There is a lot of disagreement about Contemporary Christian Music. What I ask is that you forget your preferences, what you have heard from others, and just compare the following information to God’s Word. My opinion and your opinion do not matter. God is truth and we determine truth by His Word.
Philippians 4:8
Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things.
Contemporary Christian Music

Black

White

Or

Gray
Gray Areas?

There AREN'T any gray areas in the Bible! From Genesis to Revelation, God lays everything out in blacks and whites:

- Blessings/Cursings,
- Life/Death,
- Heaven/Hell,
- God/Satan,
- Christ/the World.

You have to make your choice.
“If only one is saved it is worth it”
Or is it?
Saved to what?
Saved to What?

Christian Rock Music
The Youth Group
Religion
Jesus?
How if they don’t hear His name?
Acts 4:12

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.
Does the Ends Justify the means?
If an act of sin would increase my usefulness tenfold, I have no right to do it; and if an act of righteousness would appear likely to destroy all my apparent usefulness, I am yet to do it.
Ends Justifies the Means?

The fact that some people are saved at concerts, or in a church that enticed them to attend because of the music, does not give validation to the procedure. The Lord saves people in spite of our wrong behavior and decisions, not because of them.

*IS IT REALLY CHRISTIAN MUSIC?*  By Connie W. Schutta  Copyright © 2000
"One of the major problems with the CCM crowd is that they believe the purpose of music is outreach. When outreach is your stated purpose, you will go to any lengths to justify almost anything in attempting to reach the lost. Indeed, this is exactly what we are seeing in the CCM movement today." (p.156)
What is Acceptable?

Another argument is that Jesus went out and mingled with sinners. However, the Lord Jesus never went into a den of iniquity nor did He copy the ways of the ungodly.

"For such a high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;" (Heb 7:26).

Do we take drugs to win addicts to Christ?
Do we use foul language to witness to those who curse?
Do we steal to identify with robbers?
Do we draw lewd pictures to present Christ to the pornographer?
Do we use carnal music to gain a hearing with the world?
John 17:14

I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
GEORGES BERNANOS

“The first sign of corruption in a society that is still alive is that the end justifies the means.”
"... the goal of Christian mission is not success, but faithful witness; not power, but proclamation; not technique, but truth; not method, but message."

“We trust that God knows our heart and we have the best of intentions - salvation of the lost.”
Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?
Is Pure Motives Enough?

I will admit that their motives may be pure. But pure motives do not make it right.
Proverbs 14:12

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.
Is Pure Motives Enough?

Uzzah had pure motives when he tried to prevent the ark from falling in 1 Chronicles 13:9-10, but his actions were wrong and God judged him severely by his death.

Mormons and Muslims are sincere, but sincerely wrong.
Acceptable Offerings

“The Lord God is not pleased with nor does He accept everything that is offered to Him in worship. He did not respect or accept Cain’s offering (see Genesis 4), and He did not accept the “strange fire” offered to Him by Nadab and Abihu. In fact, He killed them with fire for offering it (see Leviticus 10:1-2). Whether or not they believed their offering was offered in spirit and truth was irrelevant. What they were offering was disobedience (therefore apart from truth) and was not considered by God to be an act of worship.”

In the Name of Purpose Sacrificing Truth on the Altar of Unity

Tamara Hartzell

Copyright © 2006
Sincerity Isn’t Enough

“Sincerity and motivation have never been a test of real spirituality or even of Christianity for that matter. The Word of God is that which will abide forever, and it is upon His Word that God hinges all spiritual truth. It is not right to ignore the Bible, to become worldly in philosophy and practice, to call things Christian which are not, nor to disobey the Word of God, even to try to win people to Christ.” (Dr. Frank Garlock, "Can Rock Music Be Sacred?" 1974, p.39).
ABRAHAM LINCOLN

"My great concern is not whether God is on our side; my great concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."

Abraham Lincoln in a reply to a deputation of Southerners
“Christian rock can't be wrong. Look at all the people who go forward at the concerts. Look at how popular God has made these bands.”
So-called results do not mean God is behind it. The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 7:21-23 “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”
The Lord Jesus also said that many will be deceived by false prophets and false christs.

“And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold....for there shall arise false christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.”

Matthew 24:11,12,24.
Matthew 7:15-16
Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits.
"When the Scriptures tell us to judge the prophets by their fruit, it means their holy living and conformity to God's Word for themselves and those they teach. It does not mean the number of spectacular events that transpire in their lives. Nor does it rest on how many people are blessed by them; many are blessed by New Age practitioners. Nor does it rest on the number of moral causes they are involved in. ... Yet today's prophets tell us not to judge the ungodly lives or the bad doctrine of the prophets, but to believe them because of the 'fruit' of their ministries."

*CIB Bulletin, February 1986, p. 12*
Judges 17:6

In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.
“There is a lot of prayer that surrounds events like concerts.”
"Prayer is never an acceptable substitute for obedience. The sovereign Lord accepts no offering from His creatures that is not accompanied by obedience. To pray for revival while ignoring or actually flouting the plain precept laid down in the Scriptures is to waste a lot of words and get nothing for our trouble."

What are we saving them from?
A life of rock and roll, drugs, immorality....
Oh, sorry, that is the Contemporary Christian Music Group’s description
Sandi Patty still singing after repeated immorality and divorce.
Michael English

Four DOVE awards 1994

Immorality exposed 1 week later

Also admitted an Addiction to painkillers

English's name remains on the winner's list for the DOVE awards.
They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity — for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him.
Switchfoot

2004 DOVE award winner with predominately secular music

Switchfoot in 2004 – 2008 has had an endorsement contract with Budweiser.
P.O.D.

“Of course we drink beer and we party. You don’t believe how often we get that question. People seem to have the misconception that we spend all our time on our knees praying, but I can assure you, we don’t.

If there’s a party, we party!”

Traa, P.O.D. (Circus, July 2002, p. 22)
Proverbs 20:1
Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler; whoever is led astray by them is not wise.
Ephesians 5:18-19
Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.
"...you’re always going to have those very very conservative people. They say you can’t do this; you can’t do that, ... you can’t drink; you can’t smoke. ... It’s a pretty bizarre way of thinking."

Amy Grant

"I have a healthy sense of right and wrong, but sometimes, for example, using foul, exclamation-point words among friends can be good for a laugh." (AMY GRANT, interview with Ladies Home Journal, December 1985, p. 210).

"I'm a singer, not a preacher. . . . I'm not looking to convert anybody." (AMY GRANT, interview with CCM Magazine, January 1989, p. 20).
The Language of a Christian?

“Amy Grant, the premier superstar and reigning queen of the rock and CCM world, also is given to profanity and even crude sexual language. "That's the way she is," goes the official explanation of her record company, “she's very frank.””
Amy Grant - September 19, 2006 upon receiving her “Star” in Hollywood

Grant commented, “I see all my family, co-workers and friends and I have to say, nothing happens alone. Life is like a massive vessel, you don’t sail alone.....It’s been an exciting ride! Thank you.”  


“feel like the naked lady on the front of the ship. ... It's been an exciting ride.”

"http://www.christiantoday.com/article/amy.grant.receives.star.on.hollywood.walk.of.fame/7753.htm

“the naked lady on the front of the ship. ... It's been an exciting ride.”

What’s missing in the ...?

"I see all my family, co-workers and friends and I have to say, nothing happens alone. Life is like a massive vessel, you don't sail alone and sometimes I felt like the naked lady on the front of the ship with my tits to the wind! It's been an exciting ride! Thank you." -- Amy Grant

September 19, 2006
"Another fact that stands out is that while rock and CCM entertainers proclaim Jesus and Christianity, for the most part their lifestyles and language do not bear witness that they are born again Christians. Vulgarity and profanity among these young men and women is commonplace. The tongue is a revealer of character, and it is their unbridled, ungodly tongue that exposes the separation of these entertainers from Christ."

The Dragon's Hot Breath  Unmasking the Awful Truth About "Christian" Rock Music  by Texe Marrs
1 Corinthians 15:33

Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.
Many Christian rock musicians have admitted that they wrote and performed Contemporary Christian Music even while they were drinking and committing adultery.

Stryper members admit today that they drank and partied in carnal rebellion during part of their touring career.

Michael English, Sandi Patty, Kirk Franklin, among others, admit that they were living in fornication and adultery during part of their careers.

Mylon LeFevre admits that he wrote and performed music for years before he got right with God, that he was using drugs heavily and drinking and carousing even while producing Christian music.

After the *Supernatural* album, Michael Tait of dc Talk admitted that he “went through a time where I dabbled in a lot of [wicked] things” (*CCM Magazine*, May 2001, p. 42). He calls this his “dark days.”
“We should not be accusing an unbelieving world for acting like an unbelieving world; but we should be concerned when Christians are living like an unbelieving world when claiming to know Christ.”

(1 Corinthians 5).

