



General Topics :: Harlem Shake ... lewd suggestive dancing ... becoming popular amongst "Christians"

Harlem Shake ... lewd suggestive dancing ... becoming popular amongst "Christians" - posted by Lordoitagain (), on: 2013

Christian colleges and churches "shaken" by pagan craze

By now you're probably seen the viral "Harlem Shake" videos that are sweeping the nation with new versions uploaded to YouTube daily. If you haven't, here's how they work: First you see a subdued, well-behaved group or crowd. Suddenly you hear music audio declaring, "Con Los Terroristas!" A sole individual is then seen dancing while wearing a helmet or mask, while the others seem oblivious to the gyrations in their midst. When the song breaks into "Do the Harlem Shake!" the video cuts and shows the room filled with people in costumes dancing wildly and seductively. It is reminiscent of the Golden Calf scene in the Ten Commandments movie.

Here are students at The Cape Coral Vineyard Ministry:

Everyone's doing it, including Christian colleges, and church youth groups. Christian News Network has gathered video from Rick Warren's Saddleback high school ministry, the late Jerry Falwell's Liberty University, Providence Christian College, Kentucky Christian University, St. Louis Christian College, Northwest University and Cedarville University have all uploaded footage online of their youth breaking out dancing—sometimes with sensual and suggestive moves, and little clothing.

"It would seem that these institutions are in full sync with this culture rather than a witness to the lost," stated Pastor David Whitney of Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church in Pasadena, Maryland.

A video uploaded by a student at Cedarville University video shows male students dancing in their underwear, with two of the men making sexual poses at each other. One Liberty University video captures a student sporting a yellow shirt with the words "I pee in pools" as he gyrates on top of a couch with his shirtless friends. Another video from Liberty, entitled, "Two Men, One Dorm," shows two men dancing sexually with one male wearing only a pair of spandex.

"Weird that these are the same kind of LU kids that say homosexuality is a sin," wrote one commenter.

.....
Read more ... I wouldn't advise even clicking on the "Christian" videos (I didn't):

<http://standupforthetruth.com/2013/03/christian-colleges-and-churches-shaken-by-pagan-craze/>

Re: Harlem Shake ... lewd suggestive dancing ... becoming popular amongst "Chris - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2013

c3 church
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a00-cLOf13g>

brother, this is happening all over in many large churches, it is easy to say everyone doing this does not have Christ's spirit.

I do not advise any minors or even saints to watch these things either. It is just indescribable wickedness in churches in America.

This is why we have a burden for Gospel Fellowships to connect true believers in house Churches: www.gospelfellowships.net

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2013/3/11 18:37

This is just a silly dance. Personally, I think it is something dumb but it is just a silly dance. Those who are doing it in the church and recording are not using it to say it is God doing this. They are just joining in the craze of the dance itself.

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2013/3/11 19:02

Greg, that link you posted about Jesus and the devil and those youth doing that stupid dance. Although it is just a stupid dance I found that video very tasteless. What are youth leaders thinking in making these videos? Are they crazy?? If they are going to do this nonsense dance they really should take it outside and doing it in the parking and not in the church.

Re: - posted by Lordoitagain (), on: 2013/3/11 19:02

DEADn wrote:

Quote:

----- This is just a silly dance. Personally, I think it is something dumb but it is just a silly dance.

Personally I can't see anything silly about it.

Proverbs says:

Pro 14:9 Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour.

If it can be a laughable (silly) matter to you, you may not have ever felt the horror of the guilt of sin and godly sorrow that accompanies true repentance (II Corinthians 7:10-11).

DEADn wrote:

Quote:

----- They are just joining in the craze of the dance itself.

By "joining in the craze of the dance" they are making it obvious that they belong to the satanic spirit that is driving the dance. They should in no way deceive themselves into thinking that they are children of God.

Eph 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Eph 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Somehow these poor deceived souls need to be informed that the wrath of God is going to fall upon their "Christian" souls and they will burn in hell forever unless they truly repent of such evil deeds by trusting in the finished work of Christ.

THANK GOD for house churches and gospel fellowships that are getting away from the abominations that are going on in the official "churches" all across America!

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2013/3/11 21:30

Quote:
-----Greg, that link you posted about Jesus and the devil and those youth doing that stupid dance. Although it is just a stupid dance I found that video very tasteless. What are youth leaders thinking in making these videos? Are they crazy?? If they are going to do this nonsense dance they really should take it outside and doing it in the parking and not in the church.

My friend we need the fear of the Lord. This is an abomination before God. It is a pagan fleshly display. There is nothing funny or amusing about it if we love the Lord.

It is worldly ungodly music and something a person who calls himself a christian should not listen to.

In Christians and groups that condone such things do not have any sense of the Holy Spirit conviction in their lives.

Re: - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/12 8:44

not sure all the calls for hellfire to consume these dancers is necessary or even accurate, but the 'harlem shake' is no doubt foolishness and in poor taste. many people who are into doing this sort of thing are not interested in the deeper things of god and therefore are most likely unregenerate and lost and so not surprisingly they act like they are unregenerate and lost. you people get upset as these people as if they are brethren. they are not. they are unsaved, and as such we should pray for them. all the righteous indignation in the world never saved a soul.

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2013/3/12 9:01

Brother Mark,

Here is a burdened message from Wilkerson about these things, may we have wisdom to see these things are not permissible for saints:

But the real issue is not whether or not the New Testament refers to fermented wine or grape juice. The real issue is the abuse of it that is so prevalent today. Solomon had three thousand wives. At one time, Moses permitted divorce. God winked! But God does not wink when His laws become so perverted and abused. Look where our permissiveness has led us. So-called Christian discos, featuring beer drinking and dancing to Christian music. Rocking, rolling, drinking "Christians."

"...Lest they drink and forget the law..."

We are forgetting the laws of God, the very laws Jesus said He came to fulfill. We now allow a lesbian priest to be ordained in the Episcopal church. Homosexuals not only flaunt their sins, they boldly seek recognition and power within the church.

One million new divorces this year. Ten million kids victims of broken homes. Nude dancing in the church sanctuary. Liberal ministers mock old-fashioned biblical sex standards. They now tell our kids, "Masturbation is a gift from God to relieve your tensions."

And the lawlessness to end all lawlessness, some of our church agencies have been serving as fronts for anti-God, Communist anarchists seeking to destroy democracy - using the churches' missions money to engage in covert acts of violence.

Do Christians drink because of ignorance? Has no one challenged them by the Word of God? Do these new converts from the Jesus movement drink to prove they are liberated and not under law?

A young lady, a member of a Christian love commune, wrote to me recently and said, "Sure, we all drink. Jesus did; Paul did! The Bible is not down on it. Our leaders drink moderately. They are good Bible teachers and they travel, speaking

at youth gatherings." Yes - and I happen to know some of them also smoke. They mix Jesus with their heavy rock music , and only God knows where the compromise ends.

They seem to think that adding the word "Jesus" to anything sanctifies it and makes it all right.

You say - "Don't judge, David! What about the beam in your own eye?"

I am not anyone's judge. I have not set myself up as some kind of spokesman for any group. But Paul said, "We judge those within - God judges those without."

It's time judgment was called for! It's time all drinking Christians were challenged! It's time for the Holy Spirit to expose the looseness, the slaphappy "anything goes" attitude. If it's wrong for my dear converted alcoholics and addicts and prostitutes to drink, even moderately, then it is deadly wrong for mature Christians to drink and set a poor example for them.

And I get very weary and spiritually indignant when drinking Christians come back at me with - "Aw, you're just a fundamentalist, law bound, moral do-gooder. We modern, liberated Christians are free in Christ. We are not under law. We will not be bound by your attacks on our freedom."

That offends everything in me that yearns for godliness and holiness. That offends every young convert whom God has convicted of past drinking habits. And the Bible says -

"But whosoever shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!" (Matthew 18:6-7).

I refuse to give in to the mounting pressures of worldliness - in the disguise of spiritual freedom! What has happened to us, saints of God - when we can sit idly by and not rebuke the fast eroding morals in the house of God?

I believe in free grace, but not licentiousness. I believe in the imputed righteousness of Christ, by faith. But I also believe the holiness of God demands that we "touch not that which is unclean."

-David Wilkerson from:

<http://www.tsculpitseries.org/english/undated/sipsaint.html>

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2013/3/12 10:29

When I was a child back in the 50's/60's just the name Jesus brought me into the church, I was interested in that name, and all I had heard about him. Today, it's open season, anything goes to draw people into the building, but when some Churches have a budget of a small city, I can see why. If the name Jesus is not enough to draw you in, and sustain your interest, something has gone terribly wrong in the building.

Re: - posted by MaryJane, on: 2013/3/12 10:44

by SkepticGuy on 2013/3/12 2:44:51

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Greetings S.G.

