

The following sermon was preached at Redemption Baptist Church on Sunday, 14 January 2018. We encourage you to look up the Scriptures that are referenced. May the Lord speak to your heart as you study His Word.

Music at Home and at Church:

Should It Be the Same?

A hundred years ago, an incredibly evil man named **Aleister Crowley** walked this earth. Crowley is now burning in hell; but in his lifetime, he had a devastating impact upon the world. He proudly worshipped Satan: and in his book *Magick*, he bragged that he had sacrificed hundreds of children to Satan. In his book entitled *The Book of the Law* (published in 1904), Crowley made this opening statement: **“Do as thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.”** He said that this statement *must* become the accepted credo of the new age; and it has become exactly that!

In Crowley’s writings, he openly called for disorder, murder, rape, mayhem, and everything bad. He called for a new “aeon,” which he called the Age of Horus, or the “New World Order.” He defined this “New World Order” as a world under the control of Lord Thelema (the Antichrist), and under the ultimate guidance of Master Therion (Satan). Crowley called for a drug revolution, a sexual revolution, the blending of Western and Eastern occult mysticism, and rebellion against all established authority. He especially called for the destruction of Christianity.

Crowley also called for a *satanically-inspired music genre* to indoctrinate the youth. Now, before Crowley’s death in 1947, this satanic music was already in the making, in the Jazz, Big Band, and Blues genres. But the ultimate answer to Crowley’s dream was the *Rock genre*, which was just about to burst onto the scene. The most famous Rock bands of the last half century (including the Beatles) have openly adored Aleister Crowley, and have taught his credo, “Do as thou wilt,” in their music. Aleister Crowley is still called “The wickedest man on earth” as well as “The Father of Modern Satanism,” and “The Father of the New Age Movement”; but he is also called “The Patron Saint of Rock and Roll.”

What am I driving at? Simply this. This vile man made this statement about the family: **“The family is public enemy number one.”** That is a very telling statement, is it not? Satan is out to destroy homes; and *music* is one of the greatest tools that he has used to accomplish that goal.

Music is a powerful part of our lives. It profoundly shapes our thinking and our behaviour. It profoundly influences our families. As Christians, we need to make sure that the music that we listen to in our homes is pleasing to God. Should there be a difference between the music we listen to at home, and the music we listen to at church? That is the question we will be examining from Scripture today. The title of this message is, *Music at Home and at Church: Should It Be the Same?*

I. The Christian mindset: “Is my music ‘godly’ or ‘ungodly’ in character?”

There is a term that has been drilled into our consciousness in the last century: and that is the term “secularism.” Mainstream media and education have taught us that “There is the ‘religious,’ and there is the ‘non-religious.’ Church is religion: *secularism* is non-religion.”

As Christians, we tend to compartmentalise our lives in this way, as well. We think, “Well, this thing that I am doing doesn’t exactly have to do with the Lord; thus, it is part of the ‘secular’ side of my life.” Not surprisingly, we have come to think about music in this way, as

well. We think, “Well, I have *secular* music, which I listen to at home; and when I go to church, I sing the *church* music.”

Is this the way that we should think about our lives, and about our music? Should our mindset be, “This is the sacred side of my life, and this is the secular side of my life”? The answer is: No! “Why not?” you may ask. Well, in a moment, we will turn to the Scriptures for some answers; but first, let’s talk about the very meaning of the word “secular.”

The dictionary definition of the word “secular” is this: “Of or relating to worldly, temporal things, as distinguished from things relating to church and religion.” Of course, this term, like most terms, has changed in its nuance over the ages. This word “secular” is derived from the Medieval Latin word *saecularis*; however, *saecularis* was derived from the *Old Latin* word *saeculum*, which simply means “of an age, or generation.” In other words, the word “secular” has to do with *temporal* things, or *things in this life, and of this earth*.

