

Music Standards

“The song of the righteous is a prayer unto me.”



Compiled By Nate Richardson

RichardsonStudies.com

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Introduction to Music Philosophy: Balm or Blasphemy

Music is a gift from God. It can help us express emotions of joy and love, and process through emotions of depression despair or rage. They can help us heal, endure, and understand. It can help us be brave and push through trials valiantly. Songs bring needed relief to muster faith to keep going and enjoy the journey. I also adore the power of music to bring people together. Truly the mass availability of music today is one of the great blessings and great tests of faith of our time. Use music in a positive way to enrich life and bless the next generation.



Music is not something to be taken lightly. Isaiah speaks of the Devil being cast into the pit with his musical instruments, which suggests music is a key tool of the Devil. In Hebrew 5:13-15 we read that we must be spiritually mature and discern between good and evil: “13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”

Top 5 Music Warnings from the Prophets

Here are 5 compelling quotations of modern prophets giving poignant insight regarding our choices of music. These words may be difficult to

hear but hearing them will help you grow into the character of Christ. Remember, the prophets are simply the mouthpiece of Christ. When we meet Christ, we can expect him to measure our conduct based on the teachings we had received from his messengers, the prophets. We should not be surprised that music is one of the choice mediums of the adversary to slowly and gently lead us to hell.

1. President Boyd K Packer of the Quorum of the 12 Apostles said this in a 2008 address titled "[Lehi's Dream and You](#)" where he speaks of entertainment standards: "You live in a time of war, the spiritual war that will never end. War itself now dominates the affairs of mankind. Your world at war has lost its innocence. There is nothing, however crude or unworthy, that is not deemed acceptable for movies or plays or music or conversation. The world seems to be turned upside down (see [2 Peter 2:1–22](#)). Formality, respect for authority, dignity, and nobility are mocked. Modesty and neatness yield to slouchiness and shabbiness in dress and grooming. The rules of honesty and integrity and basic morality are now ignored. Conversation is laced with profanity. You see that in art and literature, in drama and entertainment. Instead of being refined, they become coarse (see [1 Timothy 4:1–3](#); [2 Timothy 3:1–9](#)). You have decisions almost every day as to whether you will follow those trends. You have many tests ahead. ... Largely because of television, instead of looking over into that spacious building, we are, in effect, living inside of it. That is your fate in this generation. You are living in that great and spacious building. You will be safe if you look like and groom like and act like an ordinary Latter-day Saint ... The mist of darkness will cover you at times so much that you will not be able to see your way even a short distance ahead. You will not be able to see clearly. But you can feel your way. With the gift of the Holy Ghost, you can feel your way ahead through life."

2. Elder Oaks taught that there are 2 lines of communication: the priesthood line and the personal line. If our personal line (our feeling) tells us something is okay, but the priesthood line (our priesthood leaders, especially the Apostles) say that something is not okay, we must not do it. Our choices must always be kept within the bounds which the Lord has set ([rel](#)).

3. President Ezra Taft Benson in an address titled [Satan's Thrust](#) given December 1971 gave this specific warning against rock music. Surely

this council can apply to any genre that is based in rebellion, rage, lust, wildness, lack of self control, lack of solitude, and other debased characteristics: “It has been well said that “there comes a time when the general defilement of a society becomes so great that the rising generation is put under undue pressure and cannot be said to have a fair choice between the Way of Light and the Way of Darkness.” (Hugh Nibley, An Approach to the [Book of Mormon](#), 1957.) ... The devil-inspired destructive forces are present in our literature, in our art, in the movies, on the radio, in our dress, in our dances, on the TV screen, and even in our modern, so-called popular music. Satan uses many tools to weaken and destroy the home and [family](#) and especially our young people. Today, as never before, it seems the devil’s thrust is directed at our youth. A letter from a concerned father about the evil effects of some popular music is one of many. I quote from this well-informed teacher of youth: “Music creates atmosphere. Atmosphere creates environment. Environment influences behavior. What are the mechanics of this process? Rhythm is the most physical element in music. It is the only element in music that can exist in bodily movement without benefit of sound. A mind dulled by drugs or alcohol can still respond to the beat. Loudness adds to muddling the mind. Sound magnified to the threshold of pain is of such physical violence as to block the higher processes of thought and reason. (And turning down the volume of this destructive music does not remove the other evils.) ... Repetition to the extreme is another primitive rock device. ... Gyration, a twin to rock rhythm, are such that even clean hands and a pure heart cannot misinterpret their insinuations. Darkness [and dimmed lights] is another facet of the rock scene. It is a black mass that deadens the conscience in a mask of anonymity. Identity lost in darkness shrinks from the normal feelings of responsibility. Strobe lights split the darkness in blinding shafts that reduce resistance like the lights of an interrogator’s third degree or the swinging pendulum of the hypnotist who would control your behavior. ... The whole psychedelic design [this father continues] is a swinging door to drugs, sex, rebellion, and Godlessness. Combined with the screaming obscenities of the lyrics, this mesmerizing music has borne the fruit of filth. Leaders of the rock society readily proclaim their degeneracy. ... And the most diabolical deceit of this infamy is that it denies evil to be an absolute. Our religion is one of absolutes and cannot be rationalized into a relativistic philosophy of the ‘liberal Mormons.’ We cannot safely rationalize away righteousness. “What could be more

misguided than fear that ‘if rock music were not endorsed by our leaders, we may lose many young people.’ (MIA music committee.) Even now we are losing them to the songs of Satan, drugs, sex, riot, and apostasy. We could be well reminded by a message from the Mormon Miracle pageant: ‘Moroni knew that you cannot compromise with evil. If you do, evil always wins.’” (Richard Nibley, excerpts from letter.) “The hedonist, who proclaims “Do your thing,” who lives for sinful, so-called pleasure, is never happy. Behind his mask of mock gaiety lurks the inevitable tragedy of eternal death. Haunted by its black shadow, he trades the useful, happy life for the bleak forgetfulness of drugs, alcohol, sex, and rock.” (END OF BENSON QUOTATION)

4. In “Worthy Music, Worthy Thoughts” by President Boyd K Packer (General Conference in October 1973, and reprinted in the New Era magazine in 2008 see <https://www.lds.org/new-era/2008/04/worthy-music-worthy-thoughts?lang=eng>): “Probably the greatest challenge and the most difficult thing you will face in mortal life is to learn to control your thoughts. In the [Bible](#) it says, as a man “thinketh in his heart, so is he” ([Proverbs 23:7](#)). Those who can control their thoughts have conquered themselves... Have you noticed that shady little thoughts may creep in from the wings and attract your attention in the middle of almost any performance and without any real intent on your part? These delinquent thoughts will try to upstage everybody. If you permit them to go on, all thoughts of any virtue will leave the stage. You will be left, because you consented to it, to the influence of unrighteous thoughts. If you yield to them, they will enact for you on the stage of your mind anything to the limits of your toleration. They may enact themes of bitterness, jealousy, or hatred. They may be vulgar, immoral, even depraved. When they have the stage, if you let them, they will devise the most clever persuasions to hold your attention. They can make it interesting all right, even convince you that they are innocent, for they are but thoughts... If you can say that a song is spiritually inspiring or that it urges you to see yourself in a more noble perspective, the music is worthwhile. If it merely entertains or lifts your spirits, then it also has a useful place. But if it makes you want to respond in a carnal, sensual way or to consider unrighteous desires, then that music should be avoided. It is not worthy... A wise man once said, “Music is one of the most forceful instruments for governing the mind.” Whether it governs in a positive way or a negative way is determined by what it brings onto the

