

Paul H. Dixon
The Gospel According to Rock
Circa 1977

Unedited Transcript

00;00;01;13 - 00;00;14;21

Paul H. Dixon

Every place I go, I find young people who are not only singing God's praises, but active and out on visitation or reaching other young people for Christ. I know there in Cedar Ville, where I live presently, we've seen a real revival in our small community.

00;00;14;21 - 00;00;28;16

Paul H. Dixon

There are really only about 2000 people there, but it all started through the young people. Young people started gathering together, those in our church, the teenagers, the high schoolers on a Monday morning and they started praying for young people to be safe.

00;00;29;10 - 00;00;41;22

Paul H. Dixon

They started praying for them by name. And when, you know, young people started getting saved and they started going to school with their Bibles on top of their books and a testimony for the savior and the assistant basketball coach, God save.

00;00;42;09 - 00;00;54;18

Paul H. Dixon

And the next thing you know, they decided to have a special school board meeting because all these kids coming to school with their Bibles then stand up in class talking about Jesus and some of the people in town didn't like it.

00;00;54;28 - 00;01;08;11

Paul H. Dixon

one lady said, I'm not going to have those kids praying for my daughter. And while the preachers in towns and a lot at all of his congregation and warning about these fanatical kids that are talking about getting saved and getting born again.

00;01;08;27 - 00;01;22;10

Paul H. Dixon

And so they had a school board meeting and somebody stood up and the school board and they said, You mean to tell me that we're not having any trouble with drunkenness in our school? They said no. They said, you mean we're not having a problem with open arms school.

00;01;22;11 - 00;01;35;03

Paul H. Dixon

He said No. No, riot, no. You mean the only problem we have is we got a bunch of kids excited about Jesus is that I think we ought to rejoice instead of being having a special meeting, and I broke out in applause and dismissed the meeting.

00;01;36;08 - 00;01;47;13

Paul H. Dixon

Well, that's them all these young people had for God gods using young people today. We're so glad for all who are here tonight. And for those who don't know Christ, we highly recommend him. I got saved when I was a senior in high school.

00;01;47;18 - 00;01;59;19

Paul H. Dixon

Greatest thing that ever happened to me. The world completely changed my life. I was on a TV interview program week before last in Erie, Pennsylvania, and I made that statement and the interviewer said, How did they change your life?

00;02;00;15 - 00;02;09;16

Paul H. Dixon

I said, I say I changed my life. I said he gave me a piece that I never had before. He gave me a reason for living that I never had before. He gave me a joy that I didn't have before.

00;02;09;19 - 00;02;23;01

Paul H. Dixon

I had everything that a guy would want in high school, but there was something missing, and when I trusted Christ, I found out what I was missing. And he became the first in my life. And I tell you, every young person and every adult, every mom and dad needs Jesus as your savior.

00;02;23;01 - 00;02;36;10

Paul H. Dixon

I have a favorite song. I don't remember whether we used it the last time or not. It's a little chorus called Christ is all I need. How many know that? Oh, you know. Enough to carry it with me.

00;02;36;15 - 00;03;06;07

Paul H. Dixon

Those who do not sing it. The rest of you will catch on. I think it fits right in with the message tonight. Let's sing it. Christ is all. All I need for, I feel for you. All. I the right to do this, all right.

00;03;08;19 - 00;04;03;13

Paul H. Dixon

I mean, all. I don't know, you know what everybody's saying, and I don't. Lift it up, grind it all. And let's pray, father, we're so grateful for the truth of that message in song. Simple chorus. What a profound truth.

00;04;04;00 - 00;04;15;11

Paul H. Dixon

God help us to get a hold of it tonight that Christ is all we need for every need in our lives. I thank you, father, that there are young people come in tonight who are searching and are seeking.

00;04;15;22 - 00;04;33;06

Paul H. Dixon

We're glad we could tell about Jesus. Use the message in their hearts. There are adults here tonight who need to get say, Oh Lord, we thank you that some are here tonight. Been thinking about leaving in recent hours and days make this a night of great triumph for the glory of Jesus Christ in whose name we pray

00;04;33;23 - 00;04;54;00

Paul H. Dixon

. Amen. I announce tonight that I'd be speaking on the subject the gospel, according to Rock. In other words, the gospel, according to rock music. What the rock music today is saying about Jesus Christ. We're going to be looking at this, but before we do, I think we ought to look at some verses that will help us to

00;04;54;00 - 00;05;10;28

Paul H. Dixon

understand what we're saying and what we have to say is backed up with the Bible. Let's start with Luke Chapter five, verse 21 and look at some verses and the gospel of Luke. We are living in a day.

00;05;12;12 - 00;05;35;04

Paul H. Dixon

When all across America, people are asking, who is this, Jesus Christ? I was out in California not this past summer, but the previous summer of 1971 and I heard a man go down the street with a microphone. He had a radio broadcast and he came up to people and he said, Who do you believe that Jesus Christ

00;05;35;04 - 00;05;47;20

Paul H. Dixon

is? They would give their answer and go up to somebody else, they'd say, What do you believe about Jesus Christ? one after another, they would put in their \$0.02 on what they thought about him. And you know, this isn't something new.

00;05;47;28 - 00;06;07;09

Paul H. Dixon

This is something that was asked back in Bible times when Jesus was literally physically walking upon the face of the Earth. Look at what it says in Luke 5:21. And the scribes and the Pharisees began to resent saying, Who is this?

00;06;07;26 - 00;06;25;19

Paul H. Dixon

What speaketh blasphemy is who can forgive sins, but God alone? Now they're talking about Jesus Christ, and these religious leaders are talking among themselves. And the question is, who is this man who calls himself Jesus? Look at Luke Chapter seven verse 49.

00;06;27;03 - 00;06;54;17

Paