Christianity Under the Siege of Neopaganism

- America is the last bastion of Christianity in the world today, where methodological and careful study of the Scriptures reached its height.
- In spite of this grace given to the American believers, a fatal development brought down the church as an institution on the Northern American continent.

Post WWII conditions caused a Church megashift

- There are four factors that changed America and the Church forever after WWII.
 - 1. Industrial and technological supremacy
 - Unparalleled business and marketing success
 - 3. Hollywood
 - 4. The Hippie Revolution

The Church is not an industry, should not be run as a business, should not be tolerant with sin, and should not entertain!

- The industrial and technological supremacy caused pastors to adopt artificial church growth techniques.
- The prevalent business mindset in church life was implemented by business owners as they functioned as church board members.
- Hollywood entertains and creates entertainment dependency. The Church is part of the phenomenon, confusing the joy in the Lord, with fun.
- The Hippie leniency never left America, and the Church is no exception. As a result, sin is not confronted.

Industrial and technological progress is good, but should be influenced by ethics

- The church is the salt and the light of the Earth, therefore the influence should proceed from the church to the society, and not the other way around.
- Church leaders and seminary professors caved-in to the "wonders of science" and corporate mentality, abandoning Biblical principles as non-negotiables for personal and congregational life.
- The church is a spiritual family. It cannot be confused with a market economy!

Four myths Evangelicals love as they are immersed in the culture

- Myth # 1: Music is neutral and amoral
- Myth # 2: Movies, video games, and entertainment in general, do not affect Christians too much.
- Myth # 3: Pop culture cannot be avoided in personal and church life
- Myth # 4: Successful evangelism today requires the accommodation of the nonbelievers in the church at the expense of holiness and biblical standards

Why are these myths embraced today?

- We have to look at the last century of historical developments, which changed America and the Western world from a Christian-influenced society into a neopagan, post-Christian culture.
- The Roaring Twenties and the Hippie Revolution were the most significant events that affected the society first, and then the Church.

Unknowingly, Evangelicals from the U.S. exported a church life worldwide that looks like a corporation, runs like a business, adores Hollywood productions, and is morally flawed because of the underlining Hippie philosophy.

- The Roaring Twenties was the decade (1920-1930) in America when late teenage girls and young ladies rebelled against Christian morals. They shamelessly adopted immodest dressing, started smoking and drinking in public places, using cocaine, and committing acts of immorality.
- The <u>Hippie Revolution</u> was the final act of the Roaring Twenties against Christianity, where many young people rebelled not only against Christian morals but also Christian dogma, adopting Eastern Religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, and New Age.

- The Hippie Revolution succeeded to permeate the church, causing most of the churches in the United States to adopt neopaganism in the area of clothing, music, and lifestyle.
- In the following presentation we will investigate how things went wrong with the church at large, and what can be done about it.

What led to the Roaring Twenties in America?

- There were several factors, among which the following are the most important:
 - 1. The influence of the secular, libertine, French society upon the Americans (especially young nurses) while they were fighting WWI in Europe.
 - 2. "Scientific" approval for promiscuity promoted by Sigmund Freud. America just felt "liberated" from the Victorian era.
 - 3. Sudden economical prosperity, and the rise to prominence as a world power by winning WWI.
 - 4. Self-confidence and pride among the average citizen due to technological and economical advances.

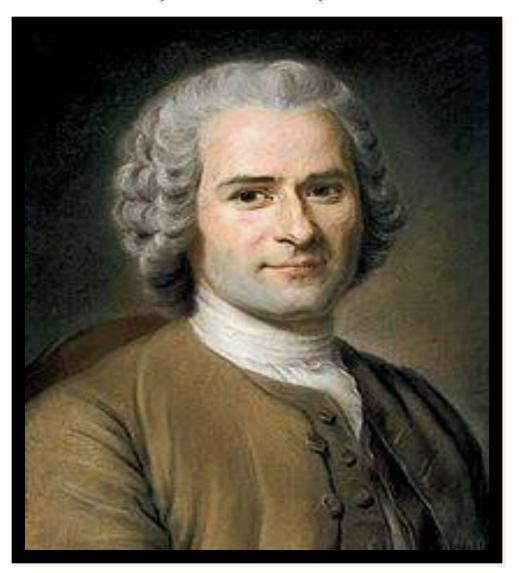
Why did France become the center of immorality and libertinism in Europe?

- The simple and clear answer is the French Revolution.
- The French Revolution of 1792 was the first anti-Christian revolution in the Church history.
- The French Revolution was a pre-meditated genocide against priests and devout Christians. At least 40,000 people were killed by beheading, torture and other gruesome means. <u>French Revolution details</u>
- The Russian Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 took all the clues from the French Revolution.
- The French Revolution, in a few years, changed France from a Christian nation to a secular, libertine and immoral one.