stage of your mind. If you can say that a song is spiritually inspiring or that it urges you to see yourself in a more noble perspective, the music is worthwhile. If it merely entertains or lifts your spirits, then it also has a useful place. But if it makes you want to respond in a carnal, sensual way or to consider unrighteous desires, then that music should be avoided. It is not worthy. There have always been those who take the beautiful things and corrupt them. It's happened with nature; it's happened with literature, drama, art; and it certainly has happened with music. For centuries it has been obvious that when the wrong kind of words are set to appealing music, songs can lead men astray. And music itself, by the way it is played, by its beat, by its intensity, can dull the spiritual sensitivity. We are living at a time when society is undergoing a subtle, but powerful, change. It is becoming more and more permissive in what it will accept in its entertainment. As a result, much of the music being performed by popular entertainers today seems to be more intended to agitate than to pacify, more to excite than to calm. Some musicians appear to openly promote unrighteous thoughts and action. Young people, you cannot afford to fill your minds with the unworthy music of our day. It is NOT HARMLESS. It can welcome onto the stage of your mind unworthy thoughts and set a tempo to which they dance and to which you may act. You degrade yourself when you identify with those things that at times surround extremes in music—the shabbiness, the irreverence, the immorality, the addictions. Such music is not worthy of you. Be selective in what you listen to and produce. It becomes part of you. It controls your thoughts and influences the lives of others as well. I would recommend that you go through your music and throw away that which promotes degrading thoughts. Such music ought not to belong to young people concerned with spiritual development. I don't mean by this that all of today's music produces unworthy thoughts. There is music today that builds understanding of people; music that inspires courage; music that awakens feelings of spirituality, reverence, happiness, and awareness of beauty... Let me say to you young leaders, pay careful attention to the music you plan for your activities... the breach between the Church and the world, with the extremes of its music, is wider in our day than ever in generations past... You must stand firm and not compromise with what you know is right and good; you must have the courage to turn the lights up and the music down when they don't contribute to the kind of atmosphere that produces worthy thoughts; and **YOU MUST INSIST ON HIGH STANDARDS OF DRESS AND**

PERFORMANCE FROM THOSE WHO ENTERTAIN as well as those who attend... The Lord Himself was prepared for His greatest test through the influence of music, for the scripture records, “And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives” (Mark 14:26)... As you young people involve yourselves with righteous and worthwhile things, keep your minds filled with worthy thoughts, for as a man thinketh so is he, and you will have the ability to accomplish those things that will bring fulfillment to your lives.”

5. From the “For the Strength of Youth” church manual on entertainment: “Take care that your use of media does not dull your sensitivity to the Spirit or interfere with your personal relationships with others...If you are not sure whether something is appropriate to watch or listen to, talk to your parents and other adult leaders. The Holy Ghost will give you strength to make correct choices.”

And from the same on music/dance: “Choose carefully the music you listen to. Pay attention to how you feel when you are listening. Some music can carry evil and destructive messages. Do not listen to music that encourages immorality or glorifies violence through its lyrics, beat, or intensity. Do not listen to music that uses vulgar or offensive language or promotes evil practices. Such music can dull your spiritual sensitivity....Learn and sing the hymns. Hymns can lift your spirit, move you to righteous action, and help you withstand the temptations of the adversary.... Remember that the Spirit speaks with a still, small voice. If you listen to music constantly, you may not have the quiet time you need for thinking, feeling, and receiving spiritual guidance. Dancing can be fun and can provide an opportunity to meet new people. However, it too can be misused. When dancing, avoid full body contact with your partner. Do not use positions or moves that are suggestive of sexual or violent behavior or are otherwise inappropriate. Attend only those dances where dress, grooming, lighting, lyrics, music, and entertainment contribute to a wholesome atmosphere where the Spirit may be present.”

Science Supports Classical Music as Life Giving

The birds sing in the morning at a frequency which opens the stomata in the plants those same frequencies are often found in classical music

Someone experimented playing classical music to their plants and the plants grew tremendously bigger.

See "Sonic Bloom" article in Creation Magazine

Another study as I recall resulted in plants wilting from rock music.

Dance Standards

Not infrequently have the scriptures spoken of holy dances of celebration of the saints! Not unfrequently did the early Latter-day Saint pioneers dance upon the plains and in Zion! It is said that Brigham Young wanted to dance longer one evening, and when the night bugle sounded, he said in essence, 'away with the bugle, I want to dance!' and proceeded to do so until around 3am. Humans need to dance.

Corruption is found in dance anciently as well as our time. The ancient Arabian belly dance and the various sexual gyrations in many modern dance forms (too numerous to list) remind us that humans have no qualms about using their bodies to gain inappropriate advantage of one another. But as Brigham Young taught, there is ultimately no song or dance in hell. I'm also wary of many Latin dances (though not all) which overly emphasize sexual movements, albeit in a form that many consider beautiful. I would suggest that such things are too sacred for public display, even in simulations where some clothing is used (and usually not very much of it). The dance types listed in this presentation simply don't include forms which I have deemed too questionable. One can throw in or take out inappropriate moves into just about any dance form, but certain types are inherently sexual. Many modern dances have no place in Zion.

The type of dance that music inspires people to do tells us lots about the quality of that music! The opposite is also true: if good music typically accompanies a certain dance form, that form will typically be good also. Dance is inseparably connected to music; it is the expression and interpretation of the sound, movements which mirror the sound, and

sounds which mirror the movements. A society is on the "highway to hell" when their music doesn't prompt them to dance righteously, or when they dance sensually to neutral or even good music.

Not even the BYU has a keen market on this topic. I remember being horrified at one of their dances. I had to take my wife and leave the room, the entire environment was akin to a den of thieves, a simple house of horrors, a place where no accountability was felt for one's actions. I regret not leaving sooner than we did and felt deep shame that my people would do these things. Naturally the BYU is ahead of the curve on many moral issues when compared to other universities, but unfortunately in this and other worldly trends (like evolution), they follow suit, even if a ways behind, perhaps just far enough behind to where they think they aren't seen, and won't be identified with the big bad guys.

Our day will be spoken of as one which had virtually no dancing. There is a twisted counterfeit of dancing in Babylon, now let Israel learn to dance! Song and dance originally belonged to Israel, but Satan has corrupted it and offered it in Babylon. Zions forms of dancing are so rare they are all but extinct, and are only occasionally examined as remnants of ancient culture which no sophisticated person would take seriously.

What remains of wholesome dance in our society is a subgroup, hardly taken seriously, or seen as a legitimate pastime for young people. Any participation in it is rather considered an exploration of ancient arts as they are so foreign to our time. Truly our obsession with Babylonian dance is also an enactment of ancient arts, though we do seem to have taken it to a new level of depravity.

