

Worldliness

TV, Movies and Music

Introduction

- 1. We are continuing our series on Worldliness this morning with a lesson on TV, Movies and Music.**
- 2. The Devil is cunning and is winning his battle with many Christians in the realm of television, movies, and music.**
 - A. The one thing that just about every Christian engages in is the watching of television and listening to music.**
 - B. The Devil is getting people to preoccupy their minds with hours of television and movie watching – taking them away from God’s Word!**
- 3. The watching of television and movies isn’t bad in and of themselves, BUT Christians who make it a practice to watch things with bad material are filling their minds with impurities.**
 - Hours and hours**
 - Many things on TV are filled with filth.**
- 4. As Christians, we must be aware of what we are doing, what we are saying, what we are watching, and what we are listening to!**

Television and Movies – the Rating System

1. From the 1930's to 1960 there was a very strict code of ethics in place for the television industry. For example:
 - A. Brutal killings could not be shown in detail
 - B. Crime could not be glamorized
 - C. Obscenity (words, gestures, songs, jokes, suggestions) forbidden
 - D. Reference to deity was not to be irreverent
 - E. Nudity was not permitted
 - F. The sanctity of marriage and the home was to be upheld
 - 1) If still practiced – then there would be no need for the following:
2. These have now been replaced by:
 - A. G "General"
 - B. PG "Parental Guidance"
 - C. PG13 "Under age 13 not allowed without an adult"
 - D. R "Restricted" (under 17 must have a parent)
 - E. X "No one under 17 permitted"
3. Most all movies today are filled with bad language, sex scenes, and terrible violence to name just a few.
 - A. But many Christians are watching the same movies that anyone off the street would watch – not even caring what kind of trash will fill their mind.

Read Story – THE STRANGER

4. **We should spend time reading our Bible in order to guide us to properly understand what we can or cannot watch on TV and still be pleasing to God.**
 - B. **We must constantly evaluate what we are watching and what our children are watching. Be determined to say:**

Psalms 101:3 **I will set nothing wicked before my eyes**; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me.

Television and Movies Influence Us!

1. **The media has great power in reaching billions of people.**
 - A. **Television is the most powerful of the media**
 - B. **Businesses pay millions to advertise on TV**
 - C. **Why? Because billions watch – it has great influence!**
2. **How much time do we watch TV and movies?**
 - A. **How many hours per day is the TV on in our house?**
3. **Listen to these statistics:**
 - A. **The average American home:**
 - 1) **98% of homes have at least one TV; 2-3 in most.**
 - 2) **The typical American views over 5 hours of TV every day. The majority is live programming with all the commercials.**

B. Children:

- 1) **Ages 2-5 watch 32 hours of TV each week, ages 6-8 watch 28 hours of TV each week. 70% ages 8-18 have a TV in their bedroom. 35% have cable or internet access.**
- 2) **One fourth of waking hours are watching TV.**
- 3) **By graduation time, they will have spent almost twice as much time in front of TV than in the classroom.**
- 4) **Hear over 400 commercials per week.**
- 5) **In comparison:**
 - a. **How much time do they spend in Bible class, attending worship, or in reading and studying their Bible at home?**
 - b. **Who is raising the children? The TV? Hopefully we are raising them with wholesome godly activities and instruction!**

C. Movies:

- 1) **22 million attend movies each week.**
- 2) **Only 4% in the movie business attend any worship.**

D. Wasted Hours:

- 1) **A 2017 survey showed that only 38% of adults a church activity weekly (all faiths).**

Read the 23rd Channel

Television, Movies, Music and God's Warning

1. We must evaluate what we allow into our hearts.

Psalms 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

2. Immoral Language:

A. Taking the Lord's name in vain.

Exodus 20:7 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

B. Profanity.

Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

C. Lying.

Revelation 21:8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Colossians 3:9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds,

