



THE GLAMUOR OF MUSIC



Dear Reader,

It is my humble prayer that what is written in this article to help you grow spiritually as a faithful Christian. I purposed to tackle one of the types of media, because media has and always will have a great influence over the lives of many. Media in definition is the various means of communication. Nowadays it's evident that whoever controls the media controls the world. It is a powerful tool especially in this generation and affects every single person exposed to it. I also intend to familiarize you with the Bible. Let us deal with the truth and nothing else. Keep in mind that the truth is always the truth.

Yours Sincerely,
Citizen of Heaven.

NB: A Bible will come in handy as we journey across this message of truth.

Before we go to the depths on the issue let's get to understand as to why I saw it best to come up with matters related to the media.

It all starts from the book of [Revelations 7:1-3](#) where an angel with the seal of the Living God ([Jeremiah 10:10-12](#) reveals who is the Living God) holds back destruction from coming to earth and this is until the seal is put on the foreheads of the servants of God. This means that those sealed on the foreheads will be protected when the calamity strikes the world ([Proverbs 1:27](#) explains results when calamity strikes).

Why is the seal put specifically on the forehead? Neurosurgeons agree that in the forehead there exist the frontal lobe of the brain where reasoning, judgment and character formation takes place.

If so then what is this that God wants to be sealed on the forehead? God desires to seal the law (His instructions) in our reasoning, judgment and character as shown in [Isaiah 8:16](#).

Then what does this law have to do with us? Firstly, we will find delight in God if we have the law in us and find no delight in things of this world ([Psalm 40:8](#)). Secondly, by having the law concealed in our character we will have the truth in us ([Psalm 119:142](#))

What is contained in this truth? Jesus claims in [John 14:6](#) that He is the truth. If we have the truth then we have Him and are like Him. But we have to be careful because [John 8:44](#) clearly exposes the 'enemy' who uses deception to hold back Christians from getting the truth.

Music does well in aiding the 'enemy' in winning many to his kingdom. And this occurs due to the majority of Christians lacking knowledge of the truth which leads to their destruction ([Hosea 4:6](#)).

Music is a critical entity that the 'enemy' uses to devour easily his targets because it is a language to the soul.

WHY IS MUSIC A LANGUAGE TO THE SOUL?

To answer this then we need a clear definition of man, to whom the music influences. [1 Thessalonians 5:23](#) identifies man as being a spirit with a soul living in a body. The three of this identities are made up of three aspects in each.

A. The Spirit

It is made up of;

- ❖ *Conscience* ([Acts 17:16](#)) – This helps man distinguish right from wrong but not through the influence of knowledge initially stored but by spontaneous direct judgment.
- ❖ *Intuition* ([Mark 2:8](#)) – This is the direct sensing, independent of any outside influence. It helps Believers to know God's revelations and movements of the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ *Communion* ([Luke 1:47](#)) – This is plainly worshiping God.

Through the spirit God regenerates us, teaches us and leads us into His rest.

B. The Soul

This is the identity of concern when it comes to this topic and very critical. It is made up of;

- ❖ *Will* ([Deuteronomy 21:14](#)) – This is the instrument for our decisions revealing our power to choose and express our willingness or unwillingness.
- ❖ *Mind* ([Proverbs 2:10](#)) – It's the instrument for thoughts and manifests our intellectual power. Out of it arises wisdom, knowledge and reasoning.
- ❖ *Emotions* ([Deuteronomy 6:5](#)) – It's our instrument for our likes and dislikes and helps us to express love or hate and to be joyful, angry, sad, happy etc.

C. Body

Biologically the body contains *Blood, Flesh* and *Bones*.

With such knowledge we can now agree that music is a language to the soul. This can be traced when you get to listen to a random music only once and happen to love it. Yes! It becomes easy for you to recall the beats and even the lyrics quite easily than when you attend a lecture and you can barely phrase what the speaker said. This things happen unconsciously and really hard to notice due to ignorance.

When God intends to give His instructions to us. He does so through our spirit. The message is passed to the soul where it's analyzed and transmitted to the body. If by chance your soul is corrupt then the body has no option but to comply therefore this becomes very dangerous. This is why we need to constantly guard our souls with the word of God since it's a very effective spot where the 'enemy' strikes.