A sad sight is that of popular dance, wherein one hops around aimlessly without really knowing what they are doing. This is the status quo of social dance today. Why do we cater to club style dancing instead of teaching some legitimate dance, and host dances which call for such? We're grooming children to become club hoppers by the type of song and dance we put on for them at our public schools and universities, and sadly even the churches. As my competitive ballroom dancing friend put it, "Learning to dance in partnership teaches more value than club dancing ever will."

Dance costumes can be immodest in even good genres, so watch out for that. Look for not only uplifting dance forms, but uplifting costumes. When it comes to dance and technique, gripping one's partner etc., there can be something of a need for different dress than is publicly

common. I don't have all the answers on this but here is an interesting read from a latter-day saint dancer on some reasons why dancers wear the costumes they do: <https://www.ldsdaily.com/personal-lds-blog/modesty-heres-dancers-often-wear-less/>

Don't waste your time training as a priest or priestess of Babylon by learning their dance forms. Shame on the BYU Cougarette dance team for dabbling in these styles, notwithstanding their usually modest costumes. When you shake and gyrate in sexual patterns and all manner of boisterous rampages, it doesn't matter what you're wearing, it's still inappropriate.

The dance forms which will live on into the millennium without sinking into oblivion are wholesome forms, which do not inappropriately provoke sexuality or violent behavior. They are also forms which involve some skill and real talent. What the prophets have said about music can also apply to dance: There is so much good that you don't need to bother with the bad! Many can't find good dance because they are unwilling to find good music. Both are required like how spirit needs body. The music is the spirit, the body is the dance. Body and spirit constitute the eternal soul (ref). Do not sell your soul for popular music and dance!

“If thou art merry, praise the Lord with singing, with music, with dancing, and with a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.” (D&C 136:28)

“Dancing can be fun and can provide an opportunity to meet new people. However, it too can be misused. When dancing, avoid full body contact with your partner. Do not use positions or moves that are suggestive of sexual or violent behavior or are otherwise inappropriate. Attend only those dances where dress, grooming, lighting, lyrics, music, and entertainment contribute to a wholesome atmosphere where the Spirit may be present.” (For the Strength of Youth Manual, <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/for-the-strength-of-youth/music-and-dancing?lang=eng>)

-...it must be admitted that the close embrace of the modern style of this whirling, giddy, seductive dance is not proper for the modest maiden, and it is not exactly the position in which a prudent wife should place herself” (*Deseret News*, 20 Sept. 1877)

-This is reportedly from William Clayton's journal, from an article at this address

<https://bycommonconsent.com/2007/05/04/apologia-pro-saltando/> “The

labors of the day having been brought to a close at so early an hour viz; half past 8, it was thought proper to have a little season of recreation, accordingly, Brother Hans Hanson was invited to produce his violin. He did so, and played several lively airs, among the rest some very good lively dancing tunes. This was too much for the gravity of Brother Joseph Young, who indulged in a hornpipe, and was soon joined by several others, and before the dance was over several French fours were indulged in. The first was opened by President B. Young with Sister Whitney and Elder H.C. Kimball with Sister Lewis. The spirit of dancing increased until the whole floor was covered with dancers. After this had continued about an hour, several excellent songs were sung, in which several of the brethren and sisters joined... After dancing a few figures, President Young called the attention of the whole company, and then gave them a message, of this import, viz; that this temple was a Holy place, and that when we dance, we danced unto the Lord, and that no person would be allowed to come on to this floor, and afterwards mingle with the wicked. He said **the wicked had no right to dance, that dancing and music belonged to the Saints.**

Church Approved Music

We can enjoy a variety of music. I once asked a friend what kind of music they liked. Their response was puzzling, that they only like “Church approved music”. Well, I too don’t want to listen to music that would offend God, and I greatly commend the attitude of this person to remain devoted to God’s laws, but there’s actually no “church approved music.”

Elder Richard G Scott taught that if we only read or participate in church things, we will be living a life less rich and happy than what God intended. Further, President Spencer W Kimball believed that many of the great authors etc. can be viewed as “miniature prophets” whom have much to offer to humanity despite their not being in the church. May we be “anxiously engaged in a good cause” without being “commanded in all things”.

One thing is certain however when it comes to church music: Our top priority in entertainment should be restorative music that reunites our souls to God. Music should primarily be of a religious nature. Hymns, our favorite most known songs, and praise the attitude of our souls from morning till even. Satan thrives not only when we do evil,

but when we don't do good. Distraction is, perhaps, Satan's key weapon against the saints. This is one reason I advocate homeschooling: we don't have time for all the nonsense and bias, there is so much truth to learn, so much good to do! Spirituality can't just be a side show that we are involved with "after" all the other things we do.

Hannah Stoddard (an author with the Joseph Smith Foundation) in a recent interview expressed her shock when on a planning committee for stake youth activities, the youth only wanted to do pointless and vain activities. The leader said, "sorry to say so, but the stake president says we need some sort of tie into the gospel with our activities." The youth then spoke of how they would go to the lake, and after the activity, would talk about how life involves waves of trials. It was a bogus excuse, but they went for it.

Pre-Screening Basics, & Knowing the Background

Because music is so powerful to influence either for good or evil, I suggest listening to planned music which you have screened beforehand rather than random radio, or listening to anything just because it is by a certain musician, or of a certain genre or era. This is particularly true when dealing with non-classical music. We should not support musicians who have material which is blatantly evil. We should avoid genres of music which are saturated in evil or commonly known for evil themes. We cannot listen to music which is vulgar, has blatant or suggestive themes of violence, drug use, sexuality, or which mocks Jesus Christ and his teachings. If a song makes you feel evil or tempts you to set aside any of God's commandments and councils, get away from it. Do not spend time with music that preaches false gospels of entitlement, lust, selfishness, idleness, sloppiness, or other damning character traits. 2 Tim. 3:2-5 tells us to turn away from evil groups.

Before you chose to label a musician as a "personal favorite", and allow their products to more freely be a part of your life and identity, and you join social circles who admire said artist, research their corpus of music and their character to ascertain that they are not wolves in sheep's clothing. Though we need not require a person to be our same religion to appreciate their music, we can hold them accountable to the

standards of conscience which is given to every person, which condemns evil and impure practices.

Music Videos

If you are unable to discern whether a song be good or evil, watch the music video. The video will further reveal the intent of the artist, and will usually be a warning sign to back off, or occasionally a welcome balm. Many songs are easy to discern whether they be good or evil. If the video is bad, get rid of the song as such delivers subliminal messages of evil, even if the rhythm is attractive and the artist skilled. Unsuspecting youth are drawn to these videos, and we must not lead them inadvertently to such evil by pretending all is well. Beware that your music choices will be passed on to your associates and more importantly to your children. The music you enjoy they may further investigate, seeing it's videos and looking into the characters of the artists. Thus we must use discretion and wisdom and not "negotiate at the table of the enemy". We must (as the Lord warned in the Doctrine and Covenants (ref)) depart from the ungodly.

