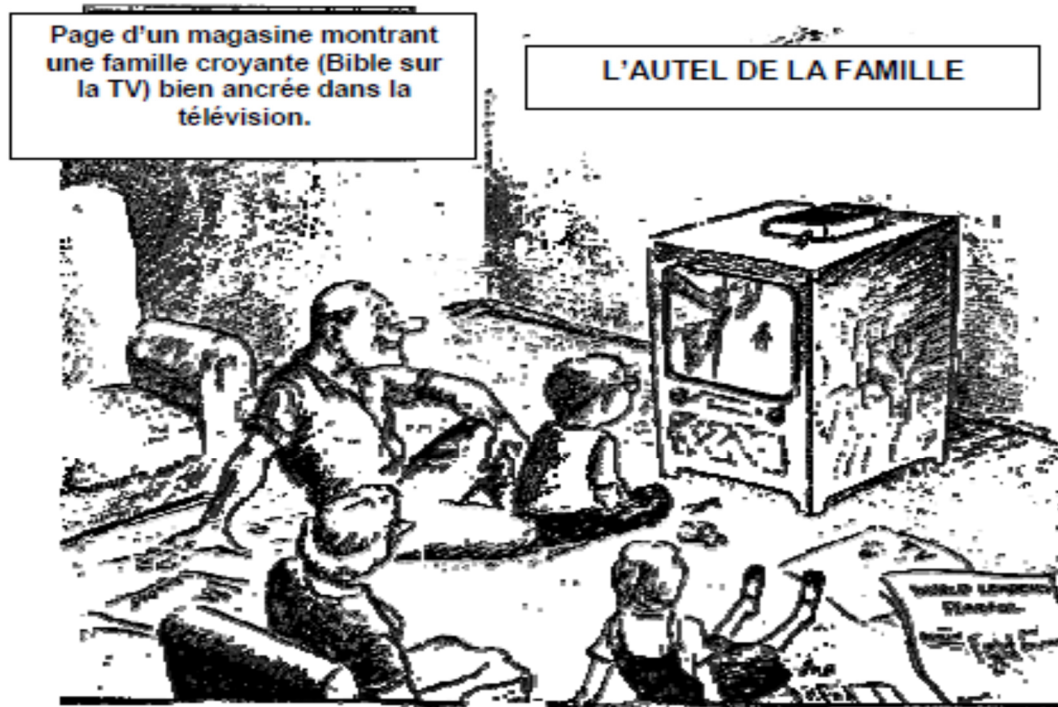


## THE MESSAGE AND THE TELEVISION



**Television is an accepted part of modern American life. The poorest pauper often owns a TV. The dwelling may be a tent, a tar-paper shack, or a tenement house, but there is usually a television.**

**The family may not own a car or have a bathtub, but they must have a television. Children may not have clothes, the baby may not have milk, the husband may not have a job, the mother may not have medical attention—but they have a television.**

In society where a television set has become a basic necessity instead of an expensive luxury, a man who says he does not have a television is regarded incredulously and sometimes with suspicion.

### **WHAT KIND OF A PERSON WOULD NOT HAVE A TELEVISION?**

He is considered some sort of maladjusted freak who would admit such a nonconformity to the ideals of society. He is accused of being woefully ignorant of world events, culturally deprived, and guilty of cruelty to his children, who are missing one life's choicest blessings.

At the risks of being misunderstood, ridiculed, pitied, criticized, and even persecuted, **THIS WRITER IS GOING TO ADMIT THAT HE DOES NOT HAVE A TELEVISION.**

Furthermore, he intends to compound the consternation by trying to defend his status as a non-owner.

**At the risk of being thought mad, he is even going to suggest that having no television is a more logical, holier, and happier state than that of the tube owner.**

**To establish my claim to sanity, let me acknowledge several points.**

**Television is here to stay.** I do not propose to rid the world of alcohol, movie theaters, gambling, or social dancing.

While I personally deplore all these evils, I am sure that society is not going to renounce them wholesale at any time in the near future. However, I have a responsibility as a citizen of God's country to "be not conformed to this world," but to maintain my testimony before this wicked and adulterous generation, among whom we shine as lights in this world.

**Television is not necessarily a moral sin.** I would not accuse every television watcher of being licentious. I am aware that some sincere people who love God have bought television sets without evil motives, and some of them have survived the ever-present temptation and have maintained a straight walk with God.

However, it is still far better for a person not to subject himself to unnecessary temptation than to project himself into a situation that has meant moral bankruptcy to so many.

**Not every television program is wicked.** Neither is every movie. One cigarette may not cause cancer. One flirtation may not lead to fornication. One drink may not make a drunkard. But the danger is there. The potential is there.

**Television watching is not the only condition that needs attention.** Nor, perhaps, is it the worst condition. But it is one condition that needs attention, and our attention to other matters would not excuse us for a neglect of this one. In fact, there are many spiritually debilitating conditions that are related to this one and that are involved in this one. To attack the enemy on one front often weakens his strength in other places. Sometimes we must invade the sanctuary of the enemy in order to stop his potential for destruction elsewhere.

I try to be brief, precise and direct in my discussion on this topic.

**I will discuss this issue on a Biblical perspective and in the light of the End-Time Message preached by the Prophet William Marrion Branham and determine if it is legitimate or not for a believer of the Message to have in his house what we consider as the "biggest promotert" of injustice.**

**Remember if something does not bring you closer to God, then this thing should keep you away from God, there is no middle positon.**

It is written:

*Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions. **ECCLESIASTES 7:29***

*Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions. **PSALM 106:39***

Television is part of the research and inventions of man. This is the deduction of the human desire to break through the higher dimensions of science. One idea leads to another, an experience leading to another, revealing even greater possibilities in the realm of science

communication. The 20th century witnessed an "explosion" literal scientific knowledge.

It is obvious today, that electronic scientific inventions have far surpassed the TV. These inventions include nowadays VCR, videos, video games, DVDs, computers and the Internet.

Every day, more and more choices are given to us for the entertainment of our carnal desires. As he did in Eden Garden, and so he is doing in this age, our enemy (Satan) that all these things are **"good... pleasant .... desired to make one wise (Genesis 3:6)**

Starting from the Biblical perspective and taking into account the End-Time Message, how should we classify these "wonderful" human inventions? They are "good"? They are "bad"? Or are they a product of "the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil"?

If we say that these inventions are all "good", then we fully involve God in all these discoveries. The Bible says, **"Every good gift and EVERY PERFECT GIFT is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."** JAMES 1:17

If we say that these things are bad, then we conclude by this that Satan was / is the father of these inventions. If we say that these inventions are a product of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, then we must recognize **God's warning that eating** of "the tree of knowledge of good and evil" leads to death (Genesis 2: 17). And why a person who is in his "common sense" would he eat which leads to death?

It is indeed a serious issue. Therefore, we must know where we are in relation to these "inventions" that have been raised to please the "old" human nature and which are intended to be **"good ... pleasant ... and precious"** (Genesis 3: 6). What should be the attitude of a believer of the Message to the TV, the videos, video games and even the Internet? As odd as it may seem, the Internet is unfortunately not an exception to what we are saying.

More and more studies show the "negative" impact that TV, videos, Video Games and Internet have on society.

### **What impact these things have on people who claim to be believers Message (no matter the trend) but feed more of those things that the things of God?**

Just a few years - before the age of computers and videos, the F.B.I. said that *"Television is one of the four biggest influences (along with comics, cinemas and radio) that promotes the expansion of evil."*

If the same study is made today, we will without a doubt add videos, video games, DVDs and the Internet to the list.

Criminologists say that electronic inventions are the biggest promoters of crime in the world today.

Educators believe that TV is the biggest obstacle to education.

You certainly will say, *"Oh brother, television, video and the Internet are great educational tools."* That may be true! BUT, in homes, they are used in 95% -100% of the time for entertainment and NO to education - at least not for good instruction.

