

**General Topics :: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music****Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music, on: 2007/12/13 9:03**

Along with the Christmas memories thread, I thought it would be neat to hear what everyone's favorite Christmas CD/music/artist is...

I'll start...

I'm old school when it comes to Christmas. I love the Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Mel Torme, Nat King Cole music. Probably because my grandparents were part of the "Greatest Generation" and that's what I heard at their houses during Christmas.

I like *some* of the Christmas music from the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. I also like Manhiem Steamroller.

I have to admit.... I love the Lynyrd Skynyrd Family Christmas CD. A few years back I finally laid all of my Skynyrd music on the alter, but I do have the Christmas CD. It's a great one. On Christmas Eve after I've assembled the "some assembly required" gifts, and we've put all the gifts under the tree... I put on this CD and hit the song "Santa Claus Needs Some Lovin'", turn off the lights except the tree, and my wife and I slow dance together in the living room... under the mistletoe, of course. :-)

Krispy

Re: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2007/12/13 9:15

I really enjoy Carter Conlon's CD titled
(http://www.worldchallenge.org/miva/merchant.mvc?ScreenPROD&Store_CodeWCOS&Product_CodeSPCL-Combo&Category_CodeMM) Where Christmas Never Ends.

I also like Martina McBride's CD titled White Christmas. Although she is a secular artist she has an amazing voice and her rendition of Oh Holy Night is unmatched in my opinion.

In Christ,

Ron

Re: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music - posted by Compton (), on: 2007/12/13 9:58

Quote:

-----Lynyrd Skynyrd Family Christmas CD

You wouldn't be truly southern if you didn't have at least a little itch for Skynyrd growin up. :-P

In all honesty I've given up on most pop music...especially when it comes to Christmas. Pop singers can't just sing the melodies anymore. Everyone is scating and doo wopping all the place. Give it a rest already!

Still I've got a couple Secular faves. Other than a Charlie brown Christmas (Which in my opinion is actually sacred music ;-)) I really like Harry Connick Jr.'s "Harry for the Holidays." He has a really intelligent arrangement for O Little Town of Bethlehem.

The incredible 12 voice choir Chanticleer has a beautiful historic survey of Christmas music called "Sing we Christmas."

And what Christmas list would be complete without Handel's Messiah? My preferred edition is a two CD set by Paul McCreesh and the Gabrieli Consort & Players played on period instruments. While Handel usually gets all the credit for this

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s famous music, special credit should also go to Charles Jennens who assembled the libretto with a keen understanding not only of the Gospel but also of dramatic story telling. For those of us offended at contemporary styles of music, it worth noting that Handel's Messiah was considered to be too operatic and theatrical for a sacred work. It actually received a lack luster response for it's first years in the public.

MC

Re: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/12/13 9:59

I love Elvis' Christmas album...I grew up with Elvis as my mother is a huge Elvis fan, and it's one I just have to listen to each year. I also like Harry Connick Jr, Alabama, Point of Grace, Gaithers, Kenny Rogers, Reba McEntyre, Go Fish, and many others.

My favorite Christmas song is "Its about the Cross" by Go Fish...you can find it on youtube if you want to hear it, someone made a video to it.

Re:, on: 2007/12/13 10:07

Quote:
-----Still I've got a couple Secular faves. Other than a Charlie brown Christmas (Which in my opinion is actually sacred music) I really like Harry Connick Jr.s "Harry for ther Holidays." He has a really intelligent arrangement for O Little Town of Bethlehem.

Ahhh... I cant believe I forgot to mention Harry! You're right... Harry for the Holidays is a great one, as is his 1st Christmas CD "When My Heart Finds Christmas". I put him in the same category as Bing, Frank and Nat... with a little cajun hot sauce mixed in.

I agree with you about the more contemporary stuff... just dont like it. Someone gave us a "WOW Christmas" double CD last year... all Christian "pop" singers... and I like maybe 3 songs out of 30.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/12/13 10:14

Quote:
-----I love Elvis' Christmas album...I grew up with Elvis as my mother is a huge Elvis fan, and it's one I just have to listen to each year. I also like Harry Connick Jr, Alabama, Point of Grace, Gaithers, Kenny Rogers, Reba McEntyre, Go Fish, and many others.

Yea... good ones! Elvis' Christmas album has some good stuff on it. The 1st Alabama Christmas album is great. The 2nd one was ok. I love "Christmas In Dixie"

Christmas In Dixie
by Alabama

*By now in New York City
There's snow on the ground
And out in California
The sunshines' falling down
And maybe down in Memphis
Graceland's all in lights
And in Atlanta, Georgia
there's peace on earth tonight*

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*Christmas in Dixie
its snowing in the pines
Merry Christmas from Dixie
to everyone tonight*

*Its windy in Chicago
The kids are out of school
There's magic in Motown
The city's on the move
In Jackson, Mississippi
to Charlotte, Caroline
And all across the Nation
its a peaceful Christmas time*

*Christmas in Dixie
Its snowing in the pines
Merry Christmas from Dixie
To everyone tonight*

*And from Fort Payne, Alabama...
Merry Christmas tonight*

...love that song. It has a real gentle, peaceful feel to it.

Krispy

Re: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music - posted by brentw (), on: 2007/12/13 10:18

Rudolph the red nose rein deer song. :-P

Re:, on: 2007/12/13 10:20

The original Gene Autry version?

Krispy

Re: - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/12/13 10:53

Quote:

-----The 1st Alabama Christmas album is great. The 2nd one was ok. I love "Christmas In Dixie"

I have the 2nd one. I love "the Blessings." But I do have some of the songs from the first one too. Christmas in Dixie is one of them. I like it too.

I also have both of Harry's albums. I like his arrangements.

I also found a couple of albums online. Kids for Christmas...exactly what it says. and all music for "Jesus' birthday. My kids and I love it.

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Re:, on: 2007/12/13 11:06

Quote:
-----I also found a couple of albums online. Kids for Christmas...exactly what it says. and all music for "Jesus' birthday. My kids and I love it.

Yea... my wife loves "A Muppet Christmas". The kids do too. I do **not**, however. Have never been, nor ever will be a fan of John Denver. The only song he ever recorded that I even remotely like was "Thank God I'm A Country Boy". Not sure why he gets under my skin so bad. I think maybe because I've always preferred my music a little on the masculine side, or something.

But my wife and kids enjoy the Muppet Christmas CD... and torture me with it now and then in the van... :-P

Krispy

Re: - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/12/13 11:18

Quote:
-----Have never been, nor ever will be a fan of John Denver.

I'm not really a fan either. I do have a couple of his Christmas songs though.

My kids really like Alvin and the Chipmunks...their favorite is "All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth." I always liked the chipmunks too when I was a kid.

Re:, on: 2007/12/13 11:36

There is a computer animated (you know, a Pixar kinda movie) Chipmunks movie coming out. Saw an ad for it online the other day.