Seek & Stand in Holy Places

Here is why we avoid questionable music, musicians, and genres. Looking in bad places for good stuff can be like dumpster diving for food to sustain life. We look for scraps of tasty nutritious fresh food in these questionable venues, but we can't very well stay clean during the search! Not only is the search dangerous, but at the end of the day, there isn't much there to be found! Most of what you find there is garbage, and what looks good there usually isn't! Simply by being around garbage, food that used to be good becomes garbage. There are much better places to look for food! There are buffets overflowing with wonderful foods if we can but escape the alluring attraction of the baited hooks of Lucifer, our enemy. Let your soul delight in fatness (ref)! Even if bad music makes us temporarily feel pleasure, that pleasure will suck the life out of us, and we will have damned ourselves to a state of depravity where the doors once open for joyous exploration and exquisite

participation in uplifting experiences have become shut. If you have indulged in evil music, your only hope is to call upon Jesus Christ to free you from the bad thinking patterns and beliefs which that music has infected you with. Remember always that there is so much wholesome music that we don't need to bother with the evil!

Cultivate Creation

Elder Robert E Hales speaks of how his father who worked in creating industrial designs explained to him that there is a spiritual aspect of creation, which requires a reverent atmosphere (for more on that story see "Fathers of Fatih" by Maller et al.). So be it studying or working with the mind in any way, we need a calm environment where the spirit can teach.

One of the issues with pop music is that it is technically, well, stupid. The vocabulary is at a low grade level, and the same phrases are repeated relentlessly. Verse, chorus, similar verse, same chorus, similar verse, and grand finale with same chorus!

People say music is all subjective, but this is false. Some music is objectively bad shallow and easy. Other music is objectively excellent complex and follows the eternal laws of musical composition.

Beware Desensitization

Remember, Satan leads us down by degrees, not all at once. Tragically, one of the core deceptions of the Devil is desensitization to evil, so we often don't even realize when it is all around us. What a better topic than music to apply this timeless poetry: "Vice is a monster of so frightful mien As to be hated needs but to be seen; Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face, We first endure, then pity, then embrace." (Alexander Pope). Remember that the Beatles came with their long hair and lack of respect for authority, women, etc., and see how now the hair isn't considered long, and the manners aren't considered rude, etc. You must be sensitive to warning signs, red flags which suggest something isn't right. You must act when prompted in these matters, you

must be courageous. Trust that the true messengers will come if you but hold out for them, seek them, and obey the word of the Lord.

Some people play questionable music and claim that it is ok since the children present do not know the words being said. However, the children do learn the genre and feeling of that music, and therefore will, as they get older, seek out that questionable music and that fallen culture.

Prepare for Zion, & Eliminate Excuses

Ask yourself: Will this music be played in the place I want to go, namely the celestial kingdom, in the presence of Almighty God Ahman, and his son Jehovah, the prince of peace? Yes earth is lower than heaven, but are we not seeking to make a heaven out of this earth? Brigham Young said we are not going to wait for Zion, we are going to build it (ref). Are we not strangers, seeking a city whose foundations are made by God (ref)? Hope we not for the city of Enoch to return to find a city of saints? Is not the coming of our Lord neigh, even at the doors (D&C refs)? How hardly do we even have the time of day to fool with the fopper of Babylon. To be effective, Satan's distractions need only distract you, they don't even need to be evil. Innocent activities become evil when their consumption results in sin of omission. If Satan has distracted you from your holy work for Zion, then he has succeeded, even if he bought you at the price of a catchy tune. Oh how short is this life, and oh great the tasks beset upon Israel to accomplish herein! Like Joseph Smith and other mighty saints, have a sense of urgency about the Lord's work.

We often must rely on our feelings, not just broad written law, or advice of well-meaning peers when making choices. I'm confident that God will not tolerate an excuse of "no one told me that was bad" in the many seemingly gray areas of life. How hardly can we ignore the whisper of conscience and expect the kingdom of God. God will judge us based on not only what we did about what we knew, but what we did about how we felt. If we chose to say of questionable music, "but I felt fine about it", then we approach a slippery slope. Don't stay skin deep. Don't pretend ignorance to the implications of the artist, etc.

God is Charming. So is Satan.

God is joyful because he is unchanging and “cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance” (ref). God isn’t an old grouch. He is youthful and charming. He has a sense of humor. He likes to relate with us. Just like our ability to become as he is, so has he has been where we are (ref couplet Snow). He likes culture and custom so long as such is not promoting evil ideas and attitudes. God is happy, and wants you to be happy (3 Ne. 28:10). You can find great joy in this life. God loves the free will offerings we bring to him. God loves all nations, and the cultures in each have uplifting forms of music which can be help us in the quest to “let your soul delight in fatness” (Jacob 9:51).

Beware that the Devil is also charming, but for the wrong reasons, and in a superfluous way. In my mission that the most disobedient missionary who had been leading other missionaries into disobedience, when being sent home by the mission president was told essentially, ‘you know Elder, you are very charismatic. But you know who else is very charismatic? Lucifer.’ Truly the Devil seeks to imitate God, and seeks to make his plan appear to be another, or a better path to happiness. In reality, there is only one way, Jesus Christ.

Christian Priorities: Seek & Find the Best

If you think I’m calling for you to be prudish and shallow in your music choices to avoid evil, you have much to learn. What I am suggesting is that we refine our tastes to find the greatest possible lasting joy in wholesome materials. Sometimes a Christian life involves setting aside things we currently enjoy so we can pursue higher causes. Like the fat man who somewhat enjoys his unhealthy food must leave it for his own good, so can we leave the culture of unwholesome music and learn to love the good and the increased life that will come with it. We’re not all expected to be the same, and are allowed personality and taste. Let us have good taste, leaving the narrow lower for the vast expanse of the higher.

The good is out there, you just have to have the faith to find it. Finding takes faith. The Holy Ghost will aid you in your search if you do

not lower your standards. Be patient as you won't find it all at once, nor will your capacity to appreciate goodness all develop at once. Moral restraint (regarding questionable entertainment etc.) during seasons where we don't have all the answers is a core aspect of faith. Some day you will have all the answers. That day will come sooner if you exercise more righteous restraint. Our passions must be bridled as we wait upon the Lord to lead us to 'green pastures' (Psalms 23). Let us fix our hope on the scriptural promise that if we let the Lord be our shepherd, no want shall we know, and our cups will run over with blessings. As Elder Neil A Maxwell put it, our hearts will be "brim with joy" as we increasingly consecrate our lives to the Master ("Brim with Joy" (Brigham Young University devotional, Jan. 23, 1996). May Jesus Christ be the central figure in our lives, and may we pay close attention to our conscience and the words of the prophets.

Separating the Art from The Artist: A Virtue and A Vice

To some extent it seems we can separate the art from the artist. Not everyone will have the same standards as you, but more people than you may think actually do share your standards, in and out of the church; the community of wholesome music has a long history, and new creations of that type are still being born to this day. We praise the artist for his good work, which motivates him to create more good work and leave behind the bad. We remember David of old, the writer of the great Psalms of worship which we revere as the word of the Lord, we revere his writing even though he was not without serious flaws. This doesn't excuse entirely the character of the artist. David made a bad choice and it has eternal consequences, but David overall was a godly man who loved the Lord.

