

**S**atan is an expert in deceitfully packaging sin so as to make it irresistibly attractive. How effective is he? Just consider how many Christians still waltz with the world through the media of Hollywood.

Mainstream Hollywood, the writers, producers, and actors, is a predominantly atheistic and immoral subculture. The themes of profanity, violence, sexuality, and religious contempt that permeate so much of the “product” sold by Hollywood is a direct reflection of its ideology.

The term “entertainment” often describes what Hollywood produces. But this term is benign and tends to disguise what is really happening. These people are not seeking merely to entertain but to influence. It is no accident that religious characters are nearly always portrayed as bumbling idiots, naïve simpletons or dangerous psychotics. It is a deliberate, calculated attempt by atheists to undermine religion altogether.

“Every commitment to produce a movie, TV show, or popular song involves an element of conscious or unconscious value judgment. The themes that turn up with such astounding regularity in our television, movies, and popular music have not been included coincidentally, nor are those sentiments drawn haphazardly from all points of the ideological compass” (Michael Medved, *“Hollywood vs. America,”* p. 33).

At what price are we willing to be entertained? Are we aware of the danger we face by exposing ourselves to ungodly elements for the sake of amusement? “Much of popular culture may be worthless, but none of it is devoid of impact. For better or worse, the values in every piece of popular entertainment, no matter how mindless, will touch the audience” (ibid, p. 34).

The Hollywood aura of celebrity stardom along with its Oscars, limousines, mansions, jewelry and physical beauty is intoxicating. So much so that we tend to overlook the fornication, drunkenness, arrogance, psychological instability, homosexuality and downright atheism that has historically characterized our “Hollywood Heroes.”

May we be more discriminating in our entertainment and more selective in choosing our heroes. (I would recommend Medved’s book for its insightful analysis of the “entertainment” industry. Mr. Medved is a movie critic.)