

**General Topics :: Get rid of the Tv!**

**Get rid of the Tv!, on: 2006/8/29 18:42**

I firmly believe the tv. is incompatible with the Glory of God. We say we need it to watch Christian shows, but most of the time it is being used as a bilge pump to pump all kinds of filth and rubbish into our homes. Get rid of it! O you are overboard they say, what about being underboard and denying the promises of God? You can tell it's the devil's mouthpiece when the outcry goes up every time you suggest getting rid of it. O this, O that. Where's the Tv guide (not Where's the Bible). Think of it. At least make it a rule to use it only for karaoke or something. That's the compromise we made. It's a big screen Tv. We've had enough. The Lord made his sanctuary in our home. Revival hit already. Now this, the first challenge. Disable the darn thing. Shut it up. That's right, the Emmy Awards with all their filth and profanity. A one-way ticket to hell. Read Mary Baxter's book 'Testimonies from Hell' or something like that. It will scare you. Most people's destination? A one-way ticket to a burning pit. Every time you try to get out, a demon will push you back in. The television is the main single reason in our household why we don't worship God. God came to me one Saturday morning and said 'I'm angry because my people don't worship me'. That's it. I decided to focus on it. Holiness is the only answer. There's a Nazarene University in USA that focusses only on Holiness. They have an on-line library of thousands of Holiness Classics. wesley.nnu.edu/wesleyctr something like that. You can take your pick. Sometimes just sit under the Lord's anointing with all your sin. You don't have to be sanctified to know the Lord.

**Re: Get rid of the Tv! - posted by allhavsinned (), on: 2006/8/30 0:08**

I got rid of my TV a few years ago. It's true what u say, but here in England there is another reason to give it up... The BBC is an Anti-Christian, pro Homosexual, Anti-Israil... the list goes on, and WE are funding it. By paying our TV licence fee and buying the video's and merchandise the BBC produces, we give them the money to blaspheme our God and spread their propaganda filled biased news and hateful sinful programmes.

I know this sounds extreme but we are accountable to God where we put our money as well as what we watch. Those who don't fund the BBC are in a fortunate position, here in the UK we have to fund the BBC to receive any broadcasts. My advice, get rid and spend more time with God, you will notice the difference in a week

Ste

**Re: Get rid of the Tv!, on: 2006/8/30 1:37**

Yes, TV can be a major stumbling block for even the maturest of saints. God bless, John

**Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2006/8/30 1:52**

I have been without a TV for over 1 year and I do not miss it at all. I have a good book library and at times have good fellowship with brothers and sisters. This is much better than the entertainment of the T.V.

Paul Washer said that the epitaph of this generation will have on it: "ENTERTAINED TO DEATH!"

**Re: - posted by hmmhmm (), on: 2006/8/30 1:58**

i have this problem in my house... i really do want to get it out, but in doing so my family rebels...and it gets not very christianlike in my house, i pray about it and i have forbidden many programs to be watched, and the time in front of it is less than before.... but still i pray it will go out one day, i believe d.wilkerson said something like

its not that you watch it...what is it that makes you not turn it off? what kind of hold does it have on you that you cant turn it off?

and there is a big point there

christian

**Re: - posted by mikeness, on: 2006/8/30 2:31**

I stopped watching tv a couple years ago. But because video entertainment is so addictive I got addicted to Halo 2, and then the religious groups on myspace. Fortunately I have abstained from them all and because it has been a while I don't miss them.

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2006/8/30 3:29**

Quote:

-----Paul Washer said that the epitaph of this generation will have on it: "ENTERTAINED TO DEATH!"  
-----

It is worth noting what the word "amusement" used to mean before the 20th century befriended it...

Sense of "divert from serious business, tickle the fancy of" is recorded from 1631, but through 1800. the primary meaning was "deceive, cheat" by first occupying the attention.

(From the online etymology dictionary)

MC

**Re:, on: 2006/8/30 4:58**

I to have gotten rid of the TV in my room. I'm 16 so I have no say for the rest of my house and I'm tempted to watch TV when I see the rest of my family watching it in the living room. Sometimes I do go and sit down and watch TV, yet I'm dying and I think I have time for TV. My life is fading away before my eyes and I can sit down and watch TV. I'm struggling and fighting to get to the point of being so in love with God, that I cannot waste time.

Paul M.

**Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2006/8/30 8:41**

Quote:

-----It is worth noting what the word "amusement" used to mean before the 20th century befriended it...

Sense of "divert from serious business, tickle the fancy of" is recorded from 1631, but through 1800. the primary meaning was "deceive, cheat" by first occupying the attention.

(From the online etymology dictionary)

MC

This is a worthy quote! I believe I'll be using it.

Thanks for sharing it.

Robert

**Re: Get rid of the Tv! - posted by deltadom (), on: 2006/8/30 9:42**

Amen to that !! I have not watched tv in years and do not miss it!!1

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/30 10:17

Quote:

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deltadom wrote:

Amen to that !! I have not watched tv in years and do not miss it!!!  
-----

God Bless you I am sincerely very happy for you if this works for you.

This is probably the 3rd or 4th turn off the TV thread I have read in my short time here and personally I am "not" turning off my TV because my TV is what brought me to Christ and until Christ tells me to turn it off Mr. Bill I will continue to watch it, because I listen to Jesus Christ not man. We should all remember there is a remote on most TV's today don't like what you see flip the channel, can't find any good channels to watch? hit the off button, but I don't feel it even close to right to have Christians to even debate this on a public forum and try to make other Christians that are being Blessed by some shows on the TV to feel under "any" condemnation.

I am sorry if maybe some of you felt my words were a little strong they were just cut and dry and to the point so please don't read more into them if at all possible. If I turn my TV off I may as well not drive my truck anymore also, have you ever looked at some of the signs on the freeways? in Houston we have a lot that advertise topless clubs and bars so should I drive blind and let God lead me? or just not drive. We all have to work out our own salvation and God sees our hearts and if I am flipping across the TV to find something of value to watch "because there is some" I stop, and if I come across something that is of lesser value and stop and I start to do this more and more often then my TV will probably go out in the next weeks trash, but I don't see this happening anytime soon because personally I find a lot of programs that Bless me and quite often.

God Bless

Mr. Bill

Electronic Media and Christian Maturity ... - posted by Rahman, on: 2006/8/30 10:41

--- Until i hear Holy Spirit tell me to get rid of my TV i won't be ... The problem with a TV is not the TV but what one watches on it ... i'm amazed at how much Holy Spirit has weeded out my viewing/listening of electronic media in just the past 5 years ...

TV to me is like the Internet - it's a tool ... It's bad if one spends their time indulging in all of the filth on it, but it's good if it's used for the provision of practical information ... i find TV an invaluable tool in my ability to walk circumspectly in viewing what's going on in the world ... In fact i believe Holy Spirit uses it (as with the Internet and SI) in my behalf/calling to teach me, and to make me see the ever increasing ills in our world ...

i've locked out all of the questionable channels on my TV except for MTV (tho i don't visit it much) because i have teenage grands, teens in my family/church/community, and i feel a necessity to know at least a little something of what satan is bombarding them with, and i have to admit that at age 56 (with an ever increasing sensitivity to seeing evil as evil) what i see on MTV isn't alluring to me at all but alarming ...

What i watch on TV are News programs primarily ... i love C-Span, Book-TV, Public TV, Foreign News TV, Frontline, etc., from these sources i gather all kinds of info on what's going on in the world ... i watch Christian TV stations, some to my uplift, most to my dismay, but even those serve a purpose to continually prompt me to pray against such ills wrapped in the mantle of Christianity ... i believe Holy Spirit has me interested in such things on TV because in combination with spiritually, i'm also informed in the natural and the combination (to me) makes for a much more thorough understanding and witness ... i find it annoying when folk talk about events/issues they have no factual info about ... Cases in point:

- What's happening in Iraq and why? ...
- The latest skirmish between Israel and Hezbollah ...
- Hurricane Katrina ...
- FEMA ...

i've learned so much in the last few days from CNN, FOX, Frontline, the History Channel, Modern Marvels and the Weather Channel ...

her Channel on Katrina, FEMA, and why such a slow response to this catastrophe, until i can have a really intelligent and informed conversation about such matters ...

i also enjoy HGTV (love anything connected with This Old House), The Antiques Road Show and The Food Channel ... And yep i'll even watch a pro football game from time to time, tho no one can ever accuse me of being a rabid sports fan ... i know for myself that when i view, hear or think anything Holy Spirit's unction will instantly alarm me to whether i'm being drawn out by my own prurient interest ... When this happens i repent, and move on ... It doesn't happen often because tho i'm a channel surfer my channels are safely pre-set ...