Caution: Recall that President Packer taught that those whom we allow to entertain us should themselves groom reasonably well (ref). We can't ignore the effect of the culture of the singer entirely. We must choose positive role models, and favorite entertainers are certainly role models (especially as our children watch how we chose and further explore and adhere to the cultures of our role models).

Some will say that we must in all cases separate art from the artist, because all people are flawed, and the complete separation is needed to enjoy any art. Perhaps however there is a continuum, and it's those whom are particularly evil are whom we should reject, both them, and their art. We must also take caution, for the Lord warned that we cannot always recognize the good from the evil when it comes to people (D&C 10:37). Oh what caution we must take! Let us be vigilant in righteously judging the fruit of artists, both immediate and cultural. What people wear, the words they say, the messages they support, the way they act, these are the hints which we must boldly act upon when determining what to reject, and what to support. Corrupt musicians often hide corrupt messages into their music.

It will be fun to note here that Brigham Young said there is no song or dance whatsoever in hell.

Ayn Rand's 'Fountainhead' though burdened with humanistic error does have many great lessons. It speaks of the depravity of loving something uplifting someone did while knowing that the personal life of that person was fraudulent and immoral. A sermon to 'be ye good' becomes nullified when spoken by the Devil or one of his angels; you know they have something up their sleeve. Does this mean people with corrupt motives shouldn't be admired when they do something good? No, it means we can't set them up as someone to emulate, and that we must take utmost precautions when dealing with them, if we chose to at all. Corrupt people are often double minded and seeking to trick their audience. Their employer the Devil has great plans for their work, even if it sometimes appears innocent. An innocent track of an evil-inspired musician is often the bait on the hook.

The 13th Article of Faith says we seek anything virtuous lovely etc. This may allow for some flexibility on who the artist is so long as their product is good.

Music Genres

This certainly requires some self-governing based on correct principles, but I will wager a few do's and don'ts here.

Genres which are generally uplifting are classical, opera, choral, Celtic, and some folk. Genres which are generally degrading are rock, pop, punk, rap, & techno. There are examples of beauty in many categories,

but it is wise to focus the attention on cultivating that which is most rewarding. Some music forms genres and cultures should be completely avoided. There are objective measures of excellence in music, and these are usually mastered in genres listed here as uplifting.

There is so much beauty to be found in the uplifting genres that we have no time for the rest. Though genres of the various cultures of our time can at times assist us in life's trials and to find expression as we are on the path of self-discovery, or perhaps can be employed in various missionary efforts to speak to others in the language they are familiar with, the truest expression of beauty and excellence is found in the first series of uplifting genres listed above. All of our emotional needs can and should be met with resources pleasing to the Lord. Taste in music may differ from culture to culture, but we should not allow any evil cultures to become a part of our character. We must succeed in this endeavor as much is at stake for both our lives and generations to come. Rap and rock are particularly evil, often featuring themes of gangs, violence, rape, theft, selfishness, and adultery. Much pop music has these same messages. It seems rap is the worst of these, as it is more out in the open evil. Pop and rock often try to blur the lines, and can be considered a gateway drug to increasingly evil music. Music considered normal today was yesterday's abomination. This is one of the reasons why the scripture warns that if we do not turn our hearts to our fathers, we will be destroyed. All common sense has been lost to this generation, and destruction is eminent.

“Contend Against No Church Save It Be the Church of the Devil”: Avoiding Satanic Musicians

The Lord admonishes us to “contend against no church save it be the church of the Devil” (D&C 18:20). I chose to not listen to known devil worshippers, even if they have songs that seem innocent. I avoid those artists entirely. Other artists who aren't open devil worshippers I can at times pause and admire some of their artwork, even when I know they have some other artwork which is more questionable, morally speaking. I am also aware that in some cases and scenarios, certain types of music

which are very emotional can help people get through very emotional episodes of life. The general music we chose however, should likely focus on genres like classical, opera, tenor, soprano, folk, and other high-quality types of music whose melody and lyric reflect dignity, self-control, integrity, reverence for life, reverence for the sacred, and an overall message of goodwill toward men.

Popular Devil Worshipping Musicians

Here are some known devil worshippers whom we must refuse to listen to or associate with in any way. This list is from goodfight.org whom has conducted research into the messages and backgrounds of these groups, exposing their Satanic ways: Robert Johnson, Little Richard, Bill Haley, Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, George Harrison, The Beatles, The Beach Boys, David Crosby, David Bowie, Pink Floyd, The Grateful Dead, Jimi Hendrix, Carlos Santana, Fleetwood Mac, Hill & Oats, Black Sabbath, Led Zeppelin, The Eagles, Van Halen, KISS, AC/C, Sting, Iron Maiden, Prince, Metallica, Michael Jackson, Bob Dylan, Beyoncé, Queen, Ariana Grande, Lady Gaga, Adam Levine (of Maroon 5), James Franco, ACDC, Ellie Goulding, Miley Cyrus, Kesha, Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, & The Red Hot Chili Peppers. MANY more could be listed.

One example of propaganda from an evil musician is the ultra-famous rapper “Snoop Dogg”. His music, like much or most rap music, usually involves substance abuse, robbery, defiling women, idling life away, blaspheming God, and every other sin. He is truly a high priest in the church of the Devil. He put out a video of him holding a gun to someone who looks like President Donald Trump. Snoop targets young boys who never had a dad, and men who live in their parents’ basement, who think that Snoop is the image of a real man. Snoop knows that his audience is a bunch of arrested development kids and that he is robbing and brainwashing them. Pimping them. Making a bunch of kids dress like gangsters so they get picked up by the cops, put in jail, and made into a prison labor force. This suits well Satan’s plan of captivity. He wants anarchy and should be put in jail for inciting riots and violence against the President. In his videos they are pointing guns at cops all the time. They’re being trained to kill cops; to make chaos, exaggerating the mistakes of the police.

If you want political change, use the political process, or a 1776, not a strange assassin thug culture or an immoral French Revolution (beheading everyone) approach. This is ghetto and evil.

Remember that every dollar you spend and every online track you play is a vote cast in favor of or against the entity to which you have spent it. In this digital age, not only dollars but page and song views also count. Take caution: Is the group that you're supporting going to take the \$ you give them and turn around to spend it on creating something evil?

Even if a musician doesn't come out and praise the Devil (as many do), if they promote evil, they are prophets of the Devil just the same.

