

Introduction

Socrates once said, *“If I can write the music of a nation, I care not who writes the laws.”*

“If today’s establishment knew what today’s popular music is really saying – **not what the words are saying, but what the music is saying** – they wouldn’t just turn thumbs down on it. They’d ban it, they’d smash all the records and they’d arrest anyone who tried to play it. – *Cheetah* magazine (circa 1970)

Psalm 11:3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Philippians 1:10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

“This is the suggestion of the present hour: if the world will not come to Jesus... shall not the church go down to the world? Instead of bidding men to be converted, and come out from among sinners, and be separate from them, let us join with the ungodly world, enter into union with it, and so pervade it with our influence by allowing it to influence us...”

“**Certain ministers... are treacherously betraying our holy religion under pretense of adapting it to this present age.** The new plan is to assimilate the church to the world... [to] turn the ministers of God into [those] whose business it is to amuse men.... This, then, is the proposal. In order to win the world, the Lord Jesus must conform Himself, His people, and His Word to the world. **I will not dwell on so loathsome a proposal.**”

“My dear hearers, how much I long to see you saved! But I would not belie [contradict] my Lord, even to win your souls, if they could be so won. **The true servant of God is not responsible for success or nonsuccess. Results are in God’s hands.**”

“Where in the Bible does it say a certain ‘beat’ is wrong?”

“Where in the Bible does it say we should wear a certain style of clothing? As soon as God would have said a certain beat is wrong, sinful man would have come up with other, flesh-pleasing beats and rhythms.”

“Direct commands (‘Thou shalt not...’) deal with specific sins common to man across the centuries. Scriptural principles may be applied broadly over the course of history as new innovations and cultural change dictate application to life circumstances that could not be addressed individually in Scripture.”

“God is no fool, which is why He has given us principles to guide us in those areas that are far-reaching.” Kimberly Smith, *Let Those Who Have Ears to Hear*, p. 44.

What about a new believer?

“The period in which we now live may well go down in history as the Erotic Age. Sex love has been elevated to a cult. Eros has more worshippers among civilized men today than any other god. For millions the erotic has completely displaced the spiritual....”

“Now if this god would let Christians alone, I for one would let his cult alone. The whole spongy, fetid [stinky] mess will sink some day under its own weight and become excellent fuel for the fires of hell, a just recompense for which it is meet, and it becomes us to feel compassion for those who have been caught in its tragic collapse. Tears and silence might be better than words if things were lightly otherwise than they are. But the cult of Eros is seriously affecting the Church. The pure religion of Christ that flows like a crystal river from the heart of God is being polluted by the unclean waters that trickle from behind the altars of abomination that appear on every high hill and under every green tree from New York to Los Angeles.”

“The influence of the erotic spirit is felt almost everywhere in evangelical circles. Much of the singing in certain types of meetings has in it more of romance than it has of the Holy Ghost. Both words and music are designed to arouse the libidinous [lusts]. Christ is courted with a familiarity that reveals a total ignorance of Who He is. It is not the reverent intimacy of the adoring saint but the impudent familiarity of the carnal lover....”

“The libidinous impulses and the sweet, deep movings of the Holy Spirit are diametrically opposed to each other. The notion that Eros can be made to serve as an assistant of the Lord of Glory is outrageous.... Only the spiritually blind will be taken in by it.”

“The current vogue of physical beauty and sparkling personalities in religious promotion is a further manifestation of the influence of the romantic spirit in the Church. The rhythmic sway, the synthetic smile and the too, too cheerful voice betray the religious worldling. He has learned his technique from the TV screen, but not learned it well enough to succeed in the professional field, so he brings his inept production to the holy place and peddles it to the ailing and undersized Christians who are looking for something to amuse them while staying within the bounds of the current religious mores.”
