

**SECULAR MUSIC:
Yes & No**

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1

Defining the term

- SECULAR
 - “Denoting attitudes, activities or other things that have no religious or spiritual basis”

2

Defining the term

- SECULAR
 - “Secularity (adjective form secular) is the state of being separate from religion. For instance, eating and bathing may be regarded as examples of secular activities, because there is nothing inherently religious about them.”

3

Defining the term

- SECULAR
 - “Of or relating to worldly things as distinguished from things relating to church and religion; not sacred or religious; temporal; worldly secular music, secular schools”

4

Defining the term

- SECULAR
 - Neutral usage
 - Not about God or spiritual things
 - Not created for worship
 - There can be positive or negative secularity

5

Defining the term

- No real division
 - *Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. 1 Cor. 10.31*
 - *And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Col. 3.17*
- All activities are ‘sacred’ to the believer, but not all activities are ‘sacred’ in nature

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The Bible and Secular Music

- The Bible allows secular music
 - Relaxation/comfort/refreshment
 - I Sam. 16.14-23 - Saul troubled
 - Job 21.12 - everyday activities
 - Enjoyment/Celebration
 - Matt. 11.17 - music for celebration and mourning
 - Luke 15.25 - prodigal son

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The Bible and Secular Music

- Biblical Imperatives
 - Holiness
 - I Peter 1.15-16
 - Shunning wickedness
 - Psa. 101.3
 - I Thess. 5.22
 - Uplifting
 - Phil. 4.8

8

The Bible and Secular Music

- Biblical Imperatives
 - Not anti-Christian
 - Mark 9.40
 - Appropriate
 - Eph. 5.4
 - Uncompromising music standards
 - What does the music itself say to your spirit?
 - How does it make you feel?

9

How do you determine what a music style communicates?

- What do the originators of the style say about it?
- What do a broad range of experts/trained musicians say about it?
- What kind of effect does it have in your culture or society?
- What do truly spiritual/biblical leaders say about it?
- What does your own spirit/intuition say about it?

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