

Bethany Baptist Church
112-17 148th Street, Jamaica, NY 11435
718-529-5842

The Pastor's Corner Vol. 43

January, 2013



.... I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. Jude 1:3 NIV

Reviewed by: Dr. Lambert Duncan

“The Demon in Your Living Room”

1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 (NIV) *“²¹Test everything. Hold on to the good. ²²Avoid every kind of evil.”*

Romans 12:2 (NIV) *“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

Deuteronomy 7:26 (NIV) *“Do not bring a detestable thing into your house or you, like it, will be set apart for destruction. Utterly abhor and detest it, for it is set apart for destruction.”*

Back in the late 60’s, I remember some pastors telling their members they could not have televisions in their homes because they were of the devil. I thought to myself, what a bunch of controlling nonsense, these pastors should be ashamed of themselves for trying to control their members like that. Although I strongly disagreed with the idea of avoiding t.v. back then, I have since had a change of thinking in light of the garbage that comes into our homes through television today. However, unlike the pastor’s of old, I do not say that Christians should not have televisions in their homes; I say Christians must be careful about what they allow to enter their **“eye gate”** and **“ear gate,”** through their television, especially with their children.

In truth, there are some good educational programs on t.v. that can benefit both young and adult Christians. Not only that, things like the **“weather channel”** can also be beneficial to Christians that work outdoors or that drive to work. There are various sporting events that can be uplifting and enjoyed by Christians that will do them no harm to watch them. Then there is the preaching that has led thousands to the Lord Jesus Christ that also comes into many homes through television. However, these are probably the exception to the typical stuff on t.v. today.

Today, most of the stuff that we allow to come into our home via television is pure demonic garbage that Christians should avoid. Not only that, most of the t.v. shows today are designed by the devil himself to contradict and/or attack our Christian values and principles. Yet many sincere Christians spend more time saturating their minds with harmful t.v. programs than they spend reading God’s word and/or watching wholesome Christian programs.

Unbeknownst to many Christians is the fact that approximately 90% of the programs they

watch on t.v. have been purposely designed by the devil to reprogram their minds and break down their defenses against the sinful behavior so common today, so they will eventually accept all sin as normal. When premarital sex, for example, is part of every t.v. program, most cannot help but to eventually ignore the biblical teaching on sex before marriage and accept what they are seeing on t.v. instead as truth or as normal and therefore ok.

It has been noted that 90% of those responsible for what comes into our homes via television are in favor of abortion, 91% are in favor of homosexuality/same sex marriages, 95% are in favor of premarital sex, while only 14% attend any kind of church. That said, it becomes quite clear why we now have at least two (2) television shows on everyday that either shows some blatant homosexual act and/or homosexual innuendo or some form of glorified premarital sex scenes.

My guess is that the majority of the Christians watching this stuff won't turn the channel when these scenes come on. Why? Because they have slowly become so desensitized to the point where the things of God no longer come to mind while they watch sinful behavior on t.v. Some of them go to church every Sunday, on time, with Bible in hand, they even pay their tithes and they do their best to live a life free of sin. However, they are hooked on the demon in their living room and the ungodly behavior and examples it deliberately brings into their homes. Unbeknownst to them, this demon has already completely retrained their thinking to the point where they are now able to drop their guards to regularly watch on t.v. the glorification of living together without being married, homosexuality, greed, dishonesty, adultery, nudity, gambling and revenge and not be appalled by it.

God help the pastor or preacher or Christian laity with the boldness to tell folks they need to protect their **“eye gates”** and **“ear gates”** from the enemies attempt to enter and gain control of their thinking and lifestyle through the demon in their living room. That pastor, preacher or laity will be labeled, **“old fashioned,” “a Jesus freak”** or a **“kill joy”** to say the least.

Even worse, the saints do not seem to realize that the media deliberately uses the demon in their living room to focus primarily on everything negative that is done by Christians or the Church as a whole to discourage Christians and/or those considering becoming Christians. Rare if ever do you hear about the good works done by many churches and Christians all over the world. Instead, air time is deliberately spent on the radical so-called Christian group that blows up the abortion clinic or the priest that molests young boys. While it is true that these acts are wrong and should be exposed as such, it is also true that the vast majority of Christians would never bomb an abortion clinic or molest young boys. Instead, many Christian churches are feeding and clothing the poor, visiting the sick and assisting the elderly free of charge. However, the **“Christ-hating”** media, rare if ever, mentions these things.

Our enemy, the devil knows that there are three (3) gates of entry to feed the human body, one gate for natural food, two gates for spiritual food. He knows that what we allow to enter into these three gates can either be harmful or helpful to every Christian. Consider the following gates:

1. **“The Mouth Gate”** – Through this gate we allow **our choice** of food to pass to nourish our physical bodies. A poor choice of foods that we continuously allow to pass through our **“mouth gate”** will eventually cause us to become sick, or even worse, it will kill us. Therefore, we must carefully and continuously guard our **“mouth gate”** if we intend to be healthy physically.
2. **“The Eye Gate”** – In **Matthew 5:28** (Amplified), Jesus said, *“...everyone who so much as looks at a woman with evil desire for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”* Therefore, what comes into our **“eye gate”** finds its way into our heart, which is seat of our emotions. Usually, what’s in our hearts is expressed in our words and/or our actions. In **Mark 7:21** (Amplified), Jesus said, *“For from within, [that is] out of the hearts of men, come based and wicked thoughts, sexual immorality, stealing, murder, adultery,”* In **Luke 6:45** (Amplified), Jesus said, *“The upright (honorable, intrinsically good) man out of the good treasure [stored] in his heart produces what is upright (honorable and intrinsically good), and the evil man out of the evil storehouse brings forth that which is depraved (wicked and intrinsically evil); for out of the abundance (overflow) of the heart his mouth speaks.”* Therefore, our **“eye gate”** must be continuously guarded if we intend to be healthy spiritually.
3. **“The Ear Gate”** – In **Romans 10:17** (Amplified), Paul said, *“So faith comes by hearing [what is told]...”* Most of what we come to believe as truth, we have either heard it through our **“ear gate”** or read it through our **“eye gate.”** Therefore, by allowing ungodly talk (rap music for example) to pass through our **“ear gates”** is harmful to us spiritually.

With all that said, it should become obvious to every Christian that they must continuously guard their **“eye gates”** and **“ear gates”** against the demon in their living room. It is not possible to be obedient to God and no longer conform to the pattern of this world but have our minds renewed by his word while spending countless hours in front of the demon in your house, watching programs deliberately designed to have us conform to the sinful behavior of the world.

For some, I realize it is too late from them, they will never recognize the devil’s tool that has been successfully used to undermine their Christian values, morals and beliefs. In fact, most

of everyone's thinking, beliefs, opinions, etc., are controlled by what they see on t.v. or hear on the radio or read in the newspaper. Why do you think those that are trying to sell their product will spend millions of dollars to have their product advertised on television? Haven't you noticed the increased number of shows that have included homosexual relationships? Or what about the current wave of "reality" shows that are now on t.v. today, that glorify all sorts of ungodly behavior? All of this is deliberate; people looking to sell their product know we will watch t.v. Those looking to make homosexuality seem normal know they can change our position on homosexuality through t.v. programs. The "reality" shows appear to be nothing more than entertainment, but they are not, the hidden agenda is to change how we view sin of all sorts. For those who will listen, it's time to start being selective about what we allow into our "eye gates" and "ear gates."

In closing, consider the following poem that I found to be dead on!!

The Devil's Vision

*The devil once said to his demons below,
"Our deliberate work is progressing entirely too slow.
The holiness people stand in our way
since they do not believe in the show or the play.
They teach that the carnival, circus and dance,
the tavern and honky-tonk with game of chance,
drinking and smoking, these things are all wrong;
the Christians don't mess with the ungodly throng.
They are quick to condemn everything you demons do
to cause unbelievers to be few.
They rightly claim that these things are all of the devil;
that Christian folks should live on a much higher and godly level.
Now fellows, their theology, while perfectly true
is blocking the deliberate work we are trying to do.*

*We will have to get busy and figure a subtle plan
that will change their Christian standards as fast as we can.
Now I have a vision of just what we can do.
Harken, while I tell this subtle deception to you.
Then find ye a wise, but degenerate man
whom I can use to help work out this plan.
There's nothing so real as the things that you see;
the eyes, ears, and mind and the heart will agree.
So what can be better than an object to hear and view?*

*I say, it will work and convince quite a few.
The home is the place for this sinful device;
the people we deceive will think it quite nice.
The world will possess it, most Christians can't tell
that it is all of the devil and came straight from hell!*

*We'll sell them with pictures of the latest news;
while they're still looking, we'll advertise sex and booze.
At first it will shock them; they'll seem in a daze;
but soon they'll be hardened and continue to gaze.
We'll give them some gospel that isn't too strong,
and a few sacred songs to string them along.
They'll take in the ads, with the latest of fashions,
soon watching the t.v. shows that will promote our evil passions.
Murder, love-making and homosexuality they'll behold
until their unsuspecting souls are all turned cold.*

*The old family altar which once held such charm
will soon lose its place without much alarm.
The principles in God's word will all be lost
as they look at the screen, not counting the cost.
Compromise preachers, who won't take their stand
will embrace this new vision and think it is grand.
They'll help fool the people and cause them to sin
by watching this evil and taking it in.*

*Influence is great and this you can see;
just look at my fall and you'll have to agree.
It won't take too long, my demons, to tell
that the vision of Satan has done very well!
Divorce will increase, sex crimes will abound;
much innocent blood will be spilled on the ground.
The home will be damned in short order I say
when this vision of mine comes in to stay.
Get busy, my cohorts, and put this thing out;
we'll see if the Church will continue to shout.
The holiness people who stand in our way
will soon hush their crying against show and play.
We'll cover the earth with this devil vision.
Then we'll camouflage it with the name television.*

*The people will think they are getting a treat
till the Antichrist comes and takes over his seat.
He'll rule the world while the viewers behold
the face of the beast, to whom they were sold.
We'll win through deception, this cannot fail;
though some holiness preachers against it will rail."*

-- Author Unknown

God Bless,
Pastor D. M. Duncan

Note:

This article is the sole property of Pastor D. M. Duncan. The contents of this article may not be altered in any way. However, my name and the church name may be removed for circulation in any church or ministry. This article may be reproduced only in its entirety (with the exception of removing my name and the church name) for circulation as "freeware;" without charge. This article is not to be sold or used as an enhancement for any other product that is sold.