) _____ 4) Faithless 5) perverse 6) _____ 7) untoward 8) crooked. He gets more specific in Matthew 11:16-19.

Today, it might do us well to consider, “To what would Jesus liken our generation?” What would He say about us? As we look through Bible history, we realize many generations had various trademarks. What is ours? As Christians, how should we be known?

I. A “Righteous” _____?

- A. Would God be able to say of our generation what He said of _____ (Genesis 6:9; 7:1; Hebrews 11:7)?
- B. Based on these passages, if we are a “righteous” generation, what will we do like Noah?

II. Are We a “_____” Generation?

- A. Like those who followed Moses, might it be said we are “_____” (Hebrews 3:7-12; Numbers 32:13; Deuteronomy 1:35; 2:14; cp. Psalm 78:8, 17-20; 95:10)?
- B. If we would avoid being a “rebellious” generation, we must...
 - 1. be immediately obedient—“_____” (Hebrews 3:7).
 - 2. Have an _____, soft heart for the truth (Hebrews 3:8; cp. Acts 16:14).
 - 2. Believe in God’s _____ (Hebrews 3:12).

III. Are We a “_____ and _____” Generation?

Sunday AM Sermon Outline (6-7-2020)

A. Moses knew, after his death, Israel would become more of a “crooked and perverse” generation (Deuteronomy 32:5).

1. This would come as they turned from God and followed the theology and morality of the “gods of the foreigners” (Deuteronomy 31:16).

2. _____ gives us a snapshot of what a “crooked and perverse” person is...

i. He ignored what God said about _____ (1 Kings 11:1-2).

ii. He ignored worshipping and honoring the _____ true God (11:4-6).

iii. He accommodated _____ religious practices (1 Kings 11:7-9).

B. The apostle Paul also commanded the Christians in Philippi to “*become _____ and _____, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life...*” (Philippians 2:15-16).

IV. Are We An _____ Generation?

A. Would we be described as those living in the days of the _____ (Judges 2:10-12; 21:25)?

B. Will it be said of our generation...

1. that we were people who filled themselves with the _____ of God (Judges 2:10; cp. 2 Peter 1:3)?

2. that we lived by the _____ standard of God’s Word (Judges 21:25; cp. Proverbs 14:12; Jeremiah 10:23).

V. Are We A “_____” Generation?

A. Would we be described as Agur described some in his day (Proverbs 30:11-14)?

B. If we expect to avoid a label like this one, we will need to have a focus that goes beyond ourselves and is concerned with _____ (Matthew 22:37-39; Philippians 2:4-5).

Conclusion: Jesus spent three years trying to persuade those of his “generation” to repent. After unsuccessful attempts, He likened them to children who could not be pleased. Later, this generation of Jews would be punished for their rejection of the Messiah and their cherished city, Jerusalem, would be destroyed.

To what would Jesus liken our generation? How would you describe yourself, your neighbors, this state, this nation? If we cannot be described in a positive light, we need to repent and we need to call on the lost world about us to turn to Jesus so we can be the “_____, _____, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light...” (1 Peter 2:9).