

# **Scriptural Standards For Christian Music**

Isaiah 59:19

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God has standards for us – to guide & govern our lives! Even in the important area of Christian music.

## **1. Godly Music Must Be Scriptural vs. Unscriptural**

### **Colossians 3:16**

Since God's Word purifies sin (Psalm 119:11), produces faith (Romans 10:17), and provides light (Psalm 119:105) – how can we expect God to bless our music if His Word is divorced from our songs' lyrics?! Here's a Classic Example: "Dropkick me Jesus through the Goalposts of Life."

## **2. Godly Music Must Be Spiritual vs. Carnal**

### **Ephesians 5:7-11**

**Music is not "amoral" – it is not neutral. It is a "trichotomy" – made up of 3 essential, inter-connected elements.**

**Healthy music keeps this order:**

**# 1 Melody** (Spirit)

**# 2 Harmony** (Mind)

**# 3 Rhythm** (Body) Rhythm = Pulse

"If our pulse is normal, we are healthy; if there is no pulse, we are dead; if the pulse is too strong, we are deathly sick."

The Fruit of the Spirit are listed in Galatians 5:22 & 23—Nine fruit that define spirituality!

**Marks of Carnality in some CCM:**

*A loud, pounding, driving beat*

*A breathy, sexy voice quality*

*Immodest clothing/ worldly dress*

*A showy, Hollywood/ Las Vegas performance style aimed at entertaining*

### **3. Godly Music Must Be Separated vs. Worldly**

#### **II Corinthians 6:17**

Many New Testament verses on Separation: Romans 12:1 & 2; Titus 2:11-14; James 4:4; I Peter 1:14-16; 4:1-4; I John 2:15-17 – to list a few! An unusual – yet profound verse regarding separation is found in Exodus 11:7 – "But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel."

#### **We Have A Conformity Choice**

**Do we conform to the world? Romans 12:2**

**Do we conform to Christ? Romans 8:29**

### **4. Godly Music Must Be Soothing vs. Irritating**

#### **I Samuel 16:23**

God used David's skillfulness on the harp to **refresh** Saul's spirit! Note it was a stringed instrument (of melody and harmony) – not a percussion instrument. (of rhythm)

To our knowledge, the first instruments were not percussion – Jubal was the father of all who play the harp and the organ. (Gen. 4:21)

Lucifer / the "choirmaster" of heaven before his fall (Isaiah 14) has done all in his power to pervert music – bringing disharmony, discord & dissonance.

### **5. Godly Music Must Be Strengthening vs. Weakening**

#### **Romans 14:21**

#### **Stumblingblock Steppingstone**

#### **Entertainment Edification**

#### **Rock music with Distinctly Christian**

**shallow Christian lyrics music with Bible-based lyrics**

#### **CONCLUSION:**

**The right kind of music will...**

**Exalt the Lord Jesus Christ Col. 1:18**

***Edify the Christian listener Col. 3:16***

***Empower the service***

***2 Chronicles 5:12-14***