Bottom line for me is if one can't help themselves from indulging in TV's or the Internet's evils, or are stumbled by them, then by all means get rid of it ... If not then i agree with Ravenhill (i know what i'm convicted of not to watch, search or listen to) ...

**Re:, on: 2006/8/30 10:45**

Quote:  
-----have you ever looked at some of the signs on the freeways? in Houston we have a lot that advertise topless clubs and bars so should I drive blind and let God lead me?  
-----

That's not the same situation as the tv by any means. We have a highway here in Dallas that is littered with topless and adult store billboards. If I can find another way to get where I'm going without having to drive down it I will. 99% of the time I can. Sometimes it takes a little longer but that's ok.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/30 11:03**

Quote:  
-----  
sscott wrote:  
That's not the same situation as the tv by any means.  
-----

I personally think it's a perfect example but if we don't want to see it that way we won't. And if satan thinks I am driving a hundred miles out of my way because of signs on the freeway he has really lost it! What would happen "IF" God was waiting for you to Bless someone on the Freeway with all the bad signs, like maybe a child of God broke down and needing help and could even be from "your" Church, what you just find another way to travel and miss out on helping that person?

This is what I mean this is all crazy ness in my opinion, and if we are that bad off and have no will power maybe we should stay in our cellar with just a bottle of water and our Bible and pray God will take us home soon, but I have a news flash for you the "GOD" I serve was tempted everyday he did not avoid he found a way through it, no he would have went down that freeway with all the bad signs ministering and praying and not trying to avoid anything, the minute I have to start avoiding the bad in life is when I stop growing and become stagnant in my walk. I personally want to be out there among the worst those are the ones that need us, if I buy a tool and keep it in my tool box and never use it what good has it done me? My salvation and my accepting Jesus Christ brought the "Tool" of the Holy Spirit into me to use, and it is a universal tool it fits anything God gives me instructions to use it for, does your tool still look new? want to have it show a little wear drive down that freeway and pray that those signs would burn down or the city would vote to remove them.

Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2006/8/30 13:01

another one of those things not clearly stated in the bible conversations. got to love those :)

"I personally think it's a perfect example but if we don't want to see it that way we won't. And if satan thinks I am driving a hundred miles out of my way because of signs on the freeway he has really lost it! What would happen "IF" God was waiting for you to Bless someone on the Freeway with all the bad signs, like maybe a child of God broke down and needing help and could even be from "your" Church, what you just find another way to travel and miss out on helping that person ?

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i believe God honors it if someone wants to take a long way home to avoid being tempted in something that they may think can cause them to stumble quick. especially when it comes to very lustful images, and most men can fall easily into such things.

let us not deceive ourselves. the flesh is weak if we are not continually abiding in Him. not a lot of christian are in a constant relationship with the Lord, so i wouldn't go tell some, hey, you don't have to take the long way, just believe. that wouldn't be very sensitive to where they are at.

Matthew 18:7-9

7 Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes!

8 "If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire. 9 And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.

jesus is stating here, if something is causing you to sin, get rid of it! if you feel that you will be easily tempted in certain things, then don't mess with it. its o.k. and WISE to avoid it. this is called being WATCHFUL.

i remember this story told by a friend. this man had a heart for the prostitutes, so he went ALONE thinking he can minister to them ALONE. instead not realizing how strong the temptations and how weak his flesh, he fell into temptation and end up marrying a prostitute, thus divorcing his wife. it might of been better if he went with a women or a group, to help him minister to the prostitutes and keep him accountable, helping him be watchful.

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (New King James Version)  
New King James Version (NKJV)

12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

this is saying theres stuff that our flesh will be weak towards, but God will provide away out, like taking another highway to avoid the highway thats full of lust, or like, He may tell you to flee, if you are weak in certain areas. everbodys got their weakness, but God says He will provide a way out for us during temptations.

we are also told to guard our hearts. this is not saying your weak if a person choose to not go a certain way to avoid temptation or to throw away our t.v. knowing that we can be easily tempted in watching something if our relationship with God becomes idle sometimes.

**Re:, on: 2006/8/30 13:18**

Quote:

-----And if satan thinks I am driving a hundred miles out of my way because of signs on the freeway he has really lost it!  
-----

Finding an alternate route to take in Houston or Dallas does not mean driving a "hundered" more miles (or 1.5 more hours). It may take me 10 more minutes or so to get where I'm going. Not really a big deal.

Quote:

-----I personally want to be out there among the worst those are the ones that need us, if I buy a tool and keep it in my tool box and never use it what good has it done me?  
-----

Me too. I go to some of these "worst of the worst" places for evangelism. Driving my car down the road is not evangelism. It's getting from point A to point B.

**Brother Rahman, on: 2006/8/30 13:59**

Much love to you brother in Christ.

I usually start my day with reading from the Bible, then I check my email and SI, and then I clean the house, and then off to work, I work nights, and I'm fond of, sometimes of watching televised baseball, not as an idol, but as a sport that I admire.

at my workplace, the guys I work with, we use baseball analogies to focus our group as a team....by the way, they call me the "Ozzie Guillen" of the group, except that I don't curse.

I'm also fond of C-Span 1 and 2, coz I'm what you would also call a "policy wonk". In my work I also have to review vast segments of historical political footage, lately its been "American Experience" PBS shows on Mayor Richard J. Daley, RFK, LBJ and JFK. lately I've been delving into the world of the Underground Railroad, coz God willing thats my next project, The Rev John Rankin, Josiah Henson, the great Harriet Tubman and John Brown.

point being, we all must work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. I understand the brother from Australia who must take such a stand in his own home.

The only reason I addressed the post to you was to say "Hi" and God bless you, and that i love you in the Lord. Would you pray for me? I'm working in Chicago and the Lord has been calling me to cross the color line in His and mine selection of a home church. I'm white and a burden on my heart is racial reconciliation in my home town, and now I must walk the walk, not as some secular earnest white "liberal", but as a child of God obeying the Father's call on my life.

God bless you is my fervent prayer, bartle.

**Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2006/8/30 15:12**

Quote:

-----let us not deceive ourselves. the flesh is weak  
-----

Well said myfirstlove,

There is a saying: If your head is made of butter, then stay away from the flame.

MC

**Brother Bartle ... - posted by Rahman, on: 2006/8/30 15:12**

--- Hey bro Bartle ...  
Much love in Christ back at you!

Amen ... I generally start my day the same way i end it - thanking God! ...

As i said i do occasionally like to sit down and watch a good game, tho as of recent with so much emphasis on money and stars (setting bad examples) instead of team i don't enjoy it as much :-( ... i've completely abandoned pro Basketball ... And praise God that on the "Ozzie" level you're outspoken but without the expletives :-P ---

In reference to your "policy wonk" statement, i was thinking when i first posted that folk would call me a "news junkie", but i just like information ... I'm very analytical, and i like thinking about things, listening to all sides, and forming an informed opinion ... i believe these are traits God gave me for benefit of His use and glory ...

American Experience i think is a great TV program, i like all kinds of informative programs like that ... The Underground Railroad is a very interesting subject to, as is a whole lot of history period ... There are some very entertaining and educational things on TV that are even wholesome enough for a family with youngsters to enjoy together, tho as you said for any saint who chooses to opt out altogether i certainly have no beef

Hey bless God and you that you posted to say "hi" ... This is the kind of thing that warms a fellow believers heart and so i had to reciprocate ... Of course i'll remember you in my prayers ( i just wrote it down) ...

i identify with you as to the burden you spoke of as i'm a strong advocate against anything that separates us from our "oneness" in Christ (Gal. 3:28) ... What i've found over the years is that when Holy Spirit has made such a headway in your heart and mind about our "oneness" in our Lord, physically one may still see the things that distinguish us but spiritually our mutual bond in Christ as family overwhelms, overshadows, and asides the natural ... We're all one color in Christ - BLOOD RED! ... So praise God, one thing i can tell you for sure if He's got a mission for you, and you humble yourself before Him, He'll perfect His work in/thru you ... It's amazing what a person who'll allow the love of Christ to shine thru them can do! ...

Bro Bartle you wrote;  
"God bless you is my fervent prayer"

Amen, and ditto to you! ... Our God is good! ---

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/30 18:10**

Quote:

-----  
Compton wrote:  
There is a saying: If your head is made of butter, then stay away from the flame.MC  
-----

Hey it don't get much plainer than that. :-P

Also Like I said before you don't want to watch TV more power to you, I choose to watch mine and "man" sure won't be the person that changes my heart about TV only God will ever do that, But you got to love this statement There is a saying: If your head is made of butter, then stay away from the flame. :-)

I have also found out that "most" Christians including myself are hard headed in there ways and you are wasting your time on trying to change them by the way as my Pastor says that is Gods job anyway and not mine, got to go the food channel is coming on it's about eating healthy today hope I won't be condemned for learning how to eat healthy. :-(



Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/30 18:18

Quote:

sscott wrote:

Finding an alternate route to take in Houston or Dallas does not mean driving a "hundered" more miles (or 1.5 more hours). It may take me 10 more minutes or so to get where I'm going. Not really a big deal.

No big deal unless he had a miracle waiting for you on that other road, but if you can read Gods mind well then take an alternative route, God and I are pretty close but I still don't know his ways or when he is coming back two things I will leave totally up to him.

I will focus on my most important job finding the lost sheep and bringing them in, and of course there on the lost freeway but I will close my eyes and just holler as I drive by, hope they hear me. :-)

Re:, on: 2006/8/30 18:20

“Whatever weakens your reason, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your sense of God, or takes off your relish of spiritual things; in short, whatever increases the strength and authority of your body over your mind, that thing is sin to you.”

— Susanna Wesley. Letters of Susanna Wesley. June 8, 1725

This quote came to mind when I was reading this thread on the television. Each person has to search their own heart in this matter. And, also leave it in God's hands as to what his brother/sister does. :-)

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/30 18:30

Quote:

Roniya wrote:

And, also leave it in God's hands as to what his brother/sister does. :-)

Amen!

By the way The Passion Of The Christ was a great movie in my opinion, I just don't think it would have had the same effect to hear it on the radio, by the way have you no TV folks ever seen The Passion Of The Christ ? if so what was the media you watched it on? O I forgot you probably just read the book. :-)

Re:, on: 2006/8/30 19:01

Quote:

-----No big deal unless he had a miracle waiting for you on that other road, but if you can read Gods mind well then take an alternative route,

Just because I take a route that is not as quick doesn't mean I'm not taking the route God wants me too. Does God want you to take the quickest route to work? Did He tell you to do that?

No matter what road I'm on I'm pretty sure most of the people are lost. If God really wanted me to be on a certain road He would make sure I knew He wanted me to. Otherwise, given the opportunity I will guard my heart.

Quote:

-----I will focus on my most important job finding the lost sheep and bringing them in,



You know..there's a lot of lost people in the strip clubs. Maybe we should eat out there instead of regular restaurants. We might be missing out on a miracle. Sorry to sound sarcastic but that is really what you are saying.

The reality is if we have to go to certain area's or down certain roads to find lost people then we need to open our eyes.

I'm not saying it's a sin to go down roads with billboards for strip clubs but given the opportunity to go another route I will.

It's the same thing when I read the news online. The other day I went to Cnn to read the news. The biggest add on the front page was a victoria secrets add. Did I just sit there and read the news with this almost naked lady looking right at me? No..I immediately closed it out and went to another site.

**Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2006/8/30 21:48**

mrbillpro, your posts are sarcastic. no love shown. you really need to check your heart in the light of God and find the root of why you are sarcastic

it seems like your upset at those who want to guard their hearts. it is very scriptural to do that. those who fall easily are those who boast about standing firm, they are the ones who will easily fall.

guarding your heart will not keep you from evangelism. i don't know why you keep bringing up the lost. this has nothing to do with reaching out to the lost. its encouraging each other to draw closer to God, and thru that you will be more of an effective witness and have a pure motive and love for God and the lost. whats wrong with that? it is a pure desire to want to please the Father. we want to lift up clean hands and pure hearts before Him. our hearts can't be pure when its filled with lustful images, sarcastic jokes, and bunch of stuff on t.v that gives no glory to God, but full of lies and man's opinions.

Jesus tells us to pray and WATCH.

the enemy surely wouldn't want us to be watchful, guarding our hearts and mind. he knows the flesh is very weak and will easily be tempted if we are not in constant prayer and watchfulness.

and so what if i miss the movie passion of the christ or some christian movie or program. i don't need christian movies to help me with my relationship with God. and so what if i don't watch the news all the time. i'm not missing out on anything. i can still know whats going on in the world with out exaggerated news telling me whats up or down. what did the christians back then that had no t.v. do? i bet they did more.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/30 23:08**

Quote:

myfirstLove wrote:

mrbillpro, your posts are sarcastic. no love shown. you really need to check your heart in the light of God and find the root of why you are sarcastic

Thanks for passing Judgement on me guess that make you a better person but I will work on my sarcasm, I try my best to work on all my faults everyday, but I still have a few to go so I guess I am still work in progress, and if you ever meet me you would find it hard pressed to find another person that "loves" as much as I do, this is why in cyberspace it's so easy to Judge, once again I am sorry please forgive me if you can.

**Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2006/8/30 23:15**

I'm wondering why I haven't ever ran across a thread on an online messageboard about the wickedness of the internet and we should turn off our computers.... Maybe the same reason I have never seen a TV preacher say that TV is of the devil?

If you can't control your TV, throw it out. If you can't control your computer, kick it out.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/30 23:35**

Good post Preach! kind of a double standard or hypocritical for folks to condemn the TV and sit and post there hypocritical opinions on the very worst of the worst the Internet, guess they might need some guarding of their hearts also. :-(

**Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2006/8/30 23:47**

I've found out that it's not the TV or the PC that's the problem its ME.

**Re:, on: 2006/8/31 0:12**

Quote:  
-----Good post Preach! kind of a double standard or hypocritical for folks to condemn the TV and sit and post there hypocritical opinions on the very worst of the worst the Internet, guess they might need some guarding of their hearts also.  
-----

While both the tv and the internet carry bad content it's really not the same as you make it out to be. I can turn on my computer and just go directly to sites that are good. ie. sermonindex, blb.org, my email..ect.

usually when you turn on the tv there is just about nothing good and even if there is you have to sit though the godless commercials that are just as bad as some of the most vulgar movies.

**Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiisss (), on: 2006/8/31 0:21**

Hello...

Quote:  
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PreachParsly wrote:

I'm wondering why I haven't ever ran across a thread on an online messageboard about the wickedness of the internet and we should turn off our computers.... Maybe the same reason I have never seen a TV preacher say that TV is of the devil?

If you can't control your TV, throw it out. If you can't control your computer, kick it out.

-----  
Well said.

Until recently, I haven't had a television since moving out on my own. I went through my bachelors degree and most of my masters without a television. The only time that I truly missed it was during times of crisis, historic significance, or educational necessity (elections, hurricanes, 9/11, academic campus programs required for classes).

My parents bought me a large, flat-panel TV with a built in DVD player as a gift about a year and a half ago. My university dorm has free cable, so I have access to many channels -- including educational, academic, news, "christian," and of course, many channels of filth.

Typically, I don't feel that I have had much of a temptation to watch TV as a "couch potato." I truly feel that I don't have enough time to waste staring at a screen. However, there are occasions where I really want to watch a program. I enjoy watching programs about nature, science, history, etc... I also watch certain news programs (or record them and watch them at a more convenient time). A couple of weeks ago, I recorded *60 Minutes*, which had a featured story about the controversial charismatic preacher Carlton Pearson.

Our Lord told us that if our hand offends us, that we should "cut it off." I feel the same way about most things in life. If your TV is a source of personal and sinful temptation -- then by all means, toss it out! But be careful to realize that the devil itself is no more sinful than your computer, a library, newspapers, or even exercise equipment. All of these things can be used for some good. However, if a person is led astray by such things, then it is only wise to separate himself/her

self from such things.

In my opinion, there is a tradition within holiness churches that often labels things either "holy" or "sinful" without actually knowing why such labels exist in the first place. I believe firmly that God truly wants believers to understand the things that they profess. If you want to publicly call secular music (or other popularly decried subjects) sinful -- then you had better know why it is sinful. Otherwise, you are probably repeating what you have been taught without truly understanding the message.

Christ wants us to lay the axe to the root of such things. The TV itself is not sinful. It is simply a plastic, metal and glass device that displays a prefabricated broadcast. While there are many programs that display sin in its ugliest forms -- there are some that also serve to educate or even bless. The choice of what comes through the device is up to you.

I know a dear brother in the Lord who loudly proclaims (and almost brags) about how God delivered him from "hell-a-visit on." He wholeheartedly preaches against it to fellow believers. He even tells people on the streets about the dangers and sinfulness of the device. He also loudly proclaims the "evils" of secular music and "christian" rock and roll. However, this same brother harbors a secret. He is addicted to internet pornography, gluttony and violent video games. This brother has confided in me about his addictions. He knows that they are wrong.

I have listened to and prayed with this brother many times. He still hasn't conquered these sins. A couple of weeks ago, I was privately praying for this man. Suddenly, it dawned on me that this brother's problem was not the internet, video games or even pornography. This brother's real problem was that he was consumed with LUST. He was addicted to things that brought physical or emotional pleasure to himself that were outside of the boundaries or standards raised by God.