This goes so far beyond foolishness or just bad taste. To see this happen among a group of people who claim to know JESUS, this is so heart breaking and sad, these are not young people of the world doing these things...these are young people who claim the name of JESUS doing these things. It should make us stop and take notice because something is very very wrong when young people that believe they are right with the LORD behave in such a way. You are right they are lost and deceived but they do not even realize this. Seeing something like this does make me want to pray for these lost ones. It moves me to pray that they would see through the deception they are in and repent. But it also makes me shudder to think what must be being taught in these places that these kinds of things can go on...I do think Paul and Peter would have had much to say and it would have begun with those in charge.

God bless
mj

Re: - posted by iceman9, on: 2013/3/12 13:44

Excellent point MrBill. Good post.

I would assume that the facilities were built for the purpose of a group of believers gathering to worship our Creator and Savior.

I have heard that in some these videos of this dance the people end up removing some of their clothing and doing sexually suggestive moves and such.

This does not belong in the Church or in the buildings built for worshipping Him.

What ever happen to Holy reverence for God?

Re: Harlem Shake ... lewd suggestive dancing ... becoming popular amongst "Chris, on: 2013/3/12 14:10

I feel I must wager in here and strongly object to some of the tone on this thread.

To make things clear, I think this whole Harlem shake thing is a silly internet craze, and I find it as ridiculous as I did that stupid 'gangnam style' meme a couple of months back. I for one think it is an odd thing to be recreating and I expect most of those doing so are unaware of the dance's origins. I personally have managed to boycott watching a single Harlem shake video, and don't intend to see any.

HOWEVER.....

I recently became aware that the youth group at my church did a version of the video. As far as I'm aware this was not done as a gimmick to get more to attend, but just as a bit of fun (and yes, odd fun I admit). It certainly did not take the place of the usual worship and bible study that take place at the youth group meetings. I used to help and volunteer with the group as a leader until this year, when I am now too busy with my work to continue to commit (alas).

It's a mixed bunch but I can certainly say that many of them sincerely love Jesus and are trying to live for him. The youth minister is a personal friend of mine and one of the most humble, loving and godly people I know at that church.

Now, I could understand if anyone were to say that any of these young people (or leader) are unwise or ignorant for choosing to do the video. However, to say that they are false Christians, or do not have the spirit of Christ, or are "Christians" (or another of the countless other judgemental insults that get thrown around this forum) is way out of order.

What on earth gives any of you the authority to pass eternal condemnation on such folks?

I posed this question on previous thread (at that time I was unaware that my church youth group were doing a version of the video).

Re: - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/12 14:37

thank u butters. glad sum1 said this very strongly. i was trying 2 be nice and diplomatic, but i think u said exactly what needs 2 be said. the judgementalism on this forum can be very thick sumtimes, and u sliced right through it. well done.

Re: - posted by MaryJane, on: 2013/3/12 14:57

I think prayer is still the answer for these young ones. When those in the church behave like the world there is cause for alarm. Of course I will probably be called judgmental but I am honestly beginning to think that is a complement. I imagine that Paul, Peter, and John would have been called judgmental also because they called for those claiming to follow JESUS to "live" as HE did, holy and righteous lives.

I think its sad that so many are deceived into thinking that we can still hang out with the world and behave like the world and at the same time walk with JESUS.

For those who see this as "no big deal" I ask sincerely if your son or daughter was in one of these videos, moving and making the motions with their bodies as some are in these videos would you be fine with it? Would it cause you to pause for a moment if you saw your son or daughter dancing so inappropriately?

God bless
maryjane

Re: - posted by twayneb (), on: 2013/3/12 15:45

I have never seen the Harlem shake, but I have had it explained to me. I don't think that the craze is problematic, but rather symptomatic.

I recall a church camp at which I volunteered to cook breakfast and do all of the handyman projects around the grounds and buildings. The director of the camp had structured the camp's theme around "The Hunger Games". It was a bit of a play on words as the hunger he was trying to get across was a hunger for the Lord. The problem was that the youth were intimately familiar with the movie. (I have never seen this one either, but I have heard of its themes and content.)

These things are symptoms of a church that is firmly plugged into the spirit of this age. This intimacy with the world, its entertainments, and its philosophies is the problem. The craze over the Harlem shake is only the natural and logical symptom or outworking of this problem.

It is not that we as believers should be unaware of what is happening in our society. We are not to be monastic and hide ourselves away. But we are to be careful that we are not active participants in the ways of this age and that we are not adopting as our own the philosophies of this age. We are to be in the world, but not of the world.

I think we as the church at large are too often unaware of the impact that this world is having upon us. We don't realize that there is a huge battle of philosophies being waged. Paul tells us that we need to be sure that we are not robbed of what is really of value by philosophies and vain deceits.

