



Church of Perth Intercessory Team

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

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HEART TO HEART

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REBELLION, ROCK AND RUIN

Never before has a generation had so much yet so little at the same time. The current generation of youth has money to burn and untold freedom. Its every whim is catered for by a commercial world bowing and scraping at its feet. But it is a lost, rebellious generation. Why? There are several reasons but we will look at just one of the most powerful. It is rock music. Cliff Richard once bewailed, "Why does the devil have all the good music?" But he was wrong. The devil does not have *any* good music. Everything that comes from him is bad, deceptive and destructive. Unfortunately many people today – especially young ones – believe Cliff was right. The music of today is loud, heavy beat and minor key. The emphasis is on the boom-boom-boom of the drums, the wailing off-key guitars and raucous screeching accompanied by suggestive gyrations that would even make Elvis Presley blush. The sound of modern music is everywhere a radio is playing, at parties, in shops and even in the church! It is all pervading and all persuading. Today's youth has succumbed to this invasion from the devil's workshop. There is little doubt that rock music has a greater influence on many teenagers than either parents or schools. This type of music that originated in the 50s and 60s has become the perfect vehicle for many musicians to express anger and resentment of society and reflects their underlying rebellion. Many are inspired by drugs, transcendental meditation (TM) and automatic writing. They use special effects such as smoke, fire, weird make-up, occult symbols, dark clothing and psychedelic lights. The advent of rock music has resulted in an exaltation of immorality, sexual violence and contempt for women. According to the manager of the Rolling Stones, "Rock music is sex and you have to hit them in the face with it". But sex is only part of it. R and R has been linked with bizarre, ritualistic murders through the lyrics of heavy metal rock. It also reinforces suicidal tendencies, offering self-destruction as a glamorous solution to the meaninglessness of life.

Then, of course, there is rock music's connection with the drug scene. Rock stars are well into drugs and quite a number have died of their effects. Not to mention that many rock groups – such as Kiss, AC/DC, Led Zeppelin, Queen, the Beatles, Electric Light Orchestra, The Police, David Bowie, Black Sabbath, the Sex Pistols and Marilyn Manson – are openly involved in Satanism and/or witchcraft. Black Sabbath's front man Ozzie Osbourne, the so-called grandfather of heavy metal music, glamorises drugs, alcohol abuse, suicide and anarchy. The Doors' lead singer Jim Morrison and Sex Pistols' Sid Vicious both died of drug overdoses. A quick glance around a record shop confirms the reality of the devil in rock music with album covers depicting satanic symbols such as rams' horns, pentagrams, S-signs and serpents. Numerous songs invite listeners to centre their thoughts on satan. "Nativity in Black" by Black Sabbath exhorts, "Look into my eyes, you'll see who I am. My name is Lucifer; please take my hand". "Hell's Bells" by AC/DC includes the words, "Satan's gonna get you". Another song says, "I'm on my way to the promised land, I'm on the highway to hell." David Bowie has admitted, "Rock has always been the devil's music." Now we have the latest purveyor of the glorification of extreme ugliness, profanity, hatred and violence - the outrageous Eminem whose two albums have sold in millions and for whom children are happy to pay \$30 for his latest CD.

Rock music, moreover, has profound effect on both physical and mental health. The first victim of blaring "music" is the hearing. Disco music measures 110-120 decibels, 15-25 higher than a pneumatic hammer! The rhythm affects the heart, the beat upsets the sex and adrenaline glands causing a lowering of moral inhibitions; and the syncopation creates conflicting drives and emotions that disturb the mental balance of its listeners. In a word, rock music is satanic, pornographic and insidious; it encourages sex, drugs, suicide, rebellion and all kinds of perversions; it is crude, rude and destructive. It is helping to destroy our youth.