The Lord mentioned this sort of thing during the same sermon in which he talked about "cutting off the hand" and "plucking out the eye" that offends you. Consider this from Matthew 5:27-48:

Quote:

----- 27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:

**28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.**

29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

31 It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:

**32 But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.**

33 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

**34 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:**

**35 Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.**

36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

37 But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

**39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.**

40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also.

41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

**44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;**

**45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven:** for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

-----  
Notice how Jesus laid the axe to the root. The problem was not in women or with eyes -- it was in the lust that sometime s consumes the hearts of men. If a man, after crying out to God, still doesn't have victory over such sin -- then they need to remove the temptation altogether.

I urged this brother in the Lord to pray that God will take away the lusts of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of I ife. If he still cannot conquer such things -- then he should remove that device which has conquered him (the computer).

I believe that the same is true with any device or object that hinders our walk or leads us into temptation -- including the television. But if you have a true and honest liberty with such a thing, then by all means, exercise your freedom (as long as it doesn't cause a brother to stumble).

:-)

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/31 0:55**

Quote:

-----  
sscott wrote:

While both the tv and the internet carry bad content it's really not the same as you make it out to be.

-----  
The Justifier I have a good friend just like this.

he can Justify anything he likes or fits his personal attitude about anything.

I can turn on my TV and directly to the food channel or TBN or the Inspirational Channel or KLTJ Christian Broadcasting network, got the all programmed into my remote for my favorites, very easy to do, matter fact I let my 7 year old Grandso n do it for me.

**Re: - posted by myfirstLove (), on: 2006/8/31 1:01**

the internet and t.v is not the same. i can go straight to the sight that i like. the only site i really go to is s.i. and checking my emails. i rarely go to other sites, and when i do go to a different sites, its all christian sites. i don't even read the new s. not saying news is all bad, but the Lord told ME to lay it down. the news was causing ME to depend on men and put my trust in them more than God. it was blinding me to see that God was in control, causing me to fret, anger, and taking sides. thank God i obeyed. i can feel the difference in my life. i more focus on His will and believing and depending on H im. just because i don't watch the news does not make me clueless to the world. christ reality is so much better than wh at men can shell out. God keeps me broken for His ways and makes me see the world thru Him and not thru another m an's eyes. thats much better!

mr.billpro i was not trying to attack, but it seems you were attacking sscott because he wanted to be watchful, by calling what he shared "crazy". everybody should be glad to hear a brother desiring to gaurd his heart instead of attacking hi m for something that God has put in his heart. this has to be from God. no man who is not in Christ would try to gaurd h is heart from lust.

we know that t.v. is not a sin, its the stuff showing that is. just becareful what you watch because it is mainly the lost wh o are directing and filming these movies and the news. we know that the lost cannot stop sinning, but full of wickedness and lies, and their desires is get us to lust after what they lust over. that is why we must becareful what we set our eyes and ears too because it will go down our heart. whatever we meditate on, it goes forth to our heart.

this will be my last post. please know that my heart was not out to offend anyone, but wanting to encourage. i apologize if i came across in a negative way.

God bless. may everything we do be for the glory of God. grace and peace be with you.

**Re: - posted by ccchhhrrriiss () , on: 2006/8/31 2:03**

Hi MyFirstLove...

Quote:

-----  
this will be my last post. please know that my heart was not out to offend anyone, but wanting to encourage. i apologize if i came across in a negative way.

God bless. may everything we do be for the glory of God. grace and peace be with you.

-----  
I believe that nearly everyone that holds a position on a particular doctrine or belief (regardless of what it is) certainly posts with sincerity. May the Lord bless you and comfort you for your sincerity and humility. We are all looking to Christ -- and we all have so much to learn from one another as we learn from Him.

Philippians chapters 2 and 3

:-)

**Re: - posted by W\_D\_J\_D, on: 2006/8/31 5:11**

Here's a song from a young man who came to his understanding of God through Paul Washer.'

Here's the lyrics to one of his songs.....

Videos

Written by: Marcus T.W. Gray

Produced by: J.R. for So Hot Productions

Performed by: FLAME

Verse 1: Little kids in the 'hood ain't got no money or no  
clothes/ they look at videos and see a Bentley or a Rolls/  
cats rock so much ice even got the children froze/ glued to  
the tube with the screen touchin' they nose/ see a throw  
back jersey, them new shoes and they want those/ they  
see how you dance they in the mirror strikin' a pose/ little  
girls see how women dance and start takin' off clothes/  
about 5 years old and this is all that she knows/ this is all  
that he knows because that's all that he sees/ a new rap  
artist is 'bout all that he wanna be/ then you get cats like  
me that come to him talkin' bout Jesus/ they so brain  
washed they look at me and be like please/ you try to  
convince them Jesus would want to see them saved/ but

they rather ball, rather hit the mall and get paid/ about 16  
now and homie is ready to drive/ he is ready for sex but he  
ain't ready for God/ check him out

Hook: Videos, T.V. is the city of dreams/ and everything on  
the screen ain't always what it seems/ you might get  
fooled if you don't know the truth from lies/ that's why we  
bringin' you the truth of God (2x)

Verse 2: Call it all fun and games and sometimes it is/ but  
other times got they mind in a quiz/ little homie skippin'  
classes/ checked his ash tray for ashes/ plus he threw  
away his glasses/ now he think he need a chain and some  
Timberland boots/ if she don't look like the girls on the  
video she ain't cute/ now he think he need a gun and he  
stay in the suburbs/ play any rap song and he know all the  
words/ all of the dances, all of the shakes/ ain't never seen  
a scale and he's talkin' bout movin' weight/ now he let his  
pants sag and he's tryin' to get high/ ain't never had a fight  
talkin' about "thug til I die"/ ain't never felt held the heat,  
ain't never felt the heat/ now he's tryin' to go to jail so he  
can say he from the streets/ now this is what he sees and  
they call it entertainment/ mentally he's in chains some of  
the blame goes to the videos

Hook

Verse 3: Videos don't show how it is gettin' beat/ or feelin'  
so dumb in school that you feel you gotta cheat/ Videos  
don't show mamma jugglin' money/ nor do they hear you  
when you say mamma I'm hungry/ all they do is tease you

with a Benz that's so plush/ but mom ain't got no ends her  
and her friends on the bus/ all they do is show you all cats  
on a yacht/ while daddy's in the streets after 3 smokin'  
rocks/ they don't show you baby mammas baby daddies  
bout to bang/ they sell you this world that exists outside of  
pain/ all them cars lookin' good all them cribs lookin' good/  
but unfortunately that ain't how it is in the 'hood/ real  
things goin' down, real guns bustin' rounds/ real tears  
bein' shed, real cats and the feds/ real people that need  
Jesus to save them from they sins/ to show them discipline  
then to die and rise again/ they show you lies on videos

I have seen bad arguments for wanting and excusing T.V "terrible vision" before but this thread tops it off. lol.

ok firstly the argument that "sin is everywhere, like polution hurts your body.....whats the difference with smokin"???? we  
ll quite simply you have control over one of the matters and the other no control over.

When im in the City there are bill boards and sinful things posted everywhere.....however what iss my response to thes  
e things???? do i just stand there looking at it, and then to lust after it??? or do i turn away and pray that the Lord "guide  
s my eyes away from the evil and vain things"??

the T.V is something you do have control of.....

(Phillipians 4:8) Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just,  
whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, a  
nd if there be any praise, think on these things.

so u mean to say to me that u are able to fulfill phil 4:8 by watching "big borthor" "desperate housewives" "COMMERCIA  
LS"

another part of on of the young artists songs.....

"See I can only watch T.V. to a certain extent/ until I feel an urgent need to repent/ cause even the commercial now are  
all converted and perverted with sin/ and you might slip if you ain't conversing with Him"

IDOLATRY!!!! hellooooooooo????

How many hours do u spend with the Lord in prayer?  
How many hours do u spend with the Lord in bible study?  
How many hours do u spend with the Lord in silence before Him?

How many hours do u spend with the T.V????

Who is your God?



we are going to give an account for every thought, deed, word, dollar spent and every SECOND WASTED in front of the stupid box.....

Ok all God bless.

P.S T.V has seperated my family, and they spend more time in front of it and it has divided us.....My soul grieves.

Second P.S give me some justifications for this exessive T.V watching....

oh dont get me started on Leonard Ravenhill quotes on sport and T.v.....

God bless, in love in the FEAR of the Lord!!!