Krispy

Re: - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/12/13 11:46

Thanks, I'll check it out. But I'm always leery of new movies with old characters...and I'm especially leery of movies aimed at children.

Re:, on: 2007/12/13 12:03

I **wasnt** recommending it because I dont know anything about it... I was just pointing out that they just made an Alvin & Chipmunks movie.

Please... dont everyone go see it and then come back and blast me for recommending it!!

The way things go right now, it's probably got a global warming/gay rights/anti-George W. Bush/anti-Christian theme thru the whole movie.

Krispy

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Re: - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/12/13 13:12

Quote:
-----I wasn't recommending it because I don't know anything about it... I was just pointing out that they just made an Alvin & Chipmunks movie.

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to imply you were doing anything other than pointing it out.

Nobody blast Krispy! :)

Re:, on: 2007/12/14 7:33

What about Burl Ives...?

Krispy

Re: - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/12/14 9:57

oh, yeah. I like Burl Ives too. And Bing Crosby.

Confession time: I love the movie Miracle on 34th street! I watch it and It's a Wonderful Life usually on the same day. I like White Christmas and Christmas in Connecticut too.

Re:, on: 2007/12/14 10:03

I watched White Christmas for the first time last year. It was good, we liked it. Haven't seen Christmas in Conn yet.

"It's A Wonderful Life" is on NBC (I think) tonight at 8 EST.

Krispy

Re: - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/12/14 10:05

Thanks for letting me know! I'll probably just watch my video though, because I hate commercial interruptions. :)

Re: - posted by HomeFree89 (), on: 2007/12/14 17:15

Well,

This year I've been listening to "A Little Christmas" by Legacy Five, "A Greater Vision Christmas" by Greater Vision, "Christmas with Brian Free and Assurance", "Dream a Dream" by Charlotte Church, "The Carol of Emmanuel" by David Klivenberg, "Noel" by Josh Groban, and some of Iworship's Christmas CDs.

Edit: And, "A Charlie Brown Christmas". :-D

Jordan

Re: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music - posted by InTheGarden (), on: 2007/12/14 18:37

Although we don't "break out the Christmas music" at Christmastime like some do, there are a couple of Christmas CDs that I enjoy listening to throughout the year. I think my favorite is the Messiah and my other favorite would have to be "Hale and Wilder Sing Christmas" by Robert Hale and Dean Wilder. They are both opera style, which I don't usually like, but both are beautiful and worshipful. This Christmas God has helped me to focus more on Him and the amazing gift He has given to us.

Isn't it amazing that even secular stores will put on Christian Christmas carols during Christmastime? It is neat since so many of these carols are deep and meaningful. I pray that people would listen to the words and have a desire to know more about why we celebrate Christmas.

Mikah

Re:, on: 2007/12/14 20:48

My favorite Christmas music is:

Oh Holy Night by Percy Faith and his Orchestra.

Away In A Manger sung by Jimmy Swaggart and Childrens Choir.

Mary's Boy Child by BoneyM

SnowFlake and Old Christmas Card by Jim Reeves.

One Happy Christmas by Tammy Wynette.

To name just a few.....

Merry Christmas!

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/12/14 21:37

This is probably going to cause WWIII to break out here in the forum, but I'll go ahead and say it anyhow:

For me, if the person doesn't live it, I don't want to hear him or her sing it. I say this respectfully, but I also say it unflinchingly. I don't know of anything that turns me off more than a secular person adorned in the choir robe of the hypocrite. This goes for Elvis, Johnny Cash, Oak Ridge Boys, Mariah Carey, Frank Sinatra, you name it. When the pretty Jesus songs are over, they take their choir robes off and continue in their sin. What kind of message are they sending? It would have been better if the Name of Jesus had never been spoken in the recording studio.

Imagine Nehemiah and the descendants of Asaph lending an ear to Sanballat and Tobias and the Moabite choir as they sang the songs of David outside the walls of Jerusalem. Imagine them stopping the building of the walls and working in the temple to sit and listen to the beautiful voices for a few minutes and smile and be amused or even worse - *edified*.

Okay, I'm wide open (spreads his arms). Who's gonna chuck the first snowball?

8-)

Brother Paul

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2007/12/15 16:40

My favorite recorded Christmas music is Handel's Messiah -the classical version -the entire thing.

In a neighboring city, the community presents this every year. It used to be given at the First Baptist church but in recent years it is now given at the Catholic church. Anyhow, we went one year and the way they sang it just about made me go crazy. They appeared to have run out of time and just stopped in the middle of a song. I know it so well I can anticipate the lyrics and music. And when they do not finish it, I am just about fit to be tied!

PaulWest wrote:

For me, if the person doesn't live it, I don't want to hear him or her sing it.

I understand your point. I feel this way when I go listen to the Messiah. (I have had too many religious singles as clients at CPC). Or when we go to the Methodist Church's singing Christmas tree. Others have told me they use the term "Jesus" rarely in their worship service: God is ok but not Jesus. And they are also tolerant of unrepentant homosexuals. Knowing this puts a damper on my enthusiasm for their otherwise excellent concert. So we just will not go anymore - am afraid

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that by attending they will take this as approval of their doctrine, lifestyle.

Have a blessed Christmas,
ginnyrose

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/12/15 17:35

Quote:

-----I feel this way when I go listen to the Messiah.

My wife and I went to see the Austin symphony and choir perform "Messiah" last year, and we did not enjoy it because of this very reason. I am a huge classical music buff, I'm the type of guy that is very picky with his selections; depending on the composer, only certain conductors and symphony orchestras are acceptable. I've been avidly into classical and baroque music since I was 16, collecting Bach and Handel and Vivladi and Telemann music...but my maturity in the Lord is getting to the point where I cannot go to public performance of music (such as Handel's Messiah) if it's being done merely for entertainment value.

All I can tell you is that we were both grieved in spirit and knew we made a mistake, and I vowed to my wife never again will we do this. This is sad because I love Handel's Messiah and also Bach's Christmas Oratorio. But if the conductor and performers are not God-fearing, I will not pay to hear the Holy Name of Jesus be used as a vehicle of soulless entertainment.

Brother Paul

Re: - posted by Lor_E (), on: 2007/12/15 18:54

I agree, it is better to hear these things from those who are Godly. Unfortunately that is hard to find in the public arena to sing such things that is Godly!

I also wonder if someone having to sing words that are SOOO powerful if at some point God may use them to prick their hearts. I don't see how anyone can sing "For He is like a refiner's fire" and not get convicted...

Nevertheless, Handel's Messiah and Fernando Ortega's "Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silent"

Thanks for the perspectives!
Lori

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2007/12/15 19:10

Hi Paul,

You make a compelling case and your perspective on the secular use of once sacred music is one I admire.

I would, however, like to add my own perspective. I offer this only as an alternative and not a rebuttal. I am perfectly convinced of the merit in what you shared, and I have no desire to alter your feelings.