When someone has proven to be openly evil in full rebellion, we blacklist, or so to speak, excommunicate them, from our association. We don't hear their music, not even their "good" ones. We don't get close to them. We don't expose our children to them in a positive light, because they aren't a positive light. They are a tree of abomination, and partaking thereof, though it may seem sweet in the mouth, will in the stomach, be bitter. They are wolves in sheep's clothing, and the sheep have no business associating with them, no matter how cunning wise or charming the sheep believes itself to be. Hugh Nibley wisely teaches that we aren't to resist evil, rather we are to stay clear away from it! President Hinckley says no dirty magazines are allowed in his home as he cannot trust himself around evil. Not trusting oneself around evil isn't the mark of a weak man, but of an honest one, and a saint indeed. The D&C instructs us to depart from the ungodly (ref). What about missionary work and fellowship and building bridges? We don't need bridges to Babylon, we need to flee from it. We do befriend others, but we don't worship at their altars. In the April 2020 General Conference, one pointed out that when Lehi partook, he didn't leave the tree in his efforts to invite and persuade others to come partake (ref). We do love sinners, but we don't worship their Gods. We do embrace multiculturalism, but we don't embrace idolatry, fornication, lasciviousness, and filth. Culture, however diverse, must stay within the bounds the Lord has set. Satan is the father of lies, the father of filth, and those who have sworn allegiance to him cannot be reasoned with, and they especially cannot be used as sources of entertainment. God your maker is best able to entertain you in ways that build a foundation for a long happy life. Evil musicians are not fountains of truth from which we can drink joy, fulfillment, and satiation, the things which good musicians can bring. Good musicians draw upon the light of Christ which is given to all people to make the world a better place. I'm not saying entertainers need to be perfect to offer wholesome entertainment which can move and rejuvenate our souls. I am saying that

there is a line, and when it is crossed, supporting that artist or their creations in any way becomes inappropriate, destructive, and leads us to hell.

We recall Brigham Young's statement that there is no song or dance in hell (ref). Therefore we can say that 'bad' music & dance, doesn't really qualify for the titles of music and dance, but something fallen, and despicable, to be renounced entirely. Evil "music" is something that won't last when Babylon The Great falls.

Emotional Regulation Therapy in Various Genres

Some songs have personal meaning to us as they bring back fond memories of spending time with friends, and the series of emotions and questions we dealt with in life.

In the spirit of Paul's statement about being all things to all people, that saviors on mount Zion have the privilege of "time travel". What I mean by this is that it was their opportunity to adopt the cultures of those whom are around them, including those of their age, those younger, and those older. This means a person can, for the sake of teens, be like a teen sometimes, etc., enjoying with them their sports and wholesome music in genres which they enjoy. Some genres have little if anything to offer when it comes to wholesome music, and we would do well to steer youth in a different direction where possible.

These things said, remember that we do not partake of Babylon in efforts to share Zion. We must NEVER touch the unclean gift (ref). Yes we want to connect with and relate to others, but we must do this within the bounds the Lord has set. We must seek excellence and cleanliness. We may enjoy various flavors, but we cannot partake of poison. Beware that not only do certain words suggest filthiness, but certain tempos rhythms beats and cultures themselves are degrading to the spirit of the Lord. Be a friend to everyone, but only share with them things which are wholesome. There is enough good to share that we do not need to worry about tampering with the bad.

A friend shared his succinct definition of bad music with me, with a caution to beware any genre: "I define bad music as **erratic, jarring, and unstable—with a lack of melodious underpinning**. I always feel **uncomfortable around bad music**, no matter whether it is

part of rock, classical, country, spiritual or jazz. Every form of music, except the specific offshoots of hard rock, are capable of producing pleasant feelings. Some forms are more generally suited to emotionally stable music (classical and hymns). But you should feel nervous around any type of music that is **destabilizing and not uplifting**. Worse, yet, if you actually like hard, acid rock or wildly erratic classical show-off pieces or wild jazz, your **conscience is in bad shape**. Nothing dulls the feeling sense of conscience more than bad music—unless it is sexual sin.”

Retaining Control of Yourself

Music which speaks of "going crazy" and "losing [ones] mind" and living only in/for the night often refers to evil, and things connected with evil, such as giving in to the immoral pressure to be unchaste, or resignation in general. The mind along with the gut are connectors to the soul and spirit. Satan wishes to take over minds and bodies so he can get souls (the soul is a combination of mind/spirit and body (ref)); if Satan gets one or the other, it's a package deal. The same goes for God, if we turn our souls over to him, we get both an exalted spirit, and an exalted mind). Retaining control of ourselves is why we don't practice hypnotism or certain forms of yoga which involve "letting go" of one's mind, of one's consciousness, will, control, etc. Demons are real. Demons can and do possess people. Often what we think is some natural illness is actually the operation of demons, whose job it is to torment us, and those can often be avoided or cast out if we have faith (see Brigham Young and Joseph Smith for more on the illness demon connection and healing/protection from it). Be firm and do not allow things into your mind which don't belong there. Do not leave it empty, as such invites evil. God wishes us to be active in upkeeping both our bodies and minds. The Savior taught of someone who cleaned demons away, but then left an empty house, where later even more demons came (ref). Keep a firm resolve. Dancing to the extent that one feels to "loose their mind" is not good dancing. Dancing can be good. Brigham Young was known to dance late into the night at parties. But tones lyrics and contortions which lead one to be overpowered and lose control are not of the Lord.

Judge the Cover

If an album cover features explicit images or suggestive postures (connotating drug use, sex, violence, pride, arrogance, or general rudeness), this is a significant warning sign. An album cover is designed to be an embodiment of the themes which can be found in the album. Sex is not bad, but when people make it a public thing that is bad, and they're usually suggesting it be used outside of marriage.

When a song slips in blatant or even hidden references to bad things or bad language, it shows that the musician is seeking to please not the Lord, but the world. Beware the spirit of the masses which condemn evil, then run to the theaters when a suggestive film is being presented. They have a form of godliness, but deny the power thereof (ref). A theatre is a dark place where one feels they are in private. Earbuds and vehicles suggest privacy and often lead to mental then physical fornication. But no one can hide from God, and for that matter, from their ancestors who stand as guardian angels, and indeed watch their lives.

Be Natural

Be careful with electronic sounds which cannot be produced naturally, or which cannot be produced at the speeds they are being played on naturally. Some electronic components of music can be uplifting, but much precaution is needed in this area. Loud beats, fast rhythms, unnatural sounds, all of these contribute to the disturbance of body and spirit.

One of the plagues that accompanies unnatural and ungodly music is immodest dress. Remember the days of dancing around the camp fire, remember the times of smiling in the pure joy of modest fun, where all participants cover their bodies handsomely without showing their skin or their form. Brigham Young chastised the sisters in Zion, telling them that it made them look uncomely to show their form, drawing their dresses tightly around their bodies as was the fashion in Babylon (ref). He called upon the saints to make their own clothes, fashions, and culture all together (ref). They succeeded at this for a long time, and now it is our

generation's turn to create again a culture of Holiness to the Lord! Often the ways of the world simply aren't the ways of the Lord. Beware what music you hear, as music is a trigger of behavior, particularly moral behavior.

Music for Workouts or other Intense Moments

It is not uncommon to see people using much more wild music for their workouts, claiming that such helps them to be enthusiastic. Even for intensive training and workouts, we don't need thrashy trashy music. We can "get pumped" with compelling and rhythmical classical style songs not involving overly repetitive and dulling tones beats or lyrics. The spirit needs a reverent atmosphere to inspire the creative process, even, I would argue, the creation of a strong body and mind. Let us not harm the mind and spirit with the excuse of supposedly helping the body. Later the revelation will come showing that those who indulged in harmful music will have sustained not only long term damage to their attitude, and spiritual sensitivities, but along term decaying effect on their bodies.