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/8/31 10:03**

Quote:

-----  
myfirstLove wrote:

mr.billpro i was not trying to attack, but it seems you were attacking sscott because he wanted to be watchful, by calling what he shared "crazy".  
-----

A lot of folks here that know me and my posts know I always try to interject a little humor in them if at all possible,"somet hing we Christians need a lot more of" believe me this was not a personal shot at "anyone" it was just a term I used for anything that gets to carried away, I definitely meant no harm, sorry if to much was read into that little word. Let me give you a little background on how God uses me, sometimes when we all get seated at our Bible study and we have some f olks show up that looks like there face would break if they were to smile "you know the kind" I will speak up and say a fe w humorous things and everyone is in a better attitude more relaxed and even the stone faced now ask were Mr. Bill is when I miss Bible study because I get the feedback. Like I had told you in another post "anyone" here that sums up the value or sits in judgement of another brother or sister from cyberspace really needs to examine their own heart and look into the mirror more often and I bet they will find the real problem, it's impossible to see another's heart from a keyboard. :-)

**Re: - posted by deltadom (), on: 2006/9/1 8:03**

Quote:

-----I got rid of my TV a few years ago. It's true what u say, but here in England there is another reason to give it up...

The BBC is an Anti-Christian, pro Homosexual, Anti-Israil... the list goes on, and WE are funding it. By paying our TV liscence fee and buying the video 's and merchendise the BBC produces, we give them the money to blaspheme our God and spread their propaganda filled biased news and hateful si nful programmes.  
-----

Most people are funding Hollywood which is alot worse aswell I do not watch TV.

This is one thing that I brought up that are money going in the wrong places causes devastation.

The christian bookshops in the UK are doing really badly at the moment at from my Marketing Principles I learnt that if p eople are not spending money on books christian ones. It would stop the market for films.

Basically by spending money on films or TV you are leaving a smaller market for christian books and other media. Christ ian publishers will stop publishing books if there is not a market.

If we fund Hollywood , we not only fund them but fund there views indirectly. Which is bad.

You could also say this about non christian music.

Quote:

-----I've found out that it's not the TV or the PC that's the problem its ME.

-----

same here

**Re: - posted by Yeshuasboy (), on: 2006/9/1 8:28**

television just pulls me away from having more intimacy with God Himself....this is what I have noticed. Anyway, watching television never did anything good for me. I've only had cable for a few months, and that was 5 or 6 years ago. Before that, it was another 6 or 7 years without it. I don't like the images my memory receives from it...I'd rather go without. I'd rather press on to things eternal.

Please pray for me that God's will be done in my life, and that my love for Him and others will grow as much as it is Spiritually possible. The Lord bless you all with Himself,  
richie

**Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2006/9/1 8:38**

Quote:

-----Christ wants us to lay the axe to the root of such things.  
-----

Well said ccchhrrriiss.

A message that reaches across many a similar item;

(<https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php?lid5392>) About Doubtful Things *by Ray Stedman*

(<http://www.biblegateway.com/bible?languageenglish&versionKJV&passageRomans+14%3A1-23>) Romans 14:1-23

**Re:, on: 2006/9/1 10:26**

Dave Wilkerson put it well:

'You watch TV, your family go to hell.'

Tough question coming up - which is more important to you?

**Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2006/9/1 15:16**

That is just slightly out of context there brother and is clipping out in mid sentence ...

If I recall correctly there is a '*while*' in there ...

*... you sit around watching T.V while your family go to hell?...*

Quite abit before and after that.

**Re:, on: 2006/9/1 15:21**

Quote:

-----

crsschk wrote:

That is just slightly out of context there brother and is clipping out in mid sentence ...

If I recall correctly there is a '*while*' in there ...

*... you sit around watching T.V while your family go to hell?...*

Quite abit before and after that.

-----

Humble apologies. I must stress the mis-quote was not on purpose.

Apologies.

**Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2006/9/1 15:35**

No problem brother, actually ... am thinking now the "while" is "and"

Just a point of clarification though brother, that's all.

**Re: - posted by AshleyJnr, on: 2006/9/1 18:02**

A few months before I was born, my dad met a stranger who was new to our small Tennessee town. From the beginning , Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer, and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around to welcome me into the world a few months later.

As I grew up I never questioned his place in our family. In my young mind, each member had a special niche. My brother , Bill, five years my senior, was my example. Fran, my younger sister, gave me an opportunity to play 'big brother' and develop the art of teasing. My parents were complementary instructors-- Mom taught me to love the word of God, and Dad taught me to obey it.

But the stranger was our storyteller. He could weave the most fascinating tales. Adventures, mysteries and comedies were daily conversations. He could hold our whole family spell-bound for hours each evening.

If I wanted to know about politics, history, or science, he knew it all. He knew about the past, understood the present, and seemingly could predict the future. The pictures he could draw were so life like that I would often laugh or cry as I watched.

He was like a friend to the whole family. He took Dad, Bill and me to our first major league baseball game. He was always encouraging us to see the movies and he even made arrangements to introduce us to several movie stars. My brother and I were deeply impressed by John Wayne in particular.

The stranger was an incessant talker. Dad didn't seem to mind, but sometimes Mom would quietly get up-- while the rest of us were enthralled with one of his stories of faraway places-- go to her room, read her Bible and pray. I wonder now if she ever prayed that the stranger would leave.

You see, my dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions. But this stranger never felt obligation to honor them . Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our house-- not from us, from our friends, or adults. Our longtime visitor, however, used occasional four letter words that burned my ears and made Dad squirm. To my knowledge the stranger was never confronted. My dad was a teetotaler who didn't permit alcohol in his home - not even for cooking. But the stranger felt like we needed exposure and enlightened us to other ways of life. He offered us beer and other alcoholic beverages often.

He made cigarettes look tasty, cigars manly, and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (probably too much too freely) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing. I know now that my early concepts of the man-woman relationship were influenced by the stranger.

As I look back, I believe it was the grace of God that the stranger did not influence us more. Time after time he opposed the values of my parents. Yet he was seldom rebuked and never asked to leave.

More than thirty years have passed since the stranger moved in with the young family on Morningside Drive. He is not nearly so intriguing to my Dad as he was in those early years. But if I were to walk into my parents' den today, you would still see him sitting over in a corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

His name? We always just called him TV.

As Told by Keith Currie

I hope this encourages those in favour of "no tv" to keep "guard", and I hope it helps those in favour of the TV to help to understand where the otherside is coming from.

Love Brother Ashley

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/1 19:29**

Quote:

-----  
richardf wrote:

Dave Wilkerson put it well:

'You watch TV, your family go to hell.'

Tough question coming up - which is more important to you?  
-----

If I listened to someone say that not really knowing that for a fact! I would be more concerned about listening to Dave Wilkerson and going to Hell if he did really say that, this is about the craziest statement I have ever heard from anyone period, I guess he can also predict when Jesus is coming back. :-(

**Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2006/9/1 20:05**

Are you guys that are against "TV" against the box that you can hook a DVD player up and watch sermons or cable/satellite?

The TV is not much different than the monitor you are looking at, you just have to control what you allow to come through it.

I don't have cable, or satellite here. I get about 3 fuzzy channels that really don't even come in. Maybe that is why I don't have a problem with the TV.

**Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2006/9/1 20:43**

Quote:

-----If I listened to someone say that not really knowing that for a fact! I would be more concerned about listening to Dave Wilkerson and going to Hell if he did really say that, this is about the craziest statement I have ever heard from anyone period, I guess he can also predict when Jesus is coming back.  
-----

Brother, there was some clarifications here earlier ... it needs the context as was partially attempted.

Will see if I can dig up the link later, but I believe it was from the message "Anguish"

**Re: Get rid of the Tv! - posted by Dougmore, on: 2006/9/1 21:33**

I say get that vile thing out! How can a believer heed the words of God spoken through the prophet Isaiah and still watch the t.v.? "The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? He that walketh righteously, and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hands from holding bribes, (This is where it gets good!) that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; He shall dwell on high..." (Isaiah 33:14-16).

What more can be said brethren?

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/1 22:04**

Quote:

-----  
Dougmore wrote:

I say get that vile thing out! How can a believer heed the words of God spoken through the prophet Isaiah and still watch the t.v.?  
-----

Or sit in front of the worst of the worst the internet, I say get that vile thing out also.

Personally I think this thread has turned into more of an opinion thread rather than a scriptural one it's been fun to watch I have to admit. Like I said in my first post, I was brought to the Lord through the TV and if God found this means to save me I feel it's still ok with him to watch until I find a scripture that says "ye should not watch tv"

I wonder if someone is going to dig for that one.:-)

**Re: Wrong item? - posted by crsschk (), on: 2006/9/1 23:56**

Like far too many things it seems it's greatly missing the point, the attempt from the outward in rather than the inside out. Just as well the only solution is turn everything into two camps ... "For\against"

Sigh ... What did our Lord speak to these matters over and over again? Not the TV, but the heart?