As a young artist growing up in the church I was always aware of a certain disdain and even detachment evangelicals in general have for the arts...which ostensibly communicates a broader disdain for humanity, and an even broader disdain for creation. The only use for artistic expression among modern evangelicals is for rank proselytizing...yet the arts themselves were a specific quality of mankind that most resembles the Creator.

As a young man in the Church, I happily discovered the writings of Francis Shaefer. Culture has an expression that transcends the individuals who write music and paint paintings. We are thankful to God for those who have come before us, allowing us to stand high on the shoulders of their lives and achievements consecrated to God. In the past Europe's greatest thinkers were God-fearing Christians who were able to apply their intellects for both worship and for humanitarian and scientific benevolence. Their great achievements shaped and overshadow Western civilization...for centuries all that c

ame after Bach, or Newton live in their shadows.

Yet today, evangelicals are happily becoming intellectual midgets with a short term apocalyptic disdain towards all human endeavors. We once were mankind's greatest entrepreneurs of progress, now we are cheap bourgeois speculators living off the accomplishments of heathen scientists and artists while making no greater artistic expression than tawdry end-times movies and sentimental radio jingles. The heathen spend millions of dollars expressing their darkness, or limited light, in science and art, while we spend millions on building projects and other worthless financial endeavors, all the while becoming children drinking the milk of their culture. (and whining about it...)

This is one reason, I believe, why paganism and humanism have become increasingly attractive...because Christians seem to have no regard for humanity or creation in general.

Earlier this week I was listening in my car to a youtube video of Faure's Pie Jesu that I had downloaded into my iPod. I have no idea as to the spiritual state of Faure, or the conductor or the soloist. It was honestly not a polished performance. ..it seemed like a poorly mic'd small chamber orchestra in someone's local church. Yet, I candidly share now in this forum, as I listened to the artistic effort of these talented amateurs, I strangely wept in that moment with both admiration and pity for all mankind...and I prayed most spontaneously, "Please God. Human beings are a most wonderful creation...I know we are capable of great evil, but when I see what spark of divinity still resides within these fallen beast, what faint reflection of glory is still latent in these shattered images, how even the unsaved are bestowed by their creator with such capacity for worship...I cannot bear the thought of seeing them destroyed or cut off from hope without feeling overwhelming sorrow."

In this light I do not require a singer of Messiah to be a Christian. I see serious art of even this 200 year old music as more honest than is found on the shallow stage of modern evangelical religion...at times a plaintive and even rebellious honesty...but an honesty nevertheless that enables me to stay empathetic for, rather than disdainful of, endangered humanity. Handel's Messiah may be all the exposure to the actual Messiah, these people have.

So when I see our country's greatest artists performing the Messiah, I do not perceive soulless performers making a mockery of a sacred theme. I see instead that our century's finest musicians cannot escape the light of the Gospel. Centuries ago there were Christians who were also artists with the ability and energy to shape entire civilizations... and yet had the humility to employ these talents for worship to God. Handel's testimony "I did think I did see all heaven before me, and the great God Himself" is vividly preserved in every note played and heard by every unbelieving musician and concertgoer. (And maybe a few believers you might have presumed were not present...) Handel may be no longer alive in the Earth, but his achievements and the light of his testimony remain with us.

So, with a heart of pity for mankind, most of who is surely lost, why would we desire to see sacred music banned from our secular concert halls? The transmission of the Gospel is all but extinguished in our age...especially by conventional middle-class evangelicals who have no vision...why squelch it further when it is the world who is footing the bill and putting in the practice time?

Let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever...Therefore will I give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and sing praises unto thy name.

Just another viewpoint!

MC

Re., on: 2007/12/15 19:43

I don't know anyone that is "living it" and deserves to sing any song. Everyone that I thought I knew who was "living it" turned out to be hypocrites themselves or their doctrine is way off. I think that anyone who just has an inkling of belief in Jesus Christ has a right to sing about Him.

Take for instance, Billy Graham. I good living man, perhaps living the life. But look at the baggage he is carrying now, he believes that unconverted Muslims, Buddhist and Hindu's are all apart of the body of Christ. What kind of robe is he wearing?

Sit with any man or woman of God in their home and you'll find out sooner or later what kind of a person they are. In the pulpit they may sing your heart to the alter, and will give the impression that they are living the life. Go home with them and spend some time at their residence and you'll see what they are all about.

Let me know if you find any.

I hope my snowball wasn't too hard. 8-)

P.S. I consider myself a crooner. And I too can sing gospel songs that will make your heart melt, I am not bragging, that's just the gift the LORD put in me. However, I know that I am not as near as living the life as I should and to tell you the truth, I wouldn't know what living the life was if it hit me in the face. I have heard so many different versions of what living the life was that all of them were sickening to say the least, full of legalism that always seems to lead to hard heartedness. The more I live in His grace the better things seem to be. The more I try to live the life that Christians expect from me, the more I fail. And that's where I am at now, the transition of being re-programmed from what religion expects from me to what the LORD expects, a faith that works thru the simple belief in Jesus Christ, trusting that He alone is working all things for my good. And it's that that carries me from faith to faith. So I have no idea what this "living the life" is. The only thing that I can see that remotely looks like that is, recognizing that I am dead with Christ and alive unto God. To find that which is good, I find not!

Re: - posted by Tears_of_joy, on: 2007/12/15 20:08

Brother Paul, singing the songs of Zion from the lips of heathen, I consider it as an abomination before the Lord. And not just that, also the many thousands CD's and 'touching' songs from the CCM industry recorded from unconverted people for the sake of profit and men's exalting and entertainment.

About the snowballs, I believe that the true Church of Jesus Christ will face bullet-balls in the days ahead from the christian religious crowds accompanied and with the support of the heathens. Mainly because of disturbing their lifestyle and comfort of living.

What an amazing record is given in the Scriptures about the reaction of the heathen, when the two prophets were killed, which were sent to prophecy (Rev.11:3):

Rev 11:10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; **because these two prophets tormented** them that dwelt on the earth.

Kire

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/12/15 20:13

I totally understand where you're coming from, Mike. I read your entire post, and I didn't quote any particular section...because I'd have to quote the whole thing! It's Marvellous.

That said, let me try to express my thoughts a bit differently. My eschewing secular performances of religiously-inspired pieces is not out of an aire of spiritual superiority over unregenerate humanity, or even based upon a disdain for the lack of godly authenticity in the public forum of entertainment. It's more of a personal issue.

I realize that Handel himself was probably not born-again, and that the debut performance of Messiah in Dublin was amidst the common folk, sung and performed by secular musicians. It was an operatically staged performance, Handel undertook while in the midst of financial debt after a string of failures on the London stage. It was never meant to be an evangelical masterwork, though the entire basis of the work was built on scripture. The problem I have with it (and again, it's personal) is that the scriptures that are being tearlessly, unctiously sung to the yuppie jetsetters in attendance today happen to be the same scriptures that I've wept over in secret quiet time.

As I was in attendance last year, I just remember my conscience smiting me. This was because I went for the music, not the scriptures. See, I really love the grand Handelian choir works, the awesome cadences (unfortunately Austin doesn't have much of a power symphony, and the choir was way too small) and I just went to hear how the interpretation would be. And, like I said, my wife and I were disappointed. Disenchanted at the vacuous energy of the instrumentalists and unpersuasiveness of the choir, I began to focus solely on the libretto (the underlying scriptures) and that's when I really began to feel uncomfortable. I felt as though the scriptures were being cheapified, sung plitudinously at the

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behest of tradition-loving, unsaved people.

Unsaved people don't come to Handel's Messiah for the scripture (the Word of God); they come for the music, the show, the ambience, and the scripture libretto is just ancillary. At the conservatory I had Jewish friends who totally rejected Jesus Christ but totally accepted Handel's Messiah - they loved to sing the choruses, "*For, unto us a child is born..*"

It was just words to them, a fairy tale, mythology like if they were singing about Phoebus and Pan or Ino. People only stand for the Hallelujah Chorus because of King George's tradition, and not for God. I will not judge anyone who goes to a public performance of the Messiah (I know Smith Wigglesworth loved to go), all I can say is that if you've wept in brokenness over Isaiah 53 at the feet of Jesus...and then go to a concert hall where the same scripture is being sung tearlessly while people are getting up to take cell phone calls...

It changes you. And then, to have God say, "Why are you here, Paul?"

That settles the issue very quickly. And, in the car, on the way home, my wife said she didn't feel right either. It all just seemed so...well, profane and plastic. But I dare not judge a brother or sister who goes to a public performance of Messiah. Just don't go see the Austin Symphony! The London singers are much better, or Sir Neville Mariner conducting the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Brother Paul

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/12/15 20:37

Quote:
-----I don't know anyone that is "living it" and deserves to sing any song. Everyone that I thought I knew who was "living it" turned out to be hypocrites themselves or their doctrine is way off.

This is sad, and I'm sorry to hear this. I happen to know a few people that *are* living it, though they are only mortal men of flesh like you and I.

Quote:
-----So I have no idea what this "living the life" is.

Living the life of God in Christ is not something your physical eyes see. It is an inner quickening of your spirit by the Holy Spirit, a transformation wrought through grace that translates you from being carnally minded to having the mind of Christ...where sin is hated and now pleasing and obeying God is all that matters. And when you have this mind of Christ you do not sing "The First Noel" like Elvis and then sleep with your groupies. This is what I mean. I'm not sharpshooting Elvis or whoever else might be your favorite Christmas music singer - but what I *am* saying is that a tree is known by its fruit.

And a snow ball back at you...(crunch) 8-)

Brother Paul

Re: - posted by Compton (), on: 2007/12/16 0:52

Hi Kire,

Quote:
-----Brother Paul, singing the songs of Zion from the lips of heathen, I consider it as an abomination before the Lord.

I'm not so sure (we can make such a blanket statement). Perhaps these people will be judged all the more for their indifference

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erence to the light that passed through their lips without residing in their hearts...but I do not believe this is an abomination automatically. Who knows how the word of God will go out...we do know that it does not return void.

I think we can all agree that cultural religion is not true worship of Jesus..and perhaps our fear is that people will become immune to the Gospel with their small diluted doses of it every Christmas. Yet, we also know that the Lord calls people in at different ages in their lives, and I have seen that when the crisis hits a person who has been raised in Christian tradition, that person is more likely to call upon the 'God of his forefathers' than not.

This is a conversation about how to be in the world but not of it I suppose. I wish we could talk to some of the people who lived through the communist revolution in the former USSR. Perhaps they could tell us about various organizations like the League of Militant Godless who systematically stamped out all traces of the church in their society. We might romance about this...but I believe it scarred Russian society. The Soviets complained about the unfair advantage of the Americans, but they killed the soul of their own people. Certainly Richard Wurmbrand didn't seem to think the eastern Europeans were better off without cultural Christianity.

I for one am cautiously accepting of Elvis singing sappy Christmas songs, and even gospel songs ...rather than nationalistic songs for the Soviet party or Islamic prayers. He may indeed have been a heathen, but his commercial choices of music reveals he lived relatively close to the light of the Gospel rather than some oppressive or demonic system. It is important to note that he at least had enough respect for Christian traditions to fake respect for Christian traditions. Cultural Christianity is not the worse thing unless it is all that exists...in fact when the real Church does exist then at her borders will be those who are still influenced by her example, and wanting to live according to her ideals without the real power to do so. In other words, cultural Christianity is in many ways an unavoidable pitfall of real Christianity, like Barry Bonds is a result of Hank Aaron; true truth often inspires pretend truth.

Quote:

-----Living the life of God in Christ is not something your physical eyes see.

I think this is a very healthy rule to keep in mind. Along these lines we cannot see God's steps for men. Just today my wife and I were reminded how God weaves even our failures into his care for us.

We enter into Christ and like a 747 he transports us to our destination. None of us are wise enough to give other men direction to heaven...except through Jesus! We know how to give men direction into Jesus and therein they are hidden away until the day of arrival. So keeping men close to Jesus is the thing...and forgive me, but I think secular produced music with Christian themes in the concert hall or on the radio is one step closer in the right direction than any other secular produced music. (Although I can appreciate that we would rather it wasn't played by the symphony in Austin!;-))

In the end, I mostly agree with Paul and Kire. However I would seek clarification as to how we should proceed in our reactions to unbelievers singing Christian themes.

Blessings,

MC

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2007/12/16 22:02

What is so distressing to me is that it is the large worldly churches, if you please, that can really put on a wonderful production. Hey! I love music, love the excellence in their performance! And you could rightly say, "yeah, all it was IS just a performance" and you are right. The smaller churches do not have the resources at their disposal to put on such a magnificent production.

Have you ever seen "The Miracle" at Pigeon Forge, TN? That is just wonderful, but are the performers godly? Who knows? I have no idea. I love all of it except for the part where a lady acted like a seducer - at this I cringe. But she was, oh so good... Then you come to the point some make that acting, even as a profession is sinful, taking their clue from ancient Christian writers who opposed stage acting as being hypocritical.

You want excellence in music, but you do not want hypocrites working as ministers to you of God's word...

Can't win. "sigh" :-o

ginnyrose

Truth of the heart - posted by crsschk (), on: 2007/12/17 9:37

Brothers,

Paul and MC ... Read through your most recent expressions here last night and could only pray for this spirit of heart honesty to take hold of us all here. I hesitate, as Paul spoke so well to, to even excerpting from what you wrote MC but I am compelled nonetheless ...

Quote:

-----Earlier this week I was listening in my car to a youtube video of Faure's Pie Jesu that I had downloaded into my iPod. I have no idea as to the spiritual state of Faure, or the conductor or the soloist. It was honestly not a polished performance...it seemed like a poorly mic'd small chamber orchestra in someone's local church. Yet, I candidly share now in this forum, as I listened to the artistic effort of these talented amateurs, I strangely wept in that moment with both admiration and pity for all mankind...and I prayed most spontaneously, "Please God. Human beings are a most wonderful creation...I know we are capable of great evil, but when I see what spark of divinity still resides within these fallen beasts, what faint reflection of glory is still latent in these shattered images, how even the unsaved are bestowed by their creator with such capacity for worship...I cannot bear the thought of seeing them destroyed or cut off from hope without feeling overwhelming sorrow."

You got to the heart of the matter brother and likewise Paul as well. My own expression contains both of your hearts and ... This is so much better than an earlier attempt I had at trying to wrestle out why this whole upheaval over Christmas and ... I cannot finish the thought here, lest I taint this.

This is extraordinary brothers, I bless God for it and for you both.

Not to leave out anyone else in the slightest.

Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiiss (), on: 2007/12/17 10:10

Hi ginnyrose...

Quote:

-----Have you ever seen "The Miracle" at Pigeon Forge, TN? That is just wonderful, but are the performers godly? Who knows? I have no idea. I love all of it except for the part where a lady acted like a seducer - at this I cringe. But she was, oh so good... Then you come to the point some make that acting, even as a profession is sinful, taking their clue from ancient Christian writers who opposed stage acting as being hypocritical.

You want excellence in music, but you do not want hypocrites working as ministers to you of God's word...

Can't win. "sigh"

Interesting points. I always thought that it was sad that the actor who portrayed Jesus in the Campus Crusade/Genesis Project film "Jesus," (<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0212567/>) Brian Deacon, has lived a life that remains outside of typical Scriptural views of propriety. Why did they choose a secular actor to portray Christ? Perhaps it is because believers have often denounced acting as a sinful profession (perhaps rightfully so)? Yet we love to attend our Christian plays and movies.

:-)

By the way, I am currently listening to Josh Groban's *Noel*. His rendition of *Silent Night* is lovely.

General Topics :: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music

Re:, on: 2007/12/17 10:55

There are some compelling arguments here, and I suppose it is a fitting discussion for this thread.

When I think of Christmas Carols it's not the lives of the person singing that I connect with the song, it's the style and the atmosphere it creates. For example: Bing Crosby. When Bing is crooning in the back ground I dont get an image of Bing ... I get nostalgic about Christmas pasts when I was a kid visiting my grandparents. The smell of apple pie baking, Christmas cookies, honey comb, and Bing Crosby in the back ground.

It's more of a stylistic thing for me, and not necessarily about the person.

This is where I'm perhaps hypocritical because when it comes to Christian music the rest of the year I am just like every one else here... I want to listen to someone who means what they are singing.

I dont think it's sinful to listen to a Bing Crosby Christmas CD. If it bothers someone, then they shouldnt listen to it. I think it falls under the "meat offered to idols" category.

And Bing is dead... he has already bowed his knee to Jesus Christ. Hopefully for him, it was willingly.

One other thing I'd like to mention, we need to be careful when naming people we dont think were Christians. Paul named Johnny Cash and the Oak Ridge Boys. Johnny Cash was a very complex man, but he claimed to be a born again Christian. Would I agree with everything he ever did? Probably not. But he did show evidence of being saved. The Oaks started as a gospel group, then went secular, and are now a gospel group again. Having just read an interview with Joe Bon sally (the tenor), I came away confident that at least three of the members truly are committed Christians. He said "I am a born again Christian." I refuse to judge whether he is or not once that statement is made. I may look at someone's life and say "I dont think a born again Christian should do this or that" but I will not say "That person is not saved" if they claim they are... because there is no way for me to know their heart.

Whether these folks are saved or not is known to God for sure. But we need to be careful when we make comments like "songs from the CCM industry recorded from unconverted people for the sake of profit and men's exalting and entertainment." is dangerous because no one here knows that for sure... and in doing so we may be sitting in judgement of people's hearts when we were never given that authority.

All I am saying is... we need to be careful, and not make large sweeping general statements. We need to remember God will hold us accountable for every word. That should be enough to make all of us quit writing on this forum all together! :-?

Krispy

Re: - posted by MSeaman (), on: 2007/12/17 11:05

Thanks, Krispy, as usual, I am in perfect agreement with ya! :-P

Re: - posted by InTheGarden (), on: 2007/12/17 11:37

Dear Compliments,

It is sad, as someone else said, that you can't find anyone who is truly "living it", especially since that is what Christ has called all Christians to do. I do know several people who are *truly* living it; I have been in their homes, I have heard their spouses speak of their selflessness and love at home, I have seen them live the life of Christ on a day to day level. My grandfather is one of them. I don't think I have ever heard him say a harsh word to my grandmother; he is loving and compassionate even though it doesn't really come naturally to him since he is a strong German. He lives what he preaches (quite literally, since he is a pastor) and that is something I value in him. I do agree with you that it is rare, but it is possible by God's grace. Praise the Lord for that!!

Mikah

Re: - posted by Lor_E (), on: 2007/12/17 14:05

What eloquent replies!

When I was a child, I used to sit by the lighted tree and sing Silent Night quietly until someone got up. I didn't know what it truly meant or where it came from, I just liked the music and I thought it was appropriate, at age 11.

The year after I was born again I went to a church "Contada" and I was overwhelmed weeping when they sang a song that said, "He became one of us." It meant so much to me to realize that Christ had laid aside His glory and became human on my behalf.

Now as I look back 25 years later I see that we humans have an error within us, we do not always see as God sees; neither do we hear as God hears. Oft times we speak before we give time for fruit to grow, before we fall on our faces and pray for the backslider or the oppressed doubter.

My heart still rejoices when I see a child singing with all their hearts to the Lord; I also rejoice when I see an old man, battered by life and sin barely holding onto breath singing Amazing Grace. Sometimes the song of a bird at just the right time causes me to consider the birds of the air and how the Father takes care of them (which do not have an eternal soul); or I will hear a song by a secular artist which shows a searching soul for an eternal ache and I will pray that God will reveal Himself to them.

I have also been offended at some who call themselves Christian performers or artists and in my heart I sense that they are stumbling blocks for the weak. Sometimes singing scriptural error with mere emotional cues and demanding mere emotional response.

I surely agree, I would rather hear a child sing Silent Night, or a secular artist sing a song saying "O come let us adore Him!" than to hear error in the church.

Thanks for the different insights!

(By the way, several years ago when asked to sing around Christmas time at the church I was attending I sang this song most folks were quite confused.....)

"Let all mortal flesh keep silent, and with fear and trembling stand. Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessings in His hand, Christ our God to earth descended, our full homage to demand.

Rank on rank the host of heaven, spread their vanguard on the way, as the Light of Lights descended from the realms of endless day that the power hell be vanquished; as the darkness slips away.

At His feet the six winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to His presence as with ceaseless voice they cry, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah Lord Most High."

Now, I don't "celebrate" the world's idea of "Christmas", although, now I enjoy Christ's birth, death, and resurrection everyday in my heart. I want to be giving and generous everyday to those around me, my family and the less fortunate. By the way, I like to sing songs about Christ's Incarnation whatever the time of year!!! How great of a song is Hark the Herald Angels Sing!? God and sinners reconciled! Veiled in flesh the Godhead seen, Hail the incarnate Deity!! How great is that?!
Lori

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/12/17 18:43

Quote:
-----When I think of Christmas Carols it's not the lives of the person singing that I connect with the song, it's the style and the atmosphere it creates.

I suppose for me it's the complete opposite: when I encounter Jesus Christ and anything even remotely associated with His Name and glory, I am so very *apprehensive* of relegating the experience to one of style or atmosphere. Other things may lend well to this, to plumb the depths of nostalgia, but not using the Name of my Lord and God as a vehicle to do so.

General Topics :: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music

Quote:
-----When Bing is crooning in the back ground I dont get an image of Bing... I get nostalgic about Christmas pasts when I was a kid visiti
ng my grandparents. The smell of apple pie baking, Christmas cookies, honey comb, and Bing Crosby in the back ground.

I've got nothing against Bing, and I concur with the above. Let Bing sing his heart out! The only issue I'll have is when Bi
ng or Elvis Presley or Cash begins to sing about my Husband with an adoration that obviously did not extend outside the
recording studio. Others may derive edification from such performances (without judgment), and indeed, such sounds wi
ll evoke nostalgia. But Christ, for me, transcends nostalgia, and I refuse to allow my soul to utilize a heathenistic employin
g of his Name as a transporting vehicle to fit the season.

Quote:
-----It's more of a stylistic thing for me, and not necessarily about the person.

The opposite is true for me. Style has no bearing whatsoever if the channel by which the Name of Christ flows is impure,
ingenuine. The question now, therefore, is this: how do we differentiate between a pure and impure vessel? Those of us
that are in leadership positions in a local assembly, do we just allow anyone to get on the platform and preach, or sing, o
r lead worship? If not, how is it different here? We have total say on what we allow to grace the platforms of our ears and
hearts and minds. Shall we flood our eargates with water from a corrupted well for the "soul" purpose of floating a boat d
own nostalgia canal?

Quote:
-----Paul named Johnny Cash and the Oak Ridge Boys. Johnny Cash was a very complex man, but he claimed to be a born again Chris
tian. Would I agree with everything he ever did? Probably not. But he did show evidence of being saved. The Oaks started as a gospel group, then we
nt secular, and are now a gospel group again. Having just read an interview with Joe Bonsall (the tenor), I came away confident that at least three of th
e members truly are committed Christians. He said "I am a born again Christian."

I really think we need to grow some backbone in this area, and start calling the shots as they are. Krispy, you're a big ma
n, you play football. I've heard you finger many, many preachers here in forums as false teachers - and unabashedly - a
nd 99.9% of the time I believe you are right!

And you are also right to say we cannot judge a man's salvation. Truthfully, I didn't know that the Oak Ridge Boys went
back strickly to gospel. I do know, however, that many an entertainer has named Christ Lord, and has sung songs of ad
oration with mixed fruit on the brances. When I come to a orange tree, I want oranges; not appleranges. Johnny Cash m
ay have been a complex man - and hence his complex fruit - though I am certainly not to judge his salvation, or say it is
sin to listen to Bing croon about Jesus.

My problem with Cash, again, is *mixed fruit*. One moment it's Jesus is Lord, the next it's Tennessee Stud or Fulsom Pris
on Blues or drinking and fist fighting and shooting and a-whoring. Rotten fruit taints all that touches it. I think it is feasible
to point the finger to the fruit, and exclaim: "As for me and my family, we won't eat from such a tree, born-again confessi
on or no born-again confession."

See, dear brother, there's just too many *real* trees to eat from, too many trees that yield *uncomplicated and holy* fruit. Th
ese trees shall I eat from, and with a good conscience, and with an inner witness the Holy Spirit can honor. Why bother
with the complex? Let God judge the root; I meanwhile abstain from the fruit, and I can do this with a clean conscience.

Just my thoughts, anyhow.

Brother Paul

Re:, on: 2007/12/18 8:21

Paul... when it comes to style and Bing and all of that, I understand what you're saying. You've given me some good things to ponder. I think you and I are looking at it from two different angles, and thats ok.

Quote:
-----I really think we need to grow some backbone in this area, and start calling the shots as they are. Krispy, you're a big man, you play football. I've heard you finger many, many preachers here in forums as false teachers - and unabashedly - and 99.9% of the time I believe you are right!

You will also note that when discussing different teachers I am very careful to point out that we are not to judge that *salvation*... but rather what they are teaching, or different aspects of their lives that dont line up with scripture. Affluence being one of them. But I have even defended Benny Hinn, of all people, when others have flat out said he isnt saved. He may well not be... but I dont know that with certainty, and neither does anyone else.

Now take Glenn Beck for example. Here is a man who claims to be a Christian... yet I know that he is not. How can I judge that? Because he is a Mormon, and therefore does not believe in Biblical salvation. He believes in Joseph Smith's warped version of salvation, which is no salvation at all, but it is damnation.

But when Benny Hinn delivers a salvation message that is scripturally accurate, at that point I can not determine if he truly is saved unless I know his heart... which I do not.

Make sense?

Quote:
-----I do know, however, that many an entertainer has named Christ Lord, and has sung songs of adoration with mixed fruit on the branches.

Absolutely, but for awhile in my Christian walk I wasn't bearing much fruit either... and I know others that it seemed like it took a long time to bear fruit. But I was saved. When an entertainer gets up and says "I wanna thank God for this award" that means nothing. However, if someone gets up and says "I want to thank my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ"... well, their fruit is certainly fair game for judgement, but their heart is not... unless they belong to Mormonism, or some other cult where we know that "Lord and Saviour" means something different.

I never saw Cash in concert so I don't know what songs he still performed after his conversion. By the way, the song "Tennessee Stud" is a song about a horse... a stud. I think you may think there is something sexual about that song, but trust me, it's about a stud horse. (you need to visit a horse farm! LOL) There is nothing wrong with that song, and in fact it is an old Appalachian folk song. Anyway, I'm not going to defend everything Cash ever did. His list of hit songs spans 4 decades, but I do know that he toned down a lot of the stuff he recorded after his conversion. In fact, after his conversion, even though he is considered a "legend", his record sales slumped so drastically that his record company dropped him around 1980, and he never had another song in the top 10 the rest of his life. You have to keep in mind that most of his more popular songs were recorded BEFORE his conversion.

It's like Charlie Daniels. After his conversion he still does some of his older songs, but he changed some of the words. "Long Haired Country Boy" for example originally gave reference to drunkenness and pot smoking... but he has changed those lyrics.

Anyway, I agree with what you're saying about mixed fruit. (Sounds like a Christmas dish!) But when I think about it, I am sure there are plenty of people who see what they perceive to be "mixed fruit" in my life. I teach my kids to love one another, and to love their neighbor as themselves... and then they see me react to being cut off on the highway.

I am in no way saying that we should ever condone bad fruit, or shrink back from confronting it when we see it in someone's life whom we have the right relationship with that person to point it out. I just wanted to respond to it being clearly stated in your post that certain people were not Christians... and say that you can not say that with certainty. The one thing that is off limits when it comes to judging is someone's heart, and someone's relationship with the Lord when they have

e clearly stated that they have been born again is their heart.

We CAN come to them and say "you say you're born again, and I believe you... but dont you think that this area in your life is inconsistent with scripture?" I think that is the proper way to handle it.

As far as bad music in our house... we dont allow it. So when you speak of eating bad fruit I say "Absolutely... I agree with you".

Krispy

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/12/18 8:56

Quote:
-----I think you may think there is something sexual about that song, but trust me, it's about a stud horse. (you need to visit a horse farm ! LOL) There is nothing wrong with that song, and in fact it is an old Appalachian folk song.

This is what I mean, brother - there's a *lot* wrong with Tennessee Stud. And if you think shooting a man dead during a poker game and galloping off with "silver and gold"...

Me and the gambler, we couldn't agree
We got in a fight over Tennessee
Pulled our guns and he fell with a thud
And I rode away on a Tennessee Stud

...is clean, well, I don't know what to tell you. Brother this is bad fruit, and this is a bad song. 90% of Cash's songs contain these elements (unless he happens to be singing a religious song), but, see, this is the damage. Mixed fruit, some rotten some sweet. I'd rather stay away from it all, shun it all, and teach others to do so, and label the tree for what it is: "A bad tree." Brother, I've heard you say many good things, and make many fine judgments (save condoning alcohol and tobacco); I just don't understand why you can't apply the same standards to music and entertainers. Like I said in a previous thread, music is a soulful issue, it perverts a man's good judgment. It will cause him to tolerate that which is not beneficial for spiritual growth, and even fight to justify and keep it.

This reminds me of a young man who used to be in my youth group. He wanted to be a youth leader, but he couldn't stop dipping. Wherever he went, he had to have his little round pack of Copenhagen bulging out the pocket of his Wranglers. He told us that he would two-step, dip, drink a beer every now and then, that God didn't judge him for it and neither should man. He would tell us that "the new Spiderman movie is totally clean and safe" and that the kids can go see it. And then, a 12 year old child would pipe up: "No, mister Dan. They had kissin' scene, and then some guy got kill't with a spear in his stomach..."

"Oh," he would say, and scratch his head. "Well, apart from that...it's clean!"

Quote:
-----I just wanted to respond to it being clearly stated in your post that certain people were not Christians

That's right, I said it. I think you and I may have different ideas of what a true Christian is, Steve. A true, born of the spirit Christian will *not* write songs of such a filthy nature and then profess Christ publicly, not for very long, and certainly not the Christ of Holy Scripture. And if he is a Christian, he is horribly backslidden and others need to be warned that what promotes is not a true representation of Christianity.

I'll fight this one to the core, Steve, so get ready. Your endorsement of Tennessee Stud opened the doors to potential mayhem!

Brother Paul

Re:, on: 2007/12/18 9:57

Quote:
-----I'll fight this one to the core, Steve, so get ready. Your endorsement of Tennessee Stud opened the doors to potential mayhem!

I'm not willing to fight with you, brother.

2 Corinth. 13:11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

If you want to fight, find someone else. :-)

As for my endorsement of Tennessee Stud... I dont think I was saying "everyone run out and get a copy of it!". I havent heard that song in so long (since I was a little kid) I honestly didnt remember the reference to the shooting.

It's interesting that you know all the words... :-)

The other day on the thread about Christmas music someone mentioned the Chipmunks... and I mentioned I noticed a new Chipmunk movie was just made... and the other person said "Oh cool! Cant wait to see it" (or something like that...) and my response was "Hold on! I dont know anything about it... I wasnt promoting it! Just mentioned it was made"

You should know me better than you apparently do. I wont even endorse Alvin and the Chipmunks.

You say:

Quote:
-----I think you and I may have different ideas of what a true Christian is, Steve.

No, I dont think so. I think we have different ideas about how quickly a true Christian will grow in Christ. I think, for whatever reason, different Christians mature at different rates. And usually those who mature quickly are extremely impatient with those who dont.

Quote:
-----A true, born of the spirit Christian will not write songs of such a filthy nature and then profess Christ publically, not for very long, and certainly not the Christ of Holy Scripture.

I agree. I havent disagreed... I've either not spoken clearly enough for you to understand me, or you havent read carefully enough...

Quote:
-----And if he is a Christman, he is horribly backslidden and others need to be warned that what promotes is not a true representation of Christianity.

Absolutely.

But I wont judge their salvation. I think Christians have enough to do without trying to decide who is truly saved and who isnt.

Brother, I'm not interested in fighting with you. I love you, and you know it. I dont know if you've gotten out of bed on the

wrong side or what... but we've been hear together long enough that if you feel I'm contradicting myself or saying something other than what I've said in the past I think you should give me the benefit of the doubt here.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/12/18 10:01

Duh... this **IS** the thread about Christmas music...

I wish we could just discuss Christmas music here. I wasn't looking for a debate... I was looking for a light hearted discussion about Christmas music.

Why do we have to complicate everything?

Krispy

Re: - posted by tj servant (), on: 2007/12/18 10:20

Quote:
-----I wish we could just discuss Christmas music here. I wasn't looking for a debate... I was looking for a light hearted discussion about Christmas music.

A discussion about Christmas music will invariably lead to who is singing it. We as Christians will always be concerned for the souls of others and human nature introduces a certain level of complication to this, albeit unnecessarily.

Oh well.

I do have a few thoughts to toss out. Not being confrontational...just stating my thoughts and opinions.

I wrote this the other night.

Every time I hear Dean Martin's beautiful singing voice I smile as the memories of watching Him and Jerry Lewis when I was a child come rushing back. Just the other night while visiting my parents I heard him singing Let It Snow. What a voice; I enjoyed it immensely. In my opinion NOBODY sings Let It Snow like Dino.

I have always been greatly affected by music and now that I'm a Christian I find this has not changed, but something about it is different. I guess I'm just the opposite of some in this aspect for I can rarely hear a song and not think of the person(s) singing it, and their motivation for doing so. For me it used to be just about the music...now it's about the people too. I now hear the voice of one of God's creations. I still hear and recognize God given talent, but now by the end of the song I'm usually in tears or close to it when I think about their relationship with God. Not judging them...it's just that their lifestyles and the Word don't add up.

