



Introduction: What do you think of this _____?

I. What is this _____ like? - 11:16-17

16 "But to what shall I liken this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their companions, 17 and saying: 'We played the flute for you, And you did not dance; We mourned to you, And you did not lament.'

Underline the word, "_____." What did Jesus mean by the word, generation? Jesus was speaking about all the _____ who were alive at the time

Acts 13:36 - "After David served his generation, he fell asleep"

The first part of verse 16 is a question. Jesus asked,

But to what shall I liken this generation?

And then Jesus answers His question by stating,

It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their companions,

Jesus compares His generation to _____. Do you know how children act and respond to things? **Very** _____.

The old word “muse” means...

Children want to Amuse Themselves

Have you ever watched a group of children at _____?

Jesus described His generation as children sitting in the marketplaces and calling for their _____.

We see this in verse 17, *‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance’ We mourned to you, and you did not lament.’*

Wedding and Funerals

This generation could have been called, **the** _____ **generation**. Nothing pleased them.

No wonder it is so difficult to reach people with the gospel – they act like children all wanting something different. _____ with the game of choice.

I would like to point out that verse 17 is a picture of the _____ of John the Baptist, and the ministry of Jesus Christ.

II. What did this Generation say about _____ ? – 11:18

18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’

Matthew 11:11a - *Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist;”*

Think about John the Baptist for just a moment:

- His birth was _____ – Isaiah 40:3; Malachi 4:5-6
- His conception was a miracle (a God thing) – Luke 1
- His role was a _____ – Matthew 11:9
- His service was being a forerunner – Malachi 3:1
- His message was of _____ – Matthew 3:2
- His life was exceptional – Matthew 11:11

John the Baptist lived a life above _____.

Look at verse 18, *For John came neither eating and drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.'*

III. What is this Generation saying about _____? – 11:19

19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom is justified by her children."

You can be sure that if people had _____ things to say about John the Baptist, they would have even _____ things to say about Jesus Christ, and they did.

Notice what Jesus said about Himself, *"The Son of Man came eating and drinking,"*

They accused Him of three things:

1. Being a _____ – overeating.
2. A _____ – a drunkard or win-o.

3. He is a friend of tax _____ and sinners.

They were saying that Jesus was associated with a very _____ crowd. What we have here is guilty by association.

How does Jesus bring this to a close? He makes a marvelous statement in the conclusion of verse 19, *But wisdom is justified by her children.*

What is Wisdom?

Conclusion: What are our _____ truths from these few verses? They are:

1. We will always live among a _____ -finding generation.
2. People often act like _____ and want others to join them.
3. Even people who live a _____ life, but a life for God will be attacked.
4. Even Jesus Christ, the one person who never sinned was _____ and _____ attacked by His generation.
5. People will _____ us by our associations. Jesus spent time with tax collectors and sinners, and so the generation assumed He too was a sinner.
6. Wisdom is _____ by her _____. Our deeds will show the world if we have any wisdom. What are your deeds testifying today?