1 John 2:6

Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.
"Rather than "Jesus", they will say "he", "you", "I", etc. CCMers want to appeal to the world (to $ell records and make dollar$!) so they use "double-speak" tactics. They won't come right out and say what it means, but they'll usually put in enough "double-speak" "hidden agenda" to "$ell" it to Christians. Some of their songs they'll explain on the lyric sheets what the song means, because when you listen to it, it's total nonsense!"

http://craigintosh.blogspot.com/2005_03_01_archive.html
“This is my skizzle.
   For Izzle. Uh-uh
   Do what?
   What-what? What?

Now when I say, "Where my freaks?" You can say, "Woo-woo."
   So where my freaks?
   (Woo-woo)
   Where my freaks?
   (Woo-woo)

Man, that jive was off the chain.”
   This is just plain foolish stupidity!
Job 33:3
My words shall be of the uprightness of my heart: and my lips shall utter knowledge clearly.
Family Force 5

“... its effect is nearly cancelled out by dumb lyrics. I guess it's silly to expect anything more from a band that goes around saying they're "crunk rock"...with lyrics that are extremely abstract, if not nonsensical and embarrassing. "Rolling around, serving it up / Bringing ya'll some Cadillac Phunque," they sing in the opening track, but is that also their mission statement? Who knows.”

http://www.christianitytoday.com/music/reviews/2006/businessparty.html
Ephesians 5:4

Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.
1 Timothy 1:5-7

5 The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

6 Some have wandered away from these and turned to meaningless talk.

7 They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.
2 Timothy 2:15-17

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness. Their teaching will spread like gangrene.
James 4:4

You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.
"Christian" Rock Music

“Some of these rock and contemporary stars curse; many preach and promote violence and disrespect for parents and church leaders; others use occult symbols in performances and on album covers. Most are fans of secular rock; they admit they enjoy listening to Satanic rock groups.”

The Dragon's Hot Breath  *Unmasking the Awful Truth About "Christian" Rock Music*  by Texe Marrs
Exodus 23:2
Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong.
Rock music may attract people to the church, but not to Godly living.

http://www.christianhelps.org/rockmusic.html
The Church is Following the World Not Christ

In an interview with Mean Magazine, Kris Klingensmith of Barnabas said that:

“If you want to know what Christian music will be doing tomorrow, all you need to do is see what the secular guys are doing today.”

http://members.home.nl/r.ldoornbos/inthe%20be.htm
AMY GRANT

"I want to play hardball in this business. I want to be on the same level professionally with performers in all areas of music. I love to hear Billy Joel, Kenny Loggins, and the Doobie Brothers. Why not? I aim to bridge the gap between Christian and pop."

Time Mar/85
AMY GRANT

"Grant's also pragmatic about her career. Regarding her album covers and publicity photos, which portray her as a sexy, attractive young woman. The Christian pop star says, 'I'm trying to look sexy to sell a record. But what is sexy?...”

Rolling Stone - June 1985
Christian Rock can become divisive between the parents and the teens.
Bride

"This release is chock full of straight ahead, full throttle grinding and pounding. It's the type of sound your parents will hate".

Malachi 4:6

He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.
Stryper – *Loud N’ Clear*

“*The hair is long and the screams are loud and clear. The clothes are tight, earrings dangling from the ears. No matter how we look, we'll always praise His name.”*
Switchfoot – *Easier Than Love*

“Sex is currency
She sells cars,
She sells magazines
Addictive bittersweet, crack your hands,
with the hopeless nicotine's
Everyone's a lost romantic,
Since our love became a kissing show
Everyone's a Casanova,
Come and pass me the mistletoe”
Jude 4

For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.
"About five years ago I became disheartened when many pastors opened up their churches to rock concerts. Teenagers went wild, dancing in the aisles, going straight out of church and into back seats .... Parents wrote me brokenhearted, saying, ‘My teenager was on fire for God. Then our pastor and youth pastor brought in these wild groups, and I lost my son. He is backslidden. He got an appetite for occult music right in our own church.’"

http://www.wayoflife.org/fbns/charismusic.htm
Fast Music Linked to Car Crashes

“Speed kills. But it is not only the speed at which people drive that is the problem: the speed of the music they are listening to also has a hand in their fate.

As the tempo increased, Brodsky found drivers took more risks, such as jumping red lights, and had more accidents. When listening to up-tempo pieces, they were twice as likely to jump a red light as those who were not listening to music. And drivers had more than twice as many accidents when they were listening to fast tempos as when they listened to slow or medium-paced numbers.”
Pillar

“All in all, it was a very satisfying evening of headbanging entertainment.”
DC Talk

“We want to get a good mosh pit going and some headbanging.”

http://www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/dctalk.htm
Moshing / Head Banging

A "mosh pit" is a dance area near the stage (designated or not designated). Various activities take place in this area:

Moshing - A type of dance where everybody moves in a waving motion (particularly their heads) to the music.

Head Banging - A more violent head movement, in time with the music.

Body / Crowd Surfing - Individuals being passed hand to hand over the heads of people in the mosh pit.

Stage Diving - Exactly what it sounds like - individuals jump off the stage into the crowd with the expectation of being caught by the crowd and prevented from injury.

Slamming / Slam Dancing - A more violent form of dance where people dancing actually impact each other.
"When STRYPER hit the Christian music scene a few years ago, cultural trappings like earrings, makeup, spandex, and headbanging came with them. In the same way, bands like Vengeance and Deliverance bring with them torn jeans, ratty t-shirts and 'moshing'"

Skillet - The Last Night

“Your parents say everything is your fault
But they don’t know you like I know you
they don't know you at all
I’m so sick of when they say
It's just a phase, you'll be o.k. you're fine
But I know it's a lie”

Would Jesus talk like this?
Rebellion vs. Submission

Here's a lyrical example from just one Hymn:

"Have thine own way, Lord
Have thine own way
Thou art the potter
I am the clay
Mold me and make me
After thy will
While I am waiting
Yielded and still..."
Rebellion vs. Submission

Now read these Christian Rock lyrics to see the difference between submission and rebellion:

*ROCK THOSE BLUES AWAY* - Bride

“I don't need nobody to ease my aching mind. Don't need nobody complaining all the time. I need to roll those blues, rock those blues away... Let me tell you honey, what I need. I need a smooth playing guitar in my hand. Listen to the rhythm of my band.”

Lots of godly submission in that one, isn't there?
“Your patronizing, 
Your overbearing, 
And your so unbending. 
Who won't do it your way, 
I won't do what you say. 
I can't do it your way. 
I won't do what you say. 
You don't understand me. 
I won't do it your way.”
Rebellion vs. Submission

The classic hymns so despised by youth today were all about SUBMISSION; that's why carnal Christians want no part of them.

http://www.av1611.org/crock/jefchp16.html
According to Solomon Olds, "To me, and pretty much anybody that's under my age, most Christian music is a turnoff. I don't want to be affiliated with that. I want to be affiliated with something that is great music."


“But at Family Force 5 we want to give an alternative to that, where it's just as exciting, it's just as fun, it's just as urgent, but it has a positive message. And the positive message is, "We're here to rock the party all night long!" just like Lionel Ritchie.”

http://www.christianitytoday.com/music/interviews/2006/familyforce5-0506.html
Hymns Are Too Old?

“The old hymns are just too biblical. Give us a beat to move our feet, not concepts to move our hearts and minds!”

Sandy Simpson
Hymns – Fanny Crosby

Fanny Crosby is one of the greatest hymn writers that ever lived, writing over 9,000 songs! Before Fanny got saved, at 45 years old, she wrote many secular songs. But after she got saved -things were different...Here's what Fanny said about mixing Christian and worldly music:

"Sometimes I need to reject the music proposed for my songs because the musicians misunderstand that the Fanny Crosby who once wrote for the people in the saloons has merely changed the lyrics. Oh my no. The church must never sing it's songs to the melodies of the world.”  

- Fanny Crosby
Jeremiah 6:16

Stand in the ways and see,
And ask for the old paths,
where the good way is,
And walk in it;
Then you will find rest for your souls.
But they said,
'We will not walk in it.'  

NKJV
Rebellion

“... the only difference [between rock and Christian rock] is the lyrics and then the difference is sometimes subtle ... at the basic root, there's no difference. ... **Christianity is about rebellion. Jesus Christ is the biggest rebel to ever walk the face of the earth ... he was crucified for his rebellion. Rock 'n' roll is about the same thing-rebellion ... to me rock and the church go hand in hand.**”

1 Samuel 15:23a

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.
Jesus a Rebel?

“Heavily tattooed, Sonny of the "Rastafarianism-Christian" punk-rap-metal rock band P.O.D. claims Jesus Christ was the first rebel — and the "first punk rocker"!

"We believe that Jesus was the first rebel. He was the first punk rocker going against all the rest of it.” Sonny, P.O.D."

(http://www.shoutweb.com/interviews/pod0700.phtml)

“Let’s get something straight! The Lord Jesus Christ was NOT A REBEL! The Bible is very clear. The Lord Jesus Christ was OBEDIENT unto death – even the death of the cross!”

http://www.eaec.org/expose/pod_conf.htm
Philippians 2:8

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.
Relient K

“The labels were blurred, the categories crossed. “Was Relient K still a Christian band?”

