

## SHAME SHAME SHAME

& SHAME

"CHRISTIAN"  
ROCK / DISCO  
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

"How long will ye turn  
my glory into shame?"  
Psalm 4:2

DR. HAL WEBB

Each generation seems to change from the beliefs and practices of the generation before. Sometimes a change in culture brings out that which is good. Then there are times when the new that replaces the old is bad. That's why I put quotes around the word "*Christian*" music. Most of the new music of this age is guilty of cheapening the things of God, and a number of people are guilty before Him.

SHAME...

ON RELIGIOUS SONGWRITERS AND PUBLISHERS who style their compositions to sound like the depraved music of Rock and Disco, with fleshly beat and "*copy cat*" instrumental arrangements. They hide a few shallow Gospel words among the beat and roar of flesh-pleasing sounds in the hope of bringing sinners to Christ. You do not place a sizzling steak in a garbage can to entice people to eat. God's Holy truths don't need the vehicle of worldly sounds to please the ears of electronic-dazed youths. All music either lifts the soul or feeds the flesh. It is easy to see the deterioration by comparing past and present compositions of writers and publishers. Most can no longer be trusted for decent background tapes, choir arrangements, cantatas, and other church music. As long as choir directors, musicians, and "*Christian*" stations push it, writers and publishers will keep putting the pocketbook ahead of the "*Good book.*" They are to be

blamed for spreading the jungle beat, flesh-pleasing religious music of today. God's command is to "*love not the world, neither the things that are in the world*" (**I John 2:15**). When Christian music carries the beat, instrumentation, and exact sounds of the lost crowd, it results in confusion and shame.

SHAME...

ON CHRISTIAN MUSICIANS AND ENTERTAINERS who with worldly hair, dress, and mannerisms fail to glorify God. They croon words of shallow religious thought, singing anywhere and everywhere, gathering praise to themselves. They become youth's substitute for acid Rock with their so-called "*Christian*" Rock, Disco, and even Country music. Their compromising squirm up the ladder of popular religious music cannot glorify God. Modern religious concerts attract the same hand clapping, foot-stomping, hero-worshipping fans as the world's Rock Scene. Reveling in the praise of men, they blend worldly musical techniques and lead youth away from proven musical values. Seeking men's praise is certainly not "*doing all to the glory of God*" (**I Cor. 10:31**). Shame on new-sound singers whose style and accompaniment are the same as today's depraved secular music. Spotlights flash and drum beats roll, but it's all for the flesh and little for the soul.

SHAME...

ON CHRISTIAN RADIO STATIONS many of whom owe their beginnings to "*little old ladies*" who gave their life savings to enjoy good Christian programming. Now stations chase ratings and play contemporary contemptible music not fit for Christian families. Dear old saints would "*turn over in their graves*" over the worldly sounds that come from once-good stations. A few good national programs are sandwiched between hours of trash music sung by flesh-pleasing groups in musical desecration. Such stations are thieves of God's money, traitors to Christ, and perverters of musical expression. They have turned from doing eternal good to babysitting worldly musical tastes. Shame on managers and "*disc jocks*" who cater to shallow listener desires and "*Rock*" through the day with shameful music. Perhaps the "*Charismatic*" stations are most guilty playing that which old-time Pentecostals should rise up and condemn. One has only to spin the dial to wonder which is a Christian station. These new-sound stations put popularity above spirituality, place worldly before Holy, and sensual above spiritual. Paul would surely say, "*I speak to your shame*" (**I Cor. 6:5**).

SHAME...

ON MINISTERS AND MUSIC DIRECTORS who have allowed church music to deteriorate into cheap worldly entertainment. The new sound has invaded the choir, the yearly cantata, and special numbers feature the sounds and shallow faith of modern writers, publishers, and singers. It is shameful to use musicians who in shallow songs daze instead of praise, who entertain instead of train. Background tapes featuring drum and guitar techniques used in regular Rock are shameful and counter-productive. Preachers who allow questionable groups in dress, actions, and affiliation on their platform cheapen and degrade God's house. The pulpit is a holy place for holy servants truly converted, surrendered, and dedicated to inspire people to glorify God. Failure to shepherd the flock in this area will lead to the suicide of Christ-honoring music in the church. Youth pastors and choir leaders need to beware the shameful worldly music craze. God's true men cannot stand against the world's Rock and adopt the same beat and sounds of religious Rock. Constant diligent monitoring must be maintained or the shame of musical compromise will grip the church.

SHAME...

ON CHRISTIAN PARENTS who are so naïve they can't seem to sense what such music does to their children. Most true believers know the worldly Rock must be banned or it will lead our kids into drugs, sex, and rebellion. Teens can become just as addicted to "Christian" Rock and other cheap religious music as the acid stuff. Drums, screaming guitars, and worldly musicians all work to hinder genuine spiritual growth of youth. The Bible commands, "train up a child in the way he should go" (**Prov. 22:6**). Exercising control over youths' listening habits and building a taste for quality Christ-honoring music is a valuable part of that training. Parents must stand together for good music is a valuable part of that training. Parents must stand together for good music in church, home, and school. Hero-worshipping teens must learn to love good music and be taught to avoid the bad. Good records, tapes, and control of radio and TV listening are essential. Quality parents cannot develop quality children on a music diet of cheap religious words and heathen tempos.

SHAME...

ON CHRISTIAN TEENS who are still hooked on the world's Rock sensual music and yet profess to love God. Many teens have grudgingly given it up, replacing it with the same beat and tempos of "Christian" Rock. They like it because it still speaks pleasingly to their flesh, and its shallow message doesn't cramp their world-loving style. They "dig" modern religious singers and learn their compromise and disobedience. Christian entertainers, accompanied by "drum frenzies" and "guitar squeals," become teen idols whose music seldom leads to genuine surrender or separation. Teens who limit their musical experience to popular religious singers attain little depth in Christian growth. The album jackets in the compromising bookstore look like those of the world's idols, while the sound and content do little to develop Godly Christians. They transfer the worship owed to Christ to "concert hopping," money-hungry entertainers who have never left the world far enough behind to stop sounding like it. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind" (**Matt. 22:37**). This cannot be done listening to worldly, often Charismatic, careless religious music of today. Wise teens will choose the music that advances the cause of Christ, builds genuine devotion, and glorifies God not man.

SHAME...

ON ME AND ALL BELIEVERS who do not cry a warning of the rape of Christ-honoring music by today's compromising musicians. Wise believers have enjoyed too many years of beautiful, inspiring Christian music to allow a new brand of popular, counterfeit Christian entertainment. I challenge all believers to work for the return of good quality Christian music to our churches, homes, schools, radio stations, and TV. There must be a concentrated effort to let the words of our mouth be once again musically acceptable to our God.

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