Satan is indeed trying to use these tools to educate people in all that is evil - smoking, drinking, cursing, hate, murder, any kind of perversion, adultery, fornication, prostitution, nudity, etc ...

Television, video and the Internet are now **the BIGGEST PROMOTERS of all these things.**

As my study is based on the TV, so I'll dwell on that thing later in my presentation.

Just as Eve "ignored" the warning of God, this generation of pleasure seekers "do not include" warnings about the "VERY NEGATIVE" impact of Television. This thing greatly influences people's behavior. It has a negative impact on relations between people - between friends, parents and children, husbands and wives. Entire homes were broken because of the TV. Lives have been lost and people have had their lives cut short - because of the influence of television. etc ...

Without a doubt, many "so-called believers of the Message" have one or many televisions, or something like that. It is sad to say, but they spend more time with this thing than the things of God. **It is time for believers of the Message** (those with this modern invention entertainment) to consider the impact that this thing has in their relationship with God and other believers.

What impact has this thing about their children? **Remember**, whether you or your children are sitting in front of the screen, the seeds of the "world" and "things" of the world are being sown in the heart. The prophet Jeremiah in Lamentations 3: 51 says, " **Mine eye affecteth mine heart...**"

There is clear evidence that "see" has a greater impact than "hear". What we "see", we remember that longer than what we "hear". The patriarch Job said, " I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee." (Job 42: 5). This had a great impact on Job.

We do not pretend to say that there is no harm in "just looking." Do not forget the words of Jesus Christ in Matthew 5: 28, "**But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.**"

The current drunkard began as an honest man who had started by taking just "a" social drink.

The robber was an honest man who had "coveted" just "a little" thing.

The liar was a respectable man who had "covered" a mistake.

Fornication or adultery was a man who had just thrown "a" look.

**In Psalm 141: 4**, King David said: **Incline not my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men that work iniquity: and let me not eat of their dainties.**

If it is not already too late, it's time for the believers of the Message to seriously consider whether he or she should have a TV. The Bible clearly teaches that as believers of the Message, we must be a people "separate" for the Lord, a "special" people, a "Royal" priesthood, avoiding even the "appearance" of sin. But what we find on TV today is NOT a mere appearance of sin, but the "TRUE" sin.

The Bible says: **Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing. DEUTERONOMY 7:26**

Can two walk together, except they be agreed? **AMOS 3:3**

William Marrion Branham, the End-Times Prophet is absolutely clear in his condemnation on TV. Selected following quotations leave no doubt about his position on television.

**65-1031M POWER.OF. TRANSFORMATION\_ PRESCOTT.AZ V-17 N-1 SUNDAY**

242 We don't have television. **There won't be one in my home, NEVER.** But there was a... You want them, that's up to you. **But God told me not to do it.**

**Question:** Who said the believers of the Message to have it, if it is God who said the Prophet Branham not to have it? **(You can conclude).**

**57-0811A THE.GREATEST.GIFT.IN.THE.BIBLE\_ EDMONTON.AB SUNDAY**

E-40 Listen. How dare you take that blessed holy thirst that God gave you to thirst after Him and **try to satisfy it with the things of the world, with television programs, with drinking, with big sprees. The devil has perverted instruments** of his own and taken that thirst that God give you to thirst for Him, and making you thirst after the things of the world. And every thirst that you have should be for Him. Certainly. That's life.

**56-0715 THE.MARK.OF.THE.BEAST\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN SUNDAY**

E-33 Oh, my, what a horrible time we're living. Look around and see sin. Look at it. Oh, yes. You couldn't go to prayer meeting. "It's just too hot." "It's just too cold." "Well, after all, the preacher preaches too long. **But you can keep your head in that old devil television day and night.**

**54-0509 THE.INVASION.OF.THE.UNITED. STATES\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-26 N-1 SUNDAY\_**

E -109 We find out, we have thirty thousand converts in six weeks, and six weeks later we haven't got a one. There's something wrong somewhere. That's right. And it's all glamour, putting on. **The world, through television,** through radio, through picture shows, and those outlets there, has corrupted this nation **with the tommyrot of Hollywood.** Right. Everything wants to be in big glamour. Isn't that the truth? You know that's the truth. We don't have any more of the old fashion religion that we used to have years ago. It's because it's been let down. We'll get to it, just in a moment, you'll see.