Now, think about your life. Do you work a “secular” job (a job outside the realm of church)? With the exception of myself and my wife, every adult in this room works (or has worked) a secular job. Why? Because you live in a temporal world, and you need money to buy food (an earthly thing), so that you can feed your body (which is also temporal and earthly). Is it a bad thing that we work “secular” jobs? Not at all. In fact, your labour should be an expression of your worship of God! Let’s see what the Apostle Paul had to say about this.

Read Colossians 3:16-23.

Do you see what Paul is saying? Everything we do should be to the glory of God. For the Christian, there shouldn’t be a “secular” side of life, and a “sacred” side of life. *Everything* we are involved in should be sacred. *Everything* we participate in should have a “halo” around it, because we are able to do that thing in good conscience, with the assurance that we are not violating God’s commands, and that God is *pleased* by our activity. In your daily interactions and attitude toward your wife or husband, or toward your parents, everything you do should be “sacred.” In the work that you do for your employer, everything you do should be “sacred.” How so? Because you are doing the very best job that you can do, with complete honesty and integrity, as though your employer were Christ Himself. You may be surrounded by ungodly people in your workplace; but in *your* heart, you are doing your work for Christ.

Now, let’s get back to the matter of music. Just as in every other area of life, the *music* we listen to should *all* be to the glory of God—whether it be at home or at church. You should not think of your home as the “secular” realm, and of church the “sacred” realm. Home and church alike should be “sacred” to the Christian. Everything we do, whether at home or at church, we should be able to do in good conscience toward God, and *for* Him.

Read 1 Corinthians 10:23-31.

Our Bible-hating, God-denying world wants you to think “church” *versus* “secular.” They want you to think “religious” *versus* “non-religious.” As Christians, we must reject this way of thinking. Why? Because *everyone* is “religious,” whether they realise it or not. The word “religion” comes from the word *religio*, which simply means “worship.” When people say, “I’m not religious,” they are mistaken. *Everyone* is worshipping something, or someone: and when you boil it all down, there are only two kinds of worship. Either you are worshipping

the true God, whose Son died on the cross for your sins; or you are worshipping a false god of one sort or another—whether it be a false god such as Allah, or a dead saint, or an idol of stone, or your football team, or your money, or illicit sexual pleasure, or your career, or *your Rock and Roll gods*. “Wait a minute, Pastor. Did you say ‘Rock and Roll gods?’” I did!

Lest you think I’m over the top in saying that Rock is a “religion,” and that Rock musicians are “gods” whom people worship, consider what the Rock stars themselves say. **Craig Chaquico**, the guitarist in a band called Jefferson Airplane, said, “Rock concerts are the churches of today. Music puts them on a spiritual plane. All music is God.”ⁱ The famous Rock star **Jimmy Hendrix** said, “Rock music is more than music, *it’s like church*.”ⁱⁱ He also said, “We’re making the music into *electric church music, a new kind of Bible* you can carry in your hearts.”ⁱⁱⁱ **Paul Stanley**, who was the guitarist for KISS, said he turns into ‘a holy roller preacher’ during concerts. He said, “I’m testifying and getting everybody riled up for the power of almighty rock ‘n’ roll.”^{iv}

These people take their “worship” very seriously. They *know* what they are worshipping. Do you know what you are worshipping? As Christians, we automatically answer, “I’m worshipping the true God!” But can you worship the true God alongside *another* god, who pulls your heart away from Him? Rock musicians know very well which side they are on. They know that their Rock and Roll god *is the enemy of the God of the Bible*; and they have chosen whom they will serve! As Christians, we need to choose whom we will serve, and *stay* on the right side of the line! Jesus said, “**No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.**”

II. What makes music “godly” or “ungodly”?

As Christians, we need to stop compartmentalising our lives in terms of “secular” and “sacred.” *Everything* we do should be sacred. How *should* we look at life, then? Well, the question that we should be asking ourselves every day is this: “Is this thing *godly* or *ungodly*?”