Who were the main actors of the French Revolution?

- There are two groups of people who made possible this ghastly event: the intellectuals and the revolutionaries.
 The intellectuals were Encyclopedists and philosophers.
 The revolutionaries were the actual players in the uprising. Most of the Encyclopedists lived much earlier than the French Revolution time.
 - 1. J.J Rousseau was a philosopher. He was a prideful, rebellious anarchist who wrecked his life. He had children with a servant, and later he committed his offspring to the orphanage. Afterwards, he had the audacity to write a book titled *Emil*, in which he counseled people how to raise their children.

Jean Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)



Who were the main actors of the French Revolution?

- 2. D. Diderot lived a promiscuous life in his youth. He was an atheist philosopher and general editor for a huge science dictionary called the *Encyclopedia*. Through his work, Diderot facilitated for all Christianity haters of his era to make their voices heard. He created an anti-Christian opinion in France.
- 3. Voltaire was an atheist philosopher, one of the most arrogant men who ever lived. He was an archenemy of Christianity. He constantly battled the Christian faith.

Denis Diderot

(1713 - 1784)



Voltaire

(1694 –1778)

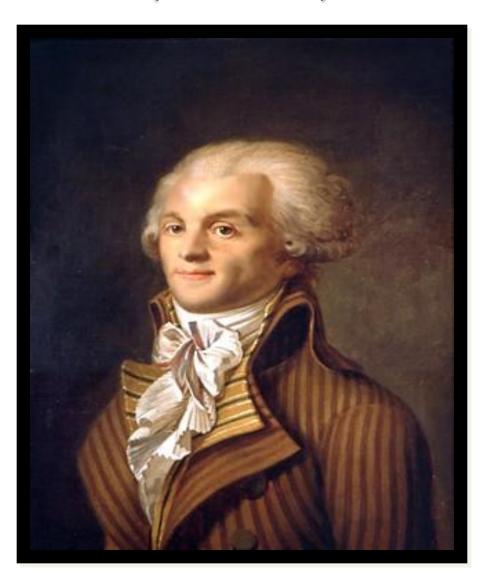


Who were the main actors of the French Revolution?

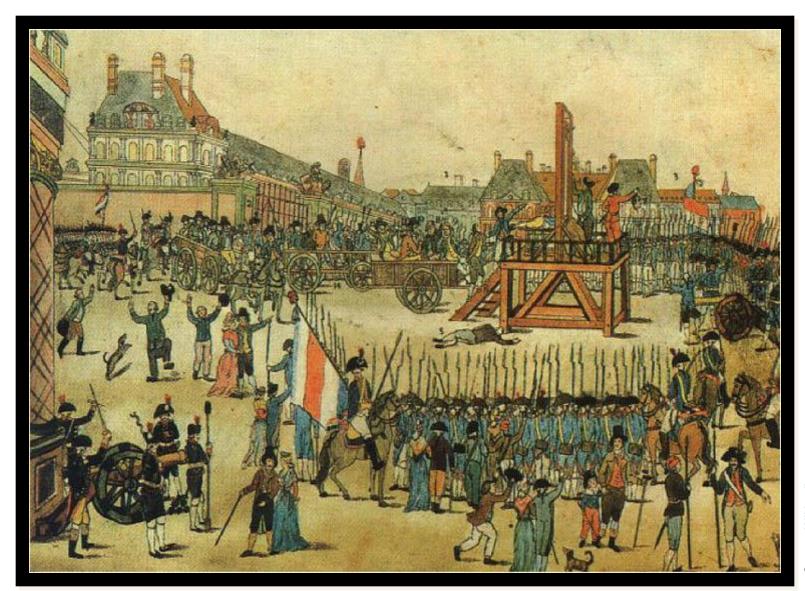
- For our purpose here, we will mention only two people who took active part in the revolution, but who are representatives for the rest:
 - 1. Maximilien Robespierre
 - 2. Marquis de Sade
- Maximilien Robespierre was a fanatic and a merciless criminal, the head of the French Revolution. He condemned numberless people to death, and then he himself was beheaded by his comrades.