**54-0512 THE.SEVEN.CHURCH.AGES\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-26 N-2 WEDNESDAY\_**

243 And we just put up with anything that's evil and call it religion. "Oh, well, they go... We go to church. We're as good as the rest of the fellows." Go right home, **stay home on Wednesday night and watch the television, the very pits of hell.** That's right. And go right out and listen at the picture shows, to the drive-in. It's too hot to go to the show, even--to the church; and even the preacher closes up, through the midst of the summer.

You say, "It's too hot to go to church." It's not be too bad to go to hell, brother. You'll go some of these days, where it's hotter than that. **You better listen.**

#### **55-0311 THE.SEAL.OF.THE.ANTICHRIST\_ LOS.ANGELES.CA FRIDAY\_**

E-66 And that poor little old girl out there, she got mixed up with some of her associates. Why did she get that way? Because she got into that kind of a group. Listen, there's a spirit of everything. There's a spirit of a nation. You go into this nation; it's got a spirit. What is this nation spirited with? Entertainment. All they have is, "Who Kissed Susie," ever what it is on the night. **And people will stay home to watch television**, who--something about Sucky, or something like that, instead of going to church, and say that they got the Holy Ghost, and speak in tongues.

Brother, by their fruits, you'll know them. Who--what was that? Lucy, something about Lucy, or something like "I Love Lucy." Some of them programs like that. **I don't watch her nonsense. I read my Bible; I love to serve the Lord.** Amen. Yes, sir. Amen. That's what we need today. That's what you're getting out of will of God. That's where you've moved back. No wonder you can hate your neighbor, and everything else, and still carry on like that. You can't have the love of God in your heart and do that. That's right. Amen.

**Editor's Note:** *The program "I Love Lucy" was a turning point in the world of television. Before the program, actors who played the roles of husband and wife always slept in separate beds. From the program of "I Love Lucy", the man and woman were now in the same bed. This was probably changed because the actor and actress were husband and wife in real life. From that moment, all the scenes of the room put man and woman in bed. Of course, on television, in movies, there are no limits ...*

#### **55-0605 FELLOWSHIP.THROUGH.THE.RECONCILIATION.OF.THE.BLOOD\_ MACON.GA SUNDAY\_**

E-57 A hydrogen bombs, and oxygen bombs, and everything hanging right in the scales like that. And man constantly wades right down through sin. **And people will stay away from prayer meeting at night, turn on their television sets, and listen to "Lucy's" and all them other programs, and things, and call themselves Christians.**

#### **55-0724 ENTICING.SPIRITS\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN DE 79-112 SUNDAY**

146 Our heavenly Father, when we see these enticing spirits upon people and knowing that they are despising the things of God, I pray, God, that You'll get a hold of every man and woman in here today. Let this be a day Lord, that they'll realize that their life doesn't tally up with the Word, and they've been listening to the wrong things, that the devil's been soothing them down with old "True Story" magazines, old rotten tommyrot of the world, and old moving picture shows, and unclean television.

#### **55-0807A PRIDE\_ CAMPBELLSVILLE.KY SUNDAY\_**

E-23 In the American people through television, and through picture-shows, they have seen so much of the put on, till they become put-ons themselves: too bad. And we get it in church, actors. Hmmm. God don't want them. Far be it from us to be actors. Be yourself;



God wants you to be that way. I despise seeing someone trying to do something that they cannot do.

