

**General Topics :: Physical fighting as a sport (ufc, mma etc) should christian be watching this stuff****Physical fighting as a sport (ufc, mma etc) should christian be watching this stuff - posted by MityDisciple (), on: 2010/**

Liked to get some thoughts on this and scriptures that would clarify if it;s right or not...

Re: Physical fighting as a sport (ufc, mma etc) should christian be watching this stu - posted by sojourner7 (), on: 2010

In Roman times; they saw blood sport as entertaining, and watched as Christians were torn apart by hungry beasts or slaughtered by "warriors". Many Christians were martyred in this way.

Would Jesus watch blood sport?? Would HE be entertained by such savagery?? NO, no, NO!!

Re: - posted by IWantAnguish (), on: 2010/1/4 13:57

I've thought about this quite often as well...

The rising popularity of UFC and the decline of the popularity of boxing shows that people want more brutality; more blood, more knockouts, more broken bones.

I remember I was at a Christian gathering of perhaps 15-20 people... and somebody said they were all going to another place to watch UFC; and asked who wanted to come along.

There were some very enthusiastic guys who wanted to go; while a number of people refused... a dividing line seemed to appear in the atmosphere, between those who thought it was okay for Christians to watch things like that, and others who were adamantly against it.

One elder Christian asked them why they wanted to watch 2 men beat each other to death. And then later talked to me about how he was converted at David Wilkerson's church in Times Square Church.

I personally know many who profess to be believers who enjoy watching these kinds of things... and yet do not see anything wrong with it. And it's hard to come up with the discernment of whether to say anything and risk becoming labeled as a legalist.

Re: Physical fighting as a sport (ufc, mma etc) should christian be watching this stu - posted by SHMILY, on: 2010/1/4 1

In studying Isaiah last year the end of Is 33:15 seemed to me to relate to many forms of entertainment. Perhaps it is appropriate here too.

In context (NASB):

Isa 33:14 Sinners in Zion are terrified; Trembling has seized the godless. "Who among us can live with the consuming fire? Who among us can live with continual burning?"

Isa 33:15 He who walks righteously and speaks with sincerity, He who rejects unjust gain And shakes his hands so that they hold no bribe; He who stops his ears from hearing about bloodshed And shuts his eyes from looking upon evil;

Isa 33:16 He will dwell on the heights, His refuge will be the impregnable rock; His bread will be given {him,} His water will be sure.

Isa 33:17 Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; They will behold a far-distant land.

REJOICE! =>

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Re: Physical fighting as a sport (ufc, mma etc) should christian be watching this stu - posted by hmmhmm (), on: 2010/1/4 16:11

My first thought is back to the coloseum 1900 years ago about, where for sport christians where feed to the lions, but also gladiators fought each others. It seem the same spirit that enjoys watching Gods children being devoured by beasts, seem to be satisfied also by two men beating and killing eachother.

now i know ufc is not to death and regulated by rules etc. But still i am thinking of what makes someone interested in that? what is the spirit behind it? what is it in our human nature that find violence so attracting? i am very doubtful it should be from God and for our enjoyment, a sort of recreation to get "excited" about. Some scripture that comes to mind is.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are of **good report**, if there is any **virtue** and if there is anything **praise worthy**-- meditate on these things. (Phi 4:8 NKJ)

I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me. (Psa 101:3 KJV)

and this quote be one of the church fathers is worth of consideration.

Is it right to look on what is disgraceful to do? how is it that the things that defile a man in going out of his mouth, are not regarded as doing so when they go in his eyes and ears?

Tertullian

just my thoughts on this, i had a great interest in these things before i was saved, and after i felt i was to have nothing to do with that kind of thing any more.

Re: Physical fighting as a sport (ufc, mma etc) should christian be watching this stu - posted by Koheleth, on: 2010/1/4 16:11

Quote:
-----Liked to get some thoughts on this and scriptures that would clarify if it;s right or not...

Here is the only thought you will ever need: Would Jesus go and sit and watch two men beat on each other? How often did he do that while on earth (or anything like it)?

I know you and most people on this forum have enough knowledge to answer this question correctly.

Re: - posted by IWantAnguish (), on: 2010/1/4 16:11

I shall play the role of the average 'born-again' western believer in response to...

Quote:
-----Here is the only thought you will ever need: Would Jesus go and sit and watch two men beat on each other? How often did he do th
at while on earth (or anything like it)?

Don't judge me!

I am free under grace to do anything I want!

I'm saved so I can sin, it's okay, once saved always saved.

Re: - posted by TaylorOtwell (), on: 2010/1/4 18:03

I don't think so. I don't believe it is really consistent with this verse:

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

Re: Physical fighting as a sport (ufc, mma etc) should christian be watching this stu - posted by nasekom (), on: 2010/1/4 18:03

no.Christian should not watch that because Jesus wouldn't.actually violence was partially the reason why God destroyed the earth with the flood. Gen.6:11-17.

