INPUTS

Inputs

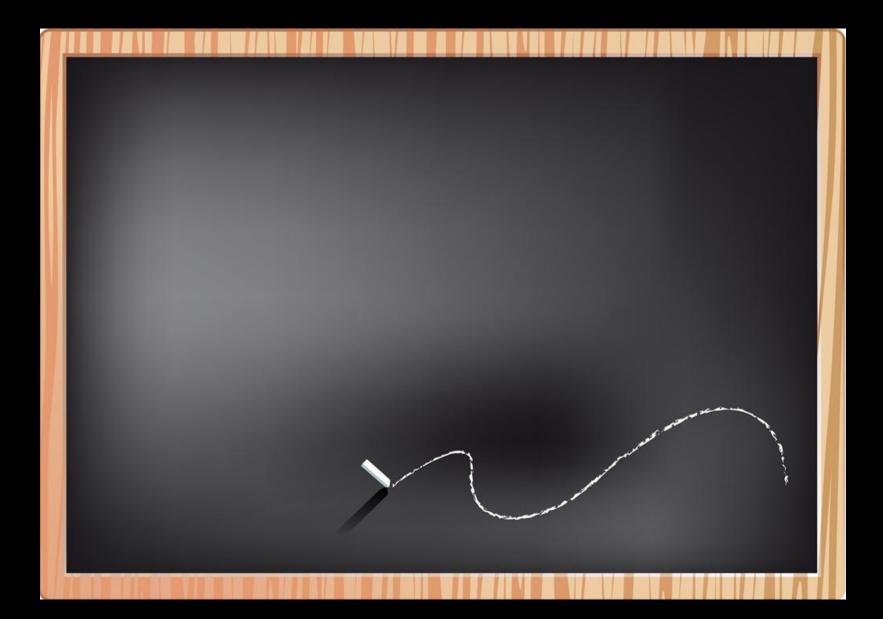
Past Sunday ... gird up the loins of your mind (1:13).

Past Sunday ... as obedient children (1:14).

Past Sunday ... not fashioning yourselves (1:14).

Past Sunday ... Be ye holy; for I am holy (1:16).

You cannot achieve even one without ruling inputs.



Blank Slate

- You are totally depraved to sin since your conception.
- There is nothing good or holy whatsoever in anyone.

Yet, children can be taught the fear of God (Ps 34:11).

• Yet, children can be taught the right way (Pr 22:6,15).

• Differing children is largely parental effort (Pr 29:15-17).

Inputs (1)

You have heard this term many times from me.

You were born with a blank slate for your mind.

No habits or thoughts beyond depraved instinct.

By a steady stream of inputs you are you today.

• These inputs, for good or bad, greatly affect your life.

Inputs (2)

We allow many liberties without strict manmade rules.

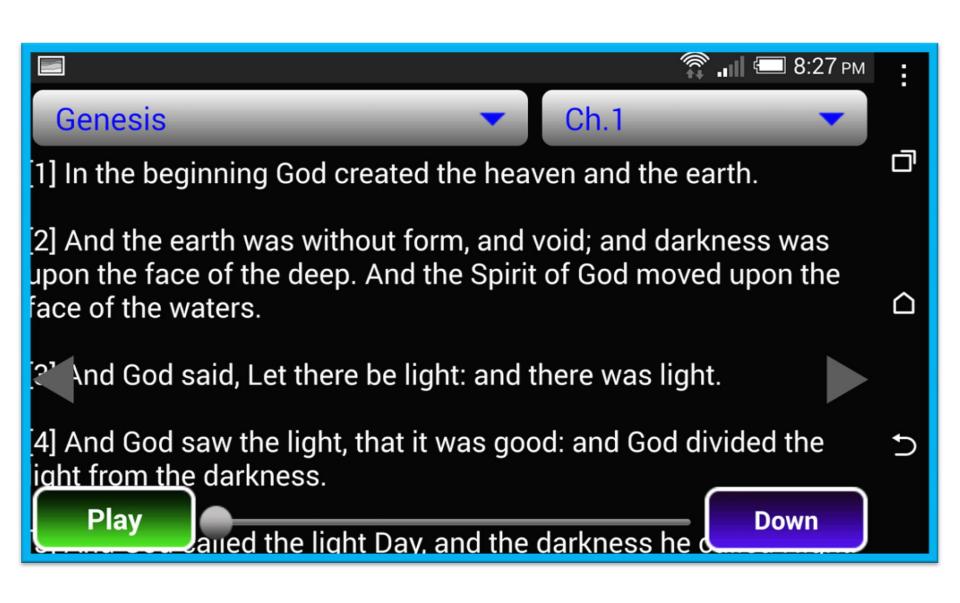
Yet, liberty under grace does not allow for your flesh.