That is the *vile thing that needs to be thrown out*.

Hard to leave that hanging out there without making the obvious comment that if the thing has got you ... both of them need to go.

**Re: Watch TV with Compassion, on: 2006/9/2 4:21**

## **Watch TV With Compassion**

"O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day."

While you are watching TV... are you meditating on God's law?

"Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day."

While you are watching TV... are you waiting on God?

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Abstain from all appearance of evil."

While you are watching TV... does what you are watching appear to be evil in the sight of the LORD?

"I hate vain thoughts: but thy law do I love." "The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity."

While you are watching TV... are you being fed man's thoughts or God's thoughts?

I have often thought of godly ways to watch TV in ungodly circumstances. I live in a house with 10+ roommates and some watch TV alot. Well, I thought of a list of questions for TV watchers.

1. Regarding the Actors, Voices, News people, Show host and guest... Are they saved? They are souls and they are either dead in sin or dead to sin. (hell or heaven)

2. If they are not saved (and this should be the assumed case if you're not sure) Should you not pray for them? I do not mean when you go to bed. I mean right now. Should you not travail and weep over their sin of vanity? Should you not meditate on their coming fate of wrath and hell-fire, so as to stir your soul?

Did not our Lord Jesus once see you living the vanity life and make intercession for you? Did he not once travail and weep over your sinful state and bleed tears of anguish for you. Your world of entertainment has been turned upside down. "Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee?" "But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

-Abraham

**Re:, on: 2006/9/2 4:52**

There is no set answer to the question, 'Should we get rid of the TV?' I think that God gives us each unique convictions about certain things. For example, I felt convicted that I should not watch TV full stop. Not necessarily because of what was on it, but more because I always wondered what I could be doing with my time instead of watching a load of rubbish, which, let's be honest, the TV has a lot of.

However, as I read this discussion also turn to the internet, I feel convicted about which sites I go on instead. I have a small list of websites that I will go on, like BibleGateway, SermonIndex and the like.

You see, with a discussion such as this, there is no set answer. I think that maybe it is between you and the Lord: what has He said you about TV?

**Re:, on: 2006/9/2 5:19**

I'm going to paraphrase but David said somewhere 'I will look upon no wicked thing'.

There is wisdom in a multitude of counselors and according to all these posts it leans towards exercising "great caution" concerning the T.V.

I would add that "I think" you have the liberty to have a T.V. but do not use that liberty as an opportunity for the flesh. "The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the boastful pride of life" That is the majority of what is on T.V. Having said that it still can be useful for news etc. David Wilkerson in his book "set trumpet to thy mouth" conveyed a powerful way to hear from God directly on this and a few other "doubtful things". He said something like, "shut yourself in the prayer closet with your bible for awhile."

Talk with God get alone with God in the closet. You will then be able to hear the still small voice of God, and he will confirm it in his word. And you will then be much more sensitive in discerning good and evil.

I and many of you can testify that it is very easy to slip right back into undiscerning tv watching. You won't even realize it's happened till a little while later when you are stirred back to God in some way. Let us walk in the Spirit and we will not fulfill the lust of the flesh., God bless, John

**Re: - posted by W\_D\_J\_D, on: 2006/9/2 7:57**

i say amen! to the most recent posts of "Abe\_juliot" and "thingsabove" on this topic.

God bless u both.

Also amen to what Crrrshck said about how we may be missing the point by pointing the finger at T.V and not our hearts .....

Like my young brother in the Lord had the wisdom to say when asked about "whether or not to get a peircing" he replied. .... "What is your reason/ motive behind getting one"?

The answer was "cause i feel like getting one"

God bless and ciao ciao

**Re: - posted by W\_D\_J\_D, on: 2006/9/2 8:22**

Sorry....just to emphasise a point a tiny bit more.....

In the example i gave it was meant to show that the issue is not the earring, tatoo, T.V etc. but it is the hearts motives behind the issue.

Get to the root of the problem.

ciao. God bless

**Re: Get rid of the Tv! - posted by roadsign (), on: 2006/9/2 10:50**

PreachParsly said,

Quote:

-----If you can't control your TV, throw it out. If you can't control your computer, kick it out.

What if you can't control the one who turns on the TV -- like your husband -- do you kick him out?

Okay, so I am unreasonable. But seriously, in past years this TV thing has just about driven me crazy -- especially when my 4 kids were young. I did not grow up with TV. So of course, I preferred not to have one, and certainly I did not want to have it on all the time.

My husband, on the other hand, grew up where TV was on all the time. So, to my utter dismay, he had it on a lot for himself and then also for the kids.... And then came the VCR... and then at Christmas came movies for the kids -- one of which I did not approve of. I think we have had more marital stress over that cursed tube than anything else.

I even bought a good book called "Four Reasons Against TV" and placed in conspicuous places (ahh, the wife's devilish tactic!) It was never read, and if anyone wants it, I can mail it to you (if I still have it).



I browsed through this thread looking for words that might have been helpful during those frustrating years. And praise God, I found a spring of water. Mike B wrote it:

Quote:  
----- Like far too many things it seems it's greatly missing the point, the attempt from the outward in rather than the inside out...

Sigh ... .. Not the TV, but the heart ... That is the vile thing that needs to be thrown out. ?  
-----

And, that is just what God finally got through to me. It was MY ungodly, untrusting heart that needed to be tossed out. The TV was not the issue, nor even my husband.

My husband still keeps the TV on - in his office while he works on the computer. I don't know how he can write music at the same time as hear the TV yet it seems to help him concentrate. Thankfully he doesn't watch junk, so I'm okay with that. God can handle my husband quite fine.

There is another very big consideration that I have not seen discussed here - and it has to do with the difference between what is good and what is God's perfect. The good can be the enemy of God's best, his perfect will for us - yes even good shows, and good news channels.

We might very well valiantly refrain from the worldly influences, and dwell in the safe places - like SI. Yet, even SI might not be God's best for us at times. (And, oh yes, even SI can become an idolatrous attraction - and can subtly replace our first love - God himself. ) It's tempting to justify what we believe is good, and yet all the while fail to strive for perfect obedience to the voice of the Spirit.

The schools around here have instituted a "screen free week" - no TV, no internet, no games. Isn't that a fabulous idea! I suppose we could institute our own personal screen free week ( which may even include a fast from SI). Only God knows, we might suddenly hear him speak to us like never before.

Something to consider.....

Diane

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/2 11:36**

Quote:  
-----  
richardf wrote:  
There is no set answer to the question, 'Should we get rid of the TV?' I think that God gives us each unique convictions about certain things.  
-----

Can't say it much plainer than that! heck we Texans can even understand that. :-)

**Re: - posted by AshleyJnr, on: 2006/9/2 11:48**

I'm really curious, can I ask those who advocate the destruction of television, have you been without television for a while. Not to point a finger but to possibly substantiate a theory I just thought of.

I have not really watched tv for about 3 years now. but when I see one now ie. if I'm in a restaurant that has one or something, I am absolutely taken by it, I mean I struggle to keep my eyes off it. I think this is because I rarely see it, therefore when I do see it, it's "attractiveness" has much more power. ie. like if you haven't eaten for a long time, when you start to eat, the sense of taste and smell is so much stronger, it's hard to stop eating. Does this make sense?

So I was just wondering if perhaps that's why some people are so against it because through abstinence they have become

me more susceptible to its powers, and others that have it, seem either negligent to its power or its power has built up a resistance that gives them complete control over it.

Or I suppose I could be wrong it could be just pride operating that cause people to argue?

Anyhow, great post about the Heart. I know my own heart therefore I don't have a tv and to label me as "too weak" to have a tv would have to be one of the most accurate statements on this thread!!

Bless you all  
Love Brother Ashley

**Our Vile Hearts - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2006/9/2 12:47**

Brethren  
bro Mike said this:

Quote:  
-----  
crsschk wrote:  
Like far too many things it seems it's greatly missing the point, the attempt from the outward in rather than the inside out. Just as well the only solution is to turn everything into two camps ... "For/against"

Sigh ... What did our Lord speak to these matters over and over again? Not the TV, but the heart?

That is the *vile thing that needs to be thrown out*.

Hard to leave that hanging out there without making the obvious comment that if the thing has got you ... both of them need to go.  
-----

the t.v. itself is not a bad thing but our hearts are the most deceitful thing there is and it is the source of all we say and do. Does the word not say out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks? This is why our hearts ought to be cleansed because if they are not and we live as hermits away from all the so called evils of the world, we have done nothing unless we have God cleanse our hearts. Brethren let us not be foolish concerning this and do everything else except the one thing that matters. We need to present our hearts before God to be purged of our iniquity which and indeed have it replaced with one which is after the very Heart of God.

the solution is simple, let us go before God and repent and be forgiven and cleansed and given a new heart and the rest will fall into place thereafter.