Being plugged into the life of God, into the Word, and into God's way of thinking will produce in us the evidence of intimacy with God, which will be peace, love, joy, holiness, the power of God, grace, etc. It will naturally cause us to bear the fruit of the Spirit as we have our roots in the Spirit. Being plugged into the world will produce in us the works of the flesh and the trappings of dead religious exercise, self-righteousness, worry, doubt, licentiousness, compromise, fleshliness, etc. The two philosophies are diametrically opposed to one another.

It is difficult, sometimes, to bring someone to realize how important this is. Deception has, bound up in its very definition, the fact that the deceived does not know he is deceived. I know many who, if I said, "You had not ought to be doing that.", would revolt against me and proclaim me to be self-righteous, judgmental, and unloving. In fact, they would proclaim me to be very un-Christ-like. I have found it best to simply proclaim clearly the truth of the word of God, and allow the Holy Spirit to use that word to divide between soul and spirit in their own lives. For a few that I know of, the light has begun to dawn and God is leading them into some significant changes in their habits.

Re: - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/12 16:14

there is a "the sky is falling" mentality here. the harlem shake is a fad just like gangum style was. gangum style is out of date already and its not even a year old yet. there will be something else to draw the ire of all those who find demons behind every shrub. not saying the concerns are not legitimate, just saying it is becoming increasingly difficult to stomach the judgementalism among some of u. a while ago after i signed up 4 this forum i cruised some of the older threads still available here. i read some where people here were questioning the salvation of christians who celebrate christmas. i am thankful that father god is my judge.

Re: - posted by richrock, on: 2013/3/12 16:33

Haven't posted in a while - but been lurking a bit. Had to reply to this as part of my job requires some understanding of internet 'culture' and trends/fads, especially viral and social media and knew of this long before it became 'big'. (Hope I don't sound too hipster there!)

Irrespective of what you may think of my post, I hope that some find it helpful to know something of its background - the Harlem Shake is historically a drunken dance - quote from the Wiki entry on it: Al B (originator of the dance move) is quoted saying that the dance is "a drunken shake anyway, it's an alcoholic shake, but it's fantastic, everybody appreciates it."

To perform drunken dancing in a church setting seems a little disrespectful to a Holy God.

Then the lyrics, which roughly translated:

With the terrorists
Hey Shake
Hey Shake
Hey, Hey, Hey, Hey
Shake, Ta. Ta
And do the Harlem Shake
Shake Hey, Hey

Shake, Shake
Hey
Shake, Shake, Shake
With the terrorists
Hey, with terrorists
Hey, Hey

Again, probably not something to sing in a church context. And what's with all the terrorist stuff?

Finally, consider that the artist is getting royalties from the lyrical samples he has stolen, if you understand the music industry in any way, uncleared samples are a no-no and a lawsuit waiting to happen.

Sure, it's a silly dance, rapidly becoming annoying - but think on this: If people attend a church just because they're doing a fad dance craze, what happens after? I won't personally watch the C3 church video because I consider it utter blasphemy to Jesus Christ.

As much as this is just a stupid craze (which a number of us would wish goes away quickly) the depths to which a church uses the world... I'm lost for words here.

Re: - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/12 17:08

Quote:

-----If people attend a church just because they're doing a fad dance craze, what happens after?

good post, brother. thank u.

i maintain that NO ONE who is unsaved attends church because the church is doing a fad dance craze. in fact, i think the world looks on and thinks the church is stupid when it does things like that. i would agree. i just stop short of condemning people to hell as has been done here.

Re: - posted by MaryJane, on: 2013/3/12 18:03

Greetings

After reconsidering my last post I feel that the person I was addressing might misunderstand my meaning and I did not want to cause any ill will so I have decided to remove it. I do not want to cause any strife and feel that I have shared all the LORD has for me to on this topic so I will just say I think praying for those who are lost in the world is the best way to respond at this time.

God bless

mj

Re: "condemning" - posted by Lordoitagain (), on: 2013/3/12 19:55

Quote:

----- by SkepticGuy on 2013/3/12 14:08:00

i just stop short of condemning people to hell as has been done here.

WHO has condemned anyone to hell in this thread???

When someone makes a statement like this:

Quote:

"Somehow these poor deceived souls need to be informed that the wrath of God is going to fall upon their "Christian" souls and they will burn in hell for ever unless they truly repent of such evil deeds by trusting in the finished work of Christ."

you are falsely accusing the person to say that he is "condemning people to hell"

Definition of Condemn: "2.Sentence (someone) to a particular punishment, esp. death: "the rebels had been condemned to death"."