The inputs here are for parents first and then children.

To the degree you cheat on them, you fail before God.

The two men inside you need to be fed or starved.





The Bible (1)

• The Bible is a book like no other – it is spiritual food.

Man cannot live by bread alone – he needs the Bible.

God's words from the Bible build faith (Rom 10:17).

His words from the Bible work effectually (1 Thes 2:13).

Only meditative reading to find God and truth works.

The Bible (2)

Less is usually better than more to analyze and delight.

We have a simple program to read one chapter a day.

You should read prayerfully to understand (Ps 119:18).

There are 168 hours in a day ... your priorities rule.

God the Holy Spirit will feed and fill you by His words.

The Bible (3)

"Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food" (Job 23:12).

"And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God" (Luke 4:4)

"Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart" (Ps 119:111).

The Bible (4)

- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect, <u>converting the soul</u>: the testimony of the LORD is sure, <u>making wise the simple</u>.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, <u>rejoicing the heart</u>: the commandment of the LORD is pure, <u>enlightening the eyes</u>.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, <u>enduring for ever</u>: the judgments of the LORD are <u>true and righteous altogether</u>.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
- 11 Moreover by them is thy servant <u>warned</u>: and in keeping of them there is <u>great reward</u>.

Psalm 19:7-11

What if we began to treat our Bibles the way we treat our cell phones?

What if we...

...carried it with us everywhere?

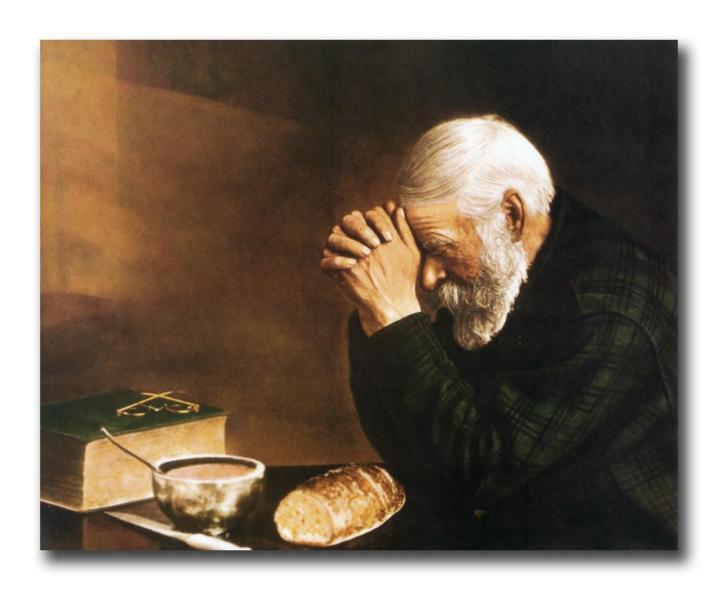
...turned back to get it if we forgot it?