One of my all time favorite songs is Just a Closer Walk With Thee. When I was first saved my favorite rendition was by Willie Nelson but I cannot listen to it any longer. It just saddens me too much.

When I hear the seemingly unsaved singing hymns and songs of worship I wonder...did they bring glory to God...or was it illicit fire?

I have prayed for Willie Nelson and those like him...that they be saved. They have taken precious offerings of worship and adoration and turned them into...merely songs.

I would love to hear Mr. Nelson sing that song under different circumstances...truly offering his best to his God, but until then it will be just a song he sings...and I can find no joy in it.

Peace be with you all.

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/12/18 15:14

Okay, I was in a hurry this morning when I typed my post (I didn't get out of the wrong side of bed) and I was and am actually in a real good mood. It is a shame we can't see our faces when we type. When I wrote the last sentence about "I am ready to fight this to the core" I meant debate-wise, and loving debate. I don't think I can be accused of typing posts in this forum with a hateful, belligerent spirit. But, when it comes to something like this, I'll stand against it. I'll call out Steve's judgment, not because I dislike Steve, but because since he put it forth publically, it must be called out publically.

This is the same thing that happened when we "discussed" Iron Maiden. Brother, I read your posts carefully. Very carefully. You have a great personality here, but you can also rub people the wrong way with your forthrightness. I am the same way! My only advice to you is be prepared to end that which you start here. You offered absolutely nothing in the way of the lyrics I provided for Tennessee Stud, a public challenge to you. I love you brother, but either you don't take my posts seriously or you get blustered by the shellshock too early and end up appealing to emotions (crying ad hominem). O dear brother, I am not angry! I am just looking for you to hatch this out with me, with maturity, piece by piece.

You can do it, Steve. I'm just lobbing the snowball back to you. One thing I've learned is that if you are going to be a Christian with prominent convictions, buy a crash helmet. We can do this in brotherly love, I promise.

:D

Brother Paul

Re:, on: 2007/12/18 16:28

Quote:

-----It is a shame we can't see our faces when we type.

I agree, my brother, and have often said this myself.

Quote:

-----I don't think I can be accused of typing posts in this forum with a hateful, belligerent spirit.

Nope, and thats why it caught me a little off guard.

Quote:

-----I'll call out Steve's judgment, not because I dislike Steve, but because since he put it forth publically, it must be called out publically.

Fair enough. I do the same thing, and it shouldnt bother me to have it done to me.

Quote:

----- You offered absolutely nothing in the way of the lyrics I provided for Tennessee Stud, a public challenge to you. I love you brother, but either you don't take my posts seriously or you get blustered by the shellshock too early and end up appeal to emotions (cry ad hominem).

Please notice where I stated that I havent heard that song since I was a child and had forgotten anything to do with a shouting in the song. To be honest, all I remember is the melody and a few words. I was actually agreeing with you after you pointed out those lines. Perhaps not clearly enough, but I was admitting that yes, you were quite correct.

Quote:

-----O dear brother, I am not angry! I am just looking for you to hatch this out with me, with maturity, piece by piece.

It's all good. I obviously didnt understand where you were coming from, and misread your words to determine that you were in a fightin' mood. Thats all on me.

Quote:
-----You can do it, Steve. I'm just lobbing the snowball back to you. One thing I've learned is that if you are going to be a Christian with prominent convictions, buy a crash helmet. We can do this in brotherly love, I promise.

Again... it's all good.

As stated, tho I personally dont condone everything Cash did, the condition of his heart was a matter between he and the Lord. Not me.

As for the Christmas music, I think we both are just looking at it thru different perspectives. I dont think you're wrong. I think you raise some interesting points that I need to consider... and will consider... because I trust and respect you.

It seems strange to me, but often times believers dont share the same convictions. It doesnt necessarily mean one is right and the other is wrong. It's a very strange thing. I think listening to Bing Crosby crooning Christmas Carols in one of those areas. One can do it and be blessed by the music and the words... and to another it can be a stumbling block. I dont know why that it is... but it is.

And I think thats where we're at.

Bottom line tho, Paul... is that I love you.

Krispy

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/12/18 19:01

Quote:
-----Bottom line tho, Paul... is that I love you.

And this statement conquers all, and I know you understand this same love is reciprocated. I don't even need to send you a PM, because the Selfsame Spirit that lives in me, lives in you also. He bears witness to us both and for us both.

"Discussions" on music are so dangerous. They have a tendency to morph into something quite unappealing. I think this is the final nail for me, brethren, as far as this topic goes. The last thing I want is to be guilty of assuming the role of the Holy Spirit in this forum.

Krispy, please forgive me if I've been shoving you around. I need to humble myself. If you can find it in your heart, please be in prayer for your brother. By the grace of God, I'll be preaching tomorrow evening, 7 p.m.

Like you said: "It's all good." It's *more* than good! Yes, we love can each other with the love of God!

Brother Paul

General Topics :: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music

Re: - posted by BeYeDoers (), on: 2007/12/18 19:08

My favorite Christmas album is Third Day's Christmas Offerings

Re:, on: 2007/12/19 7:52

Quote:
-----Krispy, please forgive me if I've been shoving you around. I need to humble myself. If you can find it in your heart, please be in prayer for your brother. By the grace of God, I'll be preaching tomorrow evening, 7 p.m.

Hey man... I need some shovin' around sometimes! lol... a little push and shove is good for the soul.

And I know you love me too, and that's what it's all good, even when we don't see eye to eye.

I'll definitely be in prayer for you. What's your topic tonight?

Krispy

Re: - posted by LoveHim, on: 2007/12/19 8:23

I don't have too many Christmas CDs but the one we bought this year is Frank Sinatra. My wife and I really like the J-I-N-G-L-E BELLS song from him. It is a little upbeat and my 11-month-old son started dancing (bending at the knees to the beat) to this song. So it is special to us for this reason.

My favorite Christmas song is O COME O COME EMMANUEL. It ministers to me so much.

merry Christmas,
phil

Re:, on: 2007/12/19 8:58

Quote:
-----it is a little upbeat and my 11-month-old son started dancing (bending at the knees to the beat) to this song

Uh ohhh... dancing?? Better get that kid saved!!

(...just kidding!!)

Krispy

Re: - posted by LoveHim, on: 2007/12/19 9:45

Quote:
-----Uh ohhh... dancing?? Better get that kid saved!!

(...just kidding!!)

Krispy

nice joke. Yeah uhh, he was uh bending, not dancing. :-)

I don't want to rabbit trail this thread with that dancing comment. ;-)

phil

General Topics :: Whats your favorite Christmas CD/music

Re:, on: 2007/12/19 10:12

There is no group on earth that can rabbit trail as well as the SI forum members!

Krispy