Maximilien Robespierre

(1758-1794)



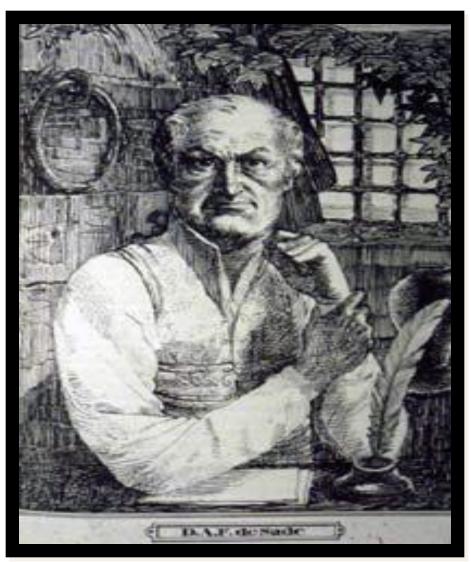
Robespierre's beheading -1794



Who were the main actors of the French Revolution?

 Marquis de Sade has been viewed as the greatest incarnation of evil that ever lived. Despite his noble birth, he supported the French Revolution, which he saw as representing political liberation on a level parallel to the sexual liberation he himself represented. He was a sexual pervert who wrote pornographic narratives, and who tortured his prostitutes. The term sadistic/sadism is derived from his name. He was one of the forefathers of the sexual revolution.

Marquis de Sade (1740–1814)



A woman was enthroned as the goddess of reason, instead of God, in the Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris during the French Revolution



The French Revolution Exposed

- For centuries, the French society and atheist or ignorant professors of history throughout the world, declared the French Revolution as a very positive development.
- Yet in the last few years, the truth came to light through the work of an eminent historian, Pierre Chaunu. He, along with other co-authors documented the genocide, tortures, rapes, and sadistic murders committed by the French revolutionaries.

LE LIVRE NOIR **DE LA** RÉVOLUTION FRANÇAISE

Book of the French Revolution by Pierre Chaunu, **Emeritus professor of** history at Sorbonne University. Ouest-France

The Black



WWI was a turning point for the history of the United States. The nation came out a <u>winner</u> and as a world power

WWI

- Although America came out as a victor in war, and as an industrial power in the post-war era, from the point of view of Christianity and morals, it was the beginning of the end.
- The <u>American nurses</u> who accompanied the troops in Europe, adopted loose morals and immodest clothing from France.

The French fashion in America

- The godlessness enforced by the French Revolution over time, created an environment in France for immodesty and loose morals.
- Two prominent <u>French fashion</u> designers are worth mentioning in relation to American immoral fashion after WWI:
 - Gabrielle Bonheur "Coco" Chanel (1883-1971)
 - Paul Poiret (1879-1944)

The 1920 decade and accelerated economical growth

- The <u>1920s</u> are known as the *Coolidge years*, after the name of John Calvin Coolidge, 30th president of the United States.
- During his presidency, he restricted the involvement of government in the economy, promoting Laissez-faire (*leave it alone*) economical policies.
- America became a materialistic and consumerist society, eager for sinful escapades. <u>Technological innovations</u> made sin more accessible. The <u>phonograph</u> brought Jazz in American homes.

Ford T-Model 1920s



1920s Architecture

The society developed to such an extent that the 1920s came up with its own distinctive style.

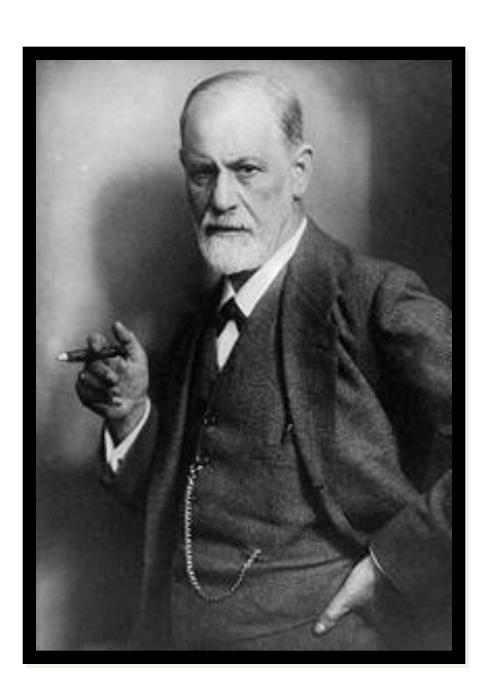
Building in Portland, OR Building in Chicago, IL

Freud the occult sexual maniac

- Sigmund Freud is directly responsible for the downfall of the American society in the 1920s. He can be called the father of the sexual revolution.
- Freud was obsessed with sex, and he came up with psychological constructs that encouraged immorality. His views were widely accepted because the world was waiting for a "scientific" excuse to openly commit sexual sins.
- His "inspiration" came from an avid study of false religions, although he was an atheist. His <u>desk</u> was full of amulets and idols collected from all over the world.

