

The background is a dark, textured wall with a spotlight effect. On the left and right are large black speakers. In the center, a blue electric guitar is positioned vertically. A microphone on a stand is on the right. The title 'ROCK MUSIC' is written in large, distressed, golden letters. Small white figures of a guitarist, a drummer, and a singer are integrated into the letters. A guitar pick is in the bottom right.

**WHAT EVERY
CHRISTIAN SHOULD
KNOW ABOUT**

ROCK MUSIC

David W. Cloud

What Every Christian Should Know about Rock Music

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This edition February 7, 2016

ISBN 978-1-58318-187-4



Published by Way of Life Literature
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866-295-4143 (toll free) - fbns@wayoflife.org
www.wayoflife.org

Canada: Bethel Baptist Church
4212 Campbell St. N., London Ont. N6P 1A6
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Printed in Canada by
Bethel Baptist Print Ministry

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“What Every Christian Should Know About Rock Music”

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Introduction

I wrote my first book on rock music in 1974, less than a year after I was saved. The title was *Mom and Dad Sleep While the Children Rock in Satan's Cradle*. It went through three or four editions, but it is long out of print.

Much has changed since then. Rock has grown more wicked, and Western culture has become permeated with the spirit of heathenism, demonism, and moral debauchery. The foundations of biblical Christianity within Western society have been washed away, and rock music has been both a reflection of this change and an instigator of it.

Rock music has doubtless been a major influence in the dramatic increase in violence, free sex, no fault divorce, unisexuality, homosexuality, abortion, drug abuse, Satanism, idolatry, and socialism.

In its "Christian" incarnation, rock plays a major role in the building of the one-world "church."

The hour is late and dark. Many Bible prophecies are being fulfilled before our eyes.

Yet the chorus of voices once lifted against rock has faded dramatically; only a few isolated voices remain and not many are listening.

This book is an effort to awaken those who are slumbering and to help homes and churches have victory against a powerful enemy.

Rock music cannot be sanctified for the Lord's use because it is fleshly and cannot therefore minister to the spirit. I am not speaking merely of the words. Rock music fits the bar, the dance hall, the night club, the gambling den, the house of prostitution. Rock music fits the devil's house, but it does not fit the Lord's house. It was created by rebels who brazenly love the things that God's Word says are evil.

I realize that the world has been taken over by rock music and that most people accept it unquestioningly, but the

standard for Christian living is not that which pleases men but that which pleases God.

The Bible warns that “that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God” (Luke 16:15).

Society changes, but God’s call to separation from unholiness and the sensual spirit of the world does not change. The Bible says that God’s people are different from the world.

“And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness” (1 John 5:19).

If something is popular and acceptable in this present age, it is probable that it does not please God.

“For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world” (1 John 2:16).

In this book we dare again to measure rock music by the standard of God’s holy Word, just as we did 40 years ago when we first began seeking God’s holy will.

Our warning about rock is as fervent as it was then, though the content is updated for a new generation, because the power of rock to produce rebels and to build the one-world church has not lessened.

Homes and churches that don’t give clear and persistent warnings about rock music in all of its forms should not be surprised if their young people are worldly and tend toward New Evangelical and emerging church thinking.

This book lays out nine things that every Christian should know about rock music.

1. It is a moral revolution.
2. It preaches a philosophy of narcissism and licentiousness.
3. It is permeated with blasphemy.
4. It is the music of false christ.

5. It is condemned by the Bible.
6. It is a fulfillment of Bible prophecy.
7. It is at the heart of the one-world church.
8. It is addictive.
9. The only sure protection is to avoid it.

(* When we speak of rock music we are speaking of heavily syncopated modern music in general in all of its constantly-changing varieties: blues, rhythm & blues, folk rock, country rock, pop, jazz, metal, punk, grunge, thrash, indie, techno, ska, reggae, rave, rap, etc.)

The Music of Revolution

The first thing every Christian should know about rock music is that it is not just music and entertainment; it is a moral revolution. It changed the world, and it created an ungodly global pop culture.

We live in a society created by rock & roll. You can see the effect everywhere: in attitude, in fashion, in the generation gap, in the glorification of sex, in the idolization of pop stars.

Above all, you can see the effect in the “judge not” philosophy that has become a cultural law. You are not supposed to say that anything is absolutely wrong. All is relative.

Most of the following statements about rock being a revolution are from the rock musicians themselves and from secular historians.

“In a sense all rock is **REVOLUTIONARY**” (*Time* magazine, Jan. 3, 1969).

“**We did SHAKE UP THE WORLD**” (Graham Nash, *The Sixties: The British Invasion*, video documentary, Fremantle Media, 2014).

“... rock ‘n’ roll is more than just music--**it is the energy center of A NEW CULTURE AND YOUTH REVOLUTION**” (advertisement for *Rolling Stone* magazine).

“There’s no way to grasp **the SUBVERSIVE FORCE** of this now-innocent-sounding music unless you can feel a little of what it meant to be a kid hearing it as it was played for the first time. ... **IT WAS TABOO-SHATTERING MUSIC**” (Michael Ventura, cited by Richard Powers, *The Life of a 1950s Teenager*).

“A new music emerged, again completely nonintellectual, with a thumping rhythm and shouting voices, **each line and EACH BEAT FULL OF THE**

ANGRY INSULT TO ALL WESTERN [CHRISTIAN] VALUES ... their protest is in their music itself as well as in the words, for anyone who thinks that this is all cheap and no more than entertainment has never used his ears” (H.R. Rookmaaker, *Modern Art and the Death of a Culture*, pp. 188, 189, 190; Rookmaaker was a musicologist).

“Rock music has always held SEEDS OF THE FORBIDDEN. ... Rock and Roll has long been an adversary to many of the basic tenets of Christianity” (Michael Moynihan, rock historian, *Lord’s of Chaos*, p. x).

“Rock ‘n’ roll marked the beginning of THE REVOLUTION. ... We’ve combined youth, music, sex, drugs, and rebellion with treason, and that’s a combination hard to beat” (Jerry Rubin, *Do It!*, 1970, pp. 19, 249).

“The great strength of rock ‘n’ roll lies in its beat ... it is a music which is basically sexual, un-Puritan ... and A THREAT TO ESTABLISHED PATTERNS AND VALUES” (Irwin Silber, Marxist, *Sing Out*, May 1965, p. 63).

“... fifties rock was REVOLUTIONARY. It urged people to do whatever they wanted to do, even if it meant breaking the rules. ... From Buddy [Holly] the burgeoning youth culture received rock’s message of freedom, which presaged the dawn of a decade of seismic change and liberation. ... Buddy Holly left the United States for the first time in 1958, carrying rock ‘n’ roll--the music as well as ITS HIGHLY SUBVERSIVE MESSAGE OF FREEDOM--to the world at large. ... laying the groundwork for the social and political upheavals rock ‘n’ roll was instrumental in fomenting in the following decade” (Ellis Amburn, *Buddy Holly*, pp. 4, 6, 131).

“Elvis changed our hairstyles, dress styles, our attitudes toward sex, all the musical taste” (David

Brinkley, NBC News, cited by Larry Nager, *Memphis Beat*, p. 216).

Little Richard “**freed people from their inhibitions, unleashing their spirit, ENABLING THEM TO DO EXACTLY WHAT THEY FELT LIKE DOING**” (*Life & Times of Little Richard*, p. 66).

Rock music is the heart and soul of an ungodly global pop culture. It is the soundtrack of the modern youth culture. Originating in America and England, it spread throughout the world. In most nations today, young people share the same philosophy, have the same values, wear the same fashions, love the same techno gadgets, have the same heroes, display the same attitude.

Rock music has played a huge part in this global cultural transformation.

The Music of Narcissism and Licentiousness

The second thing every Christian should know about rock music is that it preaches a philosophy of narcissism and licentiousness.

The rock culture is not morally neutral. Rebellion against God's holy laws is not a sideline of rock & roll; it is its heart and soul.

From its inception in the 1950s and 1960s, rock has preached moral license. The rock philosophy is the philosophy of "do your own thing; don't let anyone tell you what to do." It's the philosophy that lies at the heart of the self-esteem culture.

Rock preaches the ancient lie that the devil delivered to Eve: "God's laws are restrictive; He is keeping you from enjoying life to the fullest; throw off His yoke and live as you please; be your own god."

The rock philosophy is capsulized in many popular rock songs:

"I'm free to do what I want any old time" (Rolling Stones, 1965).

"It's my life and I'll do what I want/ It's my mind, and I'll think what I want" (The Animals, 1965).

"You got to go where you want to go/ do what you want to do" (Mamas and Papas, 1966).

"It's your thing/ do what you want to do" (Isley Brothers, 1969).

"We don't need no thought control" (Pink Floyd, "Another Brick in the Wall," 1979).

"I'm gonna do it my way. ... I want to make my own decision ... I want to be the one in control..." (Janet Jackson, "Control," 1986).

“Nothing’s forbidden and nothing’s taboo when two are in love” (Prince, “When Two Are in Love,” 1988).

“... the only rules you should live by [are] rules made up by you” (Pennywise, “Rules,” 1991).

“So what we get drunk/ So what we smoke weed ... **Living young and wild and free**” (“Young, Wild and Free,” Snoop Dog and Wiz Khalifa, 2011).

“We can do what we want; we can live as we choose” (Paul McCartney, “New,” 2013).

“The whole Beatles idea was to **do what you want**” (John Lennon, cited by David Sheff, *The Playboy Interviews with John Lennon and Yoko Ono*, p. 61).

At the heart of rock music is sexual liberty, which is brazen rebellion against God’s holy law of marriage. Again we quote the rock and rollers themselves as evidence for this:

“Rock and roll is the darkness that enshrouds secret desires unfulfilled, and the appetite that shoves you forward to disrobe them” (Timothy White, *Rock Lives*, p. xvi).

