



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

A Childish Generation

NOVEMBER 6, 2013

Tom McCullough / PO Box 503, Granville, OH. 43023/ tom.mccullough@capitolcom.org / www.capitolcom.org.

In the Gospel According to Luke (AD 60-61), Luke, a Gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Jesus, during His ministry, traveled to many cities sharing scripture, teaching forgiving sin, physically healing people of demons and disease, and raising the dead. Jesus began to challenge the religious rituals of the day and most importantly shared the Kingdom of God. On this occasion, Jesus describes the men of His generation.

“To what then shall I compare the men of this generation, and what are they like? “They are like children who sit in the market place and call to one another, and they say, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.’ “For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon!’ “The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ “Yet wisdom is vindicated by all her children.”(Luke 7:31-35 NASB)

A Childish Generation. Jesus uses a parable to illustrate a point that compared the men of His generation to children acting like brats. The people were acting childish and not childlike. In each of the illustrations the people were not satisfied and acted similar to spoiled children. The comparison an example of playing the flute, a light and uplifting instrument, it did not satisfy the people and subsequently the singing of a dirge, a dark and a sad song also did not satisfy them. They could not be pleased. Jesus was likening this generation to one who was obstinate and stubborn.

John the Baptist was bold and brash. John the Baptist was a rugged man who ate off the land was rigid and disciplined and likely not very personable. Consequently, some of the people did not like him. They called him a demon.

Jesus was kind, loving and sociable. Jesus enjoyed being around people, all kinds of people. He went to dinners, eating and drinking with all sorts of people. Jesus, the Son of Man, dined and met with the commoners and those not well thought of by the general population including tax collectors and those of an outward sinning reputation. While John the Baptist and Jesus had the same message, Jesus in many outward ways appeared to be the opposite of John the Baptist and yet many in Jesus' generation hated Him as well and called Him a drunkard and a gluttonous man and one who frequented with the wrong crowd, tax collectors and sinners. The Scribes and Pharisees, when unable to find fault in Jesus, attempted to find fault in Him through those in which he associated. The Scribes and Pharisees believed that you kept yourself pure by associating only with those of your kind and belief. Jesus shattered that belief and thought by reaching out to all types of people sharing the Kingdom of God.

Wisdom's Children. Jesus then makes a statement. *“Yet wisdom is vindicated by all her children.”* Jesus is sharing that true wisdom will be reflected in the results or consequence that it produces. A Godly wise course of action is ultimately validated by the fruit it bears.

For Your Consideration:

- Are you childlike or childish in your faith?
- Are you quick to judge others by outward behaviors?
- Do you seek God's council for the decisions that you make?

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44