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2010/1/4 19:49

The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked, and his soul hates him that loves violence. (Psalm 11:5)

It's one thing if somebody is playing a sport that is a little physical and involves some rough contact. It's quite another thing to participate in a sport that's only purpose is to beat another person up.

Re: - posted by Areadymind (), on: 2010/1/4 20:17

To say that UFC is edifying would be the same as saying that fornication is edifying. Everyone already quoted a good s mattering of verses that I can only put my thumbs up to. Especially KingJimmy's quote.

I used to like UFC when I was in a backsliden state in my heart, and I recently took it as confirmation of the Spirits work i n my life when I heard a Pastor a few months ago talking about how he loved watching UFC and my heart sunk with grief and agony, and I had not even formulated some thought or even considered UFC since the last time I watched it, it just simply was the response of my spirit to what seemed so wrong. I had a hard time with hearing this from a pulpit.

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2010/1/4 20:50

It is interesting. I was visiting an unsaved friend and their family not too long ago. As I walked in they had the TV on and they were watching UFC. Having never watched it before, as I lingered in the living room with my friend and their family, I must say, I was absolutely grieved in doing so. It amazes me how DEATH is written on everything that is of this world. Yet, my friend and their family found such excitement in this "sport." And these people are educated and refined! They are upper class and have good jobs! Yet they shouted with joy as another man jumped on another and pounded him in the face with his fists! DEATH!

It is amazing what the world will fill itself up on when it cannot fill itself up on God.

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/1/4 21:24

Yah i have to agree with the brother about the pastor saying he enjoyed ufc, if i ever here a christian say they enjoyed th is t.v show or this ungodly movie or video game it makes my heart sink too. When the Lord first came in my life 6 years ago i remember no longer caring about anything that had nothing to do with the Lord it bored me, i would flip through the television and i had no desire for it anymore not even sports. What i think that was showing is somebody who was empowered in the spirit compared to someone who desires the things of the world as someone who is walking in the flesh. I do not think if we were strong in the spirit that we would desire anything on t.v unless it had something to do with the Lord, you would watch politics and just see the utter confusion and uselessness of it all, the answer to the whole worlds problems is Jesus Christ nothing else or more.

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2010/1/4 21:24

It is beyond my scope of comprehension how another human being will find it a source of pleasure to see another person being beat up! Even if it is faked or for sport.

ginnyrose

Re: - posted by MityDisciple (), on: 2010/1/4 22:54

I'm glad were pretty much all on the same page or (book) on this one. Thanks for the replies.

Re: Should Christians watch fighting? - posted by JoanM, on: 2010/1/4 23:33

Considering the different perspective Jesus gave on flesh and blood adultery compared to lusting after a woman, I wonder how some congregational meetings would look to Him.

Just a thought I had as I had posted a view from a balcony on the thread Fight of the Decade. That story wasn't quite what you were focusing on so I didn't put it here. Just an interesting coincidence.

Re: , on: 2010/1/5 11:11

Quote:
-----It's one thing if somebody is playing a sport that is a little physical and involves some rough contact. It's quite another thing to participate in a sport that's only purpose is to beat another person up.

Amen... I agree. Well stated.

In football every measure is taken to ensure that the players are well protected. It is not considered good sportsmanship to purposely injure another player. Football is about toughness, but it is about strategy. Players are penalized (and fined in professional football) for "unnecessary roughness".

In boxing and other sports that have spun off of boxing... it's about beating your opponent into the ground. There has never been anything appealing to me about that. Never been a fan of boxing... even more so the junk that we have now!

Real wrestling is different (not pro-wrestling, that's just silliness) because that is not about injuring your opponent, it's about overpowering your opponent. Jacob wrestled with the Angel of the Lord.

Rough sports? Sure. Sports that are about beating someone to a pulp... no!

Krispy

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2010/1/6 5:14

Quote:
-----The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked, and his soul hates him that loves violence. (Psalm 11:5)

This verse that Jimmy posted is one that stood out to me also a while back. I had been making cards to distribute with only passages from the Bible on them, and some art work. This was one passage that I had felt to print (Psalm 11:4-7)

I was handing them out to people and asking them about some of the movies that were being advertised at the time.

It seems to me that one of the last stages of degeneracy for a society is when lust expands to lust for blood.

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2010/1/6 6:25

Some time ago, and I forget their name off hand, but a secular poet once said: Violence is the new pornography. Of course, she didn't anticipate the advent of the internet and what it did to revolutionize pornography, but I think she does have a very valid point just the same.

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2010/1/6 21:04

Hi everyone,

After continuing to meditate on these things this morning, I wanted to share some more things with you all. The growing **love for violence** in our society is something that I've thought much about.

I remembered this morning the Psalm that says the wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God. And then I thought that this word translated hell has the meaning of or is sometimes translated the grave. That is speaks of death.

I thought that if a people reject the wisdom from God for expediency, or whatever else, that the end result is to love death (Proverbs 8:1,36).

I remembered how it is written in the scriptures that the life is in the blood, and I thought that those who lust for blood lust for death; the life is in the blood while it is in the body, but **to desire** to shed blood is to desire death.

