

EXPOSING SECULAR MUSIC

BY ANTONIO BALDOVINOS

Driving home from work one day, flipping through the channels, I heard a song on the radio and immediately it grabbed my attention, the rhythm and beats captured me. I began to give myself, my emotions and thoughts to the groove, and the emotions that it brought...I thought to myself, *“this is amazing, what a sweet song!”* As soon as I could, I drove to the nearest Best Buy and purchased not only that song, but also the entire music CD. I listened to that song and that CD for two straight days continuously. After two days, I grew tired of that CD. I’m not able to quickly pick up the lyrics in a song like many people, but the emotions, and feelings behind a song encompass me and it unlocks my emotions and heart immediately.

A few days later I found myself back at Best Buy purchasing a couple more CD’s. I reasoned with myself that by purchasing more CD’s and having more songs I wouldn’t grow tired as quickly as before; so I thought. So now I had numerous music choices to accompany my days with and of course I also reasoned *“I need this for better workouts at the gym”* and before I knew what I had given myself to, **I was hooked.**

Secular music became such an addiction for me that at the height of listening to it, I did not know one Christian Worship song, except for those I sang 10 years prior. I was convinced that Christian artists were second-class musicians and they’re only copying the trend of the secular artists. No matter how I looked at it, it was a god to me and I was deceived. There was no way that I was going to throw away the songs from my mp3 player or cd’s. I would protect it as gold. There are people today that hold their songs in much of the same way...idols or better yet, songs of idols, worshipping other gods.

Thank God I was set free! I was set free from allowing depressed, immoral, demonized artists telling me how I should think, what I should value, what I should feel, and how I should live. I was set free the day I threw every song into the trash, not keeping one song. Today, I hold one view when choosing what I will listen to. I ask does it worship God? Does it lift up His name, His fame and is the Holy Spirit comfortable with this song? If it does not, I don’t want to take part in it at all. I don’t even care to be entertained. **I care that my spirit man is alive and strong.** I get the greatest pleasure when my spirit comes alive with the Holy Spirit. When the Word of God touches my heart, I come alive. Secular songs could never satisfy me like God can and Worship helps me Worship my creator. I only want to Worship God.

Deep within every human is the impulse to worship, and it is the most natural thing about us. Not all paths however, lead to the worship God accepts and God delights in. Certain kinds of worship are abhorrent to God and He cannot accept it. He accepts worship only when it is pure and directed by the Holy Spirit. God wants us to worship Him, He commands us and asks us to. When a man falls on his knees and stretches his hands heavenward, he is doing the most natural thing in the world. Something deep within compels him to seek someone or something outside himself to worship and adore. In his unredeemed condition, man has lost the way and cannot clearly define the object of his adoration, so his search takes him far from God. When he does not find God, man will fill the void in his heart with anything he can find. That which is not God can never satisfy the heart exclusively created for God presence.

I. DO YOU WANT ALL OF GOD?

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How much do you want, how far do you want to go in your knowledge of God? These are really the questions to ask. People often think that a strong stance on secular music is just “too much” or “too far”, but when you truly want to get as close to God as you can the things that hinder that become clear. Nothing unlocks the heart like music. Satan understands this; he uses this subtle tool to gain access into our hearts, minds and emotions. Once we have opened the door it leads to “de-sensitization” and it is a dangerous path, this is what happened in me.

II. SOWING & REAPING - SECULAR MEDIA

“While the earth remains seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.” (Genesis 8:22)

“Do not be deceived; God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the spirit from the spirit will reap eternal life.” (Galatians 6:7)

- A. Sowing and reaping is a basic and foundational law of life. I have heard people say to me that they can handle it. They are strong or stronger than most. **The truth is that they just have given themselves so much to secular media that they don’t feel the effects anymore.** However, the consequence for a dull spirit is still there, whether they realize it or not.
- B. Bottom line it’s the little things that we give ourselves to that eventually will take root and become reality in our lives good or bad. It’s the small things that we give ourselves to that one-day will become realities. We may think it’s not that important and we definitely don’t think that the small things will play any significant role in our lives, but the Bible says that we will reap what we sow!

III. PURPOSE OF MUSIC

- A. Is music designed solely for worship, or did God also intend music to be soothing and/or entertaining? The most famous musician in the Bible, King David, primarily used music for the purpose of worshipping God (Psalm 4:1; 6:1, 55). However, when evil spirits tormented King Saul, he would call on David to play the harp in order to soothe him (1 Samuel 16:14-23). The Israelites also used musical instruments to warn of danger (Nehemiah 4:20) and to surprise their enemies (Judges 7:16-22).
- B. In the New Testament, the apostle Paul instructs Christians to encourage one another with music: ***“Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs”*** (Ephesians 5:19). One of the greatest tools God has given us is singing to one another and to Him and singing the Word of God, as we do that He promises to fill us with the Holy Spirit. We want to be filled with His spirit and not the spirit of this age.

IV. SONGS BIRTHED OUT OF SIN AND BLACK MAGIC

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"Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their conscience seared with a hot iron." (1 Timothy 4:1-2)

Here is a segment from American pop star and recording artist, John Mayer's *Playboy* interview that is admittedly disturbing but serves as an honest warning:

"MAYER: . . . Rather than meet somebody new, I would rather go home and replay the amazing experiences I've already had. . . What that explains is that I'm more comfortable in my imagination than I am in actual human discovery."

A. The lifestyle that secular artists live and promote; full of sexual immorality is the same well that they make the music from. We then sing their songs, praise their writings and pay a lot of money for it. Much of the time they are making their music under the influence of demonic episodes.