MUSIC

- ▲ As a Christian is it wrong to listen to secular music?
- ▲ Where do I get to draw the line between true Christian music and contemporary religious music?
- ▲ How do I get to know the right Gospel music to listen to?
- ▲ Is it okay for a Gospel artiste to do a collaboration with a secular artiste?
- ▲ What is the difference between worship and praise?

This is just a glimpse of the FAQ's people, mostly Christians, ask of which I pitched on to tackle them. I presume that by the end of this you will have gotten satisfactory answers to most questions.

What is music? It is an art of sound in time that expresses ideas/message and emotions in significant forms through the elements of rhythm, melody, harmony and color. Music is vocal or instrumental sound or both combined ([Psalm 98:5](#)).

Music is the most used type of media and can be located in the other forms of media hence its vast growth and dependency in mass influence. Why say so? Be keen and you will definitely identify music in advertisements, movies, clips, news headlines, as ringtones, games and even to the extent the lyrics being written on magazines and newspapers.

FACTS ABOUT MUSIC

- ⌘ Music pre-existed creation ([Job 38:7](#))
- ⌘ Music was made for use in the spiritual realm ([Revelations 5:11-12](#) & [Luke 2:13](#) record angels singing) and the physical realm.
- ⌘ God is a musical God and He enjoys music ([Zephaniah 3:17](#)). This means music is spiritual.
- ⌘ There is a kind of music that will either draw God's presence or an evil spirit's presence into your life.
- ⌘ Music affects both the physical realm ([Acts 16:25-26](#)) and the spiritual realm ([1 Samuel 16:23](#))

The believe that Lucifer was a worship leader as some Christians interpret this in [Ezekiel 28:13](#) does not have anything to do with why music is hazardous in luring Christians to his kingdom. Reason being, God created music for His own glory. None the less, whether Satan was a worship leader or not, music is critical in every Christian's life.

We can't do away with music neither can we embrace any and everything we come across in the name of music. This then leaves us with no option but to explore the Scriptures to bring to trial the various types of songs we listen to. Here is the tests mandatory to consider before embracing a song.

TEST THE MUSICIAN

To be able to comfortably relate with Godly music we need to analyze the musician. The following are guidelines in doing so;

Is he/she an entertainer or a minister?

During the Old Testament days musicians were well equipped with the skills required in ministering through Godly music. They were isolated and well trained so as to bring forth songs worth to praise and worship God ([1 Chronicles 25:1-8](#)). In order to welcome the presence of God the praise and worship was done only by musicians who were Levites. This qualification to serve God made them be like priests. The work of priests was to serve the people and not to entertain them ([2 Chronicles 5:12-13](#)).

Is he/she a recent convert?

If the musician was a secular artiste and becomes a born again, he/she should sit under instructions and teaching for a period of time before venturing into Gospel. This applies to ministers of God's word in [1 Timothy 3:6-7](#) of which, Gospel artistes' main role is to minister through music.

What is the musician's character?

The messenger and the message are inextricable in that the messenger's livelihood and faith gives credibility to the message. [1 Timothy 4:12](#) teaches us to set an example in what we do.

What is his/her motivation?

The motivation of the musician should be after God's own heart and not for fame or money. Getting to answer this questions will direct you to the musician's motivation;

- ◆ Does the musician insist you pay them before they present themselves for a certain venue?
- ◆ Do they mention their names as part of their lyrics?
- ◆ Do they lead a celebrity lifestyle? (Celebrity lifestyle promotes the worldly system)
- ◆ Do they rank themselves e.g. as upcoming artistes or as the best Gospel artistes as compared to other artistes?

Fanny Crosby was the most prolific hymn writer. She wrote almost 9000 hymns and used different pen names with an aim of God receiving all the glory rather than herself. Even after her demise we continue to sing her hymns to glorify God and to draw many towards Him.