**56-0426 JESUS.CHRIST.THE.SAME.YESTERDAY.TODAY.AND.FOREVER\_  
CHARLOTTE.NC THURSDAY\_**

E-10 But one of the greatest disgraces that even from the files of the FBI, it just proves that America started her decline by the moving pictures. It's exactly right, not being censored and all this here stuff they put out before young girls and things like that, **now the devil put it in every home through television.**

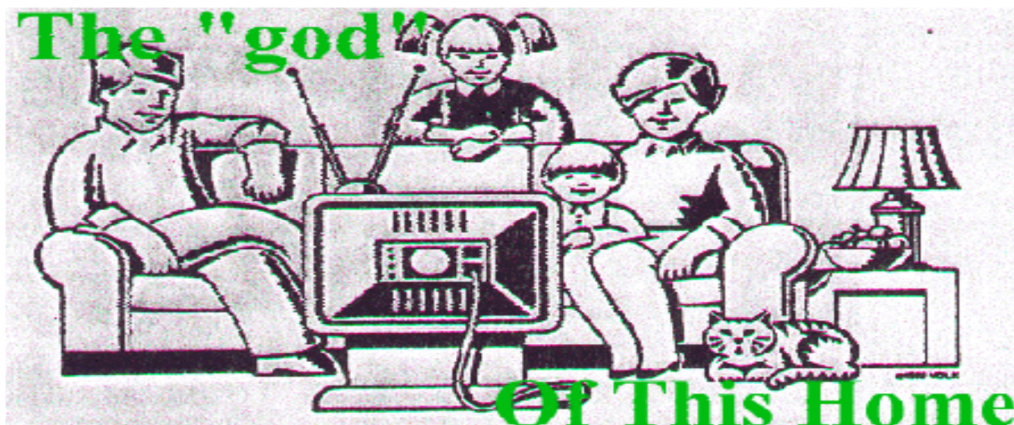
**56-0801 THE.ARROW.OF.GOD'S.DELIVERANCE.SHOT.FROM.A.BOW\_  
SHREVEPORT.LA WEDNESDAY\_**

E-29 Oh, what a day that we're living in, like the day of Joash, borderline, halfway, lukewarm, blowing away, tossed about, wind, clouds without rain, tossed about, never learning, able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Don't be tossed about by everything. Don't be tossed about by what you see on the television. **Why, some Christians today are staying home on Wednesday night to see the television.** You know that's true. Why, you know that's the gateway of all Hollywood out there. Why, it's nothing else but a bunch of big prostitution, and some of the vulgar...

E-75 I'm His witness to say this, that He's calling you to come to the altar. Young and old, Methodist, Baptist, Pentecostals, Lutherans, whosoever will, come to the altar. There is a fountain filled with Blood...?... by my witness, that...?... sinners to come to...?... Come on. All you, hit the trail down here to the altar. **Quit looking at the television.** Quit looking at the things of the world. Look at Calvary tonight. See Christ. Look Who died for you. Look Who paid the penalty. Look Who won't...?... your sin. Get away from the things of the world.

**56-0902 THE.HANDWRITING.ON.THE.WALL\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN SUNDAY\_**

E-48 Look at it. Look in the dirt; look at the filth. Look what it's done. Look at the stripteases, look at everything else on the radio, a not on the radio, but on the television. You put in the movies, and you try to keep your kids away from the movies. You holiness people, you good people, you people that's tried to preach the truth, you people that's tried to stand by it. And the devil is trying to get one jump ahead. **You know what he done? He put it right in your house in the name of television.**



### **56-1206 A. SECONDHANDED.ROBE\_ BROOKLYN.NY THURSDAY\_**

E-20 Now, we find that this school of the prophets, how it turned out to be. I'd imagine every prophet there... When Elijah came up, we seen they didn't live the right kind of life, for they said, "It's too strict for around here when Elijah comes around." I imagine if--if it'd be today, they'd make them get rid of all their television programs, and all their old love story magazines, and quit their smoking and drinking, and all these things, and clean up.