“You just try to figure out how to make who you are the first priority and not change, like staying who you are without being changed by your surroundings.””

Relient K quoted by Breakaway Magazine 2007
If the music tends to stimulate “the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life” in the performers and the participants, then it is inappropriate to use.

Look at the effect it has on those performing the music and on the audience. If it stimulates the sin nature, it is not good. If it truly glorifies God, it is good.

http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/testingmusic.html
Christian Rock Glorifies Suicide

The continual mention of suicide and suicide methods defeats the intended purpose of preventing suicide. It keeps it in their thoughts and provides ideas.
Dwells on a Teen’s Pain

“Take Three Days Grace’s song ‘Pain.’ It relates to a lot of hurting kids. When they hear it, the song makes them feel like there are other people going through this too, and there is some comfort in that thought. But at the same time, they don’t have to look for a way out. They just sit there and dwell in their pity, like, ‘I’m just going to be miserable. This is my outlet.’”

October 2007 Breakaway magazine.
Bride – *Hang On*

“As I look outside my door
See nothing left to live for
I’ve already tried everything
I have no one else to blame
Here I am at my end
Don’t even know when it began
All I know is it’s through
I’m not the one you thought you knew

Hang On
Momma stop the bullet from
rushing to my head”
Switchfoot – The Fatal Wound

“I am the crisis
I am the bitter end
I'm gonna gun this down
I am divided
I am the razor edge
there is no easy now

son of sorrow
staring down forever
with an aching view
disenchanted
let's go down together
with the fatal wound”
Switchfoot – The Fatal Wound

“Some teens could read “The Fatal Wound” as a suicidal last hurrah intent on taking down rivals (“I am the bitter end/I’m gonna gun this down [some listeners will hear 'town,' not 'down'] ... Let’s go down together with the fatal wound”)—irresponsibly ambiguous in the post-Columbine era.

Intent on positioning themselves as a mainstream band, these five believers focus on worldly woes, sadness and exploitation, sometimes with an upbeat twist but never with an explanation of the hope that lies within them.”

http://www.pluggedinonline.com/music/music/a0002388.cfm
Skillet - *The Last Night*

“You come to me with your scars on your wrist
you tell me this will be the last night feeling like this
I just came to say goodbye
I didn’t want you to see me cry, I’m fine
But I know it’s a lie”
As Cities Burn - *Our World Is Grey*

“He's shooting God up in his arm through a needle. And she's putting cuts on her legs to bleed out the devil.”
Kutless – *Beyond the Surface*

“Put the knife away that’s not what anybody needs. There’s a better way than everything now that you see. Stop comparing who you are to who you want to be. Let’s step out beyond the surface.”
“The only people in the world who argue for the amorality of music are Christian people who want to sing it or listen to it.”

DEMOSTHENES

"Nothing is so easy as to deceive oneself; for what we wish, we readily believe."
Music is a Language

Does music communicate by itself. If it does, then it cannot be amoral because all communication, by necessity, carries with it moral truth or moral values. Notes are neutral, musical compositions are not!

The alphabet consisting of only letters can be put together to bless or curse to love or hate. The same with music notes. There is a message in the music itself.
Christian Rock with its “Hard beat”, vulgarity, profanity, immodest dress, and focus on violence cannot possibly reflect the truth of a Holy Righteous Lord. It is an oxymoron or in other words hypocritical.
Vulgarity

"Its admirers want to make rock appealing by making it respectable. The thing can’t be done. Rock is appealing because it is vulgar... Rock is the quintessence of vulgarity. It is crude, loud, and tasteless."

(Pattison, Robert, The Triumph of Vulgarity, 1987, preface, p.4)
Would you let these guys in the house?

Date your daughter?

Take your son for drive?
Appearance Doesn’t Matter?
Judging Appearances?

“...for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart” (I Sam.16:7).

“One of the challenges of the contemporary Christian movement is that we shouldn't be concerned about appearance since God looks on the heart. In reply we say that while it is true that God looks on the heart, the same passage of Scripture also reminds us that man looks on the outward appearance.”

http://www.keithhunt.com/Rockin.html
P.O.D.

“Families may be put off by gothic album art featuring a detached arm, a skull, cabalistic symbols and a barely covered female with butterfly wings.” Plugged In Online
Tattoos

The world has gone "tattoo crazy".

Even among many Christians the once-forbidden tattoo is welcomed with open arms (and legs, and necks, and backs, et al). Not surprising the major perpetrator of the Christian tattoo is the Christian rock music community. And fast following their Christian rock idols, thousands of Christian young people are getting "marked for Jesus" with the tattoo. Among the fastest growing trend in the tattoo industry is the Christian tattoo shops.

http://www.eaec.org/bibleanswers/tattoo/intro.htm
Tattoos

Do not cut your bodies for the dead or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:28
Tattoos

“... in America tattoos are most prevalent either in jail or hard rock bands.”

“Permanent tattoos have strong associations with high-risk behaviors in adolescents. The presence of a tattoo during examination of an adolescent should prompt in-depth assessment for high-risk behaviors.”

(Timothy A. Roberts, M.D. and Sheryl A. Ryan, M.D., *Tattooing and High-Risk Behavior in Adolescents*, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Strong Children’s Research Center, University of Rochester School of Medicine, Rochester, NY)
Tattoos

It is worth mentioning, Dr. Roberts, himself has a tattoo. And before the study, Dr. Roberts admittedly believed that people with tattoos were unfairly stereotyped. One of his purposes of the study was to prove that point. After the overwhelming results, Dr Roberts, admitted, "I was more than a little surprised at the result."

After evaluating the data, Dr. Roberts says, "A tattoo is a sign that doctors, parents, teachers ought to be asking about the teenager’s behaviour."

Timothy A. Roberts, M.D
Disciples

“The songs are a lot heavier than anything we’ve done in a while,” says singer Kevin Young. “I’m screaming as well as singing and the songs are so fun to play. We’re very excited to play them live.”

Notice the arm covered in tattoos
Ecclesiastes 7:5

It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.
Amos 5:22-23

22 Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them.

23 Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps.
Singing??

Amos prophesied that in the end time, "the songs of the temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Lord God."

Howlings! What an accurate picture of the hollering, screams, and shouting of today's "Christian" rock bands.
“It is the biggest mass addiction in the world’s history ....rock music.”

David Wilkerson
(Cross & the Switchblade)
Addicted

"Nothing is more singular about this generation than its addiction to music."

Dr. Allan Bloom, from his book, "The Closing of the American Mind"
Addicted

“Most people are so media addicted that it truly is a god, an idol. An idol is anything that has taken the place in time and importance over God.

A test: Go without reading the Bible one day. What do you feel? A vague uneasiness, or nothing.

Now go without TV, computer, video games and computer for one day. What do you feel? Lost. Shaky. EMPTY. Right? Face it - you're addicted.”

http://www.gregoryreid.com/id179.htm
Idol Worship

“Why do we IDOLIZE Christian singers and speakers? We go from glorifying musicians in the world, to GLORIFYING Christian musicians. It's all idolatry! . . . Satan is getting a great victory as we seem to WORSHIP these ministers on tapes and records, and clamor to get their autographs in churches and concert halls from coast to coast.”

(Keith Green, from the Tract, "So You Wanna Be A Rock Star")
Augustine

“When I am moved by the voice of him that sings more than the words sung, I confess to have sinned.”

Rock Addicts?

“Our society has produced a generation of young adults whose worship music has lost all sense of dignity, respect, holiness and the fear of God. Many say "But this is the kind of music we love!" or "This is what appeals to the young people."

“The drug addict loves his drugs, the alcoholic loves his liquor, and the gambler loves his gambling, but each of these is the fruit of a sinful heart and can only lead to despair. The big question is . . . where and what does CCM lead to?”

Gordon Sears
Christian Rock is Better than Secular?

“Some parents and church leaders are of the opinion that Christian rock is safe for kids because at least they are not listening to secular rock or rap or whatever. This argument makes no sense in light of the fact that most CCM musicians are themselves not separated from secular rock. Not only do most CCM musicians listen to secular rock, but they perform secular rock on their albums and in their concerts. Thus young people who are hooked into CCM remain associated with the secular music scene.”

http://www.wayoflife.org/fbns/ccm-musiciansloverock.html
Unequally Yoked
CCM artists regularly join with secular artists to perform together, play their songs, and even supporting their secular businesses.
But Jesus went out and mingled with sinners?

The Lord Jesus never went into a den of iniquity nor did He copy the ways of the ungodly.

The Bible says:

"For such a high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;" Hebrews 7:26.

"I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."

John 17:14.
Flyleaf

Flyleaf has received acclaim from

*CCM Magazine*, *Relevant*, *ChristianMusicToday.com*, *Brio*,
and *CBN.com*

Nominated for a DOVE award for 2007
We Have a Problem Tour 2008 is a concert tour in support of Korn's 8th Studio Album.

KORN’S lyrics

“__________ you _________”

“__________, ________, ________, ________, ________”

Flyleaf will join Korn as supporting act on the second leg of the tour.

Flyleaf has also toured with Staind, another mainstream hardcore band.
Flyleaf

The group Staind has the cover of the group's debut album *Tormented* including a knife going through a Bible and a crucified Barbie doll.

But Flyleaf has no problem playing alongside them. P.O.D. also has traveled with Staind in 2005.
The 2006 Family Values Tour was a summer concert tour headlined by Korn

- Korn (headliner)
- Deftones (co-headliner)
- Stone Sour
- Flyleaf

On July 30, at the tour's stop in Atlanta, Georgia, a fan was severely beaten, over a baseball cap, by another concert goer during the Deftones' set. The victim, 30-year-old local man Andy Richardson, later died as a result of his injuries.

Korn's bassist had to replaced the guitarist in New Jersey after he was reportedly drunk and had to leave the stage.
Flatfoot 56

“We don’t preach at bars. We seek to make the audience have a great music experience while modeling a life of faith.”


6/6/2008
1 Corinthians 1:18

For the PREACHING of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.
1 Corinthians 1:21

For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.
Family Force 5

“Growing up in Atlanta the band would alternate freely between church shows and bar shows...”

“They go by gangsta names like Phatty and Crouton. They play clubs. Their video features girls in hot pants. They're convinced Jesus can break dance.”

2007 38th GMA Annual Dove Awards performer.

Christian Music Today
Former revivals brought thousands to Jesus and closed down bars.

Now Christian performers want to “crossover” and play in bars.
Amos 3:3

Can two walk together, except they be agreed?
2 Corinthians 6:17

Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.
Jars of Clay perform as the opening act for the rock group Sting. Their music is featured on cable music stations MTV and VH-1. They receive positive coverage from some of the vilest rock music publications such as Rolling Stone and Spin.”

http://wayoflife.org/fbns/jarsofclay.htm
DC Talk's Kevin Max says of Marilyn Manson, "I'd LOVE to HANG with him and discuss '80s music''.

Time magazine (October 12, 1998 p.125)
DC Talk
On their album "Free At Last", they perform a Doobie Brother's song (in case you don't know — a "doobie" is a marijuana joint) "Jesus is Just Alright".
Jesus is better than alright!
DC Talk – *Jesus Freak*

The Jesus DC Talk "raps" about is a hip-hopping, rapping, groovy, "just alright" — FREAK!

**IT IS NOT THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OF THE BIBLE!**

You'll never guess the song dc Talk uses toward the close of their "Jesus Freak" concert?

They do a cover of Kurt Cobain and Nirvana's "All Apologies"!

One part of the song says "Everyone is gay" — so DC Talk changes it to "Jesus is the way"!

That makes everything alright?

http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/Evils%20in%20America/dc_talk_and_marilyn_manson.htm
DC Talk

“NO CHRISTIAN, following the Lord Jesus Christ would be "listening" to Nirvana! On their song "Stay Away" they sing "God is gay"! DC Talk not only "listens" to but ACTUALLY sings a song by a group that say's "God is a homosexual!"

Not surprisingly, Toby McKeehan, blatantly says in USA Today, "Sometimes, being labeled a Christian band, we consider that a NEGATIVE."

http://wc1.worldcrossing.com/WebX?128@@.1ddd4fb0
Ohio Avenue

“The Alabama trio are a part of the Indie Community network and are now set to tour (Fall 2007) with XXXChurch.com on the Project Mayhem tour, a blend of porn debates, pro wrestling and rock music…. We like the thought that doing this tour isn't the "safe" thing to do as a Christian band. The fact that adult film star Ron Jeremy will be there makes it controversial regardless of what else takes place. So, people may question our motives when they hear about that, but we are just trying to make an impact on people's lives by any means necessary.”

They were at FBC for a Fall 2007 “Fifth Quarter”!

[URL removed to prevent self-referential loop]
1 Thessalonians 5:21-22

Examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil.
Abstain From Evil

“We should therefore abstain from evil, and all appearances of evil, from sin, and that which looks like sin, leads to it, and borders upon it. He who is not shy of the appearances of sin, who shuns not the occasions of sin, and who avoids not the temptations and approaches to sin, will not long abstain from the actual commission of sin.”  
Matthew Henry Commentary
The World sees the hypocrisy and is laughing at us
Even Secular Rock Artists Agree That Rock Music is Evil.
Kurt Cobain - Nirvana

"[I will] get stoned and worship Satan."

[Kurt Cobain. Christopher Sandford, Carroll and Graf Publishing, Inc., Pg 42].

He did and he committed suicide.
"I don’t know if anyone has really understood what we’re trying to do. This isn’t just about shock value . . . that’s just there to lure the people in. Once we’ve got ‘em we can give ‘em our message.

(Hit Parader, Oct. 1996, p.28)

"Hopefully, I’ll be remembered as the person who brought an end to Christianity."

(Spin, August 1996, p. 34).
"My true belief about Rock ‘n’ Roll — is this: I believe this kind of music is demonic . . . A lot of the BEATS in music today are taken from voodoo, from the voodoo DRUMS."

(Charles White, The Life and Times of Little Richard, p. 197)

“I was directed and commanded by another power. The power of darkness ... that a lot of people don’t believe exists. The power of the Devil. Satan”

Crosby of Crosby, Stills & Nash

"I figured that the only thing to do was steal their kids. I still think it's the only thing to do...I'm not talking about kidnapping...but about changing young people's value system."

(Rolling Stone, Vol. 1, p.410)
John Denver

"Rock music is a greater influence over the souls of men than primitive Christianity."
Elvis Presley

“God gave me a voice, If I turned against God I'd be ruined.”

He was ruined!

A type of music that began with the hip-gyrations of Elvis Presley, whose wasted life ended in a drugged state, has finally made its way into the hallowed confines of the Church where God's people presumably meet to worship God.

(Gary Herman, Rock 'n Roll Babylon, p.16)
Jerry Lee Lewis

Lewis daringly played a boogie woogie rendition of "My God Is Real" at a church (school) assembly that sent him packing the same night. Years later when asked "Are you still playing the devil's music?" Jerry replied "Yes, I am. But you know it's strange, the same music that they kicked me out of school for is the same kind of music they play in their churches today. The difference is, I know I am playing for the devil and they don't."
“But Christian Rock isn’t evil. It is about Jesus and God.” Think again.
Music Associations

Christian rock is governed by the GMA, Gospel Music Association and the CCM, Contemporary Christian Music Association, so surely it can’t be that bad.
Dove Awards

The Gospel Music Association (GMA) Dove Awards were created in 1969 by the Gospel Music Association to honor the outstanding achievements in Christian music.
CCM & GMA
1998 definition stated:

- Gospel music is music in any style whose lyric is: substantially based upon historically orthodox Christian truth contained in or derived from the Holy Bible;
- and/or an expression of worship of God or praise for His works;
- and/or testimony of relationship with God through Christ;
- and/or obviously prompted and informed by a Christian world view
CCM & GMA

1999 definition changed to:

- Gospel music is music in any style whose lyric is: substantially based upon historically orthodox Christian truth contained in or derived from the Holy Bible;
- and/or apparently prompted and informed by a Christian world view.
Notice the Deletion

- and/or an expression of worship of God or praise for His works;
- and/or testimony of relationship with God through Christ;

Songs now do not have to praise God nor tell about God.
Why the Change in 1999?

- Too many popular songs didn’t qualify for a DOVE award
- 13 songs were disqualified from the Dove Awards because they did not meet the lyrical criteria.
- One of the songs was the mega-hit "Kiss Me" by Sixpence None the Richer.
- And another was "Love Me Good" by Michael W. Smith!
- It’s ironic – Smith’s "Love Me Good" was a number-one song on Christian radio and Christian bookstores! And get this – Michael W. Smith opened the 1998 Dove Awards, the previous year, singing guess what song? "Love Me Good"!
- Two of CCM’s biggest hits were "canned" from the Dove Awards because they couldn’t even meet the thinly-defined criteria!

http://www.milligan.edu/communications/library/Articles1/DoveAwards.htm
CCM

CCM several years ago began replacing "Jesus, Christ, Lord"
etc. with the vague
"You, He, Him", etc.,
as if you hear in capitals?

And now they don’t even try to pretend it’s Christian!
The “Deterioration” of CCM

If you look at Skillet’s first album in 1998 they do mention God and Jesus. However, by the album Comatose in 2006 there is no reference to Jesus and God. There has been an elimination of references to God coinciding with their increase in popularity. They do mention angels, but angels are not a means of salvation. There are plenty of people interested in angels because the idea is more comforting than a God who will judge them for their sins. A Christian is a disciple of Jesus Christ! If it's not about the Lord Jesus Christ — it is NOT Christian!
MXPX album *Secret Weapon* is nominated for CCM’s Dove award for Rock Album of the Year for 2007. The album has 16 songs:
1 mentions Angels
0 mention God, Lord
0 mention Jesus
Not even vague references!

Includes the song “Chop, Chop” which is discussed later.
The “Deterioration” of CCM
Every CCM artist researched had the same deterioration in the lyrics. It isn’t as lucrative to mention Jesus - fans might be offended.
It’s on Christian Radio

“I'll guarantee you that many Christian radio stations and their boards, though a little uncomfortable with stuff like this, will still defend it to the death, Why? Because it's what their audience demands.”

AGEING HIPPIES & A DEAD-END DREAM  by Jeff Godwin
Christian Rock Glorifies Satan, Violence and Evil
Bride - *Fuel and Fire*

“Fuel and Fire got no place to hide
I ride the lightening and I never die
Fuel and Fire can’t you read the signs
I am in your head, I fall from the skies

The highway that I run is paved with ash
I always borrow and I never pay back
Poor little souls praying for their loved ones
I won’t stop burning till the killing gets done”
MxPx - Chop Chop

“One stop, chop shop,
somebody call the cops
In a studio apartment,
his axe wouldn't stop
So many pieces everywhere he had to mop
She should have paid him back last week
for all the meth
That still small voice told him
"axe her to death""

Album 2007
Dove Award
Nominee!?
Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer. . .
Red Album Cover
Tourniquet

Luke Easter of Tourniquet - “We have chosen this path in life, and it comes through in what we do. The Bible says that what's in your heart will come out in what you say, and if you look at our lyrics that rings true. Our art reflects our faith.”

Psalms 101:3

I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes:
“Unveiled - Take for instance the word for word cover of the Stones' "Sympathy for the Devil," (by Mick Jagger of Rolling Stones) a song which many Christians feel is demonically inspired, or at least is pro-Satanic in its message.

He even goes so far as to curse in the song, which many may feel crosses that imaginary line between Truth and vulgarity.”

Keith Giles 2000  In a review that is pro Unveiled
http://www.tollbooth.org/2000/reviews/unveiled.html
“Sympathy for the Devil” qualifies for a DOVE award?

Why? Because Satan is derived from the Bible.
Ephesians 5:8-11

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.
“Nothing Is Sound, was released on September 13, 2005, and with Drew's inclusion saw Switchfoot's sound become even more densely layered and guitar-heavy, resulting in an album that was edgier and darker than any of their previous works.”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Switchfoot

Aren’t we supposed to be the light?
Light vs. Dark

Jesus is the light of the world not any darkness can be found in him. 
(John 8:12) We are also to be the light to a fallen world. (Matt 5:14)

Why then are the lights turned down low at “Christian” rock concerts?

Darkness is the cover for evil.
The 77's

_Note: The text content is a combination of lyrics and additional information._

**Pray Naked Lyrics**

“no matter who you are
no matter what you do
there's only one thing
I ask of you
and that's if you pray
then when you pray
be naked prey
pray naked”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_77s

*Pray Naked* the album's original title was dropped by the record label without consulting the band due to Christian vendor pressures not to sell an album titled “Pray Naked”.

6/6/2008
Purity
The worship of God must be carried out with purity. The world can take clean music and make it unclean, but Christians cannot take unclean music and make it clean.
(refer to Haggai 2:12-14)
Haggai 2:13b - 14

It shall be unclean. [Unholiness is infectious.] So is this people and so is this nation before Me, says the Lord; and so is every work of their hands, and what they offer there [on the altar] is unclean [because they who offer it are themselves unclean].

AMP
"Luckily for those who don’t like such things, the vocals on this album allow you to ignore the religious side of the band; if you aren’t listening carefully they’re usually unintelligible. Jason Wisdom (who also plays bass) pushes out growls halfway between metalcore and death metal, and can alternate between anthemic shouts and low, downright demonic-sounding rumbles."

http://www.sputnikmusic.com/review_9938
The Black Stump Music and Arts Festival is a Christian Festival that is held in the Greater Sydney Metro region.

Many artists have appeared at Black Stump and then gone onto wide popularity in the Christian or secular world. These include the Newsboys, Rebecca St James, ....

Speaker – Tony Campolo
Haste The Day

Pressure The Hinges

“Everything is sinking through the floor.
You hold the door and I’ll pressure the hinges.
Would you trust these locks?
And sleep to hide your secrets?
Dodging bullets is easier when you don’t believe in fate.”
Kids In The Way –
We Kill at Twilight

“It’s now or never, baby, you better hold your breath tonight
We’re gonna burn this city, it won’t be pretty
We kill at twilight”
As I Lay Dying

“…the most brutal band in Christian metalcore. ... This is the kind of record that could just rip your face off!”

http://www.jesusfreakhideout.com/cdreviews/FrailWordsCollapse.asp
Demon Hunter

Follow The Wolves

“Shed rejection
Learn to follow the wolves”

Sixteen

“Oh, voiceless, wasted
You soaked your heart in gasoline
Now light it up and burn”
Living Sacrifice

Nonexistent

“In this album, Living Sacrifice switched from thrash metal to down-tuned death metal, and D.J. started experimenting with a slurred incomprehensible growl in his vocal approach.”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Living_Sacrifice
P.O.D. - When Angels & Serpents Dance

“Rhythmically moving,
Emotions are rising.
Quiver to music,
Trembling bodies in song.
Go unsteadily sliding,
  devious gliding.
So beautifully sailing
  and floating on.
Life's real,
When Angels &
Serpents Dance.”
How about this song?

Have you ever thought about your soul - can it be saved?

Or perhaps you think that when you're dead you just stay in your grave.

Is God just a thought within your head or is He a part of you?

Is Christ just a name that you read in a book when you were in school?

Lyrics don’t sound too bad do they...
This is a song by none other than Black Sabbath - Ozzie Osborn "After Forever"

Black Sabbath would qualify for a DOVE Award!
But It’s The Lyrics

“It's pretty sad when the heathen produce more scriptural lyrics than so-called Christians! So much for the, "It's the LYRICS that are important" argument. Try finding spiritual guidance for your life in that morbid mess REZ calls Christian lyrics and you'll be a long time looking.”

What's Wrong With Copying The World? by Jeff Godwin
Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!
"Kerry Livgren of [the band] Kansas once posed this question: 'Are we making converts to Christ or to Christian Music?'"
“Stephanie Lysaght, who is Jewish, says she was invited to the gig by a friend.

“They're kinda religious... . Just listen. Sometimes, when you think Reeve's singing to a girl, he's actually singing to Jesus.”

Finally, I give in to the power of the band. A few verses later, I'm chanting 'I will testify' along with the rest of 'em...

I've been converted.”
The Devil has provided many alternatives to the new birth, and multitudes are confused by false professions of salvation. Note the Bible's warnings:
A person can believe in God and not be saved.

James 2:19

You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that — and shudder.
A person can pray to Jesus and not be saved.

Matt 7:22-23

22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'

23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'
A person can prophesy in Jesus' name and not be saved.

Matt 7:22-23

22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'

23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'
A person can do wonderful works in Jesus' name and not be saved.

Matt 7:22-23

22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'

23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'
A person can have a zeal for God and not be saved.

Rom 10:2

For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge.
A person can have a zeal to make disciples for God and not be saved.

Matt 23:15

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are.”
A person can be very interested in Jesus Christ and not be saved.

Matt 19:16-22

16 Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?" ...  

21 Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

22 When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.
A person can profess to know God and not be saved.

Titus 1:16

They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.
A person can follow and serve Christ and not be saved.

John 6:70

Then Jesus replied, "Have I not chosen you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil!"
The Gospel

“Be warned: It doesn't matter what anyone tells you about a great "revival" or moving of the Spirit taking place; it doesn't matter how many multitudes are involved, or how loud their praises are; it doesn't matter how "successful" a particular ministry may appear to be. If the cross of Jesus Christ is not the door through which people come, you can rest assured - it is not a work of God!”

David Wilkerson, They Have Done Away With The Cross!, 1996
While the 1978 smash single, "You Light Up My Life," was performed by a committed Christian, its message that something "can't be wrong when it feels so right" (1979 Debby Boone) was nevertheless a dangerous and profoundly anti-Biblical one.
It Feels Right

“The tragic truth is that most Christians judge the effectiveness of music based upon the yardstick of the flesh, rather than the yardstick of the Spirit. If a song thrills us, we like it. If it doesn't excite us, we don't like it. Too often our opinion of a song is not based on the musical, textual, or even biblical worth of it -- but rather on how it makes us feel. As in so many other areas of life, we take a sensual approach to music.”

“Most of the decisions are emotional in nature and do not last. The danger at these concerts is that young people become confused mistaken an adrenaline rush, a feel-good attitude, and an emotional frenzy for the working of the Spirit of God. That is not how the Spirit works. That is how the flesh works and young people do not know the difference any more. In fact, many adult Christians are confused.”

www.christianhelps.org/rockmusic.html
John MacArthur

“No music in the Bible is ever characterized as being or intended to be evangelistic...when emotions are played on without a clear or complete presentation of God’s truth to the mind, such music can be counterproductive by producing a feeling of well-being and contentment that is a counterfeit of God’s peace and that serves to further insulate an unbeliever from the saving gospel.”
Romans 10:2-3

2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.
Matthew Mead

“The Almost Christian.”