Lord help us! AMEN.

**Re: Our Vile Hearts - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/2 14:37**

Ironman, I sure am glad I only have to deal with the TV, you Brother have to also have to deal with the beaches, now Brother that would require me to wear blinders, by the way how are you neighbor? ;-)

**Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2006/9/2 21:42**

Quote:  
-----What if you can't control the one who turns on the TV -- like your husband -- do you kick him out?  
Okay, so I am unreasonable. But seriously, in past years this TV thing has just about driven me crazy -- especially when my 4 kids were young. I did not grow up with TV. So of course, I preferred not to have one, and certainly I did not want to have it on all the time.  
-----

Ah yes, the continuation of the thought. Have the same similar problem here, surely could just disconnect the thing(s) and start world war III ...

Quote:

-----I have not really watched tv for about 3 years now. but when I see one now ie. if I'm in a restaurant that has one or something, I am absolutely taken by it, I mean I struggle to keep my eyes off it.  
-----

Could understand that, seeing that it is more by happenstance...

Had just lost interest in it as a whole after the Lord began dealing with so many things. Primarily will have it on for sports, being a reformed junkie of sorts :-? ... that is to say, can take it or leave it. But what I really noticed after being away from it for so many years now otherwise, in that sort of American, plop down on the couch, dull your senses away manner. .. is just how incredibly manipulative, fake and yes all the things that others are rightly to say so much about. It is *vile* in all the overt ways, that hardly needs mention, but it is also vile in that it is largely an insult to what intelligence is left out there. Most of the programs are a vast production of falsehood, backed up with laugh tracks and canned audience applause ... , the commercials alone, everything you don't need ... seem to be going down previously covered ground.

By and large I do understand and agree with those that make mention of these things. At the same time it is still an each to his own dealing between him or herself and the Lord. The obvious ought not to prove to be a problem, if one is in doubt in these things... I believe you have your answer already.

#### howdy neighbour - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2006/9/3 10:30

hry bro Bill

well i don't go to the beach very much believe it or not. my wife, daughter and myself have gone a few times to walk the seawall. in the summer months i run on the seawall and i don't pay too much attention to people on my way (although i occasionally get waved at by friends and strangers) but most people probably think i'm nuts being out there!

we don't have cable any more not because God said stop watching t.v. but coz we wanted to cut back on bills. i used to watch t.v. a lot then later on watched it less, mainly nature shows (i marvel at God's creation and see the foolish darkened hearts of man as they call it evolution) the history channel, national geographic and the news mostly (with the news God shows me how events fit into His plan)

most t.v. programming is trash indeed but there is some anointed stuff that comes on from time to time. we would do well to check our hearts. if we are attracted to some of this trash we ought to be cleansed of God. the hearts of men were always evil, we didn't need t.v. to influence us so the problem i believe lies more with our filthy hearts. if we are cleansed by God, we won't have to worry about what we watch because God will lead us to whatever He would have us watch and steer us clear of all the other mess.

#### Re: Television, heart of the matter, on: 2006/9/3 17:28

If you get rid of something because you believe it's wrong, you'll only get it again.

I have had a 27" super flat television sit on the stand for over two years, and I rarely touched it. My sister needed to use and I lent it. She brought it back afterwards and it sat on the stand again. I never used it until my sister's tv broke down and I sold it to her.

The television has no hold unless it holds you. It's a heart issue, if you have it in your heart, getting rid of it won't solve your desires, you'll only suppress something that the holy Spirit would have exposed.

After all that is the purpose of grace, that you and I might experience sin in an exceeding sinful way, that the holy Spirit carries us from death on the cross to the abundant life in Christ Jesus. That's why I have a hard time believing that any of us truly backslide.

Backsliding only comes one way, if you TRY to live this life thru works (law, standards of holiness etc..) you'll fall into all kinds of sin. I've seen it and I know what I am talking about.

In our faith we know that we have been crucified with Christ, we died with Him and we rose with Him in newness of life, but we must live out this process. We speak the above as though they were, yet in our lives we know we lack greatly as do little children.

Someone might say, "Well, I threw out my tv years ago and I haven't watched it since", your missing the point. You can have the thing in your house and have no desire to turn it on. You can have a porn magazine tucked away in your wardrobe

obe, the only reason why you havn't seen it is because you've forgotten about it because the desire is not there.

My brother in law lusts over his vintage camaro, I said to him one day, "all this car is missing is a female organ" to which he agreed, for he is so in love with his car. How foolish can you be?

But we are very foolish, for the most littlest thing in our lives is an abomination to God. The obvious things are not the attention getter, it's the little foxes that spoil our vineyard, and it's that the holy Spirit targets.

When we get a speck of dirt in our eye, we can't see it but it's there and we try our darrest to get that out. We soak it with water, we rub it until it is red, but here is where the wisdom of God comes in, WE LEAVE IT ALONE and allow nature to push that speck of dirt or whatever out.

We push we plow, we thrash and we thresh and we make the job harder than it is. The Holy Spirit has been weeding things out of men for thousands of years He does not need our help.

When you and I put these words in front of what we are DOING in our christian walk, "I AM" we are spelling trouble. Let's stop frustrating the grace of God by letting Him take the desires out of our heart, and if and when we get rid of our tv's it will only be because it's not being used and it's taking up space.

God Bless

Karl

#### John Wesley on Dissipation - posted by bennon05 (), on: 2006/9/3 18:35

8. But who is he that is thus renewed? He that believeth in the name of the Son of God. He alone that believeth on the Lord Jesus Christ is thus "born of God." It is by this faith alone, that he is "created anew in," or through, "Christ Jesus;" that he is restored to the image of God wherein he was created, and again centred in God; or, as the Apostle expresses it, "joined to the Lord in one spirit." Yet even then the believer may find in himself the remains of that carnal mind, that natural tendency to rest in created good, to acquiesce in visible things, which, without continual care, will press down his soul, and draw him from his Creator. Herein the world, the men that know not God, will never fail to join; at some times with design, and at other times perhaps without design: For their very spirit is infectious, and insensibly changes ours into its own likeness. And we may be well assured, the prince of this world, the devil, will assist them with all his might. He will labour with all his strength, and, what is far more dangerous, with all his subtlety, if by any means he may draw us away from our simplicity towards Christ; from our simple adherence to him; from our union with him, through whom we are also united in one spirit to the Father.

9. But nothing is more certain than this, -- that though he may tempt the strongest believer to give up his simplicity towards Christ, and scatter his thoughts and desires among worldly objects; yet he cannot force even the weakest: For the grace of God is still sufficient for him. The same grace which at first united him to God is able to continue that happy union, in spite of all the rage, and all the strength, and all the subtlety of the enemy. God has never left himself without witness that he has power to deliver them that trust in him, as out of every temptation that can assault them, so out of this in particular. He has still a little flock who do in fact, "attend upon him without distraction;" who, cleaving to him with full purpose of heart, are not dissipated from him, no, not for a moment; but "rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing, and in everything give thanks."

These words are from a sermon by John Wesley titled "On Dissipation". I haven't read the sermon in a while (but would encourage you all to --> <https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/articles/index.php?view=article&aid=6152>) but it talks about things that would cause a person to be "distracted" from the gift of God in Christ Jesus. I was convicted due to these words and did stop playing video games and watching TV. I didn't do this entirely because TV leads me to sin or to turn away from the narrow path, but it doesn't take me anywhere profitable. When I compare the profit due to that of watching TV when compared to praying or reading God's word, I find that the latter is "what is best." My pastor today said something along these lines, "television isn't necessarily sin, it just isn't necessary."

I have read many of the posts on this topic and most have some truth in them, but it is sad that we argue about television as if it is RIGHT or WRONG. I feel that we are searching for an answer that scripture does not provide, thus we search in vain. The bottom line is that whether we eat or sleep or whatever we do, that we do it to the glory of God. I have found personally that I cannot justify watching TV when I could be praying for the lost, seeking the lost, or meditating on God's

word. If you can watch TV in the name of Christ and to the Glory of God, then by all means do so and may God bless you. But in most cases this is not the motive, and TV is just another device to harden our hearts, weaken our stand, and distract our gaze. The importance is, in the words of Wesley, to keep our eye "single" to the glory of God.

Many times these posts can be on secondary things that God will deal INDIVIDUALLY with each person. The primary truth is that we are to do everything to the glory of God, and seek to be holy like our father in heaven is holy. I'd say drop this useless discussion that is only leading to sarcastic posts and division within the body. We are united in that we seek to glorify him who died for us, let's focus on seeking him and encouraging our brothers to do the same.

