

The Bad Generation
10-18-15 Am

There is a generation that curses its father, And does not bless its mother. There is a generation that is pure in its own eyes, Yet is not washed from its filthiness. There is a generation-oh, how lofty are their eyes! And their eyelids are lifted up. There is a generation whose teeth are like swords, And whose fangs are like knives, To devour the poor from off the earth, And the needy from among men. Proverbs 30:11-14 (NKJV)

There are a number of times in the Bible where a generation is referred to as a bad or evil generation. Jesus said that the generation that wanted a sign was evil. Moses said the generation that died in the wilderness was evil. Here in Proverbs, there are four characteristics listed by Agur that compose a bad generation ("kind" in the NASB).

Insolence Towards Parents - God has NEVER tolerated disrespect to parents

Exodus 21:17 And he who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.

Leviticus 20:9 For everyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death. He has cursed his father or his mother. His blood shall be upon him.

Proverbs 20:20 Whoever curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in deep darkness

Matthew 15:4 "For God commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.'"

God's solution: to curse the disrespectful child (Genesis 9:25, Deuteronomy 27:16)

Self-Righteousness - God has NEVER tolerated self-righteousness

Matthew 23:25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence."

Self-Righteousness

Luke 11:39 Then the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees make the outside of the cup and dish clean, but your inward part is full of greed and wickedness.

God's solution: to curse the self-righteous (Matthew 23:38-39)

Prideful - God has NEVER tolerated vanity and pride

Proverbs 8:13 "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverted mouth, I hate."

Proverbs 16:5 Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD; Assuredly, he will not be unpunished.

James 4:6 "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5 "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

God's solution: to thwart the proud (Psalm 94:2, Luke 1:51)

Selfish - God has NEVER tolerated selfishness

Psalm 14:4-5 Do all the workers of wickedness not know, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon the Lord? There they are in great dread, for God is with the righteous generation.

God's solution: to judge the selfish (Psalm 14:4-5)

The Bad Generation: A generation that thinks only of itself, that over esteems its spiritual worth, and fails to demonstrate respect. Results – the rejection and destruction of God.