



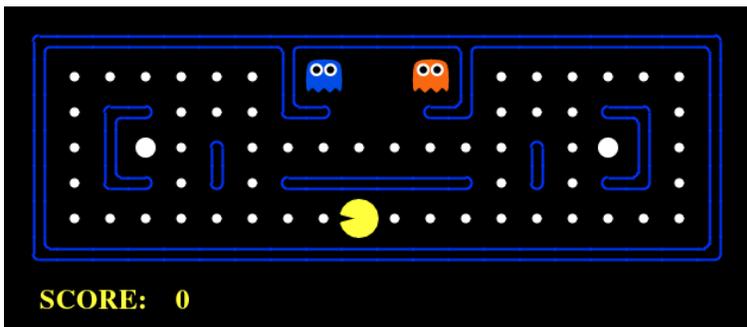
Video Games; Are They Biblical? Also, Television in 2018

Jeff Hertzog of www.jeffhertzog.net Friday December 7, 2018

All Scripture Quotes are from the Authorized (King James) Version of the Bible

As the United States of America has gone apostate, into depravity and down the sewer, I want to address the issue of video games being played and its effects on society.

I had my fun of pinball and video games back in the day (I am near 58 as of this article), the pinball games, bowling games, 8 & 9 Ball Pool on the pool table, air hockey, the Arcade games such as Pac Man, Tron, etc.



But should the Christian/Bible Believer; in the Age of Grace & Body of Christ, as America closes out 2018, with violent games out there today in the day of an apostate America play any games? Do they glorify God? Do they glorify the Lord Jesus Christ?

Should Parents who are Christians/Bible Believers make sure there are no games in the home as well as lead by example for their children (and the lost) and not play games themselves?

We need to examine this in light of Scripture as well as the current state of affairs in this one great nation; what is right or what is not right.

I listened to and took notes on a sermon on games from not long after the events in New York City on September 11, 2001 and things are gone a long way for the worse in the United States since that sermon!

Video games in the Bible? We don't find it; the Apostles did not play games! No computers, no technology! But let us look in Scripture to see how Almighty God wants us to live as Believers.

Remember, we are Ambassadors for the Lord Jesus Christ

- 2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ

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- **2 Peter 1:3 – 8**
 - 3** According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue:
 - 4** Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.
 - 5** And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;
 - 6** And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
 - 7** And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.
 - 8** For if these things be in you, and abound, they make **you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful** in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

How do we address this and the entertainment choices America has (And Developed Nations) and especially the Christian/Bible Believer Homes? God has an answer; we can come to the Word of God with confidence. Be warned there are many, many different opinions on this issue!

Bible Believing Christian if you play these games do they bring Glory to God and the Lord Jesus Christ?

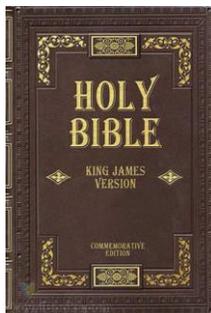
Lots of Americans in 2018 of all ages play games, especially in the age of the smart phone.

We need to have proper discernment in this field in the Age of Grace.

Believers and especially the young people will have to determine what is right in this field. Parents and young people have to make moral choices whether to play games or not, or even which type of games. It is also time to seek the living God on this matter!

I don't want to go through a history of video games at home and at places where the customer could drop quarters or dimes to play (such as arcade games like Pac man, Donkey Kong, etc. too many to list here) that was past and what I want to do is bring to light what is current in the close of 2018 as today's video games are more realistic then in the past.

In this day in the close of 2018 with a fallen nation, I see NO pluses to playing most of these games! I am not talking about the video games that Military uses for example the U. S. Air Force simulators before candidate pilots get into real planes or simulators that teenagers use for Driver Education classes as simulations regarding intoxicating driving!



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The Problems that are involved with Video Games.

1. Addiction – not hard to see; just like addictions to alcohol, drugs, etc., people can spend hours and it is hard to get them away from the game back to real life.

Addiction is Idolatry! Moses talks about this making it short and to the point!

- Exodus 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.

The Apostle John also made this short and to the point!

- 1 John 5:21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

Any type of addiction is Idolatry! Having a god before Jehovah Elohim! Takes us away from our relationship with God!

Very difficult to wean off the games! Secular studies show this!