Now, perhaps you are thinking, “Pastor, this is all well and good; but we’re talking about music. Isn’t this a complex subject? How do you determine what is ‘godly’ and ‘ungodly’ when it comes to music? Does the Bible really address this?” The answer is a resounding “Yes!” There is no issue of life for which God does not give us the teachings and principles to discern what is His will, and what is not. In **2 Peter 1:3**, Peter wrote, “**According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness.**”

The first way that we can determine whether music is “godly” or “ungodly” is **by the words**. In any song that has lyrics, the words should be glorifying to God, and doctrinally right. Remember what we read in **Colossians 3:16**? Paul said, “**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.**” God designed music to be a teaching tool; and what we should be teaching each other with our music is *spiritual truth*. We need to make sure that the teachings of our songs are doctrinally correct and sound. In our speech and in our song, no word that we utter should be questionable. Jesus said, “**Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned**” (Matthew 12:36-37). Paul instructed Timothy to “**hold fast the form of sound words**” (2 Timothy

1:13). This precept doesn't apply merely to preachers: it applies to *all Christians*. Let's see what Paul instructed Titus to tell *all* the young men in the churches of Crete.

Read Titus 2:6-8.

What do these biblical principles teach us regarding our music? First of all, they teach us that a Christian's musical diet should be overwhelmingly made up of hymns and spiritual songs—songs which teach about the Lord. Does God forbid us to sing anything that *doesn't* teach a truth about the Lord? Not necessarily. Many songs are entirely instrumental, and have no lyrics at all; and the style of music itself is not ungodly. (We'll talk about the *style* of music in a few moments!) It isn't wrong to sing "Jingle Bells." It isn't wrong to sing "Happy Birthday to You." It isn't wrong for us Irish to sing "The Soldier's Song," or for Americans such as myself to sing "The Star Spangled Banner." Many songs do not talk about the Lord, yet do not teach anything theologically wrong or perverse. With such songs, however, we'd better be sure that there is not a hint of ungodliness in the words.

This principle automatically consigns all Rock, Rap, Reggae, Pop, Jazz, Big Band, Country-Western, "Trad" pub music, and all other variations of these styles, to the rubbish bin, doesn't it? These musical genres *do not* teach sound doctrine in their lyrics. They glorify lust, fornication, unmarried couples' living together, adulterous affairs, drinking, drugs, fighting, jealousy, envy, hatred, bitterness, anger, revenge, covetousness, gambling, recklessness, lying, cursing, rebellion against parents and authority, and doing whatever pleases *me*. Many of these styles also glorify drugs, the occult, eastern mysticism, witchcraft, violence, nihilism, murder, suicide, anarchy, and many other evils which are too abominable to say out loud. At the very best, these songs glorify *self*—which is also abominable to God. Trying to find a song among these worldly genres which does *not* glorify ungodliness is like digging around in a landfill to find a microscopic flake of gold. How about you, Christian? Do the words of the music that you listen to at home measure up to this standard? If not, throw it out!

The second way that we can determine whether music is "godly" or "ungodly" is **by the style of music**. Music styles are *not* amoral (having no morality one way or the other). There *are* styles of music that are *ungodly* by their very nature. How do you know what is ungodly?

Well, first of all, music styles that are godly in character will reflect the character of God. This means that they are orderly and melodious. In a godly music style, a strong melody will predominate, and the music will naturally lend itself to harmony. Why? Because God is a God of order; and He expects us to be orderly, too. That is why He commanded the church of Corinth to **"Let all things be done decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40)**.