When someone simply repeats what God has already declared in the Bible like:

"except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

or

"Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

or

"Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

That person is simply SOUNDING THE WARNING of what such people will be faced with on the REAL day when God

WILL pass the eternal sentence on such people and send them to eternal hell.

God has already declared what He will do on the day of judgment. If I sound His warning (as I should if I am faithful to Him), I am not declaring the final condemnation (it is not over yet ... that person just might repent), I am warning of what THE JUDGE has already declared that He will do!

Re: Judging - posted by Lordoitagain (), on: 2013/3/12 20:06

I really pity the masses of Christian people who have been duped into believing that Christians are not supposed to judge. I recently saw a cartoon (in Spanish) that depicted that situation:

The member is about to enter the church, and the usher has opened his head, and pulled out his brain, and he is politely saying: "Let me have this ... you won't need it here".

When a misinformed religious leader tells you that you are not supposed to judge, he is telling you to NOT USE YOUR BRAIN! "Just accept whatever we tell you ... If we say we are Christians and we act sincere ... don't measure anything that we do by the Bible and form any kind of conclusion that we could be deceived ... you're not supposed to do that ..."

Definition of Judge: to form an opinion about through careful weighing of evidence and testing of premises

Christians are INSTRUCTED to judge in God's Word!

Go to e-sword. Search the word "judge". You might be shocked at what you find.

Re: - posted by Anamosa41 (), on: 2013/3/12 20:20

Has anyone ever checked to see if they may possibly be letting the cultural mentality of acceptance influence their ability to discern? It is very easy to allow that to happen. I think we should all read Revelation 4 and recognize the glory of God. If Christians are the ambassadors of God, then Christians are called to reflect the glory of God. If you want to compare the Harlem dance to Revelation 4, you'll see there are only contrasts, not likenesses. Simple reasoning suggests this is not the glory of God. To simplify the matter, Paul says to do all things as unto the Lord. Understanding this will answer the question, "Should I be okay with Christians doing this?"

Re: - posted by andres (), on: 2013/3/13 1:03

very good point..Anamosa41..

the glory of GOD should be our prime motivation in all areas of our Life..

And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it

(Jer 33:9)

would it not be great if these young people turned off their music and picked up God's word at service.. and shake at his Goodness and Holiness...\

what a sight that would be... God please raise a up a generation that would stand for you and your Gospel...

andy

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2013/3/13 9:55

THE VISION

That night, David Wilkerson attended the concert. He arrived shortly after the introductions were made and stood unobtrusively among the crowd at the back of the grounds. It was a "festival" format, with no seating, and approximately 3,000 young people either stood or lounged on the ground. Few of these youngsters would have recognized David Wilkerson, so he blended anonymously into the crowd.

The singer stopped the music and, for a few minutes, testified to his purported "work for the Lord". When he concluded his

is "testimony" he made a reference to the Lord's coming and shouted "Lets rock!" (or something to that effect).

At this point, hard-core religious rock music blared from the amplifiers, and 3,000 youngsters started "dancing", their bodies writhing in contortion to the rhythm of the music.

Brother Wilkerson told Donnie that as he was standing there observing this scene, he suddenly came under the power of God, and fell to his knees. God then gave him a vision.

He saw the platform upon which the musicians were playing. And then he saw thousands of demon spirits rising up out of the platform and floating out over the audience where they attached themselves to many of the dancing young people. Then he saw the leering face of Satan rising up in their midst, laughing convulsively. "They think they're praising God," he said, "but actually they are praising me".

Dave jumped to his feet and began running through the crowd, shouting "Ichabod Ichabod" (Translated, this means "the glory has departed")

Brother Wilkerson was shouting at the crowd to repent, but there was such pandemonium that only a handful recognized his motive. A few who did understand dropped to their knees and began weeping. Dave then tried to climb onto the platform to warn the musicians (and the rock singer with whom he had spoken), but the press of the crowd made it impossible.

The sponsors of the concert were off to one side. Dave called them into a room, told them what God had shown him, and then left.

When Donnie related this to me, I felt a cold chill pass over my body.

Read more: <http://www.city-data.com/forum/christianity/1211945-david-wilkerson-christian-music-testimony-doctrine.html#ixzz2NQauybtJ>

Re: - posted by Sree (), on: 2013/3/13 10:52

Quote:

Quote:
----- by SkepticGuy on 2013/3/12 14:08:00

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Good post. A person with worldly wisdom cannot understand the difference you have quoted here between judgment and carrying the message about God's judgment.