Freud the occult sexual maniac

- His perversions such as: all people have incestuous desires, or controlling sexual drives is detrimental for your psyche, gained wide acceptance first in Europe and then in America.
- When the promiscuity of the 1920s burst out, especially among teenage young ladies, Freudian aberrations were already part of the common culture of the day. The result was a new breed of young ladies called *flappers*.



Sigmund Freud (1856 -1939)

The third Great Awakening

- Decades before the French immodesty and Freudian ideas made it to the U.S., the nation experienced the third Great Awakening, especially through the preaching of D.L. Moody and the singing of Ira Sankey.
- The American society at large was very conservative and the <u>Victorian</u> <u>fashion</u> was the norm.

Moody and evangelistic crusades

- It is crucially important to notice in this presentation the fact that big crusades were not started by Billy Graham and Greg Laurie.
 D.L. Moody had 20,000 people in the audience for his crusades.
- Although he was totally for the success of the evangelistic campaign, he never employed ragtime music (the pre-jazz genre) as a way to attract non-believers. Ragtime music was very popular for saloons, parties, and dancing at that time.
- Today, evangelical crusades and churches indiscriminately use rock music to attract crowds. The result is worldliness and apostasy in the church, as we shall see later.

D.L. Moody (1837-1899)



Source: Wikipedia

FLAPPERS

As we saw, Freudian ideas coupled with immodest French fashion trends, brought about the new class of young ladies called <u>flappers</u>.

They were <u>brazen sinners</u>, living just for parties and even committing acts of immorality in cars.

Speakeasy 1920s

A <u>speakeasy</u> was an illegal place for drinking alcohol. During 1920-1933 the U.S. government implemented an alcohol prohibition law known as *The Noble Experiment*.

Flappers were always present in speakeasies.

Jazz its Western African roots

- Jazz is closely related to Ragtime music. Both styles have Western African roots. It is syncopated music. In the 1800s, America experienced a great influx of slaves imported from Western Africa who brought with them their ritualistic, religious voodoo music, syncopated in nature.
- Brothels and saloons employed Ragtime and Jazz music with these occult origins.
- Jazz took over America, but it did not make it into the church back then.

Syncopation does not occur often in music, but, when it becomes predominant, as in Jazz, Pop, and Rock, it destroys the music and creates an addictive, evil genre

- "Syncopation is, very simply, a deliberate disruption of the two- or threebeat stress pattern, most often by stressing an off-beat, or a note that is not on the beat."
- Syncopation is a general term for a disturbance or interruption of the regular flow of rhythm; a placement of rhythmic stresses or accents where they wouldn't normally occur.
- Syncopation is used in many musical styles, and is fundamental in such styles as funk, ska, reggae, ragtime, rap, jump blues, progressive electronic dance music progressive rock, jazz, breakbeat and dubstep. "All dance music makes use of [syncopation] and it's often a vital element that helps tie the whole track together".

In the form of a back beat, syncopation is used in virtually all contemporary popular music.

Jazz and an expert evaluation of the time

- Anne Shaw Faulkner, National Music Chairman of the General Federation of Women's Clubs wrote:
- "Does Jazz put the Sin in Syncopation?" Published in Ladies'
 Home Journal in 1921, the article soundly condemned jazz music as
 "an unmitigated cacophony, a combination of disagreeable sounds in
 complicated discords, a willful ugliness and a deliberate vulgarity."
 She continued,
- "America is facing a most serious situation regarding its popular music. Welfare workers tell us that never in the history of our land have there been such immoral conditions among our young people, and in the surveys made by many organizations regarding these conditions, the blame is laid on jazz music ... Never before have such outrageous dances been permitted in private as well as public ballrooms, and never has there been used for the accompaniment of the dance such a strange combination of tone and rhythm as that produced by the dance orchestras of today." Jazz Age website

Jazz, Charleston and Swing

- Jazz is a music that creates superficiality, the urge for parties and lewdness.
- Jazz music produced different <u>sexy dances</u> like the *Charleston*, *Foxtrot*, and *Swing*. The flappers used their short skirts as an occasion to show more skin and be more provoking when they danced the *Charleston* or *Swing*. Flappers who liked syncopated music and dancing were known as <u>Jazz Babies</u>.
- In the 1920s, America experienced a dance craze, which alone proves the depths of the social decay. Sometimes they held dance contests, where couples would go dancing from one city to another.