In contrast, you can expect that ungodly styles of music will be *disorderly* and *chaotic*. Why? Because that is *Satan's* nature! In ungodly music, the melody will *not* predominate; instead, *beat* will predominate. Folks, this isn't just the crazy opinion of the independent Baptist pastors. Consider what these unsaved music analysts, researchers, and *Rock musicians* have said about music. In 1965, a famous composer named **Dmitri Tiomkin** wrote to the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*; and this is what he said. He said, "There is actually very little melody, little sense in the lyrics, only rhythm [in rock music]...In our popular music,...we seem to be reverting to savagery...and youngsters who listen constantly to this sort of sound are thrust into turmoil. They are no longer relaxed, normal kids" (Aug. 8, 1965).^v In 1996, an English journalist named **Jon Savage** wrote this about Rock: "We live in a Christian society

concerned with order: rock 'n' roll was always concerned with *disorder*. Punk rock promoted blatantly the word 'chaos.'"^{vi} **Michael Moynihan**, in his book *Lords of Chaos*, said, "Rock music has always held seeds of the forbidden. ... Rock and Roll has long been an adversary to many of the basic tenets of Christianity."^{vii} In *The Kansas City Times* in 1979, **Robert Butler** wrote, "The preachers and moral guardians who, in rock's infancy, warned us of the evils of the music weren't that far off base. Rock—at least as practiced by The Who and a few others—is defiant, it is antisocial, it is revolutionary ... Anarchy, that's what The Who is all about."^{viii} Jerry Rubin (a revolutionary during the 60's) said, "Rock 'n' roll marked the beginning of the revolution. ... We've combined youth, music, [sensuality], drugs, and rebellion with treason, and that's a combination hard to beat."^{ix} (By the way, for the sake of our children, I've substituted a three-letter word in that last quote with the word "sensuality.")

What makes *the music itself* in the Rock genre so ungodly? **It's the beat!** I cannot stress that fact enough. **It's the beat!** In the past, music styles such as Baroque, Classical, and the Romantic genre of the 1800's, were strongly influenced by biblical Christianity. In those days, the world didn't influence the Christians' music; rather, Christians influenced the world's music. There was little to no difference in the sound of the music that "secular" composers composed, and the music that Christians sang. Take the hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee," for example. This tune is familiar to all of us. Why? Because it was composed by Ludwig van Beethoven in his *Ode to Joy*, at the end of *Symphony no. 9*. In 1907, a pastor named Henry van Dyke wrote the words to this hymn; and even though Beethoven was probably *not* a true Christian, van Dyke had no problem with setting his hymn to the music of *Ode to Joy*. Why did that not bother him? Because Beethoven's style of music was *not* against the character of God. It was full of order, melody, and harmony.

By the way, the reason that classical, traditional music is orderly is that it reflects the God-given order of the human body. The rhythm of our hearts is naturally a 2/4 or 4/4 rhythm; and the "strong beat" is on the first and third beat. When you listen to a person's heartbeat on an ultrasound, the beat pattern that you hear is "**One**, two, **three**, four." This is the natural rhythm of classical/traditional music, as well. Classical music is in sync with our bodies.

In contrast, Rock music goes *against* the rhythm of our hearts. Rock music places the strong beat on beats 2 and 4. Rock music's pattern is "One **two**, three **four**." This is why countless studies have shown Rock music to cause people (and animals) *not* to be able to think clearly. It causes confusion and restlessness. Isn't that just what we would expect from Satan? Anything that God created, Lucifer has twisted and perverted; and if you think Satan can't pervert *music*, you'd better think again! Let's see what the LORD said about Satan in **Ezekiel**.

Read Ezekiel 28:12-17.

Satan is a very musical being. In the passage we just read, we are told that when God created Lucifer, He created him with "**tabrets**" (a kind of tambourine, which produces rhythm). Are we really so naïve as to think that Satan would not try to use music to corrupt mankind—especially when God created him with a special ability to produce *rhythm*? Rhythm is natural and good, when it is used rightly; but when it is perverted, it becomes a tool of great evil.