For example - when Paul says in 2 Timothy 4:14 :- Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.

Paul is not passing Judgement on Alexander but conveying the judgment that God has told Paul that he is going to bring on Alexander.

If certain SI posters had read this letter during Paul's time, they will go and advice Paul not to say such thing against Alexander!!!

I am not here to judge these dancing men but I can talk to them about God's judgment, to show them how serious it is to be in the household of God.

Re: - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/13 11:52

oh boy, here we go again with the bizarre story of wilkerson at a christian rock concert (mylon lefevre and broken heart) from 30 years ago.

i have 2 bow out of this conversation now. i cant reason with unreasonableness. (is that a word?)

Re: A Better Way - posted by makrothumia (), on: 2013/3/13 13:00

Just a reminder that we are all called as believers to endeavor to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. The peace of Christ is to govern (umpire) our hearts. When two teams see a close call differently, the umpire has the final say. Peace should be the final say among believers in Christ Jesus.

We all experience grief over the way things are expressed at times, but even in the expression of our pain, let's be careful that we are not guilty of the same attitude we claim to be troubled by.

If we are truly troubled by what a brother or sister in Christ is not expressing properly, are we not to be gracious towards them as Christ is towards us. He does reprove, but it is always to restore, and His aim is always that we be made perfect in one.

I do not wish to spotlight any particular person, so please do not go looking for the source with a magnifying glass. Let mercy saturate even the consideration of the example I will reference. It does not matter "who" said it, we are all in the same need of mercy. It does matter that we all recognize the enemy's scheme to divide us against one another.

Here is an example of a less than loving and gracious response at what is perceived to be critical and judgmental opinions:

" not saying the concerns are not legitimate, just saying it is becoming increasingly difficult to stomach the judgemental

sm among sum of u."

Again, it is not important who said this, but please consider if there is not just as much judgment in the above statement as there is in what it attempted to address

makrothumia

Re: - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/13 13:18

i said it. (u didnt disguise it well considering that my spelling and style is unique)

we judge everything. what we do, what people say, what we eat. when i first came to this forum i had a lot of questions a bout faith and god. i was judged quite harshly by many here. 1 person took the time to answer sum of my questions. a si ster on this forum. no one else would, but many were quick to attack me simply becuz of the name i chose for this forum. so i think i am in a good position 2 be able 2 stop judementalism when it rears up, brother.

as time has gone by several brothers here have let their guard down and found out that i am not what they originally tho ught i was. so i will give credit where credit is due.

Re: You are not so unique - posted by makrothumia (), on: 2013/3/13 13:39

I really am more sympathetic to your groaning than you might realize. I am a self-confessed Pharisee, and I know many others like myself. I also know far too many who have been hurt by "judgmentalism" and have seen too many church fell owships splintered through biting and devouring.

What I hope to highlight is that simply "reacting" against the faults of judgmentalism by judging rather than loving intercession only accomplishes the enemy's work - discord amon g the brethren.

The accuser of the brethren need not fabricate lies, because too many of us are easily gullible to bludgeon one another with the facts.

Seeing a fault through the Spirit of Christ and pleading for light and revelation to be given to set the prisoner free from th e blindness is far more productive than expressing our growing disgust towards other brothers.

Even if they be "THE LEAST" of our loving brothers.

Re: - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/13 14:10

points taken under consideration.

Re: skeptic guy, on: 2013/3/14 4:57

Skepticguy, brother, this post is not about you but it is about what offends the Lord and how these despicable things also offend those who follow Him. So, please stop rolling your eyes in condescension of others. If someone wants to post so mething about a rock concert 30 years ago, so what? If you don't like it, change the channel and move along.

I try to picture what forum conversations would sound like if I was with a group of guys fellowshiping together. When I r ead what you say and put it in that light, it really troubles me. When we speak to others, whether it is online or in person, we should conduct ourselves as Christ would. This is the point of the other brother above who quoted you. Instead of rec eiving his gentle rebuke, you chose to react again sarcastically and missed a wonderful opportunity to humble yourself.

This "devilish" dance is offensive to many people and to them it has no place in the "house of God". Of course God doe sn't dwell in houses made by men, but this facility is reserved for the worship of the Lord Jesus. To then use that facility t o depict borderline blasphemy is inconceivable!!! How can those who claim to have the Spirit not be deeply disturbed by this? Those who put this dance on, are either so backslidden that the Spirit has departed from them or they were never born again in the first place. It doesn't really matter in light of this thread because what really matters is that the person w ho posted this was shocked and dismayed of how bad things are getting. We should be deeply troubled and humbled an d broken by this kind of thing and be crying out to the Lord for mercy.