Well, how do we wean our youth away from these deceptive, life and mind destroying influences? By recognising the need to refocus onto music that is melodic and harmonic, and to lyrics that are uplifting, noble, lovely and virtuous. Bear in mind that music is composed of three elements: melody, harmony and beat – in that order. Melody in a minor key with no harmony leads to depression. Harmony with the melody distorted and the rhythm varied leads to rebellion. Beat overpowering melody and harmony leads to sensuality. Rock has perverted the natural order so that the beat comes first. Major keys make for bright, happy, victorious music. Minor keys are sad, wistful and sometimes depressing - and over 80% of rock music is in a depressive minor key. Music is so powerful! It can be a blessing and a delight to the soul or it can bring despair and ruin. However, above all we should recognise that we have failed our young people by despising our birthright as inheritors of the Kingdom of God and like Esau of old have sold our heritage for a mess of godless pottage. We have failed to implant a solid faith in their hearts. Both by example and instruction we have fallen short. So many of our youth are on a highway to hell, their lives bereft of godly values and bound for misery and spiritual death. Unless they are delivered from the destructive youth culture that centres around rock music they will remain lost – lost to happiness, lost to themselves, lost to heaven and lost to God. However, Jesus came to save the lost, even those who are lost to the fact that they are lost. He wants to be to them the Way, the Truth and the Life. Today's lost, rebellious generation *can* be restored and redeemed by the Son of God. In the final analysis **JESUS CHRIST is their only hope.**

OUR PRAYER:

Reign in us, O loving Father, Lord God of infinite grace, mercy and justice; Creator of the universe; Author of eternal salvation and hope; Almighty God of Israel; Transmitter of everlasting Light; Awesome God of consuming fire; Spiritual Rock, sure Deliverer and Defender; Omniscient Great High Priest; Holy Spirit and Messenger of Life, Truth, Love, Joy and Peace. Abba Father, we humbly come in one accord, united in faith, yielded to the Holy Spirit of life, clothed in the blood and righteousness of Jesus to thank, love, praise and worship You for giving to the world, Your Amazing **GRACE in JESUS CHRIST**. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for dying to set us free from the law of sin and death and make us righteous and holy unto God by Your blood shed at Calvary. Resurrected on the third day, You are now seated at the Father's right hand as our Great High Priest, interceding for our prayers and supplications for our nation's richest harvest – her lost souls defiled by the spirit of satanic, rock music! Hear our cry, merciful Father, we need Your power to release the fountain of Jesus' cleansing blood to wash away every defilement of this rebellious and sinful generation. Lord, we know there is no problem too big that You cannot solve!

Sovereign Lord, forgive us – fathers, mothers, leaders and teachers for neglecting to implant a solid faith in the hearts of our children from Your Word of Life. Forgive us for disobeying Your Word and not spending time with You. When we departed from the Book of the LORD, it is because in our hearts we had departed from the LORD of the Book. Lord Jesus we renounce the spirit of deception and seduction that has lured our youth into lawlessness. We renounce the spirits of rebellion and witchcraft, selfishness and pride, and take the Sword of the Spirit to cut down every one by the power of the Lordship of Christ. We renounce the spirit of antichrist that inspires rock music and manipulates, controls and abuses our youth spiritually, emotionally and physically. In Jesus' name, we pull down these strongholds of the antichrist spirit with its hatred of the true worship of God. We release the power of the blood of Jesus to cleanse our youth and their families and set them free to worship the True and Living God in Spirit and truth. In Jesus' name, we renounce the hypnotic rhythms that are the signature of demonic powers and break their hold on our youth. In Jesus' name, we cut the cord to the Jezebel spirit and smash this stronghold as we apply the precious blood of Jesus to cleanse our children and their parents from all manipulation and abuse. Not by power nor by might but by the Spirit of the Lord this mountain of abuse, witchcraft and control shall come down! Lord, release a fresh vision of Your blood-washed songs of holiness and praise to heal the broken hearts of fathers, mothers and children. In thankfulness for the answer to these prayers and petitions we now join the angelic hosts in declaring, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come . . . Blessing, honour, glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, forever and ever Amen". We pray and ask this in Jesus' glorious name. Amen

C O P I I Led by our Lord Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit to glorify the Fatherhood of God with the Brotherhood of Man, in love and faithfulness to bring glory to our Eternal Father in Jesus' Name Amen and Glory

[REJOICE, UNITE, SHARE & LOVE ONE ANOTHER IN WORD & DEED TO GLORIFY OUR COMING KING JESUS]