I remember not long ago I spoke with someone on the street that was soliciting donations for children that were poor. I stopped to talk to him and learned a little about him and how he came to do that.

His motive was not religious, but that he wanted to do good and help others. We parted nicely and not long after I saw him again. We were talking this time about being good and what it means and he noticed someone coming down the street. He recognized him as a celebrity: it was one of these people from this *ultimate fighting championship* as this fight was happening in town on that weekend.

After he told me who it was, I asked him if it could be possible for people to be good, and love violence like that? How could that be? How could someone be good and love to watch such a thing?

When I moved here, I took a job in a warehouse at a clothing store. The store sold all of the most popular clothing. I remember being more and more disturbed by the clothing I saw coming in, as so much of it had a recurring theme: it was death, or the symbols of death, skulls, or skeletons, or pierced hearts with skulls and skeletons wearing a crown. It almost seemed ubiquitous.

I'll tell you a somewhat ironic story.

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This week I was on the subway, and some women across from me were talking loudly and cursing. A man sitting next to them spoke up and said something to them about it. He told them how he did not curse himself. I listened for a while and they began to talk about how they grew up and different ethnic people they had to fight to get where they were going. As he went on he made a statement that I thought was ironic - he said that his life was pure.

I thought it was ironic, because probably the first thing that I noticed about him when he sat down was the jacket that was wearing. The most noticeable thing of the jacket was a large bejeweled skull, wearing a crown, with a cigarette hanging out of its mouth.

Of the human creatures that God made, we have all known that, as far as nature is concerned, women are supposed to be more nurturing, more delicate, more caring and gentle.

But do you know that it is becoming common for young girls to fight each other? This weekend on the bus a group of young girls were talking about the fights they were in recently and everything like that.

And the movies and the entertainment of this culture? It is enough to become sick just to look at an advertisement for some of these movies. It is one word: DEMONIC.

And it is what the people of our society are feeding on every day.

Re: - posted by ChrisJD (), on: 2010/1/6 21:15

One other thing,

I had thought of this quote from a book that I read recently by Pastor Wurmbrand called *Marx & Satan*. From the title you can gather that a connection is attempted to be brought out between Marxism/Communism, and Satan and Satanism.

Anyway, this is the quote that I thought was appropriate here also:

'There have been many revolutions in history. Each had an objective. The American revolution, for example, was fought for national independence, the French revolution for democracy. Marx is the only one who formulates as his aim a "permanent revolution," terrorism and bloodshed for revolution's sake. There is no purpose to be attained; violence to the point of paroxysm is its only objective. This is what distinguishes Satanism from ordinary human sinfulness.'

Perhaps if the devil could not get Western culture to fall into Communist like dictatorship, he would get the west to embrace the same 'violence to the point of paroxysm', by means of freedom, the love of self, and entertainment.

John 10:10

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2010/1/6 22:46

Very sobering thread...

As I was going about my work today, my mind came back to this thread and what people were saying. Then I recalled something that happened many years ago, something I had not thought of for a long time.

I was quite old when I saw the first TV show that featured violence. As I recall there were 'statues' that morphed into evil countenances....at this point I soon left watching, being so horrified at what was on the screen.

As time went on I developed recurring nightmares where these scenes were being replayed in my dreams. This went on for a long time until one day I made this situation a matter of prayer and in this prayer I was led to confess my complicity in watching this sinful show....my innocence was restored and to this day I have never had another nightmare like this and I am very sensitive to seeing violence on any show. I hate it, will not watch it, even in a documentary - I will avert my gaze...

Just thought I would share this...

BTW, I find y'all's posts so encouraging. The scriptures so appropriate and helpful.

ginnyrose

Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiss (), on: 2010/1/7 2:24

I agree with these comments.

It is interesting that so many people in this world have embraced spectacles that are merely spectacles of violence. There is no point to it. I walked by a television in a lobby of a building once that showed a "UFC" type of cage fight. I just couldn't, for the life of me, understand it. What is there to see? What is the allure for watching such pointless acts of violence?

I used to pass it off as mere ignorance (or a characteristic of unintelligent individuals). However, I even met a PhD candidate from Oxford who was hooked on those type of televised fight programs. I truly believe that the cause is at least partially spiritual.

I agree with the application of those verses that others have raised in regard to this. II Timothy 3:1-5 talks about men in the last days who would be "fierce" or "brutal." These fighters and their spectators seem to fit those descriptions. Sadly, there is another form of violence that is just as harmful. It is when men brutally attack others (or treat others) without ever throwing a physical punch.

I have seen Christian debates (like on the website that was mentioned in another thread) where people rhetorically throw punches and insinuations in the name of God (or their particular notions of what God holds to be truth). It reminds me of those disgusting cage fights on television. I can't help but wonder if such divisive squabbling amongst "alpha" personalities might appear just as repulsive or quite hypocritical to outsiders and unbelievers who might be searching for the truth.