The Great Depression & Great Drought

- God put a temporary end to the sin, materialism, and consumerism of America by bringing about the <u>Great Depression</u>, followed by a <u>great</u> <u>drought</u>.
- Historians most often attribute the start of the Great Depression to the sudden and total collapse of the U.S. stock market on October 29, 1929, known as Black Tuesday.
- In one day, the luxuries, brazen sin, dances, and material commodities were <u>gone</u>. The flappers and their partners became <u>beggars</u> at the <u>soup</u> <u>kitchens</u>.

WWII and the Aftermath

- <u>WWII</u> was the event that brought America to supremacy economically, politically, and militarily.
- Many people who went through the Great Depression were also <u>fighting</u> in WWII. Although they experienced the greatest challenges of their lives, they did not renounce the sins of the 1920s.
- People who made it back from war gave birth to a new generation of spoiled, arrogant children called the "Baby Boomers".

The 1950s

- The 1950 decade was identical with the 1920s in many respects. Both decades followed the world wars. Both eras were marked by rapid scientific and <u>industrial growth</u>. The youth rebelled both times.
- Back in the 20s, the radio was the main attraction. In the 50s, <u>television</u> took over the family. The roles of the mother and father were substituted by the <u>TV programs</u>.
- The 50s was a time of population growth called the "Baby Boomers "era. <u>Families</u> had between 5 and 8 kids.

The 1950s

- During the 50s, children received excessive food, clothing and toys, because their parents experienced the Great Depression and war, and vowed that their children will not face the same predicament.
- The result was a class of people saturated with goods, who sought to experience anything else but what their parents offered them. First they turned to the sexy R&B music and the frenzy rhythm of <u>Elvis</u> <u>Presley</u>. Later they forged their own identity as the Hippie Movement.

Rhythm & Blues (R&B) Music

- R&B was developed by the mass migration of African Americans during World War II. They were singing about their past experiences which was bound to be quite "blue".
- In its beginnings, R&B was based on gospel and blues. Then in the 50's, a "doo-wop" vibe was introduced into R&B songs, perverting the music and most often making it sexy and rebellious.
- R&B music prepared the way for other forms of Rock and occult music

R&B singers

- <u>James Brown</u> (1933 2006)
- <u>Little Richard</u> (1932 present)

Hollywood - the source of sin for America, Church, and the world

- Hollywood is the grand illusion which feeds America's minds. After WWII Hollywood turned into a global enterprise, and the Church became one of the most devoted consumer of its productions.
- Hollywood is part of the very psyche of most Americans.
- Hollywood creates a need for entertainment.
- Hollywood injects hedonism and sin at a comfortable rate.

Hollywood - the source of sin for America, Church, and the world

- Many pastors act like Hollywood stars.
- The average Church service is very much a Hollywood production.
- Pastors and theology professors, at times express themselves in Hollywood slogans as they deal with sacred text.
- In many instances, Sunday evening service was replaced with Sunday night movie going. Young evangelicals crowd theatres around the country on Sunday nights.

Wilhelm Reich & Alfred Kinsey- preparing the sexual revolution of the 60s and 70s

- Wilhelm Reich (1897-1957) and Alfred Kinsey (1894-1956)
 created a momentum for the sexual revolution of the
 hippie movement, independent of each other.
- Alfred Kinsey was a zoologist turned into a sexologist by the mass media and himself. He pretended America, including her doctors did not know what sexuality was, so he started a whole campaign of verbal pornography called "the Kinsey Report". He received funding from the Rockefeller Foundation for his perversions. He was abominable, guilty of a great number of child sexual abuses. Watch this link:

Kinsey Coverup

He was a devoted follower of the Satanist Aleister Crowley.

Wilhelm Reich

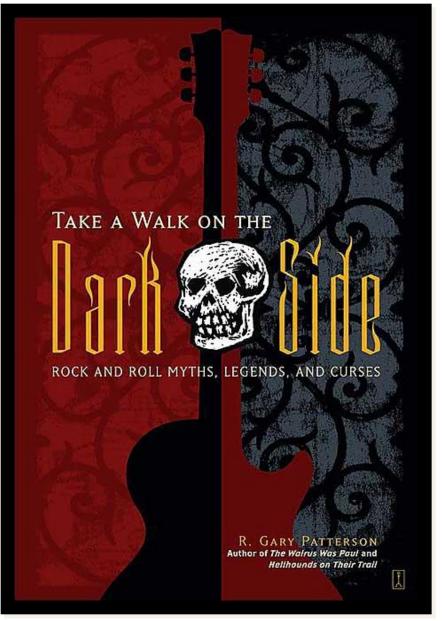
 Wilhelm Reich was a disciple of Sigmund Freud. He wrote a book titled Sexual Revolution. He was one of the greatest sex addicts ever. Reich died insane in prison. His writings were known and appreciated by the hippies.