“Everyone takes it for granted that rock and roll is synonymous with SEX” (Chris Stein, Blondie, *People*, May 21, 1979).

“Rock music is SEX. The big beat matches the body’s rhythms” (Frank Zappa of the Mothers of Invention, *Life*, June 28, 1968).

“The SEX is definitely in the music, and SEX is in all aspects of the music” (Luke Campbell of 2 Live Crew).

“Rock ’n’ roll is synonymous with SEX and you can’t take that away from it. It just doesn’t work” (Steven Tyler of Aerosmith, *Entertainment Tonight*, ABC, Dec. 10, 1987).

“Rock and roll aims for liberation and transcendence, EROTICIZING the spiritual and spiritualizing the

EROTIC, because that is its ecumenical birthright” (Robert Palmer, *Rock and Roll an Unruly History*).

“**Rock ‘n’ roll is 99% SEX**” (John Oates of Hall & Oates, *Circus*, Jan. 31, 1976).

“**Pop music revolves around SEXUALITY**. I believe that if there is anarchy, let’s make it **SEXUAL** anarchy rather than political” (Adam Ant, *From Rock to Rock*, p. 93).

“The great strength of rock ‘n’ roll lies in ITS BEAT ... it is a music which is basically **SEXUAL, un-Puritan** ... and a threat to established patterns and values” (Irwin Silber, Marxist, *Sing Out*, May 1965).

“**Perhaps my music is SEXY** ... but what music with a BIG BEAT isn’t?” (Jimi Hendrix, Henderson, cited from his biography *‘Scuse Me While I Kiss the Sky*, p. 117).

“... **rock music has one appeal only, a barbaric appeal to SEXUAL desire**” (Allan Bloom, *The Closing of the American Mind*, p. 73).

“**Rock ‘n’ roll is SEX**. Real rock ‘n’ roll isn’t based on cerebral thoughts. It’s based on one’s lower nature” (Paul Stanley of KISS, cited from *The Role of Rock*, p. 44).

“**That’s what rock is all about—SEX with a 100 megaton bomb, THE BEAT!**” (Gene Simmons of Kiss, *Entertainment Tonight*, ABC, Dec. 10, 1987).

“**Rock ‘n’ roll is all sex. One hundred percent SEX**” (Debbie Harry of Blondie, cited by Carl Belz, “Television Shows and Rock Music,” *The Age of Communication*, 1974, p. 398).

“Rock and roll is fun, it’s full of energy ... **It’s NAUGHTY**” (Tina Turner, cited in *Rock Facts*, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum).

“There is a great deal of **powerful, albeit subliminal, SEXUAL stimulation** implicit in both THE RHYTHM and [the] lyrics of rock music” (David Elkind, *The Hurried Child*, 1981, p. 89; Dr. Elkind was chairman of the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study at Tufts University in Massachusetts).

“Rock and roll was something that’s **HARDCORE, rough and wild and sweaty and wet and just LOOSE**” (Patti Labelle, cited in *Rock Facts*, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum).

“We respond to the materiality of ROCK’S SOUNDS, and **the rock experience is essentially EROTIC**” (Simon Frith, *Sound Effects*, New York: Pantheon Books, 1981, p. 164).

“When David Bowie came along ... it **PERVERSE**, it was fun, it was crass, it was **SEXY** ... And like all rock and roll, it was ... about **SEX** and drugs ... it was about **SEX** as an idea, and **SEX** as a reality, and **SEX** as a liberating force. ... It was about **SEXUAL** politics, **SEXUAL** theater” (David Byrne, inducting David Bowie into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, 1996, rockhall.com).

Rapper Missy Elliot’s third album, “Miss E ... So Addictive,” was described as “a **SEDUCTIVE** cocktail of quirky RHYTHMS and hypnotic BEATS.”

The blues music (predecessor to rock and roll) that was played in brothels in Memphis 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*).

Observe that many of these quotes refer to rock’s rhythms rather than the lyrics. These people are saying that the sexuality is in the rock rhythm.

The rock world is a sleazy, filthy world. From the 1950s until today, rock music has been filled with immorality. It is

impossible for a Bible-believing Christian to watch the Grammys or to read *Rolling Stone* and other rock magazines or even to browse the Walmart pop music department or the pop music section of the Apple iTunes store without seeing the continual flaunting of nakedness and fornication.

The lives of popular rock musicians have been filled with profanity, fornication, adultery, multiple marriages, homosexuality, lesbianism, alcohol abuse, drug abuse, tumult, covetousness, theft, and suicide.

The rock & roll lifestyle has resulted in countless untimely deaths. We have documented the early deaths of 1,625 rock musicians.

This doesn't include the countless lives of ordinary rock lovers that have been snuffed out because of the rock & roll lifestyle: drunkenness, drug abuse, reckless driving, homicide, suicide, etc. The rock lifestyle snuffed out the lives of many who graduated from my high school class of 1967.

Many more rockers would have died untimely deaths except they left the rock & roll lifestyle before it killed them.

The message of "do your own thing" is why rock music creates rebels. It resonates with man's fallen nature. It captivated my heart when I was a teenager and led me into a destructive lifestyle.

Show me a young person in a Bible-believing church who is listening to rock, and there is a 99% chance that I can show you a young person who is on a self-centered path to rebellion.

The Music of Blasphemy

The third thing every Christian should know about rock music is that it is permeated with blasphemy against God and the mocking of Christianity.

The blasphemy is not something that is done only by the most extreme, fringe group of rockers. It is something that is mainstream. It can be seen from the Beatles to Lady Gaga to Jay-Z.

The following bands and musicians are praised throughout the rock world. They are acclaimed by *Rolling Stone* magazine and lionized at the Grammy awards. They are praised by people on the left and right of the political spectrum, by MSNBC and by FOX News. They are loved by contemporary Christian musicians.

The Beatles press officer, Derek Taylor, said: “They’re completely anti-Christ. I mean, I am anti-Christ as well, but they’re so anti-Christ they shock me which isn’t an easy thing” (*Saturday Evening Post*, August 8-15, 1964, p. 25).

By age 11, John Lennon was permanently barred from Sunday services in his aunt’s Anglican church because he “repeatedly improvised obscene and impious lyrics to the hymns” (Timothy White, *Rock Lives: Profiles and Interviews*, p. 114). He did things even cruder and viler than that, such as urinate on members of the “clergy” from second floor windows and display homemade dolls of Christ in lewd poses.

In his 1965 book *A Spaniard in the Works*, published by Simon and Schuster, Lennon portrayed Jesus Christ as Jesus El Pifco, a “garlic eating, stinking little yellow, greasy fascist ----- Catholic Spaniard.” In this wicked book, Lennon blasphemed the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit by calling them “Fahter, Sock, and Mickey Most.”

In his hugely popular song “Imagine” (1971) Lennon mused: “Imagine there’s no heaven ... No hell below us,

above us only sky. ... no religion too.” That is a blasphemous denial of Almighty God and His Holy Word.

In his song “I Found Out,” Lennon exclaimed: “There ain’t no Jesus gonna come from the sky.”

In the 1970 song “God” from his *Plastic Ono Band* album, Lennon stated that he did not believe in God, the Bible, or Jesus Christ. “I just believe in me/ Yoko and me/ And that’s reality.”

The blasphemous rock opera *Tommy* featured rock & roll’s most famous guitarist, Eric Clapton, plus The Who and Elton John. Other rockers who have performed in it are Phil Collins, Patti LaBelle, Steve Winwood, Billy Idol, and Tina Turner.

Movie reviewer Anthony Hilder called the opera “the most blatantly anti-Christian movie malignancy ever made, at any time, anywhere, by any one. ... Everything is done to desecrate Christianity” (Hilder, cited by David Noebel, *The Legacy of John Lennon*, p. 45). *Tommy* depicts the worship of licentious movie star Marilyn Monroe.

Yet *Tommy* has been very popular and continues to be performed in many parts of the world to wide acclaim. The chief curator of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Museum called *Tommy* “one of the Who’s greatest works” (“Tommy: The Amazing Journey,” Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Mar. 12, 2006). It has been made into a movie, a Broadway musical, an opera, a ballet, and a television special. The album has sold 20 million copies.

For *The Rolling Stones’ Rock ‘n’ Roll Circus* tour, Mick Jagger dressed as the devil, and the band sang “Sympathy for the Devil.” In many other ways, the Rolling Stones have mocked God and exalted Lucifer, yet they are one of the most popular and acclaimed rock bands of all time. “Symphony for the Devil” was ranked No. 32 in the *Rolling Stone* magazine’s “500 Greatest Songs of All Time.” The Rolling Stones have sold 250 million albums.

Black Sabbath spewed forth a constant stream of abuse and hatred toward Christ. Their 1989 album was called the *Headless Cross*, a blasphemy against Jesus Christ. They placed inverted crosses on the platform during concerts and called for the worship of Lucifer. Their song “N.I.B. (Nativity in Black)” was a love song from Satan, inviting the listener to “take my hand.” *Circus* magazine described their music as “a fascination with evil and the devil.”

Yet Black Sabbath has won two Grammys and sold more than 70 million records. They have been ranked by MTV as “the greatest metal band” and by VH1 as No. 2 in its “100 Greatest Artists of Hard Rock” list. In recent years, Black Sabbath leader Ozzy Osbourne has enjoyed mainstream acceptance. His reality television show was the most popular program on MTV in the early 2000s. He was lauded by President George W. Bush at the 2002 White House Correspondents Dinner. He has appeared on Jay Leno’s *The Tonight Show*.

The Jefferson Airplane song “The Son of Jesus” from the *Long John Silver* album was filled with blasphemy. The song claims that Christ’s miracles “go only so far,” that he learned his “secret” wisdom in Egypt, that he had sexual relations with Mary Magdalene, and that God the Father was sexually attracted to Jesus’ daughter. Yet the *Long John Silver* album was the 20th most popular album at the time.

AC/DC’s song “Hell’s Bells” says: “if God’s on the left, then I’m stickin’ to the right! ... If you’re into evil, you’re a friend of mine.” The album *Back in Black*, on which “Hell’s Bells” appeared, has sold 50 million copies and is the bestselling hard rock album of all time. The song “Hell’s Bells” is ranked at No. 190 on Rolling Stones’ “500 Greatest Songs of All Time” and No. 2 on VH1’s “Greatest Hard Rock Songs.” The San Diego Padres baseball team used this vile song as the theme song for their pitcher Trevor Hoffman.

AC/DC’s song “Highway to Hell” is equally blasphemous, glorifying anti-God rebellion. It says, “Party time/ My friends

are gonna be there too/ I'm on the highway to Hell ... Hey Satan, Payin' my dues. ... I'm on the highway to Hell/ Don't stop me." This wicked song was sung at the 2015 Grammy Awards ceremony, with the audience donning battery-operated devil horns for the performance.

Madonna blames religion for making her feel guilty about nakedness and fornication and has dedicated her work to the eradication of shame. Her hit song "Like a Prayer" combined prayer and praise of God with fornication. In the video, Madonna appeared half-naked with a crucifix around her neck, a burning cross in the background, accompanied by immoral dancers, while singing about prayer and God. Advertisements for the *Like a Prayer* album featured the mocking words "Lead us into Temptation."

This video depicts the worship of sex. It would be right at home in an ancient Babylonian goddess orgy.

Yet the song has sold five million copies, and the video ranks at No. 2 on VH1's "100 Greatest Videos." It has been widely acclaimed by rock critics, and the Pepsi company used the song for a commercial.

Bruce Springsteen blasphemously presents rock & roll as salvation. He has opened concerts with the words, "Welcome to the first church of the rock, brothers and sisters." He has mocked the Christian testimony by telling stories of how he was going to become a baseball star "until rock and roll saved him" (*People*, Sept. 3, 1984, p. 70, cited by *The Rock Report*, p. 82). Springsteen's 1999 tour was characterized by this type of blasphemy. "Typical of the pacing was the roof-raising 'Light of Day,' which saw the Rev. Springsteen roaringly promise his flock 'the power, the majesty and the ministry of rock 'n' roll..." (*USA Today*, July 19, 1999, p. 9D).

Yet Springsteen is one of rock's most popular and best-selling singers. He has won 20 Grammy awards and sold more than 120 million records.

In the song "(Don't Need) Religion," Motorhead sings: "I don't need no blind belief/ I don't need no comic relief/ I

don't need to see those scars/ I don't need Jesus Christ superstar/ Don't need Sunday television/ You bet your life I don't need religion." The video for Motorhead's song "Killed by Death" blasphemously depicted a band member hanging on a cross with the other band members standing by, dressed as Roman soldiers.

Yet Motorhead has sold more than 30 million records.

Kurt Cobain, lead singer of Nirvana, spray-painted his neighborhood with the words "Abort Christ" and "God is Gay" ("Inside the Heart and Mind of Nirvana," *Rolling Stone*, Apr. 16, 1992). He was obsessed with Satanists William Burroughs and Anton LaVey.

Yet Cobain is widely acclaimed as a great rock "artist." Nirvana has sold 75 million albums and has been called "one of the most influential and important rock bands."

In the song "Judas," Lady Gaga plays Mary Magdalene and pretends that she is in a love triangle with Jesus Christ and Judas and ultimately chooses Judas. The filthy video depicts Mary, Judas, and Jesus together in a hot tub.

Lady Gaga is not only blasphemous, she is one of the filthiest rockers.

Yet she has sold more than 150 million albums and singles and has won five Grammys and 13 MTV Video Music Awards. In 2010, *Time* magazine named her one of the world's most influential people.

Marilyn Manson rips up Bibles, burns Bibles, and spits on pictures of Jesus. He has worn a bracelet with the letters WWJD, saying that it stands for "We Want Jesus Dead." He says, "For me, the idea of Antichrist is an unspoken knowledge that every person has, and it's just the denial of God and the acceptance of yourself as a powerful entity that can make their own decisions" (cited from Kurt Reighley, *Marilyn Manson*, p. 138).

Yet Marilyn Manson was named "Artist of the Year" by *Rolling Stone* magazine in 1999.

Many of the popular rockers have expressed love for Satanist Aleister Crowley, who said, “That religion they call Christianity; the devil they honor they call God ... I hate and will destroy” (Crowley, *The World’s Tragedy*). His philosophy was “do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law.” The Beatles put Crowley’s photo on their *Sargent Pepper* album, saying that the photos represented their heroes. Ozzy Osbourne glorified the Satanist in the song “Mr. Crowley.” The Doors posed with a bust of Crowley on their album *Doors 13*. Led Zeppelin’s famous guitarist Jimmy Page was a follower of Crowley, purchasing Crowley’s estate on Loch Ness and collecting Crowley’s writings. David Bowie referred to Crowley in his song “Quicksand.” Michael Jackson’s *Dangerous* album featured Crowley on the front cover. Rappers Jay-Z and Tyler the Creator have worn Crowley t-shirts. Paradise Lost have used Crowley’s own readings in their songs.

Black Metal rock is filled with blasphemy. Following are a few examples:

“The Nazarene will fester in hell!” (“Fight With the Beast,” Onslaught).

“I deny Jesus Christ, the deceiver” (“The Oath,” Mercyful Fate).

“Cursed Nazarene! Do nothing king” (“Cursed Nazarene,” Acheron).

“There is no truth to the Holy Cross” (“No Believers,” Sacred Reich).

“The Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost is just somebody’s unholy hoax” (“Dear God,” XTC).

“God is love and his love is dead” (“I Feel Nothing,” Immolation).

“Deny resurrection, behead the Nazarene son” (“Behead the Prophet,” Decide).

“Only in the darkness of Christ have I realized God hates us all” (“Darkness of Christ,” Slayer).

Many of the blasphemies are so sick and filthy that they cannot be repeated.

Yet black metal rock songs receive Grammy awards and are lauded by rock magazines. For example, Slayer’s vile album *God Hates Us All* sold 300,000 copies and was nominated for a Grammy award.

Rap music is also filled with blasphemy, but it is couched in such filthy language that most of it can’t be repeated.

Kanye West appeared as a thorn-crowned Jesus on the cover of *Rolling Stone* in 2006. His 2013 album was titled *Yeezus*, which is a play on West’s nickname *Yeezy* and the name *Jesus*. The cover art depicts West being crowned king by angels. In the song “I Am a God,” he raps, “I just talked to Jesus, and he said, ‘What up, Yeezus?’/ ... I know He the Most High/ But I am a close high/ ... I am a god.” *The Book of Zeezus: A Bible for the Modern Day*, published in 2015, is a version of the book of Genesis that replaces every mention of God with the rapper’s name. West is married to pop icon and Playboy model Kim Kardashian. Their marriage was performed by the emerging church pastor Rich Wilkerson Jr. of Vous Church near Miami.

Jay-Z mocks Jehovah God as “Hova” and calls himself “Jay-Hova.”

In his song “Amen,” Meek Mills mockingly thanks God for all sorts of immoral things and likens fornication to church.

Lil B has an alter ego called “Based God.” In “I’m the Devil,” he sings, “I’m Satan, I make deals and death wishes/ I hate Based God, want to put him on the guest list.” Lil B is depicted crucified on a cross on the cover of his *Angels Exodus* album.

In “Sandwiches,” Tyler the Creator (real name Tyler Okonma) curses the church and sings, “You told me God has

the answer/ When I ask him for ----, I get no answer, so God is the cancer.” In another song, he says that the devil is his father.

On “Live at the Barbeque,” Main Source sings, “When I was twelve/ I went to hell for snuffing Jesus.’

On “Deadly Combination (Remix),” Tupac Shakur (2Pac) and Notorious B.I.G. cursed Jehovah and sang about raping and killing Mary. Tupac also appeared on a cross on the cover of his *Makaveli* album.

Tupac was shot to death in 1996 at age 25, and Notorious B.I.G. was shot to death in 1997 at age 24.

The blasphemous rap song “Deadly Combination” appeared on Big L’s album *The Big Picture*. Big L sang about raping Christ in “Danger Zone.” Another Big L album was titled *Return of the Devil’s Son*. Big L was shot to death in 1999 at age 23.

On “Pearly Gates,” 50 Cent sang about going to the pearly gates and having “a beef” with the “Boss Man” and beating “his only Son.”

In spite of their blasphemy, these rappers have been highly acclaimed and their records have sold by the millions.

These are only a very few examples of how that blasphemy has played an integral part of rock & roll. Prominent rockers are angry at the holy Creator God, and it comes out in their lives and their music.

The Music of False Christs

The fourth thing every Christian should know about rock music is that it is the music of false christs and antichrist.

Even when rockers talk positively about Christ, it is not the Christ of the Bible.

The Bible warns about false christs. Even in the first century, the churches were in danger of being seduced by false christs and antichrists.

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or *if* ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with *him*” (2 Corinthians 11:3-4).

“Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time” (1 John 2:18).

“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1).

Rock’s christ is the Hindu christ that George Harrison sang about in “My Sweet Lord.” Many of the popular rockers have been influenced by Hinduism as we have documented in *Rock Music against God*.