Not only does the Rock beat stir up confusion and mayhem: it also is hypnotic. It causes people to lose control of themselves, as though they were under the influence of mind-bending drugs. Many non-Christian analysts, and *Rock musicians themselves*, proudly admit this. An

author named **William Schafer** wrote, “What is undeniable about rock is its hypnotic power.”^x Rock musician **Jimmy Hendrix** said this: “Atmospheres are going to come through [rock] music, because the music is a spiritual thing of its own ... you **hypnotize people**...The music flows from the air; that’s why **I connect with a spirit**.”^{xi} Author **David Winter** wrote, “An incessant beat does erode a sense of responsibility, in much the same way as alcohol does.”^{xii} **Dave Roberts**, the author of a so-called “Christian Rock” magazine, admits, “Heavy rock is body music designed to bypass your brain, and, with an unrelenting brutality, induce a frenzied state amongst the audience.”^{xiii} **Timothy Leary**, who was a huge promoter of the drug culture back in the 60’s, said this about the Rock style: “*I’ve been stoned* on [Rock] music many times.”^{xiv} Rock musician **Keith Richards** (of the Rolling Stones) said, “Music works in mysterious ways. Once it goes in [the ear], you really have no say about what it does to you.”^{xv} Rock musician **Neil Young** says, “Rock ‘n’ roll is like a drug.”^{xvi} “**Janis Joplin**, who died young from the rock & roll lifestyle, describes her first big concert in these words: ‘I couldn’t believe it, all that rhythm and power. I got stoned just feeling it, like *it was the best dope in the world*. It was so sensual, so vibrant, loud, crazy.’”^{xvii} **Steven Tyler** of the band Aerosmith said, “[Rock music] is the strongest drug in the world.”^{xviii}

My friends, God commands us in His Word to have *self-control*. Paul said that “**God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind**” (2 Timothy 1:7). In Galatians 5:22-23 Paul says that the “**fruit of the Spirit**” is “**love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.**” That word “**temperance**” means “self-control.” Have you ever wondered why so many people in our world today have no self-control, and do absolutely crazy things? A huge contributor to this phenomenon is **Rock music!** It is demonic. Furthermore, not only does it hypnotise people, and cause them to act erratically: it leads to immorality. The very *beat* of Rock music stirs up base, erotic passions. Let me reiterate that point. It isn’t merely the lyrics: **it is the beat!**

Again, lest you think that I’m over the top, allow me to let the Rock musicians (and Rock promoters) speak for themselves. In order to be discreet, I will, once again, substitute a certain three-letter word with the word “sensuality” in these quotes. **Irwin Silber**, a communist activist, said, “The great strength of rock ‘n’ roll lies in its beat ... it is a music which is basically [sensual], un-Puritan ... and a threat to established patterns and values.”^{xix} **David Elkind**, the chairman of Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study, said, “There is a great deal of powerful, albeit subliminal, [sensual] stimulation implicit in both the rhythm and [the] lyrics of rock music.”^{xx} **Malcom McLaren**, a punk Rock manager, said, “Rock ‘n’ roll is pagan and primitive, and very jungle, and that’s how it should be! The moment it stops being those things, it’s dead ... the true meaning of rock ... is [sensuality], subversion and style.”^{xxi}

Brethren, there is a reason why you never see the word “drums” in the Old Testament: *they weren’t used by God’s people!* Now, in **Psalm 150**, King David does mention a small instrument called the *toph* (called the “**timbrel**” or the “**tabret**” in English); and it is a sort of mini hand-drum. This little instrument was used in outdoor festivities of worship; but it did *not* produce anything like what we would think of as a “drum” sound. It produced a sort of rattling or rustling sound when it was waved around, because it had either little metal discs, or strings of cloth, hanging from its rim. However, in *Temple* worship, tabrets weren’t used *at all*. King David, under direction from God, commanded that only the harp, psaltery, and cymbals were to be used in Temple worship. This directive from King David continued to be followed by the godly priests for hundreds of years.

Read 1 Chronicles 15:16 and 2 Chronicles 29:25-30.

You'll notice that the music that was played in the Temple did *not* cause the people to get up, hop around wildly, and "get jiggy." It didn't cause them to wave their hands around in the air. The only physical motion that it prompted them to do was to "bow themselves, and worship." The music *calmed* their spirit, and caused a sense of deep humility and awe before God.