**Re: John Wesley on Dissipation - posted by deltadom (), on: 2006/9/3 20:21**

What would the world be like if Christians did not watch television and instead read their bibles and more useful activities?

What would it be like if Christians spent their money on godly things rather than ungodly things?

If television does not influence your opinion why do companies spend millions of dollars on one advert?

Do we need Jesus? Yes. Are we and are society a mess? Yes.  
Where did all the problems in our society come from?

My question is not whether TV is good or bad just whether it has taken you away or closer to the Lord?

What would the world be like if people did not watch the box and actually talked to each other in person?

I cry over these questions because I have never seen a group of people maybe on SI or a church that has decided to give up a small thing such as TV to gain a greater thing?

7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Sometimes we do not want to give up a small thing so we can gain the greater thing. we want the snake instead of the egg, me included !!  
I am a mess and I need Jesus

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/3 21:39**

Quote:

-----  
deltadom wrote:

If television does not influence your opinion why do companies spend millions of dollars on one advert?

-----

You know I hate to keep bringing this up but the Internet has a ton more ads than TV and if you did watch TV you would find that most "all" of the bad stuff that happens all over the world comes directly from the Internet, or Internet related, when was the last time you saw a TV station with chat rooms and pop ups and how much bad in the world is planned on TV my guess none! how much is planned on the Internet? probably a ton I have never seen a Cop go into a killers home and grab their TV when looking for evidence they grab the computers. Bottom line if you are typing here and posting you are against TV you are being a hypocrite and just because you don't think your are don't mean your not. I would be willing to bet my life if you were to take a vote like if AOL for example was to take a vote what has caused the world more grief and more troubles and what is the worst for the mind I would bet the Internet would win by 98%. :-)

**Re:, on: 2006/9/3 22:00**

MrBillpro, I agree with your opinion, to a degree. I'm not so sure about the 98% for the internet.

The tv is still the primary medium into everybody's home. The ease of the hypnotic effect on humans when a tv is playing is still just too easy and too powerful.

As I have said before and will expound on again. The majority of the T.V. is "lust of flesh, lust of eye and boastful pride of life" this is a fact that know honest christian can deny. So I again advise, You have the liberty to have a T.V. however do not use it to fulfill lust of flesh. Maybe put a sticker above it, "USE WITH EXTREME CAUTION" . For what it's worth that's my take on it. God bless John

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/3 22:05**

Quote:

thingsabove wrote:

So I again advise, You have the liberty to have a T.V. however do not use it to fulfill lust of flesh. Maybe put a sticker above it, "USE WITH EXTREME CAUTION" . For what it's worth that's my take on it. God bless John

I totally agree with you on this so we can agree see, I especially like your idea of the sticker above it, "USE WITH EXTREME CAUTION" :-P

**Re: - posted by crsschk (), on: 2006/9/3 22:09**

Quote:

-----I would be willing to bet my life if you were to take a vote like if AOL for example was to take a vote what has caused the world more grief and more troubles and what is the worst for the mind I would bet the Internet would win by 98%.

Not to sure about that Mr. Bill, seems rather strange to categorize it that way, the tube has been at it a lot longer... If you really think about it, isn't the mere acceptance of it's commonplace just another factor in how much the envelope keeps getting pushed? It is keeping up with the times right along with the internet, shouldn't be too much longer that what is seen on the one is seen on the other. The merging of the technologies is already well underway.

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/3 22:19**

Well, I have been known to exaggerate a little and I also know TV has been around a lot longer than the Internet, but I don't know of any studies where there has been a comparison of the Internet to the TV because my guess both would get there 50% at least for infecting the mind no doubt, but still I ask how many here have seen a Cop go into a killers home and grab their TV when looking for evidence? So maybe we should all have "USE WITH EXTREME CAUTION" on our TV and our Computer.

**Re:, on: 2006/9/3 22:27**

Though I may be beating a dead horse I would like to add a little more.

I personally lean more strongly on the opinion that not having a tv in the home is of greater benefit than having it and wrestling with it. Those who declare "get rid of it period" I say, yes, if you do you will be extremely blessed. You can always check out the news at the local walmart or breakroom at work newspaper ,etc.etc. But I still must extend liberty to being allowed to have it. God bless, John

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/3 22:39**

Quote:

thingsabove wrote:

Though I may be beating a dead horse I would like to add a little more.

You can always check out the news at the local walmart or breakroom at work newspaper ,etc.etc.

or Internet while your on your computer. :-)

Your not beating a dead horse Brother this is a healthy thread I feel, but getting someone on the Internet to condemn the internet is about like getting a TV Pastor to condemn the TV. :-)

**Re: Get rid of the Tv! - posted by Dougmore, on: 2006/9/3 23:04**

Hi Carl, I thought you might like to listen to Mose Stoltzfus' sermon on why believers shouldn't have a tv. I have yet to listen to it but all the rest of his sermons are very edifying. Bro.Doug

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/3 23:21**

The Internet and the TV is a powerful, but value-neutral tool. Like a chain saw or a car, it can perform wonderful work or cause untold damage. Use it wisely and well, with Christian determination to do what is right and pleasing to God, and you'll have an excellent servant. Approach it with the desire to seek what is less than good for you, and you'll have a cruel master. Remember, "It's not what goes in to the mouth that makes it unclean, but what comes out." The same holds true with Internet and the TV, I also have a tape around here somewhere it's a sermon on why believers shouldn't have a TV or the Internet, I bought it about 5 years ago at the Baptist Book Store in Houston, I don't remember the pastor but if I can locate it I will post his name.

**Re: Replacement Theology?, on: 2006/9/5 19:15**

There are those who say, "we have given up the tv", but it's an exchange for the internet or gaming, some even have given up Cable and watch movies on a "monitor" etc... It's like someone who quits smoking, they take up something else to fill the void. If you been set free by the power of God and nothing of your own doing, He fills all voids.

It's like someone saying, "I just want to thank the LORD for giving us a new furniture set", (someone actually stood up and testified in church one Sunday on this) everyone who hears this says "wow, praise the LORD". But what we don't hear is that the LORD didn't give them anything, they bought it and are making payments. (I inquired from the person later and found out they were making payments)

Like the example above, we Christians exchange one habit for another and make payments, the LORD didn't deliver us at all, it's all a work of the flesh. If it was a work of the Spirit, there wouldn't be any exchanging.

Does anyone see my point?? It's not a matter of right or wrong, it's a matter of TRUTH.

We hold onto things because of what we think is right and wrong, taboos, superstitions, but I tell you there is no TRUTH in any of this. This thinking is from beneath and it's not from above.

That's why Churches and Sects have their list of Do's and Don't's, these things are subtle and have crept into our thinking and has become what we term "Holiness".

Are you saying that Televisions are ok?, No I am not, this is not a question of right or wrong. It's a question of "What is TRUTH?"

We can spend all day long trying to do good, trying to be holy, trying to live this Christian walk, but when it's all said and done, it comes back to "knowing the TRUTH, and the TRUTH will make you free".

"To be carnally minded is death", just because we do a little good here and there doesn't mean we are Spiritually minded



d, WE ARE NOT!! It has everything to do with His workmanship on the inside of you, the more we pay attention to that, the less of this world will have our attention.

Let any man who have ears to hear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!!

**Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2006/9/8 21:01**

The 23rd Channel

=====

The T.V. is my shepherd.  
My spiritual growth shall want.

It maketh me to sit down and do nothing for his name's sake,  
because it require all my spare time.

It keepeth me from doing my duty as a Christian,  
because it presenteth me so many good shows that I must see.

It restoreth my knowledge of the things of the world,  
and keepeth me from the study of God's word.

It leadeth me in paths of not attending evening worship service,  
and doing nothing in the Kingdom of God.

Yea, though I live to be a hundred,  
I shall keep on viewing my T.V. as long as it will work,  
for it is my closest companion.

Its sound and its picture,  
they comfort me.

It presenteth entertainment before me,  
and keepeth me from doing important things with my family.

It fills my head with ideas  
which differ from those set forth in the word of God.

Surely no good thing will come of my life,  
because my T.V. offereth me no good time to do the will of God;

thus I will dwell in the place of the devil and his angels

forever.

~Author Unknown~

**Re: - posted by Yeshuasboy (), on: 2006/9/8 21:20**

Quote:

-----  
PaulWest wrote:  
The 23rd Channel

=====

~Author Unknown~

Now this is creativity :lol:  
God bless you,  
richie

**Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/9/8 23:01**

Quote:

-----  
PaulWest wrote:  
The 23rd Channel

=====

The T.V. is my shepherd.  
My spiritual growth shall want.  
~Author Unknown~

-----

That's really good but it would have been a lot better if it would have included the Internet also. :-)