“They come to church, but have never come to Christ. They love religious things, but have not taken up their cross, denied themselves and followed the Lord. They give Sunday to God, but Monday through Saturday is “their” time. Almost Christians...”
George Whitefield

“An almost Christian, if we consider him in respect to his duty to God, is one that halts between two opinions; that wavers between Christ and the world; that would reconcile God and Mammon, light and darkness, Christ and Belial. It is true, he has an inclination to religion, but then he is very cautious how he goes too far in it: his false heart is always crying out, Spare thyself, do thyself no harm.”
Accepting Jesus?

“Accepting” Jesus is a modern invention. As Keith Green used to point out, Jesus doesn't have a self-image problem where He needs our “acceptance”. We need Him to accept US, and He will only do that when we come to the cross and surrender our old lives. I fear that most of the modern church is a group of nice people who are attracted to the nice ideas of Jesus and family and church but have never been to the altar and cried out for His mercy and forgiveness for their sins and surrendered their lives over to His Lordship. And that, friends, is what being a “Christian” is.”

http://www.gregoryreid.com/id197.htm
Accepting Jesus?

“The modern church mix is made up of many people who are drawn to the ideas and trappings of church but who are not surrendered properly to Jesus, and those of the second [group], those who HAVE surrendered to Jesus at some point, but who have grown weary in well-doing and have laid down their mantles as watchmen and simply allowed all the new changes in “church” to come in without examining it, and without contesting the wrong in it, and without taking a stand against the increasing infiltration of occult new age lies, because they are...worn out. And the third group is a small group who know what is coming and who are being marginalized because they raise the warning cry.”

http://www.gregoryreid.com/id197.htm
“If we can’t get them in God’s way we can at least trick them in.”
Acts 13:10

You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery. Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord?
Do we believe that:
The Word of God is no longer sufficient to reach people for Christ - that we must doctor it up and make it palatable and interesting.
That God needs all the help He can get?
“We can change everything up so that it doesn’t look like church, sound like church or behave like church. Then we can win the lost to Christ.”
Casual Attitudes

“Churches that embrace contemporary music are far more likely to develop casual attitudes about God and worship. Accordingly in such churches, a worship service is no different from "hanging out" at the local mall, where slovenly dressed people can meet with friends to have some "laughs" and hear some "tunes".”

William Crump
Benjamin B. Warfield

“It is an inexpressible grief to me to see the church spending its energies in a vain attempt to lower its testimony to suit the ever-changing sentiment of the world about it.”
Salt not Hot Sauce

The church is called to be the Salt of the world not the Hot Sauce. We aren’t to spice it up to make it more palatable. Hot Sauce isn’t a preservative but Salt is. Hot Sauce won’t save others but being the Salt might.
Feeding Sheep or Amusing Goats?
by C.H. Spurgeon

“The devil has seldom done a cleverer thing than hinting to the Church that part of their mission is to provide entertainment for the people, with a view to winning them. From speaking out as the Puritans did, the Church has gradually toned down her testimony, then winked at and excused the frivolities of the day. Then she tolerated them in her borders. Now she has adopted them under the plea of reaching the masses.”
Feeding Sheep or Amusing Goats?
by C.H. Spurgeon

“My first contention is that providing amusement for the people is nowhere spoken of in the Scriptures as a function of the Church. If it is a Christian work why did not Christ speak of it? ‘Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.’ That is clear enough. So it would have been if he had added, ‘and provide amusement for those who do not relish the gospel.’ No such words, however, are to be found. It did not seem to occur to him. Then again, ‘He gave some apostles, some prophets, some pastors and teachers, for the work of the ministry.’ Where do entertainers come in? The Holy Spirit is silent concerning them. Were the prophets persecuted because they amused the people or because they refused? The concert has no martyr roll.”
“...the line between the church and the world has become a little blurred as Christian music crosses over into mainstream, artists sport tattoos and piercings....

Drummer Mark Graalman (Sanctus Real) thinks it’s good that the church has become less stuffy and more relevant to today’s culture. “We’ve seen it be effective in getting the world’s attention,” he explains.”

Breakaway magazine
Isaiah 55:11

So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

God’s word needs no human enhancement, supplication, or modernization.
Youth

“If the only thing keeping the youth in your church is "Christian" Rock music, then let them go! If that's the glue holding the youth group together, you don't really have a youth group. To say that you must have Rock or the kids won't come is to dishonor and demean the drawing power of the Holy Ghost (John 6:44, 12:32).”

Jeff Godwin's book What's Wrong with Christian Rock?
Denies the Name of Jesus Christ
Matthew 10:33

But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.
In researching this information, many CCM groups personal websites and MySpace pages were examined. Nowhere was there a presentation of the Gospel or how to be saved.
Casting Crowns

In all the research nothing was found that could be said to be Biblically wrong with Casting Crowns. Their lyrics regularly mention Jesus (More than just one song per album!).

But just as in the other groups there is still no information about salvation or what the group believes. However, body piercing is at least mistreating God’s Temple.
Michael W. Smith

"I know if I'm too blatant about my Christianity and talk about Jesus I won't succeed in the mainstream. But hey, I'm not an evangelist, I'm a singer"

"If you weren't familiar with Michael W. Smith's standing in the world of contemporary Christian music, you might attend one of his concerts and come out none the wiser."

(The Birmingham News, Feb. 12, 1993 p. 5c)
John 12:42-43

Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the PRAISE OF MEN more than the praise of God.
Dan Haseltine – Jars of Clay

“An artist spends most of life in a prison tainted by his experience. Ours is tainted by our experience of being in church and being Christian. Hopefully, people who hear us are going to go ‘Wow! That was a good song!’ And we hope some people get some hope out of our music. Anything else is great”

Romans 10:14

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a PREACHER?
"Sometime people give us a hard time because we don't mention God onstage. . . . I know that a lot of other bands and people are called to talk about God onstage a lot more than we do, and that's great, but we just feel that our calling is to get people interested in our MUSIC, interested in US…”

Martin Luther

"We should praise God with both word and music, namely by proclaiming [the Word of God] through music. . .He who believes earnestly cannot be quiet about it. But he must gladly and willingly sing and speak about it so that others may come and hear it. And whoever does NOT want to sing and speak of it shows that he does not believe it."
“Contemporary Christian music originally began unashamedly declaring Jesus Christ as Lord. Within a few years His name was replaced by several generic titles filtering out the name of God ultimately to the non-specific cognomen, "Love." This led to a multitude of synonyms: "The Man Upstairs"; "My Higher Power"; "Our Family Values Expert"; ad nauseam...ad infinitum. This Biblical illiteracy I've coined as theological ebonics - Biblical language diminished to cultural unintelligible chatter affirmed as profound, acceptable spiritual truth.”
Switchfoot

“But calling us ‘Christian rock’ tends to be a box that closes some people out and excludes them.”

http://www.boston.com/ae/music/articles/2004/01/09/switchfoot_steps_toward_stardom/
Switchfoot

“Switchfoot is often referred to as a "Christian band", mostly due to their involvement with the Christian rock scene in their early days. But the band has always shunned this label.

Lyrics steer clear of preachiness, exclusive declarations of faith, or even any mention of Jesus Christ.”

Switchfoot

“In late 2006, Switchfoot made news for covering the song "Sorrow" from Bad Religion, a band known for their lyrics critical of Christianity.”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Switchfoot
“Following the release of *The Beautiful Letdown*, the band temporarily stopped playing at Christian festivals and doing interviews with Christian based organizations, as they found the speculation about their faith to be distracting from the music.”

What God?

“Read the lyrics of many CCM songs. Many of them could have been written by George Harrison of the Beatles praising one of his Hindu gods. Essentially many CCM songs are general worship music... just insert the god of your choice as you sing. Where is the exclusivity of Jesus? (John 14:6)”

John Wicklund (Twin Cities, MN United States)
God

What god are they referring to?
Satan
Allah
Jah
The Big One
The Man Upstairs
James 2:19

You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder?
Even Demon's Speak More Truth

Jesus Christ doesn't need a commercial from the Devil, as Acts 16:16-18 shows so well: "And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed of a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour."
A. W. Tozer

“God will not be used. True worship is not cheap entertainment. Worshiping God with a wrong motive can be as deadening as worshiping the wrong god with a sincere motive.”
CCM also Weakens Christians

CCM weakens Christians by

- exchanging pure theology for “feel goodism”
- Displaying an inaccurate image of God
- Offers a different Jesus than in the gospel
- Weak theology if any
Weakening the Church

John MacArthur: "It should be noted that the many contemporary entertainers who think they are using their rock-style music to evangelize the lost are often doing nothing more than contributing to the weakening of the church."