Now, there are people who argue that the Old Testament mentions "dancing." To be sure, it does. In **Psalm 150** David wrote, "**Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.**" However, just as the *toph* was not anything like our modern drums, so Jewish dancing wasn't *anything* like the worldly, sensual dancing that we know today. Men would lock forearms with men, and women would lock forearms with women, in a line; and they would slowly move together, a few steps to the right, and then a few steps back to the left, and so on. To say that this is a justification for the Rock beat in our private or worship music, or that this justifies modern dancing, is ludicrous.

By the way, dancing is something that you don't see mentioned *at all* in the New Testament (not in any *godly* context, that is)! (Herodias' daughter did dance a sensual dance for Herod; and John the Baptist ended up getting his head chopped off at the result.) Whereas the "dance" of the Jews was scarcely what *we* would think of as "dancing," the dance of the Gentile world was *very much* like our modern dancing. It was pagan, wild, and erotic, just as today's dance is; and it was based on the same kind of mesmerising beat. Perhaps that is why God never even mentioned the word "dance" for New Testament Christians!

The bottom line is this: the world's music elevates self, and not God. Rock musician Daryl Hall made this frank statement: "The main purpose of rock and roll is celebration of the self."^{xxii} That sounds just like Lucifer, doesn't it? He was the original celebrant of self. When his heart became corrupted, he said, "**I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High**" (**Isaiah 14:13-14**). Aleister Crowley was only copying the original egotist, Lucifer. Rock musicians are only copying their master, Lucifer. The question is: Will we allow these people into our homes? Christian, if you have worldly music in your home, which does not glorify God in its word or style, you need to get rid of it! Yes, this includes even the "Golden Oldy" Rock of Elvis and the like. Elvis was an adulterer, drug addict, and occultist. He was a follower of a Satanist named Madam Blavatsky; and those who were closest to him testified that he had occultic powers over people. The Christians in Ephesus burned their books of curious arts (magic); and we should do the same with any music which dishonours God.

In light of what we've learned, there is one more extremely important question that remains:

III. Is it o.k. to put Christian words to an ungodly music style?

Since the 1970's, there has been a movement that has swept over the churches of the Western world like a deluge. It is called the CCM (Contemporary Christian Music) movement. CCM artists sing Christian words, but use the Rock beat and style of performance. It is now the *norm*, and not the exception, for churches to use CCM music in their churches. It is now normal to walk into a church and see a large drum set and electric guitar. Even many

independent Baptist churches now try to take CCM songs, clean them up, and make them more conservative-sounding. Is this possible? Is it possible to take the Rock beat of the world, put Christian words to it, and make it godly? No, it is not. The beat is still there! Once again, I will begin by consulting a Rock star. Lita Ford, of the Rock group *The Runaways*, said this: “Listen, rock ‘n’ roll ain’t church. It’s nasty business. You gotta *be* nasty too. If you’re goody- goody, you can’t sing or play it.”^{xxiii} I couldn’t agree more with Lita, because *God* says that you cannot mix light and darkness! Let’s look at one more Scripture.

Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-18.

God says that you cannot mix the cup of the Lord with the cup of devils. How can you mix even a little Rock sound into God’s music, and it still be clean? You can’t! That’s why you will *never* see drums in this church! Now, it certainly is true that once in a while, you’ll find a CCM song that has doctrinally sound, biblical words; yet, the style is still CCM. This is where many Independent Baptist churches today are getting tripped up. They think it’s O.K. to pick out individual CCM songs that have good lyrics, and make the style sound more godly. Is that O.K.? No! You cannot change the fact that the style of music is ungodly in nature. By the way, make no mistake about it: despite their claim to be Christians, CCM artists are thoroughly in love with the filthy rock music of the world. I close this message with some quotes from one of the most famous CCM musicians of our day, named Darlene Zschech.

