

Southside Baptist Church
Wednesday Night Worship – 9-14-22
Matthew Chapter 11 Part 3

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) We are returning to our study in Matthew this evening.
- 2) We took some time to investigate Dispensations
- 3) We look at the 7 Dispensations of scripture.
- 4) To help us transition back into Matthew 11, let's ask the same 3 questions:
 - a) Do you live as a reed shaken by the wind?
 - b) Do you live with purpose and mission for Jesus or self?
 - c) Do you live a life of sharing your faith with others?

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) Jesus now begins to describe “this generation” –
- 2) Text – Matthew 11:16-19
- 3) To set this up – remember the days of watching your kids play?

2. What a description of “this generation” by Jesus: Matthew 11:16-19

a. Why say this? Verse 16

- 1) “**this generation**” – speaking of the people
- 2) What's in a word? “**children**” –
- 3) What are the children doing? “**sitting**” –

b. What do you see here? Immaturity? Selfishness? Verse 17

- 1) Contrast here – celebration and mourning.
 - a) What was Jesus' point here?
- 2) What did they say about John? Verse 18
- 3) What did they say about Jesus? Verse 19

c. Making decisions can be tough, BUT... Verse 19

- 1) “But wisdom is justified in her children”
 - a) John's life was criticized by these people. What was the end result?
 - b) Jesus was criticized by these people. What was the end result?
- 2) If you look back at past decisions, in time the wisdom of that decision is revealed.
 - a) What makes that determination?
 - b) The unknown part in this principle is that of time.

3. Jesus confronts the unrepentant heart: Matthew 11:20-24

a. This portion may sound familiar:

- 1) Jesus began to “upbraid” the people of these cities.
 - a) “upbraid” – likened unto a rebuke, to reprove. Verse 20
 - b) The people of these cities have seen His mighty work.
 - c) What do you think of Jesus' passion and approach here?
- 2) “Woe” – indicates judgment. Verse 21
 - a) Chorazin and Bethsaida –

- b) Tyre and Sidon –
- c) “they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.”
- 3) “being more tolerable” – Verse 22
 - a) “tolerable” – bearable, endurable.
 - b) Once again there seems to be a connection here to the Light (truth) that is received and thus rejected and its impact as to the degree of the punishment that one would suffer in hell.
- 4) Some more specific here: Verse 23
 - a) Capernaum, exalted to heaven, brought down to hell and the city of Sodom would still be a city in that day?
 - b) “**exalted to heaven**” –
 - c) “**brought down to hell**” –
 - d) How powerful is the truth that had been revealed to the people in Capernaum?
 - e) Does this have anything to do with Abraham’s conversation with God about Sodom?
- 5) “**more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for thee**” Verse 24
- 4. Tonight’s Take Away:
 - a. I would encourage you to think about the principle that “wisdom is justified in here children”. It can actually be a source of comfort should the Lord bear witness that the decision you made was directed by His Spirit.