<u>Music</u>

By Bro. Warrick NoseWorthy

Satan has tremendous power in using music to enslave a great part of the world. I speak of modern rock music, but yet all forms which are controlled by the evil one. Jerry Lee Lewis was one of the founders of modern rock and roll music. He along with Elvis Presley started out around the same time, they both started out by playing in church, but soon learned they wanted to use their talents also for the world, and so started the rock music industry. Even though the nation (USA) was somewhat alarmed regarding this form of music known as Rock n' Roll still, those early days of the late 50's proclaimed only its mildness in comparison to today's degenerate form.

Hard rock, acid rock, or rap has enslaved millions, as it promotes drugs, alcohol, immortality, witchcraft and death. The power of this music was understood only by it's dilutes. Movie stars and starlets flocked to the side of these worldly performers, who for the most part could barley carry a tune. These individuals were looked at as gods, by a nation of teenagers and children, and consequently led down by a path of bondage and spiritual oblivion. It was so strong it produced a counter culture shaping not only the music of the world but its language and education. Anyone with even the briefest exposure of the modern commercial music industry cannot escape the realization that this is an area, which has been completely subverted by Satan. The results would indicate that his efforts have produced awesome results.

Some time ago, there was a rock group from England featured on a late night talk show where the host was asking them questions about their latest album and their success. Their answers to the host's questions were actually a succession of grunts. They could barley string together four or five words, much less offer intelligent answers to the questions presented. Their mental condition finally became so evident and so disturbing that the host just shook his head and told them it was just pointless to continue, allowing them to leave the stage. I watched them shuffle off dirty, unshaven, with matted and filthy hair sticking out from their heads, and you could clearly see that their eyes were glazed with drugs. "These are the present gods of this world".

On another occasion the morning news of a major network was presenting the news that several people were killed in a riot the previous night at a rock concert. The T.V audience watched as the female anchor of this early morning news program, as she spoke of the performing group with utter awe. Their name was delivered as though she was pronouncing the name of the deity. It was as if she was speaking of something sacred every time she mentioned their activities. I sat there in total astonishment as I listened to this supposedly intelligent woman (incidentally, a lady recognized all over North America) realizing she was simultaneously deceiving and being deceived. I wondered if she really comprehended the enormity of the influence she so glibly described. Here she was, treating this group as though they were an asset to society, rather than the enormous liability they are. Seemingly, she did not realize that multiple thousands of young people would be directed down the road to hard drugs because of this group. Some would even die and suffer the agony of the damned. Untold heartache would be the price imposed upon thousands of parents and all because of this group.

Presently, thousands of radio and television stations in Canada and the USA and elsewhere incessantly beat out the rhythm of the top forty rock videos. This music has become pervasive, "even in our churches" and the lyrics are so filthy that they defy description. It is actually a form of pornography being distributed over airwaves. Worst, the average age of those who turn to this kind of music is thirteen. Illicit sex and sexual perversion are the main themes of rock music. It has ceased to be be merely "suggestive", as it was in the days of Jerry Lee Lewis, and Elvis Presley, and has now become openly pornographic, especially considering the rap artists. Illicit sex, drug culture, witchcraft and rock music go hand in hand. How many hundreds of thousands – even millions –of young people have started out on the road to drugs because their "God" of rock set the example? As a result of all of this, teenage suicides have risen dramatically in recent years.

It started as stated with Elvis, Jerry Lee and the Beatles. This was followed by hard rock, acid rock, punk rock, then it was rap. What will it be next? Whatever it will be one can be sure it will be diabolical and satanic in origin. The desire of Satan is always to steal, kill and destroy.

It is not a pretty picture to understand that hundred of thousands of young boys and girls are listing to this putrid rock often through headphones and looking at videos for many hours a day. Its more tragic still when one realizes the producers of this music, the major record companies of North America along with radio stations, TV cable companies that play this rock are as immoral as mad scientists deliberately loosing a plague on a nation. What they're doing ,they do for money. No wonder the Bible tells us that "...the love of money is the root off all evil..." (1 Timothy 6:10). In other words such is comparable to pestilent sore, draining out satanic poison that will corrupt the hearts of untold millions of young people and cause the worst type of life and death imaginable. The tragic aspect of this is that it is all done for money.

Sadder still, much of the music that passes for "Christian" has been so compromised that it begs description. The best that can be said of this is that it is a work of the flesh and definitely not of the Holy Spirit.

Contemporary Christian music is incompatible with true biblical Christianity. Music should refresh the spirit and glorify God. Instead this is exactly as its name implies, contemporary which means at least in this case similar to the music of the world. So called Christian entertainers and songs writers have done their best in many cases to write songs that have little reference to the "Glory of God" and actually can be interpreted as either earthly or spiritual. This music is designed to mimic as closely as possible the music of the world. Some churches have even degenerated to the point where they employ strobe lights to give the atmosphere of a rock n' roll concert in an effort to appease the moral decline of young people.

Hard-Core contemporary Christian music "attempts" to make Christ acceptable to men, rather then men acceptable to Christ. It is not of God, it attempts to lower the Lord Jesus Christ to mankind's lowest level instead of elevating man to the level of Christ. It is not of God. That which projects the spirit of the world cannot project the spirit of God. It is of the world and it is not of God. That's why God's Word tell us, "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate", saith the Lord, and "touch not the unclean *thing*..." (2 Corinthians 6:17). Satan is the author of much of the music rendered in our churches today. God originally created music, and it was originally designed by God to be used in worship and in fact if not the highest forms of worship designed by the Holy Spirit. Rest assured that if the world tells the church that they are doing a wonderful job in allowing this music to be part of our worship, we need to check with God. One of the greatest things that the church is lacking today is the spirit of discernment. *This* music is not of God!!