Many athletes will attest to the importance of focus during practice and performance, some even refrain from using any music for this reason. The most skilled in body and mind often require reverent quiet in their training where they can more easily access the creative spirit of God in their work. Our minds must be fully focused on the task at hand. Wild music can also lead someone to push themselves further than they should, resulting in unnecessary injury or other dangerous and compromising situations which they would not have otherwise encountered.

Athletes used to train to intense/invigorating piano music. They would meet in a gym and there would be a pianist playing music.

They Sold Their Souls for Rock & Roll by Good Fight Ministries – Documentary Highlights

Based on documentaries by Good Fight Ministries

They Sold Their Soul for Rock & Roll & Hollywood's War against God:

Documentaries
by Good Fight
Ministries (from
GoodFight.org)

Here we have a
documentary on the
evils of rock music
historically and
today. We also have
short films about the
same. Finally we



have a documentary about Hollywood's use of Gnostic undertones to teach rebellion against God's plan for us (the core idea of Gnosticism being that the creator is a wicked dictator, and Lucifer is the "unsung hero" bringing wisdom to mankind).

This documentary and short video by Good Fight Ministries (GoodFight.org) show that the Satanism once reserved for death metal bands is now pushed into main stream pop music. They also show the roots of Satanism in Rock and Roll:

Documentary: They Sold Their Souls for Rock and Roll: This documentary includes themes such as the following: literal pacts with the devil for talent/fame/wealth/pleasure seen frequently in the rock music industry; rock song writers being inspired by the devil for lyrics and tones of songs "seeing concerts and taking notes on them" to create their music and the playing of those backward (or even just forward often) speaking of overt Satanism, which backward lyrics are sophisticated creation of Satan not of the musicians; the creator of the documentary reports that when he was a song writer before being born again, he too would have lyrics of songs come to his mind, even to the extent that he would have to look up the meanings to the lyrics which came to him, not knowing their meaning; the roots of Aleister Crowley

and other Satanic leaders; the pervasiveness of Satanic themes in old and modern rock rap and even pop music; from bluegrass singers who sold their souls to the devil at the cross roads, to Elvis, to the Doors and the rest of them, these singers are deeply involved in the occult; pedophilia rape murder drug abuse free sex homosexuality and all manner of evil are openly promoted by rock singers and their intellectual forefathers. Terms such as New Age and New World Order were inspired by the Devil. The Peace spoken of in the 60's was about how people could live wickedly and yet have peace, the thing most negated by the scriptures. Crowley points out that the family is the biggest hurdle against the Satanic agenda, therefore homosexuality is promoted. Also is covered the demons plaguing these artists which they drown out with alcohol etc., and their eventual sad disappointed forsaken deaths. It is shown how yesterday's extremists are today's moderates, and how we would today laugh at what offended people in the 50's. We are desensitized to evil. It is shown how music is the most powerful venue for Satanic doctrines to be spread, such as the phrase from the Satanic Bible, "Do as Thou Wilt" which became "Do your thing", and moral relativism in the false name of tolerance which dominates society today. Demonic doctrines of humans being no more than animals are promoted. The extremism once reserved for metal bands is now becoming mainstream as seen in pop music. More modern examples of this are documented in other films at goodfight.org. While contributing to the delinquency of minors used to be illegal, we see this is no longer the case. This documentary makes it painfully clear that the religion of Satan is alive and well today, and their churches are the rock concerts. Let me note that this documentary gets one thing wrong, they say the doctrine of being able to become a God is of the Devil, but in reality, Satan's doctrine is to become a God by evil, whereas God's doctrine is to become a God by good works and grace as outlined in Christ's doctrine.

They Sold Their Souls For Rock and Roll: Part 1:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSBYcXGXXeM&t=120s>

They Sold Their Souls For Rock and Roll: Part 2:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Et40kj2mDg4>

They Sold Their Souls For Rock and Roll: Part 3:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsohgBRbhac>

They Sold Their Souls For Rock and Roll: Part 4:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nqkTQ0Et4Q>

They Sold Their Souls For Rock and Roll: Part 5:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-UNitDy9sY>

“Hollywood’s War on God” full documentary:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zC7jYfL2Ufc>

it speaks of **Gnosticism** which turns God’s plan upside down, saying the creator is evil and Lucifer is good and that Lucifer is manifest in Sophia or learning; they state that rules and limits are bad, and that the creator (God) is an evil dictator who punishes us by putting us in bodies; they hate bodies; they think they can change the future and eliminate the second coming of Christ by initiating some new order. Speaks of the root of scientology as being Satanism as seen in the writings of Aleister Crowley. Shows how V for Vendetta, The Matrix, Harry Potter, and others are hidden gnostic teachings.

HP Lavatski is a witch which Harry Potter is based on. Harry Potter’s escape from the material world into the spiritual one is via communication with a serpent. Aleister Crowley also discovered he was a “wizard” at age 11 like Harry Potter, and other analogies of Potter and Crowley are shown.

Alan Moore is a film maker in whose films the heroes are always the devils.

Gnosticism of The Truman Show exposed, where “Moses” and “Christoff” are the bad guys, and Truman must escape the world he lives in which is a set up, and Truman gets a hint that the world is fake with a “falling star” item like Lucifer falling from heaven (the old Prometheus tied to a rock as being the good guy who brought fire to mankind and being punished by God inverting God as bad and Lucifer/Prometheus as good). Truman sees a woman who tries to tell him he is deceived she is sitting by a tree whose name is Sophia like Eve in Eden. Truman also looks within himself for divine identity rather than looking to Jesus Christ. They show 139 often to mock Psalm 139 which speaks of God constantly watching us. Truman becomes his own savior with the help of the fallen star, the woman, and the self-discovery. Truman’s freedom is in his daringness to break the rules of the creator.

In the x-men movie, the hero’s job is to overthrow the creator. The winged man is like the fallen angel who like Lucifer starts as good then becomes bad, and who rejects his father, then falls from a window just before catching himself. The dark angel shape changer as the 4th horse of

the apocalypse is also featured. The Beast is one character, whose job is to be a US ambassador to advocate for mutant rights. The mutants represent homosexuals.

Dan Brown's *Divinci Code* is also based on Gnosticism and thus strikes the doctrine of Christ. It leads people to worship a dead woman's bones rather than to worship Christ.

In a movie *Pleasantville*, when they sin, the world becomes more colorful and beautiful and a rainbow appears.

Truman wants to escape the real world to go to Tahiti.

But in reality, God created color, God created Tahiti and beaches etc.

Rebellion is what taints the beautiful creation.

Hollywood has reintroduced the Gnosticism to deceive us in these last days (the idea that Lucifer is the good guy, and the creator is the bad guy).

The Matrix is a heavily gnostic movie of rebellion against the creator.

Much details of that in the presentation.

[End of notes on *They Sold Their Souls For Rock & Roll* by Good Fight Ministries.]

