

No. 39      Avoid What Erodes Loyalty (Symposium)  
              -Improper Entertainment

[PLEASE NOTE: This talk includes a video]

HOW DOES IMPROPER ENTERTAINMENT ERODE LOYALTY? (3 min.)

[Read Galatians 6:7, 8; then isolate the following expressions]

*"Do not be misled";* a person is misleading himself if he thinks that unwholesome entertainment will not affect him spiritually

Examples: Books featuring erotic encounters; music and movies that promote spiritism, immorality, or violence; video games featuring sexual activity or violence (in some games, the player assumes the role of a character who acts contrary to Bible principles)

*"Whatever a person is sowing, this he will also reap";*

improper entertainment will eventually affect a person's actions (Jas 1:14, 15)

Long before that, however, it will affect his attitude and weaken his attachment to Jehovah

His treacherous heart may rationalize that viewing provocative, suggestive images is acceptable, reasoning that 'as long as it's not pornography, it's OK'

Such a person creates a conflict inside of himself because of his guilty conscience

He eventually becomes desensitized to what Jehovah hates, and the consequences of this cannot be evaded

HOW TO AVOID IMPROPER ENTERTAINMENT (3 min.)

There is a need to act quickly in order to restore a strong relationship with Jehovah

If a person has already allowed a measure of unwholesome entertainment to enter his life, he needs to "tear it out" despite its strong attraction (Mt 5:29, 30)

He may need to force himself at first, but with effort he can eventually learn to "abhor what is wicked" (Ro 12:9)

Note in the following dramatization how a brother comes to appreciate that loyalty requires eliminating even subtle forms of improper entertainment

VIDEO (4 min.)

WILL YOU AVOID IMPROPER ENTERTAINMENT? (1 min.)

As you watched the video, did you note Travis' resolve to avoid voluntarily viewing *anything* that fosters unchaste thoughts?

If we avoid *all* improper entertainment, we will be guarding against its loyalty-eroding effects

Brother \_\_\_\_\_ will now consider the next part of this symposium, "Avoid What Erodes Loyalty-Bad Associations"

TO BE COVERED IN 11 MINUTES