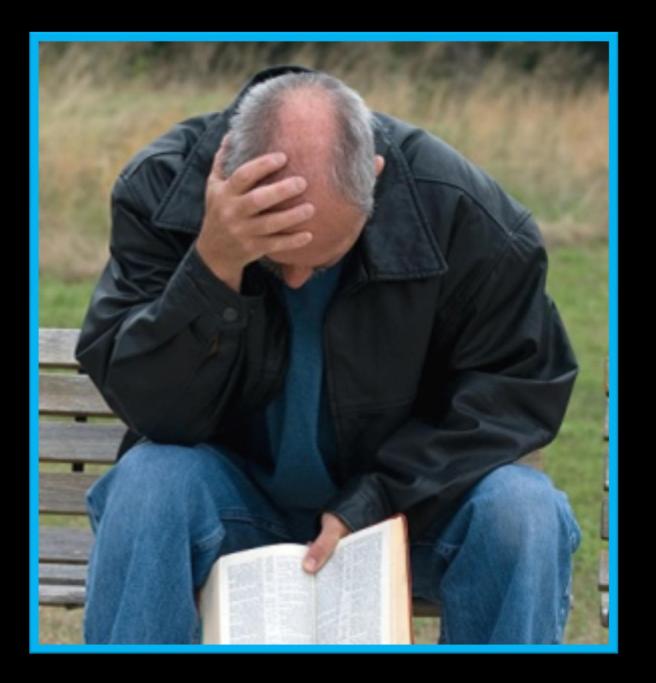
...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of an emergency?

...spent an hour or more using it each day?









Prayer (1)

This is much more than thanking God before meals.

This is much more than asking God for a carnal need.

This is prayer to meet God for worship and praise.

This is intimate prayer for fellowship and confession.

• If needing words, pray a Psalm or Psalm 119 verse.

Prayer (2)

Some say that prayer is the language of the soul.

A key is emphasizing spiritual requests over carnal.

This is the obvious activity of walking with God.

Fasting can be added to show Daniel-like sincerity.

Not a mere routine, it should be personal pleasure.

Prayer (3)

"Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice" (Ps 55:17).

"Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime" (Dan 6:10).

Prayer (4)

"And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God" (Luke 6:12).

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, <u>pray to thy Father which is in secret</u>; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly" (Matt 6:6).





Friends (1)

Peer influence and pressure are powerful forces.

The desire to be loved and accepted easily corrupts.

You will not rise above your friends, so be very strict.

Bad friends include Christians w/o Bible convictions.

Friends are a secret source of folly outside parents.

Friends (2)

A good friend, a holy friend, can be a powerful help.

• Friends like David and Jonathan help in God (I Sa 23:16).

• Foolish or evil friends will corrupt your life (1 Cor 15:33).

Amnon needed a real friend, not wicked Jonadab.

Ahab needed a real friend, not wicked Jezebel.

Friends (3)

"Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding" (Pr 9:6).

"He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but <u>a</u> companion of fools shall be destroyed" (Pr 13:20).

"Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge" (Pr 14:7).

Friends (4)

"But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight" (Ps 16:3).

"I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers. I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked" (Ps 26:4-5).

"I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts" (Ps 119:63).

Friends (5)

- 4 <u>A froward heart</u> shall depart from me: I will not know <u>a wicked person</u>.
- 5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.
- 6 Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me.
- 7 He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.
- 8 I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD.















Bush Arbor Primitive Baptist Singing School, Class of 1903. The church in the background was torn down about 1950 and replaced by the present brick structure. The school was conducted for about a week by Eugene Stanfield (front row, second from left, with mustache and derby hat) and by "professor" Simmons (front row, fifth from left, with glasses and watch chain). Stanfield was from Caswell County while Simmons was from near Reidsville. They conducted such schools for a small fee. They usually rode bicycles, but when the roads were muddy the churches provided transportation by buggy. These two men conducted singing schools over a wide area, including Griers Presbyterian Church, Hebron Methodist, Concord Christian, Leasburg, Bethel, and elsewhere.

Music (1)

Music is a powerful force of influence internally.

If language of the soul ... what does your music say?

- It is not neutral in affecting you in thought and deed.
- Your body is God's temple ... let only temple music in!
- Perfecting holiness in flesh and spirit sets the bounds.

Music (2)

Music destroys many; the British invasion worked!

