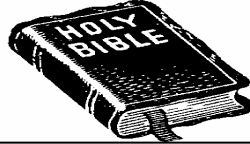


CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

330 A

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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A GENERATION GAP IN THE CHURCH?

- Definition** A new generation comes along about every 20 years. From Adam and Eve until the 20th Century each successive generation changed little from the preceding one in ways influenced by technology, mechanization, higher education, transportation and communication. (Eccl 1:4) *“One generation _____ away, and another generation _____: but the earth _____ for ever.”* The scoffers of Peter’s day (2 Pet 3:4) recognized, *“for since the _____ fell asleep, _____ things _____ as they were _____ the _____ of the creation.”* A great change occurred in the 20th Century, especially since WWII.
- The Restoration Plea** Honest truth seekers always try to “go back” and collect all the facts. The intention is establish and believe fundamental truths of whatever is being investigated “from the beginning.” If it is creation, one would go back to Genesis; if circumcision, one would go back to Abraham; if the advent of Christ, one would go to OT prophecies, then the NT.
- Establishing A Background** (Prov 22:28) *“Remove not the _____ landmark, which thy _____ have set.”* Keep in mind (Gal 3:24) that *“the _____,”* in the evolvement of God’s scheme of redemption, *“was our _____ to bring us unto Christ.”* Also, (Rom 15:4), *“whatsoever things were written _____ were written for our _____, that we through _____ and _____ of the scriptures might have _____.”*
- Pass Truth From Generation To Generation** In (Ps 48:13) the Jews were reminded to remember well *“that ye may _____ to the _____ following.”* These ancients (Ps 78:3-4) pledged to preserve what *“our _____ have told us”* and vowed that *“we will _____ from their _____, showing to the _____ to _____ the praises of the LORD.”* A godly home is the first and best spiritual classroom. Christian parents don’t depend on others for your child’s spiritual education. Obey God. Teach your children.
- Think About It** Let’s consider 4 generations born from 1926-1945, 1946-1965, 1966-1985, and 1986-2005. You fit into one of these time frames. Inarguably, the oldest two generations are the most alike. The degree of variance grows with the younger generations. Ask yourself, “Is this because God’s Word has changed, or because society has changed?” Jeremiah asks a poignant question: (2:36) *“Why _____ thou about _____ to _____ thy way?”* When God’s people *mimic* the ungodly they always get into trouble spiritually.
- Have You Bought Into It?** Remember Dr. Spock? His influence did much to ruin God’s concept of discipline. (Heb 12:6) *“For whom the Lord _____ he _____.”* Do you believe it? _____ Do you believe (V7): *“What son is he whom the father chasteneth not?”* _____ God pulls no punches: (V8) *“But if ye be _____ chastisement, whereof _____ are partakers, then are ye bastards, and _____.”* The undisciplined (2 Tim 3:2-4) are *“lovers of their _____”* and *“disobedient to _____ ---unthankful---heady, highminded.”*