We need revival folks...BIG TIME!!!

Re: - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/14 8:16

Quote:
-----This is the point of the other brother above who quoted you. Instead of receiving his gentle rebuke, you chose to react again sarcastically and missed a wonderful opportunity to humble yourself.

i DID accept what mark said. thats what "points are taken under consideration" means. are u looking for sumthing more from me?

i was going to respond 2 the wilkerson thing, but there is no point.

Re: , on: 2013/3/14 15:54

Nobody seems to have directly responded to my post where I mentioned my church youth group. I have since seen the version that the youth group made they and it is hardly 'lewd'. They are basically just dressed in silly clothes (certainly not suggestive clothes) and waving their arms about.

To suggest that they are hell bound (or backslidden) because of that is, frankly, ridiculous. Maybe their version was not like the original ones (which I still have no desire to watch).

Earlier in this thread it was said that nobody is condemning people in these videos to hell. -

Well, maybe not explicitly, but its heavily implied with terms like "Christians" (the inverted commas imply that they are not actually Christians) and saying that they are without the Spirit of Christ or even belong to a satanic spirit (those described like that in scripture are not exactly heaven bound).

I'd also like to comment on the subject of judgmentalism, as it's been talked about a bit:

Calling out sin as sin, correcting and rebuking, and even admonishing with biblical warnings is NOT judgmentalism, I quite agree.

What IS judgmentalism is declaring that people are not Christians, for reasons which aren't even scriptural.

Yes, there are strong warnings for Christians who participate in various sins in passages such as Galatians 6:19-21, Ephesians 5:5-6 and 1 Cor 6:9-10. However, in those lists I do not see those who participate in silly dances among the people who won't inherit the kingdom.

I find the whole book of 1 Corinthians quite interesting on this whole point - there was all sorts of dodgy, sinful behaviour going on in that church (that would make the Harlem Shake look like a picnic in comparison). Indeed, Paul warns and rebukes them, but he never calls them out as being false converts or "Christians". Indeed, at the start he says

"To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—^{their} Lord and ours" (1v2)

He doesn't add "and all those false converts in the church as well".

(The nearest he comes to saying such a thing is 15:34, where it seems that unbelief concerning the resurrection is the issue.)

To sum up, it is not the opposition to the Harlem Shake craze that bothers me here (indeed, I would agree that it is rather foolish). It is the eternal judgement on the souls of those who participate in that I find to be out of order.

I'd also like to discuss what exactly we mean when we talk about 'worldliness', but I think that's enough from me for the moment.

Butters, on: 2013/3/14 19:47

Quote:
-----Nobody seems to have directly responded to my post where I mentioned my church youth group. I have since seen the version that the youth group made they and it is hardly 'lewd'. They are basically just dressed in silly clothes (certainly not suggestive clothes) and waving their arms about.

brother or sister, do you REALLY want a response?....or is it just setting up a straw man argument for a little bit of cyber tussling?

i'm not trying to mess with you or be contentious, but do you really want A response...or MY response to what you testified?

i see that ole mess, and given the totality of the depravity of the WORLD, it doesnt surprise, shock me at all.....given the day and age of this evil generation, what surprises me is, they're not just outright copulating in these video's. ...please! dont start lecturing anybody about "judgementalism"....i seen video's from Africa with child "soldiers", taking razors, making a long nick to blow ukrainian speed in their arms, so they wipe away whatever was sweet in them, to take that AK-47, and just blow people away like it was a video game....

tommorrow night?...you know...the "thank God, its Friday" night, how much money is going to slid across a wooden bar, so folks can pour about a billion dollars worth of alcohol down their gullets, and then make this foolish lil dance, seem like Mr. Rogers Neighborhood?

tommorrow night, how many women, going get to get a beating, from liquored up boy friends or spouses? How many young kids gonna DIE from car crashes, coz they're out driving while intoxicated?

TONIGHT?....how many nuclear weapons lay silently beneath the waves in subs, or the ground in silo's, or mobile launchers, or the bays of bombers...oh, probably 20,000.....from Aug 1945 until this very second, why do you think it is, that we, humankind has not been subjected to the horrors of full scale global thermonuclear war?

do you honestly think that it has ANYTHING to do with the restraint and level headedness of mankind?

