

Evaluating TV from the Biblical Perspective

By Jim Seghers

Proverbs 4:23 "*Keep your heart with all vigilance; for from it flow the springs of life.*" Reflection: Television lowers our resistance to evil. It often accomplishes this in a cunning manner by giving false messages that are hidden in an innocent or amusing format.

Proverbs 8:13 "*The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate.*" Reflection: Television conditions us to tolerate the presence of evil in our homes in order to achieve a little good, the occasional worthwhile program.

Colossians 2:8 "*See to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ.*" Reflection: Television continuously promotes a worldly system of values that either ignores Christ' teachings or ridicules them.

Matthew 24:12 "*And because wickedness is multiplied, most men's love will grow cold.*" Reflection: Television deadens the conscience to sin which it presents in a false attractive manner that disregards its true consequences.

Proverbs 13:20 "*He who walks with wise men becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.*" Reflection: Television develops a comfortableness with evil behavior and sinful viewpoints. Yet, few parents would allow individuals espousing those same values to have access to their homes and to their children.

Matthew 25:30 "*As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*" Reflection: Television viewing devours a precious resource -- TIME. Time is precious because it is given to us by God to determine our destiny for all eternity. Television, the great time waster, kills prayer, serious reading, and family interrelating.

1 Thessalonians 5:19 "*Do not quench the Spirit.*" Reflection: Television stifles our awareness and appreciation of the spiritual. It deadens our sensitivity to conscience and closes our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit. Television drowns out the Word of God that would speak to us in the Scriptures.

Revelation 3:16 "*So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of my mouth.*" Reflection: Television encourages a half hearted commitment to the Christian life.

James 4:4 "*Adulterers! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*" Reflection: In summary, television leads and encourages us to become an enemy of God. What more need be said?

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