“In an interview with CCM.com in October 2003... Zschech said that she is “a bit of a hippie at heart,” and described herself as “hopelessly devoted” to rock star Olivia Newton-John. She said that her favorite movie is “anything with Julia Roberts in it.” (Roberts became a super star by playing the role of a prostitute in “Pretty Woman.”) She said the three people she would most like to meet are Billy Graham, Bono of the rock band U2, and Mother Teresa. She said that her teenage daughter’s favorite music includes the rock band Coldplay....

In one of her books Zschech said: “I once watched Sting in concert (he was absolutely incredible!). So much gift for one human being! Thoughts raced through my head, ‘My goodness, Sting, you are like king David, full of psalms, melodies and music, and you sing as if you don’t even know that His hand is upon you. You are so close to the heart of God. You are a master poet, full of love, and your capabilities are not because of your own natural abilities. You have tapped into the source of your Creator’” (Zschech, *The Kiss of Heaven*, 2003).

To say that a filthy rock singer is like the “sweet Psalmist of Israel,” or that such a rock singer has tapped into the source of his Creator, is pure nonsense. The Bible says the devil is the god of this world, and [that] the unsaved walk not according to the God of the Bible, but “according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience” (Eph. 2:2).^{xxiv}

Conclusion: Brethren, you cannot separate CCM music from its worldly-minded (and probably mostly unsaved) authors; and you cannot separate the Rock style from its devilish origin. As Christians, our lives must be sacred in every aspect—both in our homes, and in our church. Not only in our church building, but also on our car radios, in our homes, and in our hearts, God’s people should not have an echo of the world’s beat. We should walk to a new beat, and a new rule. There should be a *new* song in our mouths, even praises to our God. If you have old music to get rid of, fill in the void with *godly* music! (My wife and I would love to help you get your hands on good music.)

Perhaps you have never truly been saved. This message was directed mostly to the saved; but I would close by saying that you may try never so hard to clean up your life, or even your music; but those efforts

won't save your soul. (**See Ephesians 2:8-9.**) You must trust in Christ, and Christ alone, to save you. Won't you repent of your sin and trust in Him today?

- i *Why Knock Rock?*, p. 96.
- ii *The Dick Cavett Show*, July 21, 1969.
- iii Quoted in *Crosstown Traffic* by Charles Murray, p. 161.
- iv Dr. David Cloud, https://www.wayoflife.org/reports/character_and_philosophy_of_rock_music.html.
- v https://www.wayoflife.org/reports/character_and_philosophy_of_rock_music.html.
- vi Jon Savage, *Time Travel: Pop, Media and Sexuality 1976–96*, London: Chatto & Windus, 1996, p. 151.
- vii Michael Moynihan, *Lords of Chaos*, p. x.
- viii Robert W. Butler, *Kansas City Times*, Aug. 24, 1979, p. 6C.
- ix Jerry Rubin, *Do It!*, 1970, pp. 19, 249.
- x William Schafer, *Rock Music*, Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1972, p. 79.
- xi Jimmy Hendrix, rock star, *Life*, Oct. 3, 1969, p. 74.
- xii David Winter, *New Singer, New Song*.
- xiii Dave Roberts, *Buzz* columnist, Christian rock magazine in Britain, April 1982.
- xiv Timothy Leary, New Age guru and promoter of LSD, *Politics of Ecstasy*.
- xv Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones, “Music Quotes,” *Cynthia Radio*.
- xvi Neil Young, cited by Mickey Hart, *Spirit into Sound*.
- xvii Dr. David Cloud, https://www.wayoflife.org/reports/character_and_philosophy_of_rock_music.html, quoted from Joel Dreyfuss, “Janis Joplin Followed the Script,” *Wichita Eagle*, Oct. 6, 1970, p. 7A).
- xviii Steven Tyler of Aerosmith, *Rock Beat*, Spring 1987, p. 23.
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