Aleister Crowley-the Greatest Satanist of the 20th Century

- Aleister Crowley (1875-1947) came from a Christian family of Plymouth Brethren background. Since his childhood, he manifested a devilish behavior. His mother called him the "great beast".
- He founded the occult religion Thelema.
- He influenced all the Satanist and occult groups after him until today.
- Jimmy Page, lead guitarist of Led Zeppelin, bought Crowley's house in Scotland.

Life in the '50s

- Parties
- Music that started in the 50s
- Movies
- Marilyn Monroe (1926 1962) the female sex symbol of the 50s and the one who boosted the pornographic industry



This book reveals the truth about the occult origins of Rock music by a foremost authority on the subject, R. Gary Patterson.

The Satanic nature of Rock music

- Author Gary Patterson, a non-christian critique of rock music, fully provides factual information about how Robert Johnson (1911-1938), the grandfather of Rock music made a pact with Satan, to enable him to become a guitar celebrity.
- Robert Johnson's example was followed by many bands such as Led Zeppelin and the Rolling Stones.
- The Satanist roots of Rock music are found in its Western African, occult, ritualistic, syncopated rhythm.

Robert Johnson

- Many of Robert Johnson's songs are about the Devil.
 - 1. Me and the Devil Blues
 - Hellhound on my Trail
 - 3. Preaching Blues (Up Jumped the Devil)
- Elvis Presley, Led Zeppelin, and Rolling Stones all revered Robert Johnson and claimed him as their inspiration.

Elvis Presley

- Elvis Presley (1935-1977) was not just a singer, but a <u>phenomenon</u>. He changed the culture of America and the world for the worst. Elvis was the white man with a black heart, meaning he had the ethos of a black man. He was totally familiar with the black culture as he lived in Mississippi and Memphis, Tennessee.
- He promoted what was bad from the black culture. On the other hand, there is a whole array of Gospel songs dominated by suffering coming from the black culture, which have an unparalleled value.
- Presley created his own style of music adding to the syncopation and belly dance at an aggravated rhythm. That caused mass hysteria among white female admirers.

Elvis Presley the occultist

- His wild music paved the way for occult bands like Led Zeppelin and Rolling Stones.
- Elvis did not believe the Bible in any traditional sense... Elvis constructed "a personalized religion out of what he'd read of Hinduism, Judaism, numerology, theosophy, mind control, positive thinking and Christianity."
- The night he died, he was reading the book Sex and Psychic Energy. (Hungry for Heaven, p. 143)
- Elvis traveled with a portable bookcase containing over 200
 volumes of his favorite books. The books most commonly
 associated with him were books promoting pagan religion, such as
 The Prophet by Kahilil Gibran and Autobiography of a Yogi by
 Yogananda and so on....
- Presley was a womanizer and a drug prescription addict. He died of drug overdose. In spite of all this evidence, many Evangelicals in the U.S. still adore him.

Rock music was the spearhead as the Pop Culture invaded the Church

- Elvis Presley made Gospel songs part of his repertoire. The Church took it as a good thing, but along with that, Evangelicals accepted his Rock 'n Roll.
- With Rock 'n Roll all the sin and evils of the Pop Culture made their way into the Church. Moreover, the Church came up with its own version of "Christian Rock" music.
- No church ever remained the same after "Christian Rock" music was assimilated in its services and in the private life of the church members.
- "Christian Rock" music and Pop Culture are the two greatest evils ever, which brought about havoc into the contemporary Evangelical church.

The Beatles

- After Elvis Presley prepared the way for rock music, the <u>Beatles</u> made it to America. Their performance here was called "the British invasion". Hippies were more encouraged in their pursuit of Eastern religions and drug consumption by the "British invasion".
- One of the Beatles, John Lennon and his wife Yoko Ono, were notorious occultists. They bought whole shelves of esoteric books from the stores.
- The Beatles regularly took drugs.
- This <u>album</u> brought America to drugs.