- 1) Does you video games take you away from your time with God, Family, Brethren, Friends and Church?
You need to get away from those games then!
- 2) Do you think about the games during the game in your thoughts; how to beat the game, you can't focus on school, work, family, etc.
- 3) Is your mood affected by playing the games? Or when you can't play games? Or when you get interrupted? Do your children have attitudes, mood changes when they are asked to stop playing and do chores or something else?
- 4) Do you often find yourself talking to people about the games, online with others on how to win the game?
- 5) Are your children playing the games instead of getting their homework or Bible study done? They are choosing a game over reality.
- 6) Most gamers come home from work, play games until 3, 4 or 5 am; they drag themselves to work, very difficult to hold a job when you are staying up all night playing video games.

2. Video games are TIME WASTERS!

- Ephesians 5:16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Redeeming, buying it back. Nothing wrong about Entertainment or Recreation in its proper place, but Americans have made Entertainment their god! Entertainment is not real life! Just look at the enthusiasm and behavior at NFL Football, MLB Baseball and other Professional Sporting Events!

Most Games today take lots of time to master, time that is needed for your children to get homework done, or Bible studying, family home responsibilities, time to spend with family, children, work around the home, etc. Time is being wasted! A time waster!

If you take up 50 hours a week on games, what have you accomplished?

Our spiritual state, many believers want to play stupid games instead of the hard work of memorizing Scripture and our Daily Bible Reading! Tells us about our spiritual state, even taking 10 minutes a day to read the Bible has been taken off by playing these games!

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3. Video games distract & take us away from important areas of life

- **1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour**

If Satan can get our attention of what of the things that are really matter in this life then he has won as we have become sleepy believers and failed in our walk with God! Character is not being built due to the playing games, which is meaningless. Adults are not exempt!

Marriages have been thrown away over playing video games! Example: “me (spouse)” over the video game! BTW, the many hours wasted playing these games; you could be reading your Bible to your kids, teaching your kids, growing food so you can use that food to feed your family, etc.

4. Video games are NOT beneficial to spiritual growth do they help draw us closer to God?

- **1 Peter 1:14 – 15**
14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:
15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in **all manner of conversation;**

How does this game make us holy? Do the games make us opposite to the Lord Jesus Christ, and hurting our Christian Character?

5. Harmful to your physical condition when played to excess, your eyes & body! Get out and exercise as America has become an obese nation!

Playing these games for long periods of time can cause problems to the eyes, back your body

- **1 Timothy 4:8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.**

We have couch potatoes and video game junkies in this once great nation!

A few died of exhaustion, playing over 24 hours. I encourage you to take the time and do the research!

Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost

- **1 Corinthians 6:19 – 20**
19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Is it glorifying God for you to stay up all night playing video games? Does it help you're your physical health? Even watching TV; same concept!

6. Promotes wickedness by pretending to be involved with it

- **Ephesians 5:11 – 12**
11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.
12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.

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Christian Parents, you need to throw away these games, in fact, **NEVER GET THEM NOR ALLOW YOUR KIDS TO GET THEM!** Many things you would never allow your children to talk about or discuss at supper time (at the dinner table) in the form of their character on the video game! Remember the game Grand Theft Auto from 2002? (Bad man working for the mob! I won't go any further with the rules of the game, but your children playing this game pick up virtual prostitutes, profanities, stealing cars, assassinations, etc.) Shows even back then (in 2002) that there is something wrong!

7. Money wasters & pirating games. Those who are not spending money on them, they most likely are stealing them!

- Proverbs 18:9 He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

People who are sloths tend to like video games! Keep in mind not all video game players are sloths!

When you conquer a game, you buy another one, etc.

Those who don't buy the games, they are **STEALING THEM!** Pirating them! Christian, if you are getting games for free from those who pirate the software, it is illegal, copyright laws are being violated and you are participating in **STEALING!**

- Exodus 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

When you buy these games, you are taking money that needs to support your family and the work of the Lord in your local church and/or ministry! Those games do not buy food, shelter, clothing nor contribute to spreading the Gospel, you need to remember that the eternal soul of every person is on the line!

8. They encourage violence

- Proverbs 1:15 – 16

15 My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:

16 For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.

Your kids might try to justify these games; "It's not real, it's a game", nonsense! It encourages violence, when you do it in a game; you most likely are doing it in your heart! Look at the violent aggression within our youth today! If parents are playing games, what are you teaching your kids? The youth of America are playing these games, acting these violent acts out on a screen, and then acting it out in real life. A constant exposure to virtual violence will numb your mind and encourage real violence! A **PERFECT** example of what I have been saying is an incident from early 2002. A young man in Whitehall Township (North of Allentown), Lehigh County Pennsylvania threw down an 18 pound chunk of ice down, standing off a bridge at a car U.S. Route 22, killing a woman!

This 15 year old male (who served time until age 21) could not associate that an 18 pound chunk of ice is going through a windshield and kill! The article is linked below. Something definitely is not connecting here!

http://articles.mcall.com/2003-01-05/news/3461443_1_overpass-state-police-windshield-and-roof and <http://6abc.com/archive/5987080/>

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9. Most video games use plenty of profanity & vulgarity in some way (Grand Theft Auto is an example)

- 2 Timothy 2:16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness.
- Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.
- Colossians 3:8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

Why would parents allow our children to play these games which have vulgarity and profanity and then not tolerate them saying the same filthy language at the dinner table?

Parents, be careful to what you allow in your home! Applies also to the Television, Radio & the Internet!

10. Accompanied by Dangers of pornography and wrong music!

- Ephesians 5:15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

It is common knowledge that the gaming community online is pornographic! These types of games lead to spending time on pornographic websites on the internet!

Music Soundtracks from the games; would you play these songs at your house while entertaining guests and friends or even having your Home-style Bible Study?

Conclusion: NO GAMES IN YOUR HOME! If you have them, Burn them! (Or destroy them!)

- Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Television in the Home

I want to address the filth and rot that is on the Television and even on Radio. As some would call "News and Talk Radio Junkie" most of my adult life, let's just say for now, if there were no News, Weather, Talk and Radio on the TV, I would of thrown the TV out a long time ago and even these days in 2017 with Talk Radio Shows you have to discern what you want your children to listen to!

The Television issue is a no brainer. The obscene language on the shows, the "reality" shows that portray fighting, violence, disrespect towards parents and authority, sex, fornication, adultery, sodomy, bestiality, immodest dress, anti-Christian views, anti-American views, etc. should definitely be enough there for the parents to not have a TV in their home! If we will not invite certain people into our home because of foul language or immodest dress, we ought to see that the same does not come into our home by way of the television.

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Parents have no business allowing their children to have a television of their own and watch shows unsupervised, which to me is just as much an abomination as leaving your children home alone while the parents are at church “serving the Lord”! Much better for the children to read the Bible and wholesome books! Think and consider the education and intelligence of previous generations before TV & Radio!

- King David said in Psalms 101:2 – 3
2 I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.
3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me. It may surprise you to learn that there is life after television.

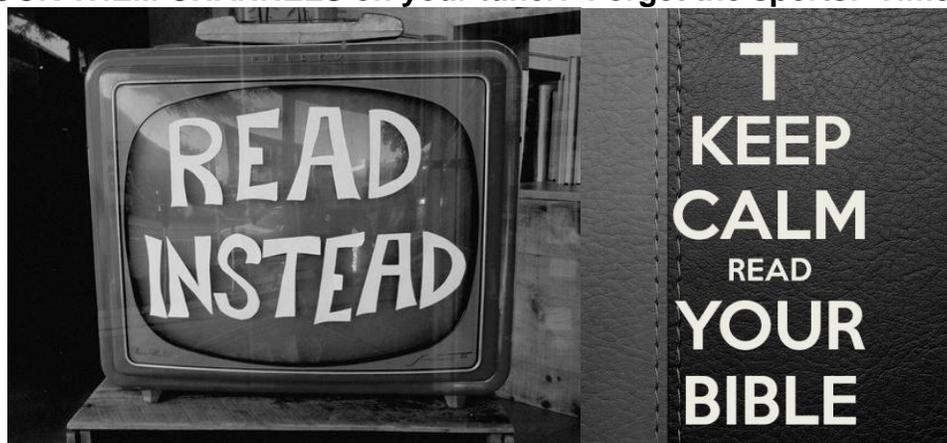
Men, if you are not educating your children, you are disobeying and shirking your God given responsibilities! You are supposed to be ensuring your children are reading their Bibles and getting a proper education.

- 1 Timothy 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel

Conclusion: BEST NOT TO HAVE ANY TV/TV's IN YOUR HOME!

A radio with a remote and the internet with a monitor is all you need for news and the weather. The computer, radio, cellphone, I-pod. CD player and cassette player should all be regulated and monitored by Dad. Rock and roll music should never be allowed in the home. Television should not be allowed in your child's bedroom. Your children (minor children, under 18 years of age) do not have the freedom to do as they please in your home. BTW, your children do NOT need cell phones, if you insist they have one, get the flip phones, no “smart phones”, and no internet access on the phone, etc. and only for calling 911!

If you have to have one, do not hook cable up, YOU the parent have and keep the controls and tuners. Hook up a DVD to the TV and YOU have the children watch wholesome and educational documentaries and have the BIBLE ON IT! BUT, if you have to have Cable News and weather, LOCK THEM CHANNELS on your tuner! Forget the sports! Time wasters!



Jeff Hertzog of www.jeffhertzog.net