Any kind of music is more accessible today than ever.

- Any volume of any music is more available than ever.
- The best criteria or test is ... fruit ... source ... intent.

What is the character of artist and audience of music?

Music (3)

Why does it seem strange to limit music to Christian?

How many hours did David listen to brothel music?

The man like God knew music far better than you.

Music is everywhere, and we should guard this input.

Holiness is extreme and severe – we must be holy.

Music (4)

"And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that <u>David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed</u>, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him" (I Sam 16:23).

"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms" (James 5:13).

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the <u>friendship of the world is enmity with God?</u> whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4).

Music (5)

"O <u>sing unto the LORD</u> a new song: <u>sing unto the LORD</u>, all the earth. <u>Sing unto the LORD</u>, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day" (Ps 96:1-2).

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in <u>psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord</u>. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Col 3:16-17).







Television (1)

• It is one of the most destructive inputs you face.

- It is an enticing and addicting input that creates habits.
- Hollywood is Satan's pulpit to glamorize sin enticingly.

When you cannot see overt evil, it is faithless living.

It thinks for you ... Satan's thoughts ... without a girdle!

Television (2)

- If you "vegetate" with television, it brainwashes you.
- The combined audio/video production is mesmerizing.
- The designed suspense keeps you glued to the drama.
- The soundtrack plays on your emotions throughout.
- It must be ruled with an iron fist ... or an iron hammer!

Television (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."

Psalm 101:3

"Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way" (Ps 119:37).

"Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but <u>have pleasure</u> in them that do them."

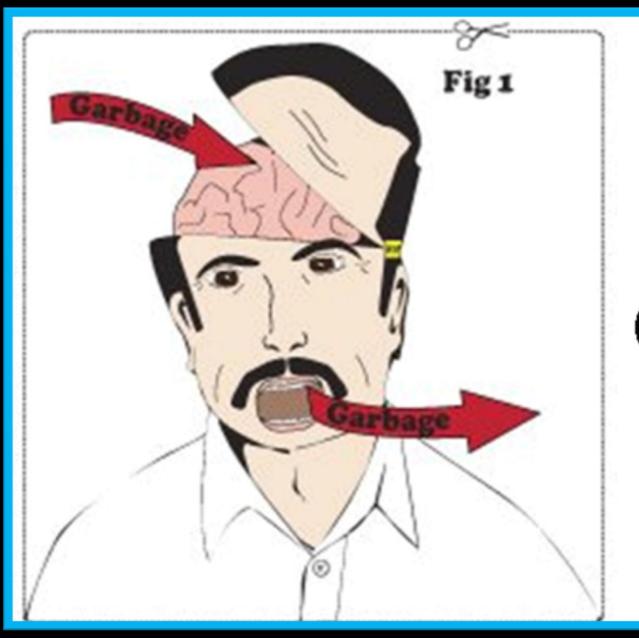
Romans 1:32

Television (4)

- 1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, <u>nor sitteth</u> in the seat of the scornful.
- 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

