

Principles of Good Christian Music

Christ warned "Take heed what ye hear..." (Mark 4:24) and Luke 8:18 records him saying, "Take heed therefore how ye hear..."



Psalm 33:2 *"Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings."* **Psalm 61:8** *"So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows."*



A Christian's music should praise who and for what period of time?



Colossians 3:16 *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

1 Cor. 14:7,8, 15; Psalm 150, Psalm 47:7, 1 Cor. 14:7,8,15, Eph. 5:1, Ps. 66:4



What are some other characteristics good Christian music should have?



Exodus 32:17, 18 *"And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp. And he said, It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome: but the noise of them that sing do I hear."* **Exodus 32: 19, 25; Isaiah 23:15, 16; Proverbs 7: 10, 11; Proverbs 5:3, 1 Cor. 14:33, Eccl. 7:5**

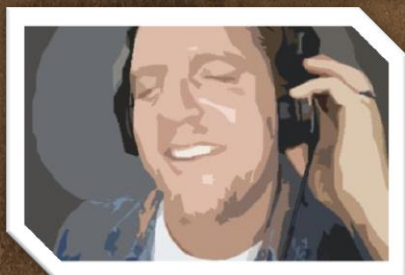


What are some characteristics of worldly music? _____

CONCLUSION

Our choices as a Christian in the areas of entertainment and music are very important. We should use Philippians 4:8 as our filter, avoiding any entertainment that is untrue and impure, and promising God we will set no wicked thing before our eyes. Our music should praise God and be sung with understanding, avoiding all the impure and warlike musical methods of the world.

COME OUT AND BE SEPARATE



Bible Study Pathways Lesson 19

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A Story to Ponder...

Some years ago, musicians noted that errand boys in a certain part of London all whistled out of tune as they went about their work. It was talked about and someone suggested that it was because the bells of Westminster were slightly out of tune. Something had gone wrong with the chimes and they were discordant. The boys did not know there was anything wrong with the peals, and quite unconsciously, they had copied their pitch.

So we tend to copy the people with whom we associate; we borrow thoughts from the books we read and the programs to which we listen, almost without knowing it. God has given us His Word, which is the absolute pitch of life and living. If we learn to sing by it, we shall easily detect the false in all of the music of the world.



Philippians 4:8 "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Phil. 2:5, 1 Cor. 1:13)



What characteristics should our thoughts have? _____



"Those who would not fall a prey to Satan's devices must guard well the avenues of the soul; they must avoid reading, seeing, or hearing that which will suggest impure thoughts. The mind must not be left to dwell at random upon every subject that the enemy of souls may suggest."—Mind, Character, and Personality, Vol. 2 pg. 732



2 Cor. 6:14-18 "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? ... And ... what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord..." (Titus 2:4, 1 Peter 2:9, James 4:4)



God calls us to be _____ from unbelievers. We are to be a _____ people.



Luke 8:14 "And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection." Luke 8:14-15



In the parable of the sower, what happens to the word of God in the heart of those who partake in the pleasures of the world? _____



Romans 1:32 *"Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."* Romans 1:28-32 (Isaiah 33:15, 16)



God condemns not only those who practice sinful practices but also those who have _____ in _____ that _____.



Timothy 3:1-5 "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."



Paul said that in the last days there would be people who loved _____ more than they loved _____. We are not to imitate their practices but rather we are told "from such _____ away."



Psalm 101:3 "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me." Psalm 101: 1-8



Psalm 101 has been called the TV chapter by some. It says to _____ no _____ thing before your _____. What are some other things it specifically says not to look at? _____

Here is counsel on some other forms of worldly pleasure.

Gambling: Proverbs 28:20,22; Deut.8:18, Luke 8:14, 1 Tim. 6:9,17

Competitive Sports: Luke 6:31, Gal. 5:19-23 Emulation means "Contest; contention; strife; competition; rivalry accompanied with a desire of depressing another.

Fornication (the Greek word is *porneia*, the origin of the word pornography): 1 Cor. 6:13, 1 Cor. 6:18, Eph. 5:3, 1 Thess. 4:3, Jude 1:7, Matt. 5:28, Romans 1:26, 27, Job 31:1



Hebrews 11:24, 25 "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;" Psalm 16:11 "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."



The pleasures of the world are only for _____, whereas the pleasures of a Christian are _____.