D. Words are very important.

Matthew 12:34-37

3. Sexual Immorality.

A. Fornication and adultery.

Galatians 5:19-21

B. Homosexuality.

1 Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites,

- 1) Review TV Screen**
- 2) Desensitizes us to sin**

Examine Everything By What It Really Is

1. Don't make excuses for what you do, say, watch and listen to.

A. They are nothing more than misgiven priorities of life.

Excuses such as:

- 1) It doesn't bother me**
- 2) It only had a few bad scenes**
- 3) It's only extreme violence**
- 4) I'm not actually doing those things**
- 5) It's only adult oriented subject matter**
- 6) There is nothing else to watch**
- 7) My friends chose to see that – I don't want to offend them**

B. They are still only excuses in the sight of God and will not stand when you are to give an answer before Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Conclusion

- 1. Remember, we are influence by whatever we expose our mind to.**
- 2. As a Christian, we should be aware of how God wants our mind to be:**

Proverbs 4:23 Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.

Proverbs 23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he...

Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

Titus 1:15-16 To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

Philippians 4:8 Meditate on These Things Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — meditate on these things.

- 3. Let us always strive to close our eyes to evil and open our eyes to God's Holy and sacred Word!**

Psalms 119:18 Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.

Mark 12:30 AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.' This is the first commandment.

The Stranger

Keith Currie

A few months before I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small Tennessee town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer, and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around to welcome me into the world a few months later.

As I grew up I never questioned his place in our family. In my young mind each member had a special niche. My brother, Bill, five years my senior, was my example. Fran, my younger sister, gave me an opportunity to play "big brother" and to develop the art of teasing. My parents were complementary instructors - Mom taught me to love the word of God and Dad taught me to obey it.

But the stranger was our storyteller. He could weave the most fascinating tales. Adventures, mysteries, and comedies were daily conversations. He would hold our whole family spell-bound for hours each evening.

If I wanted to know about politics, history, or science, he knew it all. He knew about the past, understood the present, and seemingly could predict the future. The pictures he could draw were so life like that I would often laugh or cry as I watched.

He was like a friend to the whole family. He took Dad, Bill and me to our first major league baseball game. He was always encouraging us to see the movies and he even made arrangements to introduce us to several movie stars. My brother and I were deeply impressed by John Wayne in particular.

The stranger was an incessant talker. Dad didn't seem to mind but sometimes Mom would quietly get up -while the rest of us were enthralled with one of his stories of faraway places - go to her room, read her Bible, and pray. I wonder now if she ever prayed that the stranger would leave.

You see, my Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions. But this stranger never felt obligation to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our house - not from us, from our friends or from adults. Our longtime visitor, however, used occasional four letter words that burned my ears and made Dad squirm. To my knowledge the stranger was never confronted. My dad was a teetotaler who didn't permit alcohol in his home - not even for cooking. But the stranger felt like we needed exposure and enlightened us to other ways of life. He offered us beer and other alcoholic beverages often.

He made cigarettes look tasty, cigars manly, and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (probably much too freely, about sex). His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing. I know now that my early concepts of the man-woman relationships were influenced by the stranger.

As I look back, I believe it was the grace of God that the stranger did not influence us more. Time after time he opposed the values of my parents. Yet he was seldom rebuked and never asked to leave.

More than thirty years have passed since the stranger moved in with the young family on Morningside Drive. He is not nearly so intriguing to my Dad as he was in those early years. But if I were to walk into my parents den today, you would still see him sitting over in a corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures. His name? **We always just called him TV.**

Twenty Third Channel

Author Unknown

The TV is my shepherd, I shall want. It makes me lie down on the sofa. It leads me away from the scriptures. It destroys my soul. It leads me in the path of sex and violence, for the sponsor's sake. Yea, though I walk in the shadow of my Christian responsibilities, there will be no interruption, for the TV is with me. It's cable and remote, they control me. It prepares my head with Humanism, my coveting runneth over. Surely laziness and ignorance shall follow me all the days of my life: And I shall dwell in the house watching TV forever.