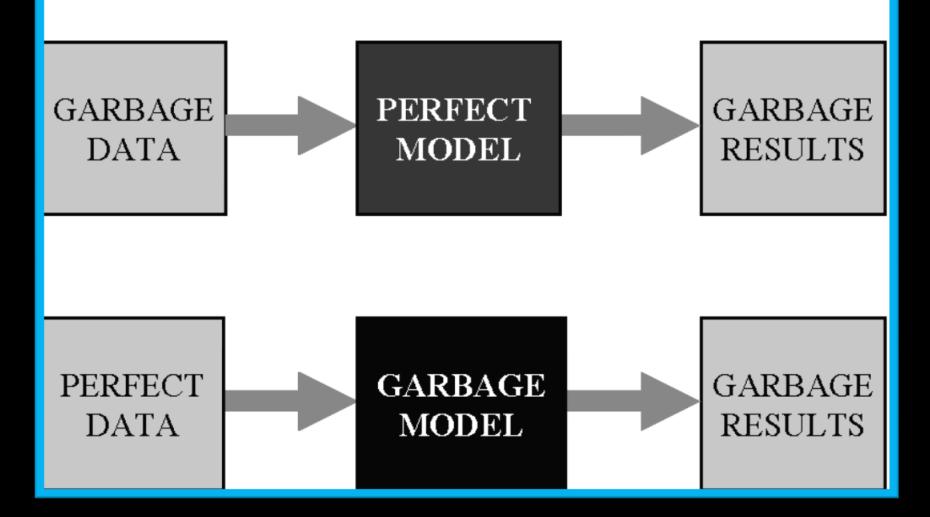
Psalm 1:1-2

"But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Matt 5:28).