"I was not content to believe in a personal devil and serve him, in the ordinary sense of the word. I wanted to get hold of him personally and become his chief of staff." Aleister Crowley

B. To say that Satanist Aleister Crowley was an evil man would be an understatement. Crowley was once considered "*The wickedest man on earth*" and was kicked out of almost every country he tried to make his home. He wrote volumes of books that he believed were dictated to him by a spirit from ancient Egypt called Aiwass. "***To worship me take wine and strange drugs,***" the spirit conveniently told him. "***Lust, enjoy all things of sense and rapture. Fear not that any God shall deny thee for this.***" . . .Crowley was a heroin addict and a sexual pervert. Most of Crowley's adult life was dedicated to indulging in everything he believed God would hate: performing sex magic, taking heroin, opium, hashish, peyote and cocaine, invoking spirits, and even once offering himself to the Russian authorities to help destroy Christianity. His first wife, Rose, died in a mental asylum. His second wife also went insane. Five mistresses committed suicide, and scores of his concubines ended in the gutter as alcoholics, drug addicts, or in mental institutions. The disturbing thing about all of this is the way many famous and influential people have embraced this man and his teachings.

C. What does this man have to do with music you may be asking? He is the single greatest influence through his writings to music legends. A short study on him will reveal that there are countless musicians and singers who practice Satanism straight from his teaching.

D. There is also a cult known as "*kaballah*" which Crowley referred to as "*qabalah*" and deemed "*Lucifer*" also known as Satan, the head of the cult. Some of the music artists that practice his teachings or are currently a part of this cult by their own admission are: Jim Morrison, The Beatles, Sting, Ozzy Osborne, Led Zeppelin, Madonna, Jay-Z, Michael Jackson, Britney Spears, Chris Brown, Rhianna, Beyonce. . .there are many more.

V. TWO WORSHIP MOVEMENTS

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Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits and its width six cubits. He set it up... in the province of Babylon...King Nebuchadnezzar sent word to gather together the satraps, the administrators, the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up... and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Then a herald cried aloud: "To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages, that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace." So at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the horn, flute, harp, and lyre, in symphony with all kinds of music, all the people, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the gold image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. (Daniel 3:1-7)

A. There are only two worship movements in our time:

- 1.) ***The Antichrist Worship Movement:*** that will feed on perversion, death of babies, hyper sexualization of our culture, witchcraft, etc. All of these things are tied into this worship movement.
- 2.) ***Gods Prophetic Worshippers:*** There is the worship movement of the prophetic singers and songbirds God is releasing on the earth.

B. These two worship movements are related and they are both anointed. Prophetic singing. Demonic Singing. They are related and they are crashing in against each other.

C. Daniel 3 is a picture of the antichrist movement at the end of the age. Nebuchadnezzar builds a statue, gathers the nations, everyone together and commands that they are going to have a Worship Conference. This Worship Conference goes like this: when you hear the sound of the music, you will all bow down to worship the idol.

D. What happens is that they play the music and all the nations fall down in worship. This picture is when the demonic music would play they would bow down to the antichrist. And the nations fall subject to it.

E. This is happening today. With technology infiltrating the ears of many kids and adults they are able to hear it all day long. It's their cars, their mp3 players, malls and restaurants...it's everywhere, all of the time, in our ears.

F. Our ears are to be sanctified for hearing God's voice. ***"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."*** (Romans 10:17) Faith is the realm of ability and possibility of the kingdom of God to break into the realm of men. This is the realm of faith that comes from hearing.

G. They are not hearing Faith, but hearing to create satanic, demonic things to happen on the earth. That is what they're opening themselves up to.

H. This is what's happening today. It's a prayer movement. They are declaring, singing, repeating, feeling, and bowing to their leadership. It's a false prayer and worship movement.

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“Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.” (Daniel 3:13)

- I. These 3 guys stand tall and refuse to worship any other gods. In fury and rage the king commands them to come.
- J. The King says I'm going to play the music again. It's hard to get people to bow to an idol without the music. If you take away the music and hear, read and watch what these artists say and do, you would think they were insane. But the music is what enables us to worship the idol. The point is to worship the idol, but without the music you simply wouldn't buy into it. Without the invitation of the music culture you will not worship idols.
- K. So when the king calls the 3 guys to worship the idol, he doesn't do it without the music. He knows that **the vehicle to get them to worship the idol is the music**. So he goes to repeat the music again.
- L. It is absolutely essential that we avoid this evil movement and make quality decisions against it. We have to remove ourselves from the anti Christ worship movement that is taking place across the earth and give ourselves only to the prophetic worship movement anointed by the Holy Spirit.

VI. A PROPHETIC GENERATION

Satan is on hunt to capture our ears and to ultimately worship him. God is fighting for our attention and beckoning us to Him. God is jealous for our time and affections. He wants to partner with us on a deeper level than ever before. We must get a vision that goes beyond what we can “*get away with*”, and go deep in the things of God. We simply cannot afford any longer to waste our valuable; time, resources, energy and emotions on things that will not satisfy especially if they are demonically fueled. God put longings deep into our hearts to be fascinated with Him and Him alone and although we look and try to satisfy that ache in other places we will always come up short until our full joy and satisfaction comes from Him. He is the author of true pleasure. Psalm 16:11 says, “***You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.***” The pleasure that the world tries to exemplify pales in comparison to what God has. He is creator of real music and true fascination. The well that we as a prophetic generation draw from is vitally important. **We must be in the world, but not of it** as Paul says.

VII. OPPORATING IN OUR FULL DESTINY

“All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify.”
(1 Corinthians 10:23)

We can have the fullness of all God destined for us. We all desire this, it is in us before we were born, yet we settle for “less than”. Instead of low-grade fuel, let's put the highest quality fuel in us of the word, anointed Holy Spirit worship and highest praise. Let's edify ourselves and watch God bring forth the fullness of what He has for us.
