

Music and the effects on the human soul

Hi brothers and sisters in Christ.

It's important to note that this talk will be quite deep. Also in no way would it be beneficial to someone outside the Church to hear such a talk as it may have an opposite effect. The reason for this is those outside the Church or distant from the Church need to hear the basics of our faith such as the love of God, and the salvation of Christ through the cross.

On the other hand we who are in the church know the basics. Our desire is to deepen our relationship with our Lord therefore we can go deeper in certain areas to assist us in growing in this relationship. For this reason we are discussing this important topic of music and its effect on the human soul. In particular we will be focusing on the effects of secular or non-Christian music.

Discussion: Do people think that the devil can use music to reach people?

The truth is that one of satins greatest tools against us, if not his greatest tool, is music.

There are several reasons for this. If we turn to Ezekiel 28:11-19 we see a passage where God is speaking about the devil. God says:

“You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God: every precious stone was your covering... The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God... you were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, o covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones.”

the bible tells us his workmanship were timbrels and pipes. We then see this anointed cherubim cast into the pit because he was full of iniquity. What does this workmanship of timbrels and pipes symbolize? It symbolizes that this anointed cherub was to live a life of worship and praise to the Lord. He was created in this way so that with these timbrels and pipes he could play sweet music of worship to the Lord.

Originally we must remember that the sole reason for music being created was for the worship of God, to allow His creation the amazing blessing of praising Him and worshipping Him.

Ok so we see in the make up of satin the ability to make music. We know clearly that satin hates God. He hates him quite deeply because he is full of iniquity and was punished because of this. We also know that satin has absolutely no power over God. So who will satin attack? Out of his anger and hatred toward God, satin fights against God's most beloved creation which is us god's children.

So satin will use all the tools in his make up to destroy man and in my opinion his greatest tool is music.

Discussion: So then if Satan's greatest specialty is music, how does he use it to effect people?

The answer to this is quite simple. Just as our Lord has a gospel so does Satan. Satins goal is to spread his gospel in anyway possible. Another may ask what is satins gospel?

If we turn to Galatians 5:19-21 we has see what his gospel consists of. Glatians says:

“Now the works of the flesh are evident which are adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envies, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like, that as I tell you before hand as I told you in the times past, that he who practices such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

We will go through some of the lyrics of some songs (currently top 10) and discuss how they are spreading the gospel of Satan

Justin Timberlake- Sexyback

I think your special whats behind your back
If that's your girl you better watch your back
Cause she'll burn it up for me and that's a fact

What message is this giving?

Ludacris Money maker

I keep my mind on my money - money on my mind
But you's a hell of a distraction when you shake your behind
Shake your money maker
Like somebody's bout to pay ya
Don't worry about them haters
Keep your nose up in the air

lust, greed, pride, fornication

Hinder-lips of an angel

Well, my girl's in the next room
Sometimes I wish she was you
But girl you make it hard to be faithful
With the lips of an angel

adultery

The Fray- how to save a life

Let him know that you know best
Cause after all you do know best
Try to slip past his defense
Without granting innocence
Lay down a list of what is wrong
The things you've told him all along
And pray to God he hears you

what message is this giving people?
(selfish ambition)

Nelly furtardo – maneater

Everybody look at me, me
I walk in the door you start screaming
Move your body around like a nympho
you either want to be with me, or be me
Make you spend hard
make you buy cars
Make you want all, of her love

what message is this giving people?

Pink- u and ur hand (Whole song is about masturbation)

Pussycat dolls- Buttons (Whole song about undressing a girl)

You've been saying all the right things all night long
But I can't seem to get you over here to help take this off
Baby, can't you see? (see)
How these clothes are fitting on me (me)
And the heat coming from this beat (beat)
I'm about to blow

Sean Paul - give it up to me
Get out my head and into the bed girl. (first line of the song, rest is all too explicit and too too graphic to mention here)

**Common theme is: Money is associated with love, adultery, fornication and masturbation are normal and fun.

On average, music videos contain 93 sexual situations per hour, including 11 "hard core" scenes depicting behavior such as intercourse and oral sex.

What the bible says about these lyrics Ephesians 5:3-7: "But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks... Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them."

Discussion: So we know some of this music carries the message of the devil, but does it really effect us?