### **57-0115 GOD.KEEPS.HIS.WORD\_ STURGIS.MI TUESDAY\_**

E-28 Put television out way it is now, and uncensored programs of all this vulgarity and everything. Let a little boy go. The gate is the eye to the soul... **The eye is the gate to the soul, rather.** Let him go in and, let these little girls go into one of these movies, or something, or other and see one of these here women out of Hollywood with eight or ten husbands, making love to some man. That little girl will practice the--the same thing the next day. Let some fantastic, nonsense come out out there with some kind of a little old scandal looking skirts on or something or other like that, and watch the American women go to wearing the same thing. That's right. See, you catch each other...

### **57-0309E JEHOVAH.JIREH\_ PHOENIX.AZ SATURDAY\_**

E-22 Now, another thing God does... He told Abraham and Sarah to separate themselves from their company. God calls for separation. How much different it is in us choosing anything? We chose... we choose mixers. Oh yes; "I tell you that's the socialist little fellow you ever seen. Now, he's not a fanatic. **He won't preach anything against television,** and all this kind of stuff like that, about women wearing bobbed hair and all these things like that. You never hear it spoke in our church." Just because he hasn't got the real audacity, he hasn't got the baptism of the Holy Ghost to back it up. That's all.

What we need is God-fearing preachers who tells the truth. That's right. Now, that's what makes the separation.

### **57-0417 THE.SECOND.COMING.OF.THE.LORD\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-9 N-2 WEDNESDAY\_**

82 He looks upon your wedding engagement ring, and He finds the tablet moved; He finds love has gone; it's a form. He finds loyalty is gone. You've committed fornications with the world. **You go to dances, and boogie-woogie parties, and watch old dirty television programs.** You are committing adultery with Christ, on Him, as calling Him your Husband. The Bible said, "You say, 'I am rich, I have need of nothing.'" But He said, "You don't know that you are naked, miserable, blind, poor, and don't know it." It's time we lit a candle and swept the house. The coming of the Lord is at hand.

### **58-0112A HIS.WONDERS.TO.PERFORM\_ CHICAGO.IL SUNDAY\_**

E-29 It was while those who went to Emmaus, along the road, begin to talk about Him, that He stepped out of the bushes and walked with them through the day. The reason we don't have the spiritual blessings, **we have too much time to watch television,** too much time to read the newspapers or listen to something that we ought not to be listening



to. And we are not redeeming the time, but we're giving it to the things of the world instead of our time to the Lord Jesus. And the Bible said, that, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth from the mouth of God." Christians live on the Word.

**58-0328 HEAR.YE.HIM\_ MIDDLETOWN.OH FRIDAY\_**

E-42 And you know what the world's hungry for? The world wants to see something genuine. That's what's the matter with these conversions that they're so called. They're not real conversions. It's intellectual. There's a intellectual knowledge of Christ. But a borned again experience gives the real Christ. America is people who have to be entertained. **They've got too much television in them. They want entertainment. They don't want the old fashion Gospel.**

**58-0512 LIFE\_ EVERETT.MA MONDAY\_**

E-36 Now, you see what you're doing? The wrong spirit's got among you, **and it's making you try to satisfy that blessed holy thirst, that God give you to worship Him with, you're trying to satisfy it with television, radio, all the fancy things of the world, and make-ups, and carry on.** I believe you should look clean.

**61-0215 THOU.SON.OF.DAVID.HAVE.MERCY.ON.ME\_ LONG.BEACH.CA WEDNESDAY\_**

E-18 Now, but today with all of our modern convenience, **and instead of reading the Bible to her children, will turn the television on and let them look at something that's not even fit for them to look at. Now, that's right.** That's right. And another thing, we'll give them these little old comic books, and little old story books off of some drugstore mantle that oughtn't to even be sold to make--make kindling wood out of, or fire out of. And yet we poke all that kind of stuff down our children's necks.

**63-0901M TOKEN\_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-2 N-19 SUNDAY\_**

368 Believe what? Believe the Lord Jesus Christ, for your house, apply the Token to your house.

369 **Then what do you do when you apply It to your house? Move all the trash out. Get all the short skirts, and the shorts, and the cards, and the cigarettes, and televisions, and whatever more, and kick them out the door, when you go apply the Token; won't stand still for it. Yes, sir.** Take it all out. All the dances, and parties, and rock-and-roll, and old vulgar newspapers, and the stuff that's of the world, kick it out the door, say, "We're cleaning out this place around here."