“It does this by catering to pride, by being grounded in emotion, by appealing to the flesh, by watering down the message, by sending a false impression of the nature of the gospel, and by cheapening the Christian life.”
Woodrow Kroll

“Well, as a Christian public we have spent so little time reading God's Word that our thirst for substance has dissipated, while our thirst for entertainment has driven us to seek out "Christian lite." We're so spiritually anemic, we're so biblically illiterate, we can't tell the difference between spiritual meat and mayonnaise. We crave what is good entertainment at the expense of what is eternal. We listen to what pleases us, not to what changes us. We buy holy hardware, not what aids our spiritual growth to maturity. Our hearts are blessed; our heads are left behind.”

“God's Word helps us discern what is eternal from what is temporal, what is best from what is good. His Word is forever settled in heaven. It is not our opinions about His Word or our opinions about the world situation, nor our music, nor our books. It is the Word of God that is forever settled. But the less we read of His Word, the less discerning we become. The less discerning we become, the more we settle for what is good, rather than for what is best.”

Steve Camp

“Dr. MacArthur is famous for saying, "The duty of any faithful exegete of God’s Word is to find out its true meaning and then preach it to the people. In other words, what does the Bible mean if we were dead?"

...that graphically really says it. In our postmodern world that we live in everyone has become their own Bible; every man has become his own authority; and people think that they can make any verse mean whatever they want it to mean.”

A Christian

...is supposed to be peculiar (1 Peter 2:9), pure (1 Tim. 5:22), clean (2 Cor. 7:1), sanctified (1 Cor. 6:11), separated (2 Cor. 6:17) and holy (1 Peter 1:16).

CCM is not!
Barrier to Prayer

“In particular, rock music as a genre is incapable of offering or inducing that which is most essential to Christian prayer -- contemplative quiet.”

James A. Altena | Apr 29, 2007 11:47:12 PM
Fear of Silence

“In the IPod age it almost appears that many people fear silence. Noise of some sort is always filling the gaps.”

Todd F | May 4, 2007 1:23:12 PM
A piece of music which one believer believes is edifying may be, and often is, a stumbling block to another.
"In using the world’s genres of music, it blurs the gap between Satanic values and divine ones. It tends to deny the power of the simple gospel and the sovereign saving work of the Holy Spirit. It creates a wide generation gap in the church, thus contributing to the disunity and lack of intimacy in the fellowship of all believers. It leads to the propagation of bad or weak theology and drags the name of the Lord down to the level of the world. The music of the gospel is certainly not a legitimate means for making money or seeking fame, and it must never be allowed to cheapen what is priceless, or trivialize what is profound."
Deuteronomy 5:11
Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain....
Spirit of Compromise

“The erosion of musical standards among contemporary Christians parallels the erosion of convictions and practices in other areas as well. It denotes a spirit of compromise with the world which must be vigorously opposed by strong Christian leaders. As in all areas of our lives believers should ever follow the admonition of Paul: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God”” (I Cor. 10:31).

http://www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/bsd/Psychology/rockm/satanic.htm
Charles H. Spurgeon

“This is the suggestion of the present hour: If the world will not come to Jesus....Shall not the church go down to the world? Instead of bidding men to be converted, and come out from among sinners, and be separate from them, let us join with the ungodly world, enter into union with it, and so pervade it with our influence by allowing it to influence us. Let us have a Christian world.” (continued)
"Certain ministers are treacherously betraying our holy religion under pretense of adapting it to this present age. The new plan is to assimilate the church to the world by semi-dramatic performances they make the house of prayer to approximate to the theater; they turn their services into musical displays in fact, they exchange the temple for the theater, and turn the ministers of God into actors, whose business it is to amuse men. This then is the proposal."
"In order to win the world, the Lord Jesus must conform himself, his people, and his Word to the world. I will not dwell on so loathsome a proposal.

My dear hearers, how much I long to see you saved!! But I would not belie my Lord, even to win your souls, if they could be won so. The true servant of God is not responsible for success or non-success. Results are in God's hands."
“Rock'n'roll is what I do. I put on a good show. I entertain those people, I have a good time with them....It's a Christian album, but you really have to know the Word to know it. CBS ain't gonna know it. ... It's an anointed record and it's got a good message, but it's very shallow. We really avoided certain words and phrases, you know. It's just about themes.” (CCM Mar 1986)
“CCM caters to the feel good mentality of modern society. It lends itself to the shallow, warm, fuzzy type of Christianity that has no discernment, is based on feelings instead of Scripture, and masquerades as being Spirit-filled when in reality it is a cheap counterfeit.”

http://www.christianhelps.org/rockmusic.html
“Let’s face it: our gospel is offensive. The cross and faith are offensive because they take meritorious works and send them packing. Repentance and the call to holiness are offensive because man prefers to run from the light. The narrowness of the door is offensive because it sours people on God’s open-mindedness. God’s sovereignty is offensive because humans like to call the shots. No wonder Paul was straight with Timothy from the outset and said, “…join me in suffering for the gospel” (2 Tim. 1:8b).

These gospel words go down hard, and, correctly stated, often seem to be utterly foolish. They appeal to no one except those who are prepared by God. Christ plainly stated: “No one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him”’” (Jn. 6:65).

A different Jesus than the Gospel
Contemporary Christian Music is A Different Jesus
Christian Rock

There is only one Christian rock
“and THAT ROCK WAS CHRIST.”
1 Corinthians 10:4

“For their rock is not as our Rock...”
Deuteronomy 32:31
Evangelist Lester Roloff

"Christian Rock? There ain't no such animal!"
“Error is like leaven of which we read, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Truth mixed with error is equivalent to all error, except that it is more innocent looking and, therefore, more dangerous. God hates such a mixture! Any error, or any truth-and-error mixture, calls for definite exposure and repudiation. To condone such is to be unfaithful to God and His Word and treacherous to imperiled souls for whom Christ died.”
2 Corinthians 11:4

For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough.
Titus 2:1
You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine.
EASY BELIEVISM

“One of my criticisms of those of us who use music in evangelism is the nature and content of the 'gospel' which is preached. All too often, a superficial kind of believism is offered, along with promises of large helpings of love, joy and peace.”

(Graham Kendrick, "Shine, Jesus, Shine" CCM musician and organizer for British rock festivals, Pop Goes the Gospel, p. 142).
"There is an essential part of the Gospel that is never going to sell. The Gospel is good news, but it is also bad news; you are a sinner and you are hopeless. How is a multi-million dollar record company going to take that?"
Galatians 1:10

Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ.
Steve Camp

“Music is powerful and must be used wisely not frivolously. No one ever buys a book, takes it home and memorizes it, but with music just after a few listens, it can be imbedded in your thoughts for a lifetime. That is why biblical truth needs to permeate the very fabric of our music. ... But we can never take artistic license when it comes to His person-hood, His acts, His gospel, His truth for fear that we might trivialize what is profound and sentimentalize what is holy. In other words, we should never unwittingly play marbles with diamonds.”
I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.
Relient K

If anyone could make me a better person, you could
All I gotta say is I **must have done** something good
You came along one day and you rearranged my life
All I gotta say is I **must have done** something right
I **must have done something right**
Romans 3:10-12

As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no-one who understands, no-one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no-one who does good, not even one."
Isaiah 64:6

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags.
Carrie Underwood

Jesus Take the Wheel

“Jesus take the wheel
Take it from my hands
Cause I can't do this all on my own
I'm letting go
So give me one more chance
To save me from this road I'm on
Jesus take the wheel”
Carrie Underwood

*Jesus Take The Wheel* 2006 DOVE Award
is on the same album as:

*Before He Cheats* –

“That I dug my key into the side of his pretty little supped up 4 wheel drive, carved my name into his leather seats... I took a Louisville slugger to both headlights, slashed a hole in all 4 tires...”

She worships a different Jesus!
JR - “Not a Slave”

Music Video shows a Spirit escaping from a box


Different Jesus
God is My Girlfriend

Songs!
God is My Girlfriend Songs!

Skillet – *Better than Drugs*

“Feel your every heartbeat
Feel you on these empty nights”

Skillet - *Last night*

“Look me in the eyes so I know you know
I’m everywhere you want me to be
The last night you’ll spend alone
I’ll wrap you in my arms and I won't let go”
Flyleaf - *All Around Me*

“My hands are searching for you
My arms are outstretched towards you
I feel you on my fingertips
My tongue dances behind my lips for you”
Mercy Me - Here With Me

“I long for your embrace
Every single day
To meet you in this place
And see you face to face”
Christian Lite
Amy Grant
“...a lyrical style that might be dubbed "Christian lite," since it emphasized a "personal relationship" with God that often came off as if the singer were addressing an earthly father or even an idealized boyfriend.”

http://music.yahoo.com/read/review/14187618
"Salvation comes not by "accepting the finished work" or "deciding for Christ". It comes by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, the whole, living, victorious Lord who, as God and man, fought our fight and won it, accepted our debt as His own and paid it, took our sins and died under them and rose again to set us free. This is the true Christ, and nothing less will do. But something less is among us, nevertheless, and we do well to identify it so that we may repudiate it. That something is a poetic fiction, a product of the romantic imagination and maudlin religious fancy. ”

(continued)

Man: The Dwelling Place Of God, pages 142-143
“It is a Jesus, gentle, dreamy, shy, sweet, almost effeminate and marvelously adaptable to whatever society He may find Himself in. He is cooed over by women disappointed in love, patronized by pro tem celebrities and recommended by psychiatrists as a model of a well integrated personality. He is never acknowledged as Lord. These quasi Christians follow a quasi Christ. They want His help but not His interference. They will flatter Him but never obey Him.”