[GFM denounces theosis (man becoming like God), here's a bit of my letter to GFM in favor of theosis:] I want to thank you for your profound work; I've watched all of your videos and look forward to more productions. I'm going to spread your videos all I can...I still strive for guidance on how to choose Christian music, and I was praying for more guidance on that subject when I came across your website. I have knelt to thank God for leading me to your website. I am a latter-day saint and know there is a difference between us doctrinally about becoming gods. Briefly I say yes Lucifer wants people to TAKE GOD'S PLACE and become gods via evil. But God would have us become like him (NOT TAKE HIS PLACE) like a father wants a son to become like him, but this is only possible through righteousness. We wouldn't take God's place ever, but would be extensions of his enterprise, so to say. "Joint heirs with Christ", "if children then heirs", etc. For a bit more on this topic, my favorite sermon on this topic about how we need a Savior (Jesus Christ) because of God's justice, and that's how we avoid Lucifer's tyranny. See Elder Christofferson's 2017 BYU Devotional titled "A Message at Christmas". I will also suggest that the serpent symbol, though correctly now represents the Devil, could have originally

been divine (as in new testament “be ye wise as serpents”), and Satan’s use of it in particular in Eden could have been a cunning move to deceive our first parents. (Thus anciently and in various cultures, some have used serpents to describe the real Christ also, like the ancient American Indians with Quetzalcoatl, or the Book of Mormon footnote to the flying serpents being a type of Christ.) One more thing I think you will like. You speak of the evils of Gnosticism, and how they hate our bodies etc. (‘why are you wearing that man suit?’ said the rabbit in Danny Darko, etc.) I believe that Jesus Christ currently has a body, that he always will, and that we too will always have our bodies after the resurrection. In other words, I believe in a literal resurrection, and I think any Gnostic would detest that. So I’m very satisfied with that belief. Spirit and matter connected are where we have joy; in other words, we need bodies to have full joy (D&C 93:33-34) (if interested, here is an article on how bodies are a blessing in greater detail drawing from scripture: “The Body as a Blessing” by John S Tanner, Ensign Magazine July 1993 <https://www.lds.org/ensign/1993/07/the-body-as-a-blessing?lang=eng>)

[End of my letter to Good Fight Ministries.]

Here are shorter films from Good Fight Ministries on the music industry etc:

Summary of musicians who use 666 openly:

<https://youtu.be/HwaeDVnaJ-k>

Robert Johnson, Satanism, and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUK1P5x9Xak&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCxFMNUBmlhe4&index=1>

Little Richard and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oVlspnsVSI&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCxFMNUBmlhe4&index=2>

Bill Haley and Satanism: The Trojan Horse of Rock and Roll:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIf52wVXiVU&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCxFMNUBmlhe4&index=3>

Elvis Presley and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M813ZdDK4kE&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCxFMNUBmlhe4&index=4>

Jerry Lee Lewis and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZi3eI3YB3M&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCxFMNUBmlhe4&index=5>

George Harrison and Satanism (including song starting with Hallelujah, changing to Hare Krishna):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQJOAJrbcvA&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4&index=6>

The Beatles and Satanism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIm-yx_638s&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4&index=7

The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2JCrX3LP78I>

The Beach Boys and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBAgm-kfBmo>

David Crosby and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSuRatj2rkI&index=10&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4>

David Bowie and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SfTVYGqMots&index=11&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4>

Pink Floyd and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5MyipGXrO0E>

The Grateful Dead and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=85AsVImpX2M&index=13&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4>

Jimi Hendrix and Satanism: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5vh6-7Skvs&index=14&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4>

Carlos Santana and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRbCN4cse88&index=15&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4>

Fleetwood Mac and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6xG06r2fN4&index=16&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4>

Hill & Oats and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0UUTrDjxcA&index=17&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4>

Black Sabbath and Satanism:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vw4FGhe9_AA&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4&index=18

Led Zepplin, Jimmy Page, and Satanism (including performing directions rite on stage):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F80RzK4jWUA&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXFMNUBmlhe4&index=19>

Led Zeppelin and the Stairway to Heaven and Satanism (including automatic writing & reverse lyrics):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JMR9DdYiA-w&index=20&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4>

The Eagles and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJhqCGtPkyk&index=21&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4>

Van Halen and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xiYKBWfZak&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4&index=22>

KISS and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwLj0hyJyws&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4&index=23>

AC/CD and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jtMVzNd15pM&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4&index=24>

Sting and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qu3OrGR2QyI&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4&index=25>

Iron Maiden and Satanism:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGfDQ7BsI_I&index=26&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4

U2 and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JkBHGecqbDs&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4&index=27>

Prince and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=khgDLsP55JI&index=28&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4>

Metallica and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CCEMOWfoO1TY&list=PLxSUMS3CSNTaYIdBrGdswCXXFMNUBmlhe4&index=29>

Michael Jackson and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=811AQTeHI7c>

Bob Dylan and the Devil at the Crossroads:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2JCrX3LP78I>

Beyonce and Satanism:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21GOSnJc4Mg>

Queen and Satanism: <https://youtu.be/zrIzs6v1HOA>

Ariana Grande and Satanism: <https://youtu.be/4i8VmxM0GxY>

Lady Gaga and Satanism: <https://youtu.be/-fZSHPf3j2g>
Adam Levine (of Maroon 5), James Franco, ACDC, Ted Bundy, and Satanism: <https://youtu.be/KTKZUvb0enM>
Ellie Goulding and Satanism: <https://youtu.be/FCEFz2pYdgI>
Miley Cyrus, Perverted Sex Pusher, Her Dad's Lament for Not Being a Good Dad, footage of an AIDS diseased man, and Satanism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=PIfOH428_p8
Kesha, the Satanic Cult Leader: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8GfWJKyPvC>
Katy Perry, the Super Bowl, forsaking Christianity, and Satanism: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHknzzJeK6Y>
Bruno Mars, The Red Hot Chili Peppers, the Super Bowl, and Satanism: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cj5bI38yGUU>
Satan Worship at the GRAMMYs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMMfgsF6DnU>
X-Men Movies and the Gay Agenda: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2qWceLl65IM>
The Noah Movie, Gnosticism, and Satanism: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1413&v=k2Uzm7kE4Uw

Note: I've learned Good Fight Ministries has some documentaries casting shame on the founding fathers of the US; I've seen theories like those before, and I don't buy them. The D&C also upholds those men as being the best on earth at that time, and we know that they came to the St. George temple seeking their temple work to be completed at a later time after their death. Notwithstanding that research which I don't support, I am very much in support of their research regarding the influence of the Devil in the music industry, and wish for everyone to see it.

Resources on Music

imslp.org – Petrucci Music Library - public domain sheet music & recordings

8notes.com – much free sheet music for various instruments, even more for the 20\$/year subscription

-seek chord charts (piano, guitar, accordion, etc.)

-seek fingering charts

-seek fret/note label/location stickers (violin, guitar, piano, accordion, etc.)

-Essencial Elements is a good series of how to books for various instruments

-for dummies series: classical guitar, home music recording, singing exercises, music theory

-metronome

-Note: avoid cheap music vendors, they're likely pirates just trying to make a profit off of you, instead of giving credit to the artists. If you have some backup mp3's, ensure you have a public streaming service you pay for monthly so the artists are getting paid.