**64-0215 INFLUENCES\_ TULARE.CA V-22 N-13 SATURDAY\_**

6 I--I think today, our great problem, of what we believe to be juvenile delinquency, is a parent delinquent, a home delinquent. Our--our people got away from the things that they--they should have stayed with. The church got lukewarm or cold, and the--the children got out into the world.

7 Now Hollywood puts out lots of movies and--and televisions, and so forth, that even uncensored, where they curse and--and--and use God's Name in vain. **And--and it used**

to be it was wrong for the children in the holiness churches to go to--to--to bioscopes or picture shows, and now Satan got one jump ahead, by bringing it right in the house, in the form of television, and then uncensored, and--and so forth. And that's the Satan's way of gradually entering in.



**64-0418E JESUS.KEEPS.ALL.HIS.APPOINTMENTS\_ TAMPA.FL SATURDAY\_**

E-125 Maybe things would be different if they had the old-fashion prayer altar, **the Bible instead of a deck of cards. And threw that television out the door, a long time ago, and it might have been a whole lot different.** You all, used to be wrong to go to the picture show. The Devil put it right over on us. He brought it right in their house. See? See?

**64-1212 THE.HARVEST. TIME\_ PHOENIX.AZ V-18 N-6 SATURDAY\_**

17 I'm not much on television. As you know, I'm really against it.

**65-0425 GOD'S.PROVIDED. PLACE.OF. WORSHIP\_ LOS.ANGELES.CA V-18 N-2 SUNDAY\_**

199 The sun rises in the east and sets in the west. The same sun rises in the east sets in the west, civilization has traveled with it. It traveled over three bodies of water, three forms of baptism. Oh, yes, from Asia, over into Europe; from Europe, over into England; and from England, over into the United States.

200 And now we've come right straight back again, and here we sit this afternoon, on the West Coast, where the sin barrier of all the powers of darkness heaps in here. **These movies and television casts, and man kissing women on there, and poisoning the minds of little girls.**



**65-0911 GOD'S.POWER.TO. TRANSFORM\_ PHOENIX.AZ V-16 N-5 SATURDAY\_**

169 We rent from a woman that has the television in her house. **I never intend to have one in my house. No, sir. I don't want that thing in my house. I would blow it out with my shotgun. I don't want nothing to do with that evil thing.** No, sir! But took a...

170 Let me tell you about you Arizonians here. You seen that analysis the other day, of schools, didn't you? Eighty percent of the children in Arizona schools are suffering with mental deficiency, sixty-seven percent of them was by looking at television. How about that?

171 You had better use your shotgun! See? Now, don't let the Devil spray you with that. No, sir. Now people, as I said, people act like they don't have to come to Judgment.

**65-1207 LEADERSHIP\_ COVINA.CA V-7 N-7 TUESDAY\_**

157 But what's happened to you, church? **You've seen so much television, so much things of the world,** it's so easy for your old Adam nature to drift into that, to act like the rest of them.

**After listening to the warnings of the prophet Branham about this thing,** here is my conclusion: I prefer much not to have a television set. I have a better opportunity for my personal happiness and that my soul be saved. I have a better opportunity to have a happy home and see my family grow spiritually, morally and psychologically in the right conditions. I have a better opportunity to win souls to Christ and more time to do it. I have a better opportunity to influence my brothers and sisters in the Lord and lead them into a deeper walk with Christ.

Meanwhile, I have missed nothing, except truncated information, vulgar movies. I also missed so-called educational films, but that educate outside the will of God, religious programs based on the infamous doctrines, alcohol advertisements and so forth.

So I spared a temptation tool that the devil would have used to destroy me.

**For this and many other reasons, I AM VERY GLAD NOT TO HAVE TELEVISION.**

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU !**