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Divorce

MY BODY MY CHOICE
MY BODY NO CHOICE
CHOICE kills those without one

The Powerful Role of Music in Society

Music and society have always been closely related. Music reflects and creates social conditions including the factors that either facilitate or impede social change. Today's society is all based on what you watch on T.V., those you hang around, how you were raised, and the music you listen to. Music is perhaps one of the most powerful forces we encounter. Music can both establish and destroy morality.



Cary Schmidt
Pastor, Emmanuel Baptist Church

*Only 9% of born again
Christian teens
believe that there are
moral absolutes
-Barna.org*

(Ezekiel 28:12-15)

“Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so...Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.”

Satan the Father of Lies



SATAN is the
Great Deceiver

“But strong meat (Word of God) belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”

Heb 5:14



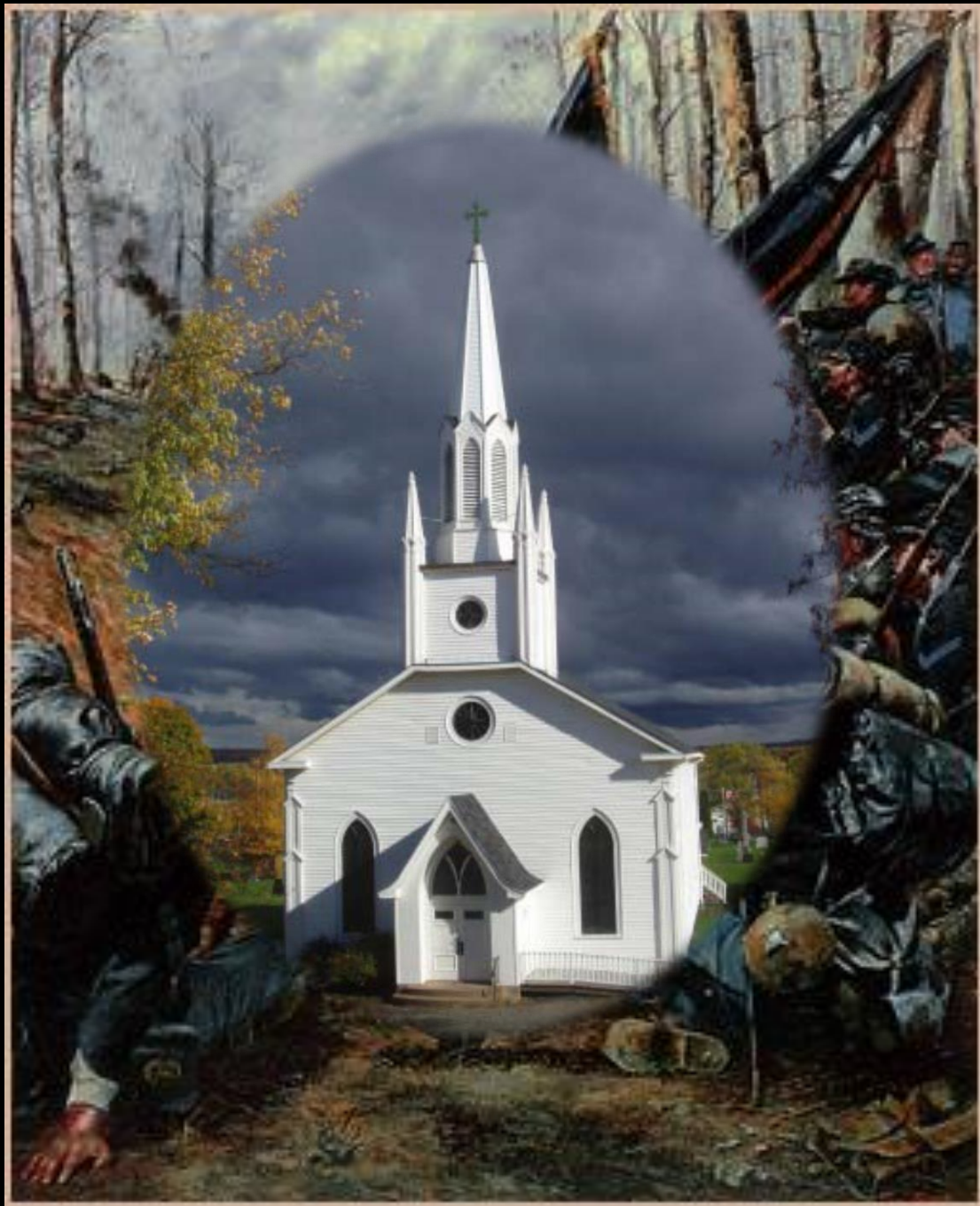
Biblical Principles for Discerning Godly Music





*“Set ye up a standard
in the land, blow the
trumpet among the
nations.” (Jer. 51:27)*





“So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.”

(Isaiah 59:19)



God's Word Commands The Believer

"Approve things that are excellent."

(Philippians 1:10)





“[Prove] what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. . .Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. . .Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.” (Ephesians 5:10-19)



MUSIC IS NOT AMORAL



- Music is a form of communication.
- Whenever two notes are put together, they become communication and are subject to God's Judgment - *Matthew 12:36*
- God does not judge amoral things, but judges according to whether something is "*good or bad...*" - *II Corinthians 5:10*



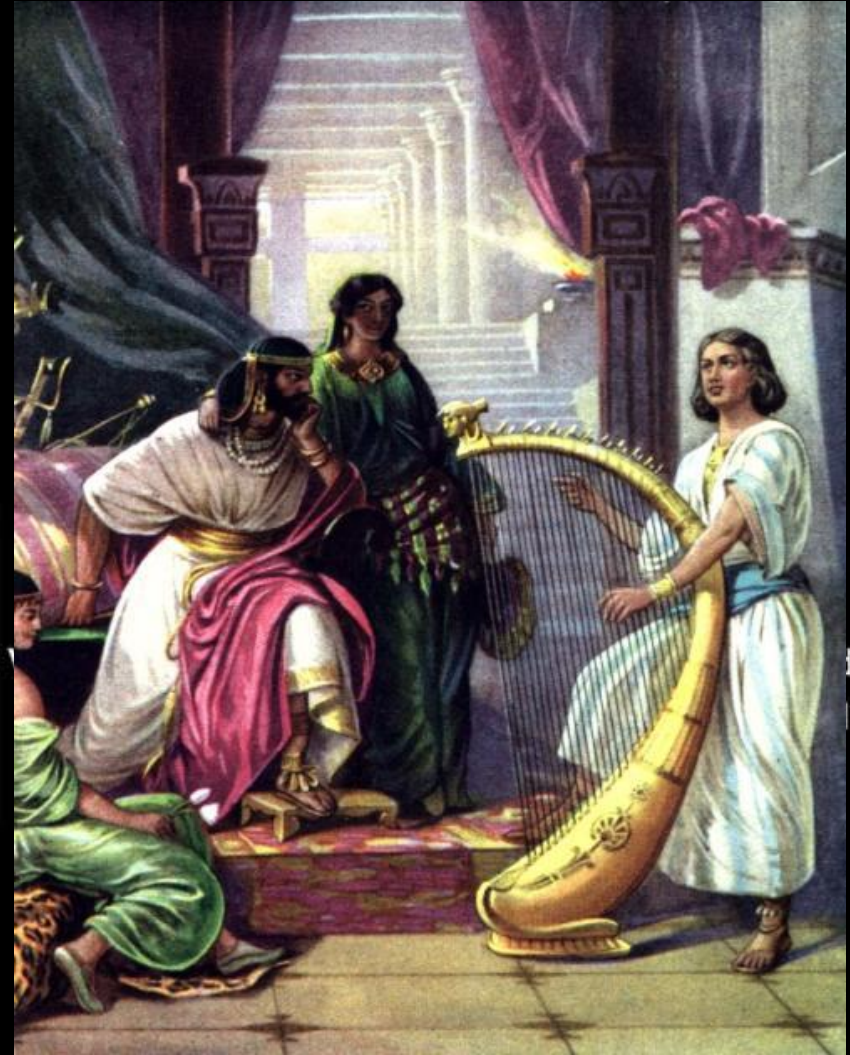
- God promises that if we allow the Word of God to dwell within us richly - *Colossians 3:14-16*
- Our senses will be exercised to discern between good and evil - *Hebrews 5:14*



GOOD OR EVIL
Who Decides?

PUTTING MUSIC TO THE TEST OF SCRIPTURE

- Does it glorify God?
1 Corinthians 10:31
- Does it provide an atmosphere of spiritual uplift and inspiration?
1 Samuel 16:23



- Does it contain words that are worthwhile in meaning or are contrary to what is decent and Scripturally right? - *Ephesians 4:21-24, 29*

“If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”

“Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That 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.”



Does rhythm, background beat, breathy sliding pitches, or syncopation appeal to my lower impulses and excite my flesh?
(Romans 12:1-2; 13:14)



Does the music move your
hips or your heart?

“For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.” (Rom. 8:5-7)

“For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness.” (Gal. 5:17, 19)

Does the presentation of the
music have a carnal style?
(1 Corinthians 3:1-3; 5:6)



Are the musicians who sing the music examples to be followed? (*Philippians 3:15-20*)



Is there any appearance
of evil in the music?
(1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)



Is there any sensuality or
rebellion sensed in the music
(James 3:15-17)





“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 32:17-18)

Does it have a clear understandable
Scriptural message?
(1 Corinthians 14:7-9)



“And even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped? For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle? So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air.”

Does the music violate the Biblical principle
of not mixing light with darkness or
the clean with the unclean?

(II Corinthians 6:14-7:1)

- Godly music adheres to God's standard of separation - *1 John 2:15-16*

**John Adams Stated
While President**

“The church is the moral compass of society. But in order to remain a true and faithful compass, the church must remain separate and independent of the influences of that society.”



- Godly music does not imitate the world's music
- *James 4:4*

NOTE: The strongest evidences of admiration is imitation. The Christian who says he loves God but listens to carnal music is guilty of violating God's command of separation - *Hebrews 13:13-16*

- Godly music is not appealing to the world -
John 15:18-19

NOTE: The function of music is to edify Christians and to praise God, not appeal to the world - *Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16*

- Godly music is called a “*new song*” - *Psalms 33:1-3; 40:3; 96:1-2; 98:1-2; 144:9-10; 149:1-4*
- If the believer is going to “*put off the old man and put on the new man*” it is important that he put off the worlds music and put on Godly music.
- God ordained preaching, not music, to win the lost - *1 Corinthians 1:18-21*



Does the rhythm of the music bring
me under its power (is it addictive?)
(1 Corinthians 6:12)

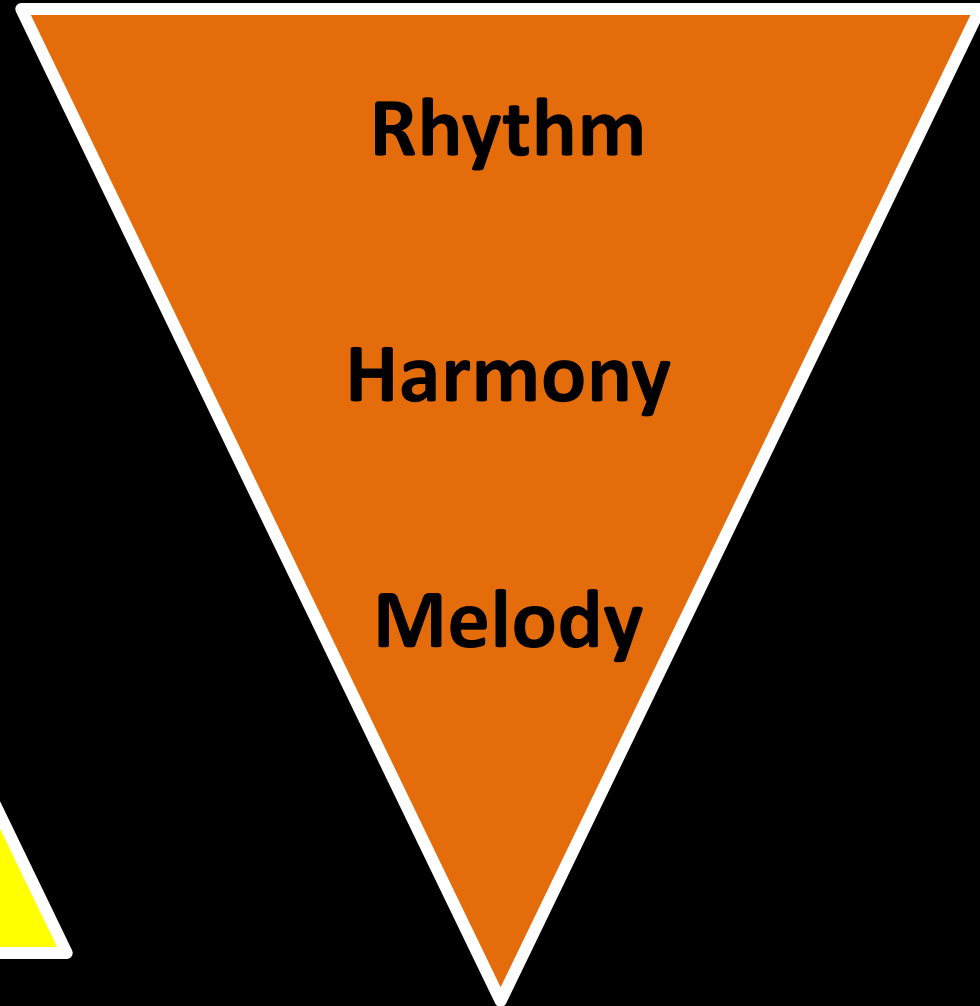


- Is the melody ***[that which is designed to carry the message]*** supported by the harmony and rhythm?
- Godly music will always have a Biblical balance:
- The melody will be the dominant, the harmony will be secondary, and the rhythm will be supportive -
(Ephesians 5:19)

Godly Music



Carnal Music



Variety in Biblical Music

“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.” (Col. 3:16)

- *Psalms – Word of God put to music*
- *Hymns – Songs with great doctrinal truths*
- *Spiritual songs – Songs expressing personal testimony*

Does the music offend
Spiritual (mature) Christians?
(Romans 14:21)



Does the music have the potential
of causing others to stumble?

(1 Corinthians 8:1-13)



Is there any doubt in your mind
concerning the music?
(Romans 14:23)

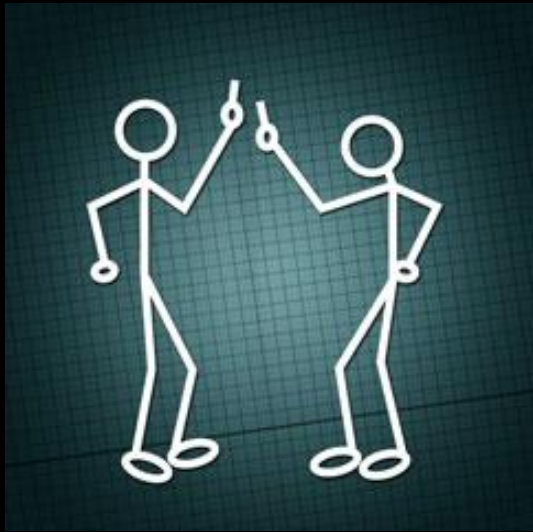


Is there any conviction of the Holy Spirit concerning your music?

**Do not follow
your heart.**

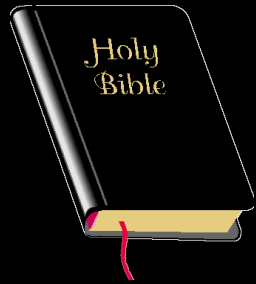
**Follow the conviction
of the Holy Spirit**

"The heart is deceitful above all things" - Jeremiah 17:9





You REAP what you SOW
in LIFE
& in the
FAMILY



Evil / Sin



Applying Biblical Principle

- There may be a fine line between what is good and acceptable music and what is not.
- To avoid being drawn across the line it would be wise to stay away from the line.





DANGER

- Satan will seek to get an advantage in our lives and churches however he can – *II Cor. 2:11*
- To stop this from happening in the area of music, avoid any music that may be questionable - *II Cor. 2:11*



Right

Good



Bad

Wrong

- Repent of listening to carnal music - *Rev. 3:19*
- Remove the music from your life – *Acts 19:19*
- Replace it with good godly music – *II Tim. 2:22*
- Resist the temptation to go back to your old music – *James 4:7*



*“Whatever ye do, do all
to the glory of God.”*