Its the Divine Protection and Love of a Merciful God, Who desires that none may perish, all day long He has held out His Hand to stubborn and stiff necked people.....but one day, even the LORD will just say:

'enough'.

and we will all be salted with fire.

so i dont understand at all why Greg and other brethern are been given the gears for calling sin, sin.

you know its like this, this world is just going mad, literally, and i dont think it unreasonable at all, that the dear children of God, Blood Bought saints, should yearn and quest for just one spot on this earth, their local Church, to the ONE PLACE, where Things are sweet, lovely, pure,holy...to breathe the Sweet Fragrance of Christ, without having to smell the stench of the world.

why is that so unreasonable for someone to yearn for that?...yearn for holiness?yearn for purity? yearn for true beauty?..yearn for righteousness?

why is that unreasonable?

Re: Butters, on: 2013/3/15 6:42

Hezwelling, I am somewhat perplexed by your response and I'm not sure you've actually engaged with anything I said.

Quote:

brother or sister, do you REALLY want a response?....or is it just setting up a straw man argument for a little bit of cyber tussling?

Yes, I do want genuine response and I am not the least bit interested in stirring up arguments for the sake of it. I can say, hand on heart, that I always endeavour to be sincere whenever I post on here (which is not very often, though I do visit a lot). I visit here because of the passion and radical commitment people have here for Christ, and I am interested to hear what they have to say. Now and again though, I come across a topic that utterly baffles me (this one is an example) and I'm trying to get to the bottom of the reasoning and rationale that goes on. I'm not sure what the straw man is you are referring to.

Quote:

please! dont start lecturing anybody about "judgementalism"....

Did you actually read what I put about judgmentalism? Where am I in error? I am not sure what point you were making by the long list of all the sin in the world. I don't really disagree, but I can't see how it's relevant.

Quote:

so i dont understand at all why Greg and other brethern are been given the gears for calling sin, sin.

I am nowhere criticising that. In fact I stated plainly that calling sin out as sin is not judgementalism. What I am saying is what my church youth group did (I can't vouch for any others) was NOT sin.

Quote:

why is that so unreasonable for someone to yearn for that?...yearn for holiness?yearn for purity? yearn for true beauty?...yearn for righteousness?

I have nowhere said (or even hinted as far as I'm aware) that any of that is unreasonable. It is laudable and is in fact why I visit places like this.

Re: Harlem Shake ... lewd suggestive dancing ... becoming popular amongst "Chris, on: 2013/3/15 7:52

Quote:

-----What I am saying is what my church youth group did (I can't vouch for any others) was NOT sin. butters

I believe the distinction you may be making here brother is a reasonable one to make. Paul encouraged Timothy to flee from youthful lusts and at the same time encouraged him with regard to a potential attitude which could arise simply because he was young, yet a helper of an Apostle. Sometimes youth does do foolish things and may even do it with a sense of intellectualism with no intention or personal moral involvement. It would be a mistake to condemn or else consign to all youthful folly moral intention which amounts to an intention to harm others, or else a circumstance in which the youth ought to have completely comprehended the inappropriateness of their actions.

The youth ought to be taught to flee from youthful lusts. But if the elders themselves do not flee from acquired knowledge through disobedience and an unwillingness to be holy, it is unlikely that many of the youth will be led to a holy ambition. In that instance what is required is a Timothy!

brother "Butters" pt2, on: 2013/3/15 12:45

Brother Butters, its neil...thats my name.

if it seemed as there was rancor, or any ill will towards you, that is NOT my heart at all. i went back and re-read your posts, just so i wouldn't be talking out of turn, or in any kind of unloving harsh spirit.

i write like i speak, and sometimes my letters seem more forceful than i really mean.

NEVER would i personally EVER term somebody a "false Christian"....OR "condemn" them to hell, nor am i some legalistic pharisaical tightly wound 'religionist'.

so there it is. God bless you all. neil

Re: brother "Butters" pt2 - posted by SkepticGuy, on: 2013/3/15 13:41

i would have thought this would have died out by now. the shelf life of crazes like the harlem shuffle are extremely short. give it time and it will fade and there will be something else to be upset about. but as solomon said "there is nuthin new under the sun".

Re: brother "Butters" pt2, on: 2013/3/16 14:20

Neil

I greatly appreciate your response, thank you.

I too apologize if anything I have written comes over in a combative way - it is certainly not my intention. I was trying to a) get to the bottom of some of the views expressed and b) challenge some perceived attitudes (which were more implicit than explicit).

It would appear that this thread had wound down for the time being, and I expect it would be unproductive to keep the topic going.