There must be a clear distinction between Gospel and secular artistes. Nowadays it's normal when a Gospel artistes invades secular gatherings to entertain. It's by this principle that is in [2 Corinthians 6:14-17](#) against unequal yoking that is violated when such Gospel musicians does a collaboration with secular artistes.

TEST THE MESSAGE

When any music is sang it must reflect the truth of the Gospel.

Most Gospel musicians, like most preachers, pass only messages which their audiences enjoy listening to and end up drifting away from God's word. Messages like richness and blessings lure many into listening to their songs, eventually end up to corrupting the

main intention of the song. The main intention being to bring glory to God by praising and worshiping Him.

The songs also must be audible and clear. This aids the listener to understand the purpose of the song. You cannot love what you cannot understand but if you do, then you have deceived yourself. The video of the song must be free from seductive dancing, dress code or display of wealth in a bragging manner.

Most Christian youths use David's act of dancing as sugarcoat to the kind of dancing done in church and end up being lost in the worldly concept of dance. They justify this from [2 Samuel 6:16](#). Get this; Comparing David's dancing with contemporary Christian dancing reveals startling contrasts such as;

- What he did was shameful to his wife who saw him as a king yet it was honorable to David than his title.
- It was spontaneous. He didn't rehearse over many weeks.
- It happened once and was not part of the praise and worship program.
- It happened only when the Spirit of God fell on David (It wasn't due to his talent to dance)

Ungodly music brings rapid and radical changes when it enters a Christian's life, home and church. It's upheld and accompanied by a philosophy of tolerance and compromise that eventually reaches to all areas of the Christian's experience. It also brings an entertainment culture in the church that cheapens the Gospel and the result is a bunch of young Christians who can't stand when faced with temptations.

In supposition as a person, whatever you display to the world reveals whom you serve. And as a Christian you cannot serve two masters at a go as instructed in [Matthew 6:24](#). This is where you draw the line and resist secular music and ungodly Gospel music meant to push you further from glorifying God.

Here is a question checklist that will come in handy as you review the kind of music you have in your playlist;

- Does the music communicate in ungodly message e.g. illicit sex, drugs, violence, love and pursuit of money? ([Romans 12:2](#) & [1 John 2:15-17](#))*
- What does your support for that music say to unbelievers? Or rather, how are you being a good example to the world as a Christian by listening to the song? ([Matthew 5:14-16](#))*
- Is the music hindering your spiritual growth?*
- Is the music negatively influencing other Christians around you? ([1 Corinthians 8:13](#))* The secular music you are listening to might not affect you spiritually but it will to the people around you who look up to you as a role model.
- What is your spirit telling you about the music? Does it give you a feeling of 'conviction' or sort of uneasiness? ([1 John 4:1-3](#))*

Purpose to listen to a song which I believe every believer needs in his/her playlist sang by [Casting Crowns – Slow Fade](#).

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

In virtually all churches in our country, perhaps across the world, the service has a session of singing lasting for a period of time.

The singing session is usually divided into; *Praise* – often confused for fast paced songs where believers jump while dancing and *Worship* – also confused for slow paced songs with a somber mood when the eyes are closed and hands lifted.

This confusion contributes greatly to the deterioration of God-honoring singing among the rising generation. ***Worship*** is a whole lifestyle dedicated to God. It's a response to God upon an experiential revelation of His acts, nature or character as expressed in [Romans 12:1](#).

The period of corporate singing should be a culmination and or continuation of lifestyle of true worship. However, during corporate singing it is defined as;

Worship – it is the response in song to God because of who He is, that is, the person of God.

Praise – it is the response in song to God for what He has done, that is, the acts of God.

When we sing to worship God our focus and thoughts should be trained towards Him and any/everybody listening to or who is part of the singing must be challenged to turn their eyes upon Jesus Christ.

☆The battle about God-honoring music isn't a battle against the old and young or conservative and liberal Christians. If you view it this way then you have missed the mark. My point is clearly established in [Ephesians 6:12](#). The 'enemy' wants to deceive you so as to spend time with you in hell but on the brighter side, God by His Mercies and Grace is calling and drawing you to Himself so that He can save your soul. Now is the time to change and make the difference, not only for you but also for others.