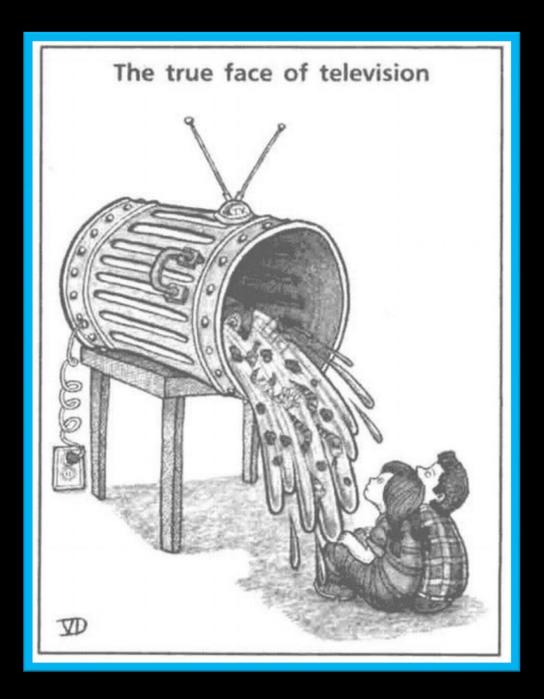


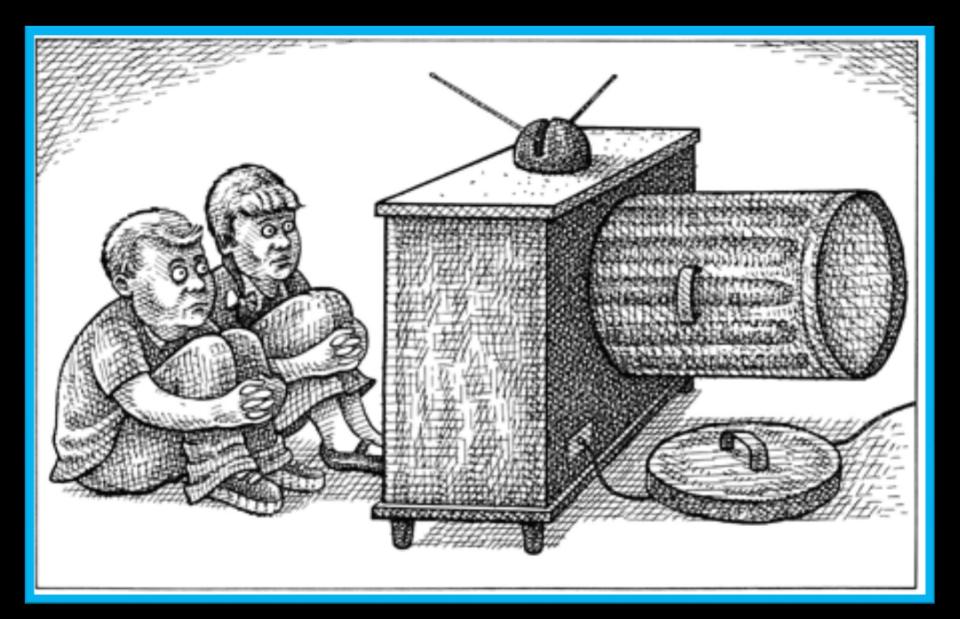
MODEL CALCULATIONS

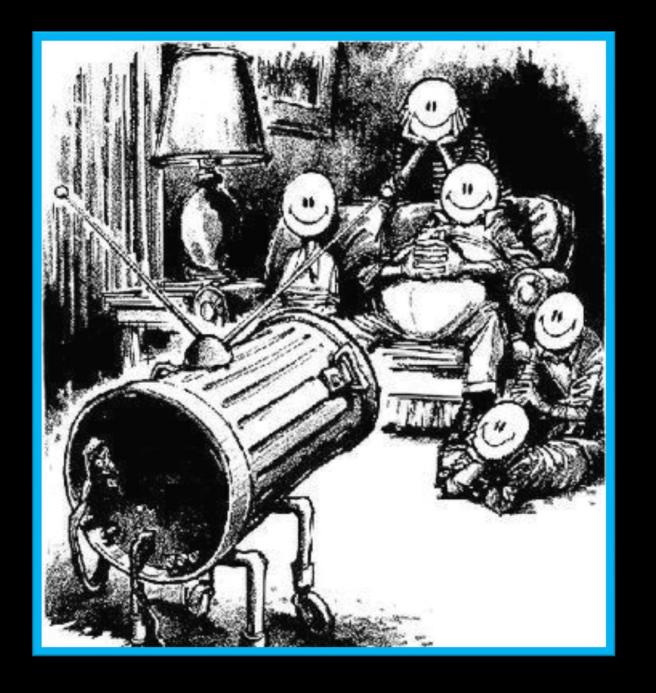
"Garbage In-garbage Out" Paradigm













Review the Big Five

• Bible reading ... meditatively, every day.

Prayer ... intimate and worshipful, every day.

Friends ... only those who glorify God and help you.

Music ... only that glorifies God and teaches grace.

<u>Television</u> ... avoid Satan in Hollywood entertainment.

More Inputs (1)

- <u>Texting</u> ... leads to foolish talking, jesting, superficiality.
- Talk radio ... compare it to Bible authority and sobriety.

- ESPN ... never a thought above beasts and carnality.
- Shopping ... compare going to Aldi or Haywood Mall.
- Schooling ... public zoo or private or home education.

More Inputs (2)

- <u>Doctors</u> ... what is their philosophy, source, and effect.
- Alcohol ... allowed by liberty but dangerous for inputs.
- Family ... influence of unconverted family members.
- Restaurants ... compare attire, music, venue, staff, etc.
- Internet ... a great blessing or a terrible curse by choice.

More Inputs (3)

These further ten inputs are not strictly off-limits.

They are reminders of what affects heart and mind.

But they must be considered and ruled if corrupting.

Holiness is extreme and severe – we must be holy.

A truly godly man will sense or see evil and avoid it.

Conclusion (1)

- Never have inputs been more prevalent or pervasive.
- To the degree you cheat on them, you fail before God.
- The Bible can be read or heard more easily than ever.
- But music and television are a thumb tap away 24/7.

Are you pitching your tent toward Sodom? Run away!

Conclusion (2)

You cannot be a great Christian without ruling inputs.

God and the world are at war – whose side are you on?

- God hates the world enjoying it is spiritual adultery.
- You lose joy and love of Christ by playing with inputs.
- Are you pitching your tent toward Sodom? Run away!

For Further Study

- Techno Sins ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/techno-sins.pdf.
- Friends ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/friends.pdf.
- Two Men Fighting Inside ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/two-men-fighting-inside.pdf.
- Keeping the Heart ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/keeping-the-heart.pdf.
- Your Thoughts Can Destroy You ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/your-thoughts-can-destroy-you.pdf.
- Total Depravity ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/total-depravity.pdf.
- Jesus Is Lord ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/christ/he-is-lord-of-all/sermon.php.
- Your Body Is the Lord's ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/your-body-is-the-lords.pdf.
- Heart of David ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/heart-of-david.pdf.
- A Pure Heart ... http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/a-pure-heart.pdf.
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