



Need Prayer? Call us at 530-620-2717

Dear Partners,

September 2018

It's amazing how one song can make you feel like you're standing at the very throne of God and usher in His presence. It's a beautiful thing to stand, arms raised towards heaven, and sing a glorious song to Jesus. But we also know that music can have a very different influence on us depending on whom or what is behind it. This month we want to dive into a very important, yet overlooked, topic. Music. Music has been around since before humans. It originated with Lucifer, the highest ranking of the cherubim, who also happened to be the guardian of the throne of God and His glory.

Ezekiel 28:13-16 says this about Lucifer, *"You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty."¹³ You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. **The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created.**¹⁴ You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones." Satan (Lucifer) fully understands music, composition and lyrics because he was originally a living musical instrument. Although Lucifer was cast out of heaven because pride rose up in him (Is. 14:11-15), it's important to understand that he did not lose any of his musical abilities. Instead, he has corrupted what was intended by God for praise and worship. Isaiah 14:11, 12 says this, *"All your pomp has been brought down to the grave, along with the noise of your harps; maggots are spread out beneath you and worms cover you."**

Music was God's original design with the intent that it would be used to glorify Him. But because of Satan's hate for God and His human creation, he has taken what God intended for good and twisted it for his own pleasure and the demise of mankind. We know from 2 Corinthians 11:14 that Satan can masquerade into an angel of light. You might be saying to yourself, "Ya, I listen to secular music but it has a good beat and no bad language so it must be harmless." Music, at its core, has either been influenced by God or by Satan. There is no exception to this rule. The beat may sound innocent enough but the intent of the music and the lyrics can change the direction of our heart and influence our spirit man. We have to remember that Satan understands music better than any human who has ever lived on earth. He knows what kind of influence to back it up with so that it brings people (even God's children) into lust, suicide, self-mutilation, greed, sexual perversion, lust and rebellion. Have you ever noticed that one song can actually move you into a state of depression, agitation or anger? That's the power of the influence of music. And we as Christians are not immune to this influence. Just because we are born again, even spirit-filled, does not mean that we are exempt from falling into the trap of the influence of music. We can experience deliverance from bondage and be so in love with Jesus one day and then carelessly allow our choice of music to draw us back into our old ways and lifestyles another day.

Our daughter in law, Drea, has experienced deliverance from secular music. When we first met her, all she ever wanted to listen to was secular music. Although she was born-again, she loved the beat and lyrics of non-Christian music so much that she had memorized every song on the radio! One day someone shared something with her that changed her life. She read some articles and found out that secular music really does have demonic influence. Singers and entertainers like Shakira, Niki Minaj, Mariah Carey, Britney Spears, Lady Gaga and Beyonce have all been used as satanic puppets to entertain and distract people by the masses. They have become Satan's pawns in his scheme to pull people away from God and the freedom that is found in Jesus. All you have to do is watch a music video from any of the above mentioned to see that the imagery is demonic. Beyonce (and many others) have expressed that they have an alternate persona when they are on stage and singing. These are some quotes from Beyonce herself:

Beyonce said, "...I have out-of-body experiences [on stage]. If I cut my leg, if I fall, I don't even feel it. I'm so fearless, I'm not aware of my face or my body." Beyonce, Marie Claire interview, October 2008

"When I see video of myself on stage or TV I'm like, 'Who is that girl?'. That's not me, I wouldn't dare do that." Beyonce, September 2003

"I have someone else that takes over when it's time for me to work and when I'm on stage..." Beyonce Press Statement, October 2008

These are just a few examples of many that you can find online if you do some research. We encourage you to dig in deeper on this topic if this is something you (or your kids) struggle with. We made a few programs on this subject on our YouTube channel and we challenge you to watch them. If you truly desire to be set free, we believe that the Holy Spirit will open your spiritual eyes as He has for our daughter Drea.

The bottom line is that the devil has an agenda to uphold. His agenda is to disconnect humankind from God through any manner or method he can. And one of the main ways he accomplishes this is through the airways of music. He knows how to compose music that will deceive people's hearts to turn away from God. As with anything else in life, it is up to us and our spiritual discernment to decide what is or isn't appropriate for us to watch or listen to. It is up to us to decide what type of music makes its way into our homes and cars and ultimately into our hearts. It's up to us as parents, teachers and leaders to set a Biblical standard to what we and our children are listening to. Whatever goes in comes out. Good stuff in, good stuff out. Bad stuff in, bad stuff out. Jesus said this in Mark 7:20-21 *"What comes out of a man is what makes him 'unclean.' For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery."*

UPDATE:

In the month of August, John took an unplanned trip overseas due to the death of his uncle. With this unexpected trip we also had some unforeseen expenses. But while he was there, he used that time to put together some loose ends in our Children's Project that takes each year in December. He was also able to purchase 2500 teddy for our project and we thank God for it! The shipment of toothbrushes, combs and the remaining teddy bears from America arrived safely in Romania and we are currently working on purchasing the sweets for the goody bags. We appreciate those of you who have been part of this project year after year and if you are new to JMM, we welcome you and encourage you to get connected and find out what this project is all about! Our YouTube channel is the best way to stay connected with our upcoming projects and trips. If you would like to financially participate in JMM or the Children's Outreach at Christmas, we encourage you to do so! Funds are still needed for the rest of the goody bag items and for airfare tickets overseas. The number one reason we put together this project year after year is to reach souls with the Gospel of Jesus! Please prayerfully consider becoming a partner with us as we reach one soul at a time for God's kingdom.

Among other things, John was blessed to baptize three souls while he was in Romania! These precious people, like countless others, got connected with this Ministry through our YouTube channel and various other international television satellites. Some travelled for many miles to meet John. We give God the glory for these new souls that made a commitment to follow Jesus for the rest of their lives! Our Ministry is committed to go and preach the Gospel to 1 soul if necessary or thousands wherever God sends us. **Here at JMM it's about saving one soul at a time as we depopulate hell and populate heaven every single day!**

In Christ,

John & Alexandra

*If you would like us to remove your name from our mailing list, please let us know because every stamp counts!