The Beatles

• The Beatles' rebellion against the God of the Bible goes back to their early years for most of them! For instance, John Lennon was taken to Sunday School by his Aunt Mimi. He even sang in the choir. But, by age 11, John was permanently barred from Sunday services in his aunt's Anglican church because he "repeatedly improvised obscene and impious lyrics to the hymns." (Rock Lives; p. 114). He did things even cruder and viler than that, such as urinate on members of the "clergy" from second floor window. Later, the Beatles lead the way for many Americans into pagan religion with visits to Guru Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. details on Beatles music

John Lennon created a furor in 1966 when he claimed, "We're more popular than Jesus now." He went on to say, "Christianity will go, it will vanish and shrink. I needn't argue about that. I'm right and will be proved right." (Newsweek, March 21, 1966).

logo_resource_pages

The Hippie Movement

- The <u>hippies</u> completely rebelled against Christianity. They hated any authority that was Christian in nature. This is why they had problems with the parents, church, schools, and government, because America was still a nation under God, as the Pledge of Allegiance states.
- They became <u>nomadic and filthy</u>, both physically and morally. They embraced Hinduism and any type of philosophy that was anti-Christian.
- Many American churches today are permissive, because the spirit of the hippie movement did not completely die in the minds of the pastors and believers alike.

Woodstock concert- hippie wickedness (1969)

 One of the highlights of the Hippie movement was <u>Woodstock Concert</u>. At the concert there were present 340,000 hippies and sympathizers. The whole phenomenon turned out to be a landmark of mass debauchery.

The Hippie Movement

 After awhile the hippies abandoned their homeless behavior and started to study hard. They gradually took over teaching positions in universities, and school systems. Today, many schools are anti-Christian because the professors are former hippies. Universities are no exception. They are the hotbed for any immorality and atheist ideologies.

Secular Rock Bands

- <u>Led Zeppelin</u> (1968-1980)
- The Rolling Stones (1962-present)
- Goat's Head Soup album Rolling
 Stones (a gruesome Satanist symbol)
- Metallica (1981-present)
- Slayer (1981-present)
- Slayer's Satanic pentagram, one of their band symbols

The Gangsta Bands

• Gangsta rap is a subgenre of hip hop that reflects the violent lifestyles of inner-city youths. Gangsta is a non-rhotic pronunciation of the word gangster. The genre was pioneered in the mid 1980s by rappers such as Schooly D and Ice T, and was popularized in the later part of the 1980s by groups like N.W.A. After the national attention that Ice-T and N.W.A created in the late 1980s and early 1990s, gangsta rap became the most commercially lucrative subgenre of hip hop. The subject matter inherent in gangsta rap has caused a great deal of controversy.

Criticism has come from both left wing and right wing commentators, and religious leaders, who have accused the genre of promoting violence, profanity, sex, racism, promiscuity, misogyny, rape, street gangs, drive-by shootings, vandalism, thievery, drug dealing, alcohol abuse, substance abuse and materialism

Gangsta Rap Singers

- <u>Eminem</u> (born 1972)
- <u>50 Cent</u> (born 1975)
- Snoop Dogg (born 1971)

"Christian Rock"

- After we traced out the origins of pop and rock music, with their occult and immoral elements, the readers should have enough evidence for rejecting rock, and Christian rock altogether.
- Christian rock promotes hidden rebellion, arrogance, and worldliness among believers, including the desire to listen to secular rock.
- Christian rock is the greatest problem of the American churches today.
- Christian rock is a contradiction in terms

Is music neutral?

- The Bible affirms that music is not neutral, but exerts a great influence: "Even things without life, whether flute or harp, when they make a sound, unless they make a distinction in the sounds, how will it be known what is piped or played? For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare for battle?" (1 Cor. 14:7-8)
- Musicologist Julius Portnoy found that not only can music, "change metabolism, affect muscular energy, raise or lower blood pressure, and influence digestion," but "It may be able to do all these things more successfully ... than any other stimulants that produce those changes in our bodies." (Tame, David, The Secret Power of Music, p. 138).

Is music neutral?

- Clinical researchers at the U.C.L.A. School of Nursing in Los Angeles, and at Georgia Baptist Medical Center in Atlanta, found that premature babies gained weight faster and were able to use oxygen more efficiently when they listened to soothing music.
- At Baltimore's St. Agnes Hospital, classical music was provided in the critical-care units. "Half an hour of music produced the same effect as ten milligrams of Valium," says Dr. Raymond Bahr, head of the coronary-care unit.

 If all musical styles are neutral, WHY DOES ONE OF THE FOREMOST EXPERTS IN DRUMMING CLAIM THAT CERTAIN RHYTHMS CAN ALTER THE STATE OF ONE'S CONSCIOUSNESS?

Mickey Hart, drummer for the *Grateful Dead*, has traveled the world researching the power of drums. In his book *Drumming at the Edge of Magic* he observes: "Everywhere you look on the planet people are USING DRUMS TO ALTER

CONSCIOUSNESS. ... I've discovered, along with many others, the extraordinary power of music, particularly percussion, to influence the human mind and body. . . . There have been many times when I've felt as if the drum has carried me to an open door into another world."

Why does Hart say this? Because he knows that music is not neutral, that certain music and certain rhythms produce certain results, that music is a language.

- "Rock music is sex. The big beat matches the body's rhythms" (Frank Zappa of the Mothers of Invention, Life, June 28, 1968).
- "That's what rock is all about--sex with a 100 megaton bomb, the beat!" (Gene Simmons of the rock group Kiss, interview, Entertainment Tonight, ABC, Dec. 10, 1987).
- If all musical styles are neutral, WHY DID JIMI HENDRIX, ONE OF THE FOREMOST EXPERTS IN ROCK RHYTHMS, CLAIM THAT CERTAIN MUSIC CREATES A CERTAIN ATMOSPHERE? "Atmospheres are going to come through music, because the music is a spiritual thing of its own" (Jimi Hendrix, rock star, *Life*, Oct. 3, 1969).
- "Rock 'n' roll is pagan and primitive, and very jungle, and that's how it should be!" (Malcolm McLaren, punk rock manager, Rock, August 1983).

- Rapper Missy Elliot's 3rd album, "Miss E ... So Addictive," is described as "a seductive cocktail of quirky rhythms and hypnotic beats."
- The blues music (predecessor to rock and roll) that was played in Gayoso brothels in Memphis, Tennessee, in the early part of the 20th century is described as "sexually syncopated sounds" (Larry Nager, Memphis Beat: The lives and Times of America's Musical Crossroads).
- If all musical styles are neutral, WHY DID THE 1960S LSD NEW AGE GURU TIMOTHY LEARY SAY, "DON'T LISTEN TO THE WORDS, IT'S THE MUSIC THAT HAS ITS OWN MESSAGE" (Leary, *Politics of Ecstasy*). Leary said this because he knew that music is a language.

 "Rock and roll aims for liberation and transcendence, EROTICIZING THE SPIRITUAL AND SPIRITUALIZING THE EROTIC, because that is its ecumenical birthright" (Robert Palmer, Rock & Roll an Unruly History). Christian Rock Groups are no different from their secular counterparts. The same stands true for churches with contemporary worship. Watch these videos:

Skillet Christian Rock Band

Audio Adrenaline Supertones "Blitz" Live
at Harvest Crusade

"Christian Rock Bands"

- Switchfoot (1996 present)
- P.O.D. (1992- present)

PSALM 1

- ¹ Blessed *is* the man
 - Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
 - Nor stands in the path of sinners,
 - Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
 - ² But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.
 - ³ He shall be like a tree
 - Planted by the rivers of water,
 - That brings forth its fruit in its season,
 - Whose leaf also shall not wither;
 - And whatever he does shall prosper.

PSALM 1

- Psalm 1 is the introduction for the whole book of Psalms. It sets a pattern of how believers live in the world.
- The structure is very simple. First it tells what the believer doesn't do (verse 1). Then it says what the believer does (verse 2).
- The believer does not participate in the sin and cultural affairs of this world. On the other hand the believer is delighted with the world of God and is not in need for the world's offers of entertainment.

How can you protect your family and church against neopaganism?

If we are going to apply the teaching of Psalm 1, we will take radical actions against corrupting sources of the world. Here are some basic guidelines:

- No listening to "Christian Rock" music and related genre. You can listen to music similar to this: Steve Pettit Team Music
- No TV unless you want to be careless about your sanctification.
- No movies, with some rare exceptions, unless you want to acquire a godless, humanist mentality.
- Careful computer use for the whole family, meaning no roaming the cyberspace aimlessly. Pornography is the main addiction for purposeless internet users.
- Screen your children's entourage. You as parents should decide who is going to befriend your children, not others.
- No parties, but fellowship in the Word and engaging in acts of charity.
- **Dressing modestly should be standard** for the whole family (1 Tim. 2:9). It's time to show that the Christian community is setting an example for the world.

How can you protect your family and church against neopaganism?

- Psalm 1 also shows positive things happening in the life of the believer. At the center is the Word of God. Here are some foundational things for every believing household:
- Family Bible study at the highest level so that family members will be delighted in the Word of God
- Reflection on the Word, and then <u>critically</u> comparing everything in the world with the Biblical standards.
- Understanding the specific will of God for you and your family and applying it.

Resources for the family

- MacArthur Study Bible
- Institute for Creation Research
- Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics by Norman Geisler
- Lighthouse Trails Research
- Discovery Institute
- Steve Pettit Team Music
- Saints Serving Hymns
- Appraising Ministries
- Let Us Reason Ministries
- Al Mohler Blog

A Final Word

"He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

(Revelation 22:11)