Man: The Dwelling Place Of God, pages 142-143
“Dennis: As a Christian band that has definitely grabbed just as many mainstream fans, what is your advice to other Christians that get themselves in a box and miss out on ministry chances like that due to someone telling them they should look a certain way, sound a certain way or whatever?

Russ: It is always better to take an independent stand on whatever you believe in. Never let anyone put you down. Life is full of many important experiences that you might have never experienced if you didn't stand up and be different. Many approaches lead to different outcomes. There is always more than one right answer.

Dennis: Well, I do disagree with you on that. On some things there are not more than one answer. I mean 2 + 2 IS ALWAYS 4 and the subject of Christianity is a major area that also does not offer more than one answer. The Bible tells us that Jesus IS the way, the truth and the life and NO ONE comes to the Father except through Him.”

http://www.wisemenpromotions.com/wmpshowcase/zao.htm
2 John 10:11
If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed. For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.
Alice Cooper, who sang about necrophilia and chopped up baby dolls during his concerts, said that although he continues to record and tour with a theatrical horror-style show, "My life is dedicated to follow Christ." March 01, 2002

"The sicker our fans get, the sicker we'll get."
--Alice Cooper

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Different Jesus!
Godspell

In 1999, Gotee Records (Owned by Toby McKeenan – DC TALK), a Christian recording company, repacked the 1971 Godspell album for release ...

...as well as interviews with various popular Christian artists talking about the influence Godspell and its music has had on their lives, and new version of the song By MY Side.

http://royalcourtprod.tripod.com/gs_index.html
The Good Samaritan tale is now an episode of a reality cop show. Jesus is crucified on a bank of video monitors, his arms bound with thick electrical cables.

1971

Its Jesus has a clown’s eyes and red bulb nose and wears red suspenders over a Superman shirt....

a somewhat embarrassing crucifixion against a wire fence...

1999

The Good Samaritan tale is now an episode of a reality cop show. Jesus is crucified on a bank of video monitors, his arms bound with thick electrical cables.
Barren Cross - *Believe*

"Give it a chance, freedom at last
Yours for free, take and receive
Better than pot, Jesus rocks
Come and believe
You will find out joy will come to you
Take it, drink it, no fee, come and believe
Smoke on His love -- believe
Smoke on His love and you will see the rock -- roll
Believe”

Different Jesus!
Vengeance Rising

“While the group was a ground breaking Christian metal band, nowadays Vengeance Rising is known for vocalist Martinez' turning from Christianity to satanism to atheism, since he has continuously done interviews about it. All Music Guide describes Vengeance Rising's history as “one of the most entertaining and bizarre stories in the realm of heavy metal.””

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vengeance_Rising
P.O.D.

“Spiritually, the band is as concerned as ever with Jah, inner strength, and the "blood of God's veins,...””

Joyful Noisemakers, Spin, October 2001, p. 88

This is Rastafarian not Christian!

The wearing of dreadlocks (and the term Jah) is very closely associated with the movement.  http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rastafarian
P.O.D

“Wuv and the band have structured their lives around a spiritual belief system that cross-fades Christianity, Rastafarianism and Judaism.”

(Joyful Noisemakers, Spin, October 2001, p. 88)
P.O.D

"You were recently criticized by Christian radio talk-show host Dr. Dobson for forsaking your religious beliefs by touring with Ozzfest and Korn."

WUV: “We respect the man, but he never had a conversation with us. Just because P.O.D. are a spiritual band doesn’t mean we adhere to any one religion, and all kinds of people want to use us as a symbol for their thing. There’s a thousand different definitions of what a Christian is, but we don’t feel like there are any lines."

(Rolling Stone, Dec. 14-21, 2000, p. 102)
P.O.D.

Song - *Tribal*
Album - The Fundamental Elements of Southtown

“I and I a Jah Jah warrior. . .
Jah make straight my steps”

Rastafarianism

Another Jesus
Skillet - Better Than Drugs

You’re better than drugs
your love is like wine
Feel you comin’ on so fast
Feel you comin’ to get me high
You’re better than drugs
addicted for life

This is Jesus?
Different Jesus
Skillet - Rebirthing

“In this womb I’m suffocating

Feel your presence filling
up my lungs with oxygen

I take you in
I’ve died

Rebirthing now

I wanna live for love
wanna live for you and me

Breathe for the first time now”
Rebirthing is a powerful breathing process that releases tension from the body, freeing it, so that we may live to our highest vision and unlimited potential. The breath is the ultimate healer. It is the Umbilical cord to the divine.

Rebirthing is called rebirthing because many times the suppression that comes up and is released is related to birth trauma.

New Age Definition

Different Jesus
New Agers Believe That

“What is true for me might not be true for you" and that everyone has their own reality and moral compass.”
“Christians have followed the culture and made it so that truth has taken a back seat to experience and experience is elevated above doctrine.”

http://www.christianhelps.org/rockmusic.html
John Michael Talbot

John Michael Talbot is a musician (57 albums). He is also a Catholic monk.

In his book, *Come to the Quiet*, he reveals: "I began practicing meditation, specifically breath prayer, once again. I integrated the use of Tai Chi and yoga."


John Michael Talbot is the top selling Catholic artist in the world, having received eight Dove award nominations and one Dove award.


The peace we have to find is the peace within ourselves.

http://www.conceptionabbey.org/TowerTopics/TTSummer2003/talbot.htm
Beginning January 1, 2008, "Oprah & Friends" will offer a year-long course on the New Age teachings of *A Course in Miracles*. A lesson a day throughout the year will completely cover the 365 lessons from the *Course in Miracles* "Workbook."

For example,

Lesson #29 asks you to go through your day affirming that "God is in everything I see."

Lesson #61 tells each person to repeat the affirmation "I am the light of the world."

Lesson #70 teaches the student to say and believe "My salvation comes from me."

http://www.lighthousetrailsresearch.com/newsletter021808.htm
Oprah Winfrey

“Oprah Winfrey has been spiritually educating her viewers for years. On Monday (March 4, 2008), she began offering formal instruction to more than 700,000 students across the globe....

A free, 10-week online class taught by Winfrey and Eckhart Tolle ... *A New Earth: Awakening to Your Life's Purposes*....

Some say Oprah has become one of the most -- if not the most -- significant spiritual leaders of our time....”

Nichole Nordeman

“I dig Oprah. I know in some Christian circles people can get a bit anxious about her rather vague spiritual status...but honestly, she just seems like a pretty super person to me. And, since Oprah has never claimed to be a spiritual guide or theologian, ... so yeah...I unapologetically dig her. ...”

http://www.nicholenordeman.com/article.aspx?id=435851
MercyMe

When asked “What about MercyMe?” I admitted I hadn’t check them because “I’ve heard songs that sounded fine.”

But I checked - On December 13, 2005, MercyMe performed some of their "Christian" music on The Tonight Show, hosted by Jay Leno. ...

And what song did MercyMe perform to spread the gospel for millions of viewers on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno? It was ROCKING AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE!!!
After reading the lyrics to their last two albums: *Coming Up To Breathe* & *All That Is Within Me*

A total of 4 songs out of 24 tracks mention Jesus. The overwhelming recipient of their Praise & Worship is directed to “You”. Which is quite humorous when you think about it – maybe it is true. The fans are worshipped more than Jesus.

After reading about Oprah and her “Faith”, Christians need to be more specific about the Jesus they worship. Oprah & Tolle talk about Jesus and spiritual themes much more than even MercyMe.

MercyMe also has no gospel on their website.
Acts 17:11

Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.
The New Age is in fact a free-flowing spiritual movement; a network of believers and practitioners who share somewhat similar beliefs and practices, which they add on to whichever formal religion that they follow.
Guilt by Association

“By attending Christian rock concerts, listening to their music, or buying the music, does not one identify oneself with their ecumenism and their false doctrines and become a partaker of their evil deeds?

The Bible clearly teaches a theology of "guilt by association" — see 2 John 10,11.”

http://www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/bdm/Psychology/rockm/satanic.htm
1 Timothy 4:1-2

1 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

2 Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

“We have so much scar tissue on our hearts that nothing offends, nothing makes us ashamed, nothing makes us sorry....”

http://www.gregoryreid.com/id179.htm
2 Thessalonians 2:3

...That Day shall not come unless there come a great falling away first.
2 Thessalonians 3:6

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh DISORDERLY, and not after the tradition which ye received of us.
Job 13:9

Would it turn out well if he examined you? Could you deceive Him as you might deceive men?
END