Rock’s christ is the sinner christ of the rock opera *Jesus Christ Superstar*, who is a confused, doubting, fearful man, a man who dies for his own sin and does not rise from the dead. *Jesus Christ Superstar* has been widely acclaimed in the pop society. It has been shown in more than 30 countries and continues to be performed decade after decade. The album topped the U.S. pop charts in 1971 and has sold millions of

copies. When the movie was released in 1973, it was the eighth highest grossing movie of the year.

Rock's christ is the New Age christ of Dolly Parton. "To me, God is that greater, higher energy ... It's that thing in all of us that we have to draw from. I've always trusted God and trusted myself, which to me are intertwined" ("The Gospel according to Dolly Parton," interview with Rick Clark, Mixonline.com, Aug. 2, 2002).

Rock's christ is the non-judgmental christ of *The Shack*. Rock & rollers love the novel *The Shack*. It has sold more than 18 million copies and has been translated into 30 languages. It is supposedly about the triune God, yet the God-Christ in *The Shack* did not die for man's sin, is neither male nor female, does not require repentance, and will not send anyone to hell. He/she puts "no obligations" on anyone. He/she is cool and loves rock & roll.

Rock's christ is a pop psychology, positive-thinking christ. If you listen to the testimony of popular rockers who claim to "believe in Christ," you will often hear them describe their faith in terms of positive thinking. Their faith is an eclectic thing composed of various elements borrowed from the Bible, New Age, and pop psychology. This is true of Johnny Cash, Kris Kristofferson, Carl Perkins, Roy Orbison, Elvis Presley, and countless others. Orbison turned to Peale's *The Power of Positive Thinking* and similar books to overcome his alcohol addiction and to find healing for cancer (Alan Clayson, *Only the Lonely*). Elvis constructed "a personalised religion out of what he'd read of Hinduism, Judaism, numerology, theosophy, mind control, positive thinking and Christianity" (*Hungry for Heaven*, p. 143).

God's people are exhorted to walk in wisdom and not to be gullible and easily deceived. Just because someone talks about loving Jesus does not mean that they love the Jesus of Scripture.

“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1).

Music Condemned by the Bible

The fifth thing every Christian should know about rock music is that it is condemned by the Bible.

We have examined the character of rock music briefly. We have seen that it is permeated with rebellion and lasciviousness. It is the music of do whatever you please. It is the music of blasphemy. Indeed, it is the music of “sex, drugs, and rock and roll.” As former Christian rocker Dan Lucarini says:

“Rock and roll is a musical style that was created for immoral purposes by immoral men, and has always been used by the world to express its immoral attitudes in song” (*Why I Left the Contemporary Christian Music Movement*, p. 68).

That being the case, the Bible has a lot to say about rock music!

The following are some of the Scriptures that God used to show me when I was a young Christian that rock is not His will. I am more convinced of that today than ever:

“And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean” (Leviticus 10:10).

“Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful” (Psalm 1:1).

“I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers. I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked. I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD” (Psalm 26:4-6).

“I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; *it* shall not cleave to me” (Psalm 101:3).

“Therefore I esteem all *thy* precepts *concerning* all *things* to be right; and I hate every false way” (Psalm 119:128).

“Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil *men*. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away” (Proverbs 4:14-15).

“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil” (Proverbs 4:23-27).

“The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate” (Proverbs 8:13).

“Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding” (Proverbs 9:6).

“He that walketh with wise *men* shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed” (Proverbs 13:20).

“Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean *thing*; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD” (Isaiah 52:11).

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God” (Romans 12:2).

“*Let* love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good” (Romans 12:9).

“Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted” (1 Corinthians 10:6).

“Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry” (1 Corinthians 10:14).

“Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils” (1 Corinthians 10:21).

“Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners” (1 Corinthians 15:33).

“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty” (2 Corinthians 6:14-18).

“Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God” (2 Corinthians 7:1).

“This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But ye have not so learned Christ; if so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on

the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Ephesians 4:17-24).

“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*” (Ephesians 5:11).

“Abstain from all appearance of evil” (1 Thessalonians 5:22).

“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world” (Titus 2:11-12).

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world” (James 1:27).

“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God” (James 4:4).

“Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul” (1 Peter 2:11).

“For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead. For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit. But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer” (1 Peter 4:3-7).

“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever” (1 John 2:15-17).

“Little children, keep yourselves from idols” (1 John 5:21).

The Bible unequivocally requires that God’s people separate from the present evil world system that was created by rebels after the fall and that is energized by the “god of this world.”

The world system is characterized by “the lusts of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life,” and a better description of the world of rock & roll has never been penned!

We have seen that the rock world is filled with idolatry, blasphemy, lasciviousness, and rebellion. There is nothing godly about it. Rock has been an instrument of the devil since its inception.

I am convinced that if God’s people should not separate from rock & roll, they should not separate from anything.

It is instructive that when professing Christians stop separating from rock, they tend to stop the practice of separation altogether.

Believers are to love the people of the world, as God does, and to seek to lead them to Christ, but they are not to love *any* of the evil things of the world. They are not to love the proud attitude of the world, the humanistic thinking of the world, the unholy ways of the world.

This is how Christ lived. He was a friend of sinners, but at the same time He was always “separate from sinners” in that He was ever holy and undefiled (Hebrews 7:26). Christ loved sinners and came to save sinners, but He never sinned with sinners. He wasn’t a “party Christ.” He preached the gospel,

called for repentance, and warned about hell, which would put an end to any worldly party!

A Fulfillment of Bible Prophecy

The sixth thing every Christian should know about rock music is that it is a fulfillment of Bible prophecy.

It is a fulfillment of Psalm 2.

“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying*, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us” (Psalm 2:1-3).

This prophecy says that the world will unite in rebellion against God and Christ. The Hebrew word translated “anointed” in Psalm 2:2 is translated *Messiah* in Daniel 9:25, which is *Christ* in Greek.

The world will call for the throwing off of God’s “bands” and “cords,” which refers to His holy laws. That describes the attitude of 99% of popular rockers.

Rock is also a fulfillment of 2 Timothy 3:1-5.

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”

This passage is a perfect description of the modern rock culture.

It is a society in love with itself -- “*men shall be lovers of their own selves.*” Self-love and self-esteem is the heart and soul of the global pop culture. Kim Kardashian’s new book, titled *Selfish*, features 2,000 selfies!

It is a covetous society. Pursuing wealth and spending money and obtaining possessions is one of the cardinal passions of the global rock culture.

It is a society that is proud and arrogant. This is emphasized three times in the prophecy -- “... *proud ... heady, highminded.*” The arrogance of the rock culture is evident in its attitude, its thinking, and its ways. It is a strutting, prancing, pruning culture.

It is a society that is disobedient to parents. From its inception, rock music has called on young people to rebel against their parents.

It is a society that is unthankful. Never have people had more to be thankful for, and never have they been more unthankful!

It is an unholy society that is filled with every evil thing. “... *unholy ... truce breakers, false accusers ... fierce ... traitors.*” The rock culture sings about love and peace and justice, but the reality is unholiness, lying, covenant breaking, anger, violence. Most of the prominent rockers can’t even keep their marital vows or have peace in their own homes.

It is an incontinent society. The modern pop culture has no self-control. It is a drunken, drug-drenched, debt-laden society. In 2014, the World Health Organization reported that 3.3 million people die each year because of alcohol consumption. Among people between the ages of 15-59, alcohol misuse is the leading factor for premature death and disability. In America, 40% of college students engage in binge drinking; there are 1.4 million drunk-driving arrests; 13,000 people are killed by drunk drivers; and four million people are treated for substance abuse. Between 2002 and 2009, more than 92,000 young people under 18 were admitted to British hospitals for alcohol-related conditions. An estimated 60% of Australian youth aged 12-17 drink alcohol, and 3.7 million Australians drink excessively. And we haven’t even mentioned rampant drug abuse!

It is a society without natural affection. The evidence of this is on every hand. It is a society that mocks its fathers and kills its unborn children.

It is a society that despises those who are good. Rockers sing about God and religion, but they despise those who live and preach absolute truth and holiness.

It is a society that loves pleasure more than God. The modern pop culture is drunk on pleasure. It spends billions of dollars on entertainment. Sports stars and entertainment figures are the modern gods. They become filthy rich and are idolized by society. In October 2014, Courtney Plunk of the PoliTech organization took an interview survey called “Politically Challenged” among students at Texas Tech University. Many of them did not know who won the American Civil War or from whom America gained her independence and when or who the current vice president is, but all of them knew the names of movie star Brad Pitt’s wives.

In all of these ways, rock music and the pop culture it has helped to create are a fulfillment of Bible prophecy. God’s Word has nothing good to say about it.

The Heart of the Apostasy

The seventh thing every Christian should know about rock music is that it is at the heart and soul of end-time apostasy and the one-world church.

Rock music was baptized by the 1960s “Jesus People.” It is called Christian rock and contemporary Christian music, and it is the heart of the end-time, one-world “church.” Everyone uses the same music, from Baptists to Catholics.

The one-world church is described in Revelation 17.

“And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. ... And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues” (Rev. 17:1-6, 15).

This religious harlot will come into full existence during the Tribulation, when she will align with the beast, the antichrist, but she is taking shape today, and we can see some of her chief characteristics in this passage.

The one-world church is immoral (“fornication,” v. 2). We have documented the immorality that permeates Contemporary Christian Music. It is evident in the sexuality of its music, in the immodesty of its dress, in rampant broken marriages, in the “don’t tell me how to live” attitude.

Consider the fact that divorce is rampant. Just a few of the divorced and/or adulterous CCM musicians are Steve Camp, Bob Carlisle, Ralph Carmichael, Eddie Degarmo, Michael English, Amy Grant, Stacy Jones, Ray Boltz, Dana Key, Mylon LaFevre, Sandi Patty, Kevin Prosch, Randy Thomas, John Michael Talbot, Greg Volz, Sheila Walsh, Jaci Velasquez, Wayne Watson, Larry Norman, Randy Stonehill, and Deniece Williams.