Discussion: 'But I only listen to the music, not the words'

Answer 1:

Music has strong effects on behavior and can do so by communicating moods and emotions. Numerous studies show music's powerful influence on mood and emotion. According to a renowned pioneer in psychiatric aspects of music, Dr. Peter Ostwald of the University of California, San Francisco, music is a form of social behavior . . . a symbolic emotional experience. Moreover, music may provide a form of nonverbal communication whose meaning is ineffable, it cannot be captured in words. Perhaps music exists because of the need for expression of emotions that can not be measured or described in words.

Therefore he concludes, music can rapidly and powerfully set moods and do so in a way not as easily attained by other means.

Discussion: Do you guys ever get emotionally affected by music? How?

Answer 2:

When words are used in music it creates something called guided imagery. Another recent study makes a statement that: Music and guided imagery actually alter hormonal output. researchers explored the effect of music and verbal imagery. A significant decline in hormones was found in the group of volunteers that used music and words combined. No other group demonstrated any significant changes. When words are used in conjunction with music, a very powerful match of verbal and nonverbal cues is sent to the brain and quite often there is a creation of a trance state

Proof

The study by RAND Corporation surveyed 1,461 adolescents ages 12 to 17 and followed them for three years, they asked the teens about their music and sexual habits.

The teens who listened to sexually degrading music—by such artists as rappers Lil' Kim and Ja Rule—were "more likely ... to initiate intercourse and other sexual activities,"

Teens who listened to rock and heavy metal were more likely to commit suicide, go through depression and have family problems.

**Who are these people?
Beyonce**

“...I'm not gone compromise my Christianity...”
- from Survivor

“I know you want my body, tonight, I'll be your naughty girl”
- from Naughty Girl

Lil Kim

S2S: You carry your Bible around?
Lil' Kim: Everywhere I go.

S2S: You read the Bible every day?
Lil' Kim: Every day.

“yeah, I am sinning. I think all of us sin to a certain extent. I don't think anyone's perfect ... At the same time, it's like this is what God wants me to do because if it wasn't, I wouldn't be doing it.”

Discussion: Are these the people we should be listening to? People that should be effecting how we think?

A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.
- James 1:8

John Lennon (From Beatles)

"Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue with that; I'm right and I will be proved right. We're more popular than Jesus now; I don't know which will go first - rock 'n' roll or Christianity. Jesus was all right but his disciples were thick and ordinary. It's them twisting it that ruins it for me."

"If Jesus being more popular means ... more control, I don't want that. I'd sooner they'd all follow us even if it's just to dance and sing for the rest of their lives."

CONCLUSION

Ok so we see clearly what our enemies gospel consists of. What does the bible say about it?
This can be also seen in Colossians 3:5-6 which says:

“Therefore put to death your members which are on earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience.”

Brothers and sisters I don't want to scare anyone with these things but its important to note what is said here it says “because of these things, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience”. In this we see that this wrath of God is coming on who? The sons, sons meaning

those who are called such as we here, for we are all sons and daughters of God. So God's wrath is coming on those who are called and are disobedient to the truth of the gospel of Christ.

We can now read 2Thessalonians:10-12 which says:

Ok so there are some who may say that they don't approve of what the music says but that they like to listen to it as its fun or relaxing. But the bible says:

"God will send them strong delusion that they should believe the lie, that they may all be condemned who did not believe truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

This is exactly what Saint Paul describes in the top passage where he says that those who did not believe the truth and receive the love of the truth, but instead had pleasure in unrighteousness will be sent strong delusion by God that they should believe the lie and be condemned.

Brothers and sisters I know that the passages we have gone through so far are quite depressing and scary, but we must remember that these things only apply to those who:

- 1- Take pleasure in evil things
- 2- Justify living a lie by not accepting the truth of the Gospel of Christ.

Another beautiful way to understand how music effects us can be seen in the Gospel of Mathew and is actually spoke by the Lord himself our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is in Mathew 6:22-24 which says:

"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good your whole body will be full of light. But if you eye is bad your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness? No one can serve two masters for either he will hate the one and love the other or either he will be loyal to the one and despise the other."

I think similar can be said about the ears. If we listen to music that is evil and we can clearly see and hear that its evil and not beneficial to our souls. Then what we are doing is allowing darkness to enter our inner being. Take for example holy monks, they sing spiritual songs in praise to God, therefore they are full of light, they radiate this light and people who are thirsty for Christ are drawn to them and receive from this light. This light is being filled with the Spirit of God.

This light then radiates out of true Christians and effects those around them. For some people it is a sweet aroma and draws them to Christ. They feel great peace and warmth within themselves and feel a sweet and soothing repentance and begin to also bear this light. On the other hand to those who are living In darkness, meaning evil lives, this light is quite painful as it reveals the evil within them and causes them great pain and discomfort.

Ok so the Lord calls us to be light of the world as I described above, in other words to radiate the fruits of the Holy Spirit such as love, peace, joy, mercy, truth and so on. What if on the other hand we are full of darkness? What if we take pleasure in evil things and thereby are full of darkness? May I ask my brothers and sisters what we are radiating then and whom we are serving? It is an extremely scary though to be deceived into serving the enemy and instead of drawing people to Christ to be introducing people to darkness.

This is what the Lord means when he says in Mathew 12:30 : " he who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad."

Can you imagine that. Serving the enemy unknowingly. I confess I have done this many times in ignorance and even knowingly before I came to Christ. I pray for his mercy upon our souls.

I have an amazing story for you of an experiment I once heard of. Two identical plants were put in 2 identical rooms apart from each other. In one room classical music was played, and in the other heavy metal. Can you believe the one in the room with the classical music actually grew steadily and budded, where as the one in the room with the heavy metal music died over a period of 3 days. This is amazing. The fact that even God's creation the plants are effected by satanic music. If a plant my brothers and sisters dies after 3 days listening to this evil music, may I ask what is happening to our souls? Very scary stuff.

Please next time you look at a genre of music, can you notice that they all act alike, dress alike?

For example, before I came to Christ, when I listened to high NRG dance I had crazy hair with stripes like a zebra, I covered myself in tattoos, I had earrings, a tongue ring and was on steroids which made me look like a big scary maniac. I can tell you that If you go to a high NRG club in the city you will find that almost all the people in the club will have this same image depending on how deep they are in the darkness. The exact same can be said for those who listen to R&B or the most obvious Heavy Metal.

Have you ever considered why those who listen to Heavy Metal whose lyrics are clearly satanic look so dark and scary. They literally look like there is no life in them.

We see then that different spirits of satin are influencing these people that's why they all have a similar image. Instead of growing in the image of Christ, they are growing in the image of the spirit whom they are following.

We should pray earnestly with great sorrow for these souls that they may be saved who are being deceived. We should love them as God loves them so that they may see the light.

We can clearly see the gospel being pushed in today's music it promotes lust, sex, money, power, greed, ego, anger, and so on. In biblical words this would be lust, fornication, adultery, mammon, covetousness, contentions, and so on. Its very clear and obvious which music is good and which isn't

Brothers and sisters I know that this talk will have saddened you I can honestly say it also saddened me as I prepared it, but it is the truth. One might say that "I listen to evil music but now want to stop what must I do?" The first step is repentance.

God loves us so much, so so much, his greatest desire is for us to be with him one day. We see this in the fact that the infinite almighty creator of the entire universe became man in order to suffer greatly at our hands so that we might be saved and live with Him eternally. Can anyone even comprehend the deepness of this love. I don't think so. So if we have listened to bad music or watched bad movies, it is quite simple we repent confess and replace them with Christian music who's lyrics glorify the one who died for us.

The other amazing thing that happens when we desire to do the right thing with all our hearts we then move from a place of depression and despairing of life to an inner peace, and a deep love for God and for Man.

In other words we begin to be filled with God's grace. We become joyous and love to pray, love to go to Church, we love to talk about spiritual things. One of the saddest things about Christianity is the fact that we have the impression that if we grow close to Christ we have to become monks, nuns, or priests. This is a lie. These things are extremely beautiful and have there place in God's perfect plan but our Lord also desires to have hard working Christians In the world. This to bring others to Him through their example.

The bible says where sin abounds, there abounds even more grace. So if we live in the world, which is exceedingly sinful, we can become just as holy as a hermit in the dessert by desiring to

please God. Yes it takes much patience but we have the promise of Christ which says: I will never leave you nor forsake you. God is with us and there is nothing sweeter than serving him. My prayer for us all today is to turn from darkness to light and begin to be filled with this sweet light, putting on Christ, growing in His image and likeness and serving mankind in this blessed state until our Lord call us to be with him eternally