

Wickedness Condemned

Matthew 11:16-19

Luke 7:31-35

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Texts:

Matthew 11:16-19,

16. ‘To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:

17. “We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

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

19. The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and “sinners.”’ But Wisdom is proved right by her actions.”

Luke 7:31-35,

Commentary:

I. Jesus asked, “To what shall I compare this generation?”

A. Jesus here compared the Pharisees to unruly and misbehaving children/brats who complained that they wanted to play in the marketplace (a public place) a happy game and a sad game, but the other kids refused to play either game.

B. The Pharisees were unwilling to play either “wedding” or “funeral.”

C. John came in an austere manner neither eating nor drinking and the Pharisees and scribes claimed he was crazy, demon possessed.

D. Jesus came in a happy manner, eating and drinking and the Pharisees and scribes claimed he was a gluttonous man, a winebibber and a friend of publicans and sinners.

E. John and Jesus were outsiders and would not be accepted by the establishment no matter what.

IX. “. . . wisdom is justified by her works” means both John and Jesus were doing God’s will and true wisdom would discern this fact in due time.

X. Jesus was and is a friend of sinners! Aren’t we glad! What the enemies of Jesus meant to be a sharp criticism actually is a wondrous compliment.

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Questions

1. Jesus and John could not please the religious leaders of their day. John came neither _____ nor _____ and they said, "He has a _____." Jesus came _____ and _____ and they said, "Here is a _____ and a _____, a _____ of _____ and _____."

2. Jesus compared the _____ to _____ and _____ who were not happy with either happy or sad games.

3. The Pharisees leveled all manner of accusations against Jesus charging Jesus with being the _____ of _____, called his _____, a _____, _____ - _____, and a _____.

4. What does "wisdom is justified of her children" mean? _____

5. Jesus was and is a _____ of _____. What Jesus' enemies meant to be a _____ actually was a _____.