Consider the rapidly growing acceptance of homosexuality. In 1998, CCM star Kirk Franklin said that “homosexuality ... is a problem today in gospel music--a MAJOR CONCERN--and everybody knows it” (*Church Boy*, pp. 49, 50). Marsha Stevens, author of the popular song “For Those Tears I Died (Come to the Water)” and co-founder of Children of the Day, one of the first Contemporary Christian Music groups, left her husband in 1979 because she had “fallen in love with a woman.” She started her own label called BALM (Born Again Lesbian Music) and performs between 150 and 200 concerts a year. She has a program called “upBeat” through which she produces a praise and worship album annually with a variety of singers and songwriters. Stevens’ lesbian praise music ministry is recommended by Mark Allen Powell, Professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary and the author of *An Encyclopedia of Contemporary Christian Music*.

In 2002, Marsha Stevens attended a Bill Gaither Homecoming concert with her lesbian lover, and Gaither made a point of telling the crowd that she was there and singing her song “Come to the Water.” After the concert, Gaither and Mark Lowry had their photo taken with Marsha and her lesbian lover. Lowry told Stevens that he was proud

of her and that he wished “the fundamentalist would find Jesus. They’re going to have a lot to answer for, leaving out people that Jesus died for” (Marsha Stevens, “New Years Eve 2002 with Bill Gaither,” www.christiangays.com). Thus it appears that Lowry’s christ is a non-judgmental christ who does not require repentance from sin.

Other CCM artists who have come out as homosexual include Ray Boltz, Anthony Williams, Kirk Talley, Clay Aiken, Doug Pinnock, Amy Ray and Emily Saliers of Indigo Girls, Vicky Beeching, and Jennifer Knapp. In June 2013, Sandi Patty performed with the homosexual Turtle Creek Chorale. In April 2014, Dan Haseltine of the popular CCM band Jars of Clay announced his support for “gay marriage.” In an interview in October 2014, Brian Houston, pastor of Hillsong Church in Sydney, Australia, which birthed Hillsong worship music, refused to give a definitive answer when asked to clarify his stand on “same sex marriage” (Jonathan Merritt, “Hillsong’s Brian Houston says church won’t take a public position,” Religion News Service, Oct. 16, 2014). Carl Lentz, pastor of Hillsong New York City, told CNN that Hillsong has “a lot of gay men and women in our church and I pray we always do.” In the same interview, Hillsong New York’s co-pastor, Laura Lentz, told CNN, “It’s not our place to tell anyone how they should live.”

So the first prominent characteristic of the one-world church is its worldly sensuality.

Another major characteristic is its alliance with Rome. ***At the heart of the one-world church is the Roman Catholic Church*** (“sitteth upon many waters ... arrayed in purple and scarlet ... having a golden cup ... drunken with the blood of the saints,” vv. 1, 4, 6). The one-world church is also composed of the daughters of Rome, as she is “the mother of harlots” (v. 5). These are the denominations and professing Christians that associate with Rome and are of the same apostate spirit as Rome.

We see the alliance with Rome everywhere today. It is seen in ecumenical endeavors such as the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, and local clergy associations. It is seen in the United Bible Societies. It is seen in the ecumenical evangelism which was pioneered by Billy Graham. It is seen in the Evangelical-Catholics Together program.

And it is seen in the intimate connection between Contemporary Christian Music and Rome.

The popular song “We Are One in the Spirit” was written by Catholic priest Peter Scholtes.

Michael W. Smith performed at the Catholic World Youth Day in 1993.

Darlene Zschech and Hillsong have sung in Catholic forums.

John Michael Talbot’s albums were the first by a Catholic artist to be accepted by both Protestant and Catholic listeners. In 1988, *Billboard* magazine reported that Talbot out-ranked all other male Christian artists in total career albums sold.

In 1984, Talbot said: “I am also feeling the presence of Mary becoming important in my life. ... I feel that she really does love me and intercedes to God on my behalf” (*Contemporary Christian Music Magazine*, November 1984, p. 47).

The “evangelical” Michael Card and the Roman Catholic Talbot perform concerts and publish albums together. Card said, “The denominational lines have become really meaningless to me, and to John, too” (*CCM Magazine*, 1996).

Kathy Troccoli is a Roman Catholic CCM artist who builds ecumenical bridges. Forty prominent CCM musicians of all denominations sang on her 1997 ecumenical album.

Mat Maher is another Roman Catholic CCM bridge builder. He calls himself a “musical missionary” to unite Protestants and Catholics” (*Christianity Today*, Oct. 27, 2009). He prays to Mary, accepts her as the Queen of

Heaven, and believes that she aids in salvation. Maher's wife is Methodist, and they are raising their son in both churches "so he can experience both traditions" (RNS, May 17, 2013).

In July 2012, the "conservative" Keith and Kristyn Getty joined Roman Catholic Maher on NewSongCafe to promote ecumenical unity.

This is the one-world church!

It is taking shape today in preparation for the scenes described in Revelation 6-19.

The end-time apostasy is also prophesied in 2 Timothy 4:3-4. This passage describes the preparation for the one-world church of Revelation 17, and the preparation is happening today.

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away *their* ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

This is a Christianity that turns away its ears from the old Bible paths.

It is a Christianity that loves fables (such as Mary veneration, the mass, charismatic gibberish tongues, and "music is amoral").

It is a Christianity that lives according to its own lusts.

It is a Christianity that itches for new things.

This is the Christianity we see everywhere today!

Those who use CCM, build bridges to this world of end-time apostasy, and nothing could be more dangerous for a Bible-believing individual, home, or church.

Music That Is Addictive

The eighth thing every Christian should know about rock music is that it is addictive and creates sensual appetites.

Rock music, even soft rock, creates a taste for sensual music and acts like a musical drug. This is why it inevitably brings changes.

Consider the testimony of rock & rollers themselves:

“Rock ’n’ roll is like a drug” (Neil Young, cited by Mickey Hart, *Spirit into Sound*).

“Rock music is the strongest drug in the world” (Steven Tyler of the group Aerosmith, *Rock Beat*, Spring 1987, p. 23).

“Don’t listen to the words, it’s the music that has its own message. ... I’ve been **STONED ON THE MUSIC** many times” (Timothy Leary, *Politics of Ecstasy*, 1968).

Describing how she felt when attending her first big rock concert, Janis Joplin said: “I couldn’t believe it, all that rhythm and power. I got stoned just feeling it, like **IT WAS THE BEST DOPE IN THE WORLD. It was SO SENSUAL...**” (Joel Dreyfuss, “Janis Joplin Followed the Script,” *Wichita Eagle*, Oct. 6, 1970, p. 7A).

“Modern music is as dangerous as cocaine” (Pietro Mascagni, Italian composer, (Slonimsky’s *Book of Musical Anecdotes*).

“To the children of the Spiritual Sixties nothing was more singularly important than **addiction to music**” (David Di Sabatino, *The Jesus People Movement*).

“Rock music in particular has been demonstrated to be both **POWERFUL AND ADDICTIVE**, as well as capable of producing a subtle form of hypnosis in which the subject, though not completely under trance, is still in a

highly suggestive state” (John Fuller, *Are the Kids All Right?*, New York: Times Books, 1981).

“**Pop music is THE MASS MEDIUM FOR CONDITIONING the way people think**” (Graham Nash of Crosby Stills & Nash, *Hit Parader Yearbook*, No. 6, 1967).

Rock is made up of many types of syncopation, but they all have the same effect on the body.

The sensual dance rhythm of rock music has addictive power. It matters not whether it is soft or hard, quiet or loud. It matters not if it is played on an acoustic guitar, a piano, or an electric bass.

In *Why I Left the Contemporary Christian Music Movement*, Dan Lucarini describes how he led churches from traditional hymns to contemporary worship. The key was starting out with soft rock, which acts as an addictive, transformative influence on the congregation.

“In reality, what happens over time is a steady slide down the slippery slope, away from all traditional music into the latest, ‘edgiest’ contemporary styles. ... Contemporary always prevailed over Traditional, because it fed the sinful desire of our flesh” (Lucarini, pp. 119, 122).

Graham West, who was associated with the pop music industry before he was a pastor, issued the same warning:

“Once you begin listening to soft rock, you begin sliding down that slippery slope to the more aggressive forms of rock. **SOFT ROCK BEGINS TO ORIENT THE WHOLE WAY OF PERCEIVING MUSIC AROUND RHYTHM** and away from melody. Your musical interest will change. Hymns will seem dull in comparison to your newly acquired tastes. It’s a progression I’ve seen over and over again in the lives of Christians. **IT’S A DOWNWARD SPIRAL.** It happens in the lives of individuals; it happens in the lives of families; it happens in the lives of churches.

“There is a **GRAY AREA OF IGNORANCE ABOUT THE POWER OF POP SYNCOPATION**. And the devil, taking advantage of this, being not only the master musician but also the master of subtlety, comes along to a strong fundamental church or a Bible college and he offers his wares of CCM rock ballads. It sounds great. There’s no drums, no wild electric guitars, no obvious back beat, just the piano or guitar and the singer. And it’s almost the same as the songs that they used to sing, except the rhythm kind of trips a little bit. But that’s O.K. because it’s exciting, and the young people love it. The problem is that when the rhythm does that little trip it means that the music contains a basic, distinctive rhythmic feature of all rock & roll since its inception in the 1950s. In this way, before you’ve even known it, you’ve been deceived by the subtle strategy of Satan. This is the blind spot that Satan is using to his advantage. He knows that once a church accepts rock ballads, complete capitulation is almost inevitable.

“In the case of vigilant, serious-minded Christians, he has to start them up at the very top of the slope with very gentle rock so that the conscience doesn’t scream out, ‘This music is wrong!’ Just as long as he can get you started, he has won, because **JUST LIKE A DRUG PUSHER HE KNOWS THAT HIS USERS WILL WANT MORE AND MORE OF THAT SENSUAL RHYTHM**” (Graham West, *The Rhythm of Rock*).

Many churches that are adapting CCM think they are removing the “rock” from Christian rock, but they are actually just toning it down to “soft rock.” They are unwittingly addicting their people to the rock sound, and this addiction is insatiable.

Separation is the Protection

The eighth thing every Christian should know about rock music is that the only sure protection is to avoid it.

The danger here is addiction and incrementalism. Rock music, both secular and “Christian,” is a slippery slope. It is a bridge to dangerous things.

Like alcohol, the only safe position is abstinence.

Abstinence is the only safe position with “secular” rock. There are fairly innocent soft rock songs, such as some of the songs by Peter, Paul, and Mary, but there is danger in messing with any of it. Wise churches and parents will do everything possible to keep their young people away from every form of rock. Parents and church leaders must show the way in their own lives.

Abstinence is also the only safe position with “Christian” rock. The safe and wise line to draw with Christian music is to avoid any hint of CCM. If you don’t take the first drink, you will never be a drunkard. Likewise, if you don’t use any kind of CCM, you will never be sucked into its influence. You will never be drawn to dangerous things. If there is a slippery slope, the only sure protection is not to get on it.

There is a dangerous “gold nugget in a manure pile” philosophy.

A church music leader wrote to me and said:

“I hold out hope that even a pony can find a gold nugget in a pile of manure. If a contemporary artist writes a song that has theologically solid lyrics and a timeless melody and that song is rearranged appropriately to remove any hint of pop/rock beats and stylings, I am not 100% opposed to its use.”

In reply, we say, first, that *the nuggets aren’t real gold*. Even the most conservative contemporary song is tainted with the worldliness and the ecumenicism of its associations.

Second, *the manure is very dirty*. The world of contemporary Christian music is the world of the one-world church, of worldliness, of non-judgmentalism, of charismatic heresies, of affiliation with Rome, of homosexual Christianity. We have documented this in *The Foreign Spirit of Contemporary Worship Music*, available as a free eVideo at www.wayoflife.org.

Third, *the manure is sticky!* Most people who mess around with CCM will be influenced by it, especially young people. Pastors and music people are responsible for their young people, and must protect them.

What is the motive for trying to find gold in a manure pile? There are countless songs and hymns that have no spiritual danger associated with them. *The Living Hymns* songbook has about 900 spiritual songs and hymns, and that is only one hymnal. The field of unquestionably sacred songs and hymns is vast.

WAKE UP PASTORS! Have you educated yourself about contemporary music? Do you have an ongoing plan to educate your people in this important matter? Are you careful about all of the music that is used in your church? Are you providing leadership and a good example?

WAKE UP PARENTS! Have you educated yourself about contemporary music? Have you educated your children? Are you careful about all of the music that is used in your home? Do you know what your children listen to? Are you providing leadership and a good example?

Review Questions

1. *Rolling Stone* magazine calls rock a youth _____.
2. Michael Ventura calls rock the _____ force.
3. Rock historian Michael Moynihan says rock music has always held the seeds of the _____.
4. Marxist Irwin Silber says rock music is a _____ to established values.
5. Rock historian Ellis Amburn says rock's message is highly _____.
6. Little Richard said rock freed people from their _____.
7. What song by the Rolling Stones from 1965 summarizes the rock philosophy?
8. Why is it morally dangerous to browse the iTunes online music store?
9. What is the name of John Lennon's blasphemous 1965 book?
10. What is the name of John Lennon's song about no God?
11. What rock musical featured the worship of Marilyn Monroe?
12. What rock band sang "Sympathy for the Devil"?
13. What did Madonna worship in her video "Like A Prayer"?
14. How has Bruce Springsteen blasphemed God?
15. Who is the Satanist that many rock musicians promote and praise?
16. How did this Satanist summarize his "law"?
17. Who are two popular rappers who have engaged in blasphemy?
18. In what book and chapter did Paul warn about false christs, false spirits and false gospels?

19. In what book and chapter did John warn about many antichrists?
20. What are three false christs that are promoted by rock musicians?
21. How does Dolly Parton describe God?
22. What popular book teaches that God is male and female and non-judgmental?
23. What are two verses in the Old Testament that teach separation from the world?
24. What are three passages in the New Testament that teach separation from the world?
25. What verse in the New Testament contains a perfect description of rock & roll?
26. What verse says that Jesus is holy and separate from sinners?
27. What prophecy describes the rebellion of kings against God's "bands" and "cords"?
28. What are the "bands" and "cords"?
29. What prophecy describes perilous times in the last days?
30. What are five characteristics of the society that this prophecy describes?
31. In what decade did Christian rock begin?
32. What prophecy describes the one-world "church" as the mother of harlots?
33. When will this one-world "church" take its final shape?
34. What are four characteristics of this "church"?
35. What famous female contemporary Christian musician married a woman?
36. Who wrote the contemporary unity song "We Are One in the Spirit"?
37. Who are two Roman Catholic musical missionaries?
38. What New Testament passage prophesies the apostasy that has itching ears?
39. What are the four characteristics of this apostasy?

40. Why does soft rock lead to hard rock?

41. What are three reasons why contemporary music should be avoided entirely?

About Way of Life's eBooks

Since January 2011, Way of Life Literature books have been available in eBook format. Some are available for purchase, while others are available for free download.

The eBooks are designed and formatted to work well on a variety of applications/devices, but not all apps/devices are equal. Some allow the user to control appearance and layout of the book while some don't even show italics! For best reading pleasure, please choose your reading app carefully.

For some suggestions, see the report "iPads, Kindles, eReaders, and Way of Life Materials," at the Way of Life web site www.wayoflife.org/database/ebook.html

Our goal is to publish our books in the three most popular formats: PDF, mobi (Kindle, etc.), and ePub (iBooks, etc.). Individual titles, though, may not be available in all formats. Many of the Way of Life titles can be found on Amazon.com, Apple iBookstore, and/or Google Books. The major advantage of obtaining your eBook from the Amazon Kindle store or Apple's iBooks store is that they provide syncing across devices (i.e.: a Kindle reader and Kindle for PC or Kindle for Mac and iPad). If you read on multiple devices and use bookmarks or make highlights, consider a store download from the appropriate site.

Powerful Publications for These Times

Following is a selection of the titles published by Way of Life Literature. The books are available in both print and eBook editions (PDF, Kindle, ePub). The materials can be ordered via the online catalog at the Way of Life web site -- www.wayoflife.org -- or by phone 866-295-4143.

BIBLE TIMES AND ANCIENT KINGDOMS: TREASURES FROM ARCHAEOLOGY. ISBN 978-1-58318-121-8. This is a package consisting of a book and a series of PowerPoint and Keynote (Apple) presentations which are a graphical edition of the book. The PowerPoints are packed with high quality color photos, drawings, historic recreations, and video clips. Bible Times and Ancient Kingdoms is a course on Bible geography, Bible culture, and Bible history and has a two-fold objective: to present apologetic evidence for the Bible and to give background material to help the student better understand the setting of Bible history. We cover this fascinating history from Genesis to the New Testament, dealing with the Table of the Nations in Genesis 10, the Tower of Babel, Ur of the Chaldees, Egypt, Baal worship, the Philistines, the Canaanites, David's palace, Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, Ahab and Jezebel, the fall of the northern kingdom of Israel, the Assyrian Empire, Hezekiah and his times, Nebuchadnezzar and his Babylon, the Medo-Persian Empire, Herod the Great and his temple, the Roman rule over Israel, and the Roman destruction of Jerusalem. Many of the archaeological discoveries from the past 200 years, which we relate in the course, are so fascinating and improbable that they read like a novel. It is easy to see God's hand in this field, in spite of its prevailing skepticism. The course also deals with Bible culture, such as weights and measures, plant and animal life, Caesar's coin, the widow's mite, ancient scrolls and seals, phylacteries, cosmetics, tombs, and the operation of ancient lamps, millstones, pottery wheels, and olive presses. The course begins with an overview of Israel's geography and a timeline of Bible history to give the student a framework for better understanding the material. Each section includes maps to help the student place the events in their proper location. The course is packed with important but little-

known facts that illuminate Bible history and culture. The preparation for the book is extensive, the culmination of 40 years of Bible study, teaching, and research trips. In this context the author built a large personal library and collected information from major archaeological museums and locations in North America, England, Europe, Turkey, and Israel. We guarantee that the student who completes the course will read the Bible with new eyes and fresh enthusiasm. 500 pages book + DVD containing 19 PowerPoint presentations packed with more than 3,200 high quality color photos, drawings, historic recreations, and video clips.

THE BIBLE VERSION QUESTION ANSWER DATABASE. ISBN 1-58318-088-5. This book provides diligently-researched, in-depth answers to more than 80 of the most important questions on this topic. A vast number of myths are exposed, such as the myth that Erasmus promised to add 1 John 5:7 to his Greek New Testament if even one manuscript could be produced, the myth that the differences between the Greek texts and versions are slight and insignificant, the myth that there are no doctrines affected by the changes in the modern versions, and the myth that the King James translators said that all versions are equally the Word of God. It also includes reviews of several of the popular modern versions, including the Living Bible, New Living Bible, Today's English Version, New International Version, New American Standard Version, The Message, and the Holman Christian Standard Bible. 423 pages.

THE FOREIGN SPIRIT OF CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP MUSIC. This hard-hitting multi-media video presentation, published in March 2012, documents the frightful spiritual compromise, heresy, and apostasy that permeate the field of contemporary worship music. By extensive documentation, it proves that contemporary worship music is impelled by "another spirit" (2 Cor. 11:4). It is the spirit of charismaticism, the spirit of the latter rain, the spirit of the one-world church, the spirit of the world, the spirit of homosexuality, and the spirit of the false god of *The Shack*. The presentation looks carefully at the origin of contemporary worship in the Jesus Movement of the 1970s, examining the lives and testimonies of some of the most influential

people. Nearly 60 video clips and hundreds of photos are featured. It is available on DVD and as an eDownload from the Way of Life web site.

THE FUTURE ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE. ISBN 978-1-58318-172-0. One of the many reasons why the Bible is the most amazing and exciting book on earth is its prophecies. The Bible unfolds the future in great detail, and *The Future According to the Bible* deals in depth with every major prophetic event, including the Rapture, the Judgment Seat of Christ, the Tribulation, the Antichrist, Gog and Magog, the Battle of Armageddon, the Two Witnesses, Christ's Return, Muslim nations in prophecy, the Judgment of the Nations, the resurrection body, the conversion of Israel, the highway of the redeemed, Christ's glorious kingdom, the Millennial Temple, the Great White Throne judgment, and the New Jerusalem. The first two chapters deal at length with the amazing prophecies that are being fulfilled today and with the church-age apostasy. Knowledge of these prophecies is essential for a proper understanding of the times and a proper Christian worldview today. The 130-page section on Christ's kingdom describes the coming world kingdom in more detail than any book we are familiar with. Every major Messianic prophecy is examined. Prophecy is a powerful witness to the Bible's divine inspiration, and it is a great motivator for holy Christian living. In this book we show that the Lord's churches are outposts of the coming kingdom. The believer's position in Christ's earthly kingdom will be determined by his service in this present world (Revelation 2:26-27; 3:21). The book is based on forty years of intense Bible study plus firsthand research in Israel, Turkey, and Europe.

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST MUSIC WARS. ISBN 978-1-58318-179-9. This book is a warning about the transformational power of Contemporary Christian Music to transport Bible-believing Baptists into the sphere of the end-time one-world "church." The author is a musician, preacher, and writer who lived the rock & roll "hippy" lifestyle before conversion and has researched this issue for 40 years. We don't believe that good Christian music stopped being written when Fanny Crosby died or that rhythm is wrong or that drums and guitars are

inherently evil. We believe, rather, that Contemporary Christian Music is a powerful bridge to a very dangerous spiritual and doctrinal world. The book begins by documenting the radical change in thinking that has occurred among independent Baptists. Whereas just a few years ago the overwhelming consensus was that CCM was wrong and dangerous, the consensus now has formed around the position that CCM can be used in moderation, that it is OK to “adapt” it to a more traditional sacred sound and presentation technique. The more “conservative” contemporary worship artists such as the Gettys are considered safe and their music is sung widely in churches and included in new hymnals published by independent Baptists. As usual, the driving force behind this change is the example set by prominent leaders, churches, and schools, which we identify in this volume. The heart of the book is the section giving eight reasons for rejecting Contemporary Christian Music (it is built on the lie that music is neutral, it is worldly, it is ecumenical, it is charismatic, it is experienced-oriented, it is permeated with false christs, it is infiltrated with homosexuality, and it weakens the Biblicist stance of a church) and the section answering 39 major arguments that are used in defense of CCM. We deal with the popular argument that since we have selectively used hymns by Protestants we should also be able to selectively use those by contemporary hymn writers. There are also chapters on the history of CCM and the author’s experience of living the rock & roll lifestyle before conversion and how the Lord dealt with him about music in the early months of his Christian life. The book is accompanied by a DVD containing two video presentations: *The Transformational Power of Contemporary Praise Music* and *The Foreign Spirit of Contemporary Worship Music*. 285 pages.

KEEPING THE KIDS: HOW TO KEEP THE CHILDREN FROM FALLING PREY TO THE WORLD. ISBN 978-1-58318-115-7.

This book aims to help parents and churches raise children to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to avoid the pitfalls of the world, the flesh, and the devil. The book is a collaborative effort. It contains testimonies from hundreds of individuals who provided feedback to our questionnaires on this subject, as well as powerful ideas gleaned from interviews with pastors, missionaries, and church people who have raised godly children. The book is packed with

practical suggestions and deals with many issues: Conversion, the husband-wife relationship, the necessity of permeating the home with Christian love, mothers as keepers at home, the father's role as the spiritual head of the home, child discipline, separation from the pop culture, discipleship of youth, the grandparents' role, effectual prayer and fasting. Chapter titles include the following: "Conversion," "The Home: Consistent Christian Living and the Husband-Wife Relationship," "Child Discipline," "The Church," "Unplugging from the Pop Culture," "Discipleship," "The Grandparents," "Grace and the Power of Prayer." 531 pages.

MUSIC FOR GOOD OR EVIL. This video series, which is packed with photos, video and audio clips, has eight segments. **I. Biblical Principles of Good Christian Music.** **II. Why We Reject Contemporary Christian Music.** It is worldly, addictive, ecumenical, charismatic, shallow and man-centered, opposed to preaching, experience-oriented, and it weakens the strong biblicist stance of a church. **III. The Sound of Contemporary Christian Music.** In this section we give the believer simple tools that he can use to discern the difference between sensual and sacred music. We deal with syncopated dance styles, sensual vocal styles, relativistic styles, and overly soft styles that do not fit the message. **IV. The Transformational Power of Contemporary Worship Music.** We show why CCM is able to transform a "traditional" Bible-believing church into a New Evangelical contemporary one. Its transformational power resides in its enticing philosophy of "liberty" and in its sensual, addictive music. We use video and audio to illustrate the sound of contemporary worship. **V. Southern Gospel.** We deal with the history of Southern Gospel, its character, its influence, and the role of the Gaithers in its renaissance. This section is packed with audio, video, and photos. **VI. Marks of Good Song Leading.** There is a great need for proper training of song leaders today, and in this segment we deal with the following eight principles: Leadership, preparation, edification, spirituality, spiritual discernment, wisdom in song selection, diversity. One thing we emphasize is the need to sing worship songs that turn the people's focus directly to God. We give dozens of examples of worship songs that are found in standard hymnals used by Bible-believing churches, but typically these are not sung properly as "unto God." **VII. Questions Answered on**

Contemporary Christian Music. We answer 15 of the most common questions on this subject, such as the following: Is rhythm wrong? Isn't this issue just a matter of different taste? Isn't the sincerity of the musicians the important thing? Isn't some CCM acceptable? Didn't Luther and the Wesleys use tavern music? What is the difference between using contemporary worship hymns and using old Protestant hymns? **VIII. The Foreign Spirit of Contemporary Worship Music.** This presentation documents the frightful spiritual compromise, heresy, and apostasy that permeate the field of contemporary praise. Through extensive documentation, it proves that contemporary worship music is controlled by "another spirit" (2 Cor. 11:4). It is the spirit of charismaticism, the spirit of the "latter rain," the spirit of Roman Catholicism and the one-world "church," the spirit of the world that is condemned by 1 John 2:16, the spirit of homosexuality, and the spirit of the false god of *The Shack*. The presentation looks carefully at the origin of contemporary worship in the Jesus Movement of the 1970s, examining the lives and testimonies of some of the most influential people. 5 DVDs.

ONE YEAR DISCIPLESHIP COURSE, ISBN 978-1-58318-117-1. This powerful course features 52 lessons in Christian living. It can be broken into sections and used as a new converts' course, an advanced discipleship course, a Sunday School series, a Home Schooling or Bible Institute course, or for preaching outlines. The lessons are thorough, meaty, and very practical. There is an extensive memory verse program built into the course, and each lesson features carefully designed review questions. Following are some of the lesson titles (some subjects feature multiple lessons): Repentance, Faith, The Gospel, Baptism, Eternal Security, Position and Practice, The Law and the New Testament Christian, Christian Growth and Victory, Prayer, The Armor of God, The Church, The Bible, The Bible's Proof, Daily Bible Study, Key Principles of Bible Interpretation, Foundational Bible Words, Knowing God's Will, Making Wise Decisions, Christ's Great Commission, Suffering in the Christian Life, The Judgment Seat of Christ, Separation - Moral, Separation - Doctrinal, Tests of Entertainment, Fasting, Miracles, A Testing Mindset, Tongues Speaking, The Rapture, How to Be Wise with Your Money, The Believer and Drinking,

Abortion, Evolution, Dressing for the Lord. 8.5X11, coated cover, spiral-bound. 221 pages.

THE PENTECOSTAL-CHARISMATIC MOVEMENTS: THE HISTORY AND THE ERROR. ISBN 1-58318-099-0. The 5th edition of this book, November 2014, is significantly enlarged and revised throughout. The Pentecostal-charismatic movement is one of the major building blocks of the end-time, one-world “church,” and young people in particular need to be informed and forewarned. The author was led to Christ by a Pentecostal in 1973 and has researched the movement ever since. He has built a large library on the subject, interviewed influential Pentecostals and charismatics, and attended churches and conferences with media credentials in many parts of the world. The book deals with the history of Pentecostalism beginning at the turn of the 20th century, the Latter Rain Covenant, major Pentecostal healing evangelists, the Sharon Schools and the New Order of the Latter Rain, Manifest Sons of God, the charismatic movement, the Word-Faith movement, the Roman Catholic Charismatic Renewal, the Pentecostal prophets, the Third Wave, and recent Pentecostal and charismatic scandals. The book deals extensively with the theological errors of the Pentecostal-charismatic movements (exalting experience over Scripture, emphasis on the miraculous, the continuation of Messianic and apostolic miracles and sign gifts, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the baptism of fire, tongues speaking, physical healing guaranteed in the atonement, spirit slaying, spirit drunkenness, visions of Jesus, trips to heaven, women preachers, and ecumenism). The final section of the book answers the question: “Why are people deluded by Pentecostal-Charismatic error?” David and Tami Lee, former Pentecostals, after reviewing a section of the book said: “Very well done! We pray God will use it to open the eyes of many and to help keep many of His children out of such deception.” A former charismatic said, “The book is excellent and I have no doubt whatever that the Lord is going to use it in a mighty way. Amen!!” 487 pages.

A PORTRAIT OF CHRIST: THE TABERNACLE, THE PRIESTHOOD, AND THE OFFERINGS. ISBN 978-1-58318-178-2. (new for 2014) This book is an extensive study on the Old Testament tabernacle and its priestly system,

which has been called “God’s masterpiece of typology.” Whereas the record of the creation of the universe takes up two chapters of the Bible and the fall of man takes up one chapter, the tabernacle, with its priesthood and offerings, takes up 50 chapters. It is obvious that God has many important lessons for us in this portion of His Word. Speaking personally, nothing has helped me better understand the Triune God and the salvation that He has purchased for man, and I believe that I can guarantee that the reader will be taken to new heights in his understanding of these things. Everything about the tabernacle points to Jesus Christ: the design, the materials, the colors, the court walls and pillars, the door into the court, the sacrificial altar, the laver, the tabernacle tent itself with its boards and curtains and silver sockets, the tabernacle gate, and veil before the holy of holies, the candlestick, the table of shewbread, the incense altar, the ark of the covenant, the high priest, and the offerings. All is Christ. The tabernacle system offers brilliant, unforgettable lessons on Christ’s person, offices and work: His eternal Sonship, His sinless manhood, His anointing, His atonement, His resurrection glory, His work as the life and sustainer and light of creation, His eternal high priesthood and intercession, and His kingdom. In addition to the studies on every aspect of the tabernacle, *A Portrait of Christ* features studies on the high priest, the Levitical priests, the five offerings of Leviticus, the day of atonement, the ransom money, the red heifer, the cherubims, strange fire, the golden calf, leprosy, the Nazarite vow, the pillar of cloud and pillar of fire, and the transportation of the tabernacle through the wilderness. The tabernacle is very practical in its teaching, as it also depicts believer priests carrying Christ through this world (1 Pet. 2:5, 9). Like the Israelites in the wilderness, believers today are on a pilgrimage through a foreign land on the way to our eternal home (1 Pet. 2:11). Don Jasmin, editor of the *Fundamentalist Digest* says, “This new book on the Tabernacle constitutes the 21st-century classic treatise of this rich theme.” 420 pages.

SEEING THE NON-EXISTENT: EVOLUTION’S MYTHS AND HOAXES. ISBN 1-58318-002-8. This book is designed both as a stand alone title as well as a companion to the apologetics course *AN UNSHAKEABLE FAITH*. The contents are as follows: Canals on Mars, Charles Darwin and His Granddaddy, Thomas Huxley: Darwin’s Bulldog, Ernst Haeckel: Darwin’s German Apostle, Icons

of Evolution, Icons of Creation, The Ape-men, Predictions, Questions for Evolutionists, Darwinian Gods, Darwin's Social Influence. The **ICONS OF EVOLUTION** that we refute include mutations, the fossil record, homology, the peppered moth, Darwin's finches, the fruit fly, vestigial organs, the horse series, the embryo chart, the Miller experiment, Archaeopteryx, bacterial resistance, the big bang, and billions of years. The **ICONS OF CREATION** that we examine include the monarch butterfly, the trilobite, the living cell, the human eye, the human brain, the human hand, blood clotting, the bird's flight feathers, bird migration, bird song, harmony and symbiosis, sexual reproduction, living technology, the dragonfly, the bee, and the bat. The section on **APE-MEN** deals with Cro-Magnon, Neanderthal, Java Man, Piltdown Man, Nebraska Man, Peking Man, Lucy, Ardi, Ida, among others. The section on **PREDICTIONS** considers 29 predictions made by Biblical creationism, such as the universe will behave according to established laws, the universe will be logical, and there will be a vast unbridgeable gulf between man and the animal kingdom. **DARWINIAN GODS** takes a look at inventions that evolutionists have devised to avoid divine Creation, such as panspermia and aliens, self-organization, and the multiverse. 608 pages.

SOWING AND REAPING: A COURSE IN EVANGELISM. ISBN 978-1-58318-169-0. This course is unique in several ways. *It is unique in its approach.* While it is practical and down-to-earth, it does not present a formulaic approach to soul winning, recognizing that individuals have to be dealt with as individuals. The course does not include any sort of psychological manipulation techniques. It does not neglect repentance in soul winning, carefully explaining the biblical definition of repentance and the place of repentance in personal evangelism. It explains how to use the law of God to plow the soil of the human heart so that the gospel can find good ground. *The course is unique in its objective.* The objective of biblical soul winning is not to get people to "pray a sinner's prayer"; the objective is to see people soundly converted to Christ. This course trains the soul winner to pursue genuine conversions as opposed to mere "decisions." *The course is also unique in its breadth.* It covers a wide variety of situations, including how to deal with Hindus and with skeptics and how to

use apologetics or evidences in evangelism. There is a memory course consisting of 111 select verses and links to a large number of resources that can be used in evangelism, many of them free. The course is suitable for teens and adults and for use in Sunday School, Youth Ministries, Preaching, and private study. **OUTLINE:** The Message of Evangelism, Repentance and Evangelism, God's Law and Evangelism, The Reason for Evangelism, The Authority for Evangelism, The Power for Evangelism, The Attitude in Evangelism, The Technique of Evangelism, Using Tracts in Evangelism, Dealing with Skeptics. 104 pages, 8x11, spiral bound.

THINGS HARD TO BE UNDERSTOOD: A HANDBOOK OF BIBLICAL DIFFICULTIES. ISBN 1-58318-002-8. This volume deals with a variety of biblical difficulties. Find the answer to the seeming contradictions in the Bible. Meet the challenge of false teachers who misuse biblical passages to prove their doctrine. Find out the meaning of difficult passages that are oftentimes overlooked in the Bible commentaries. Be confirmed in your confidence in the inerrancy and perfection of the Scriptures and be able to refute the skeptics. Learn the meaning of difficult expressions such as "the unpardonable sin." A major objective of this volume is to protect God's people from the false teachers that abound in these last days. For example, we examine verses misused by Seventh-day Adventists, Roman Catholics, Pentecostals, and others to support their heresies. We deal with things such as the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, cremation, head coverings, did Jesus die on Friday, God's repentance, healing in the atonement, losing one's salvation, sinless perfectionism, soul sleep, and the Trinity. Jerry Huffman, editor of *Calvary Contender*, testified: "You don't have to agree with everything to greatly benefit from this helpful book." In researching and writing this book, the author consulted roughly 500 volumes, old and new, that deal with biblical difficulties and the various other subjects addressed in *Things Hard to Be Understood*. This one volume, therefore, represents the essence of a sizable library. Sixth edition Feb. 2014, enlarged and completely revised, 441 pages.

AN UNSHAKEABLE FAITH: A CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS COURSE. ISBN 978-1-58318-119-5. The course is built upon

nearly 40 years of serious Bible study and 30 years of apologetics writing. Research was done in the author's personal 6,000-volume library plus in major museums and other locations in America, England, Europe, Australia, Asia, and the Middle East. The package consists of an apologetics course entitled *AN UNSHAKEABLE FAITH* (both print and eBook editions) plus an extensive series of Powerpoint/Keynote presentations. (Keynote is the Apple version of Powerpoint.) The 1,800 PowerPoint slides deal with archaeology, evolution/creation science, and the prophecies pertaining to Israel's history. The material in the 360-page course is extensive, and the teacher can decide whether to use all of it or to select only some portion of it for his particular class and situation. After each section there are review questions to help the students focus on the most important points. The course can be used for private study as well as for a classroom setting. Sections include The Bible's Nature, The Bible's Proof, The Dead Sea Scrolls, The Bible's Difficulties, Historical Evidence for Jesus, Evidence for Christ's Resurrection, Archaeological Treasures Confirming the Bible, A History of Evolution, Icons of Evolution, Icons of Creation, Noah's Ark and the Global Flood.

WAY OF LIFE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE BIBLE & CHRISTIANITY. ISBN 1-58318-005-2. This hardcover Bible encyclopedia contains 640 pages (8.5x11) of information, over 6,000 entries, and over 7,000 cross-references. Twenty-five years of research went into this one-of-a-kind reference tool. It is a complete dictionary of biblical terminology and features many other areas of research not often covered in such volumes, including Bible Versions, Denominations, Cults, Christian Movements, Typology, the Church, Social issues and practical Christian living, Bible Prophecy, and Old English Terminology. It does not correct the Authorized Version of the Bible, nor does it undermine the fundamental Baptist's doctrines and practices as many study tools do. The 5th edition (October 2008) contains new entries, extensive additions to existing entries, and a complete rewriting of the major articles. Many preachers have told us that apart from *Strong's Concordance*, the *Way of Life Bible Encyclopedia* is their favorite study tool. A missionary told us that if he could save only one study book out of his library, it would be our Bible encyclopedia. An evangelist in South Dakota wrote: "If I

were going to the mission field and could carry only three books, they would be the Strong's concordance, a hymnal, and the *Way of Life Bible Encyclopedia*." Missionary author Jack Moorman says: "The encyclopedia is excellent. The entries show a 'distilled spirituality.'" 5th edition, 640 pages. A computer edition of the encyclopedia is available as a standalone eBook for PDF, Kindle, and ePub. It is also available as a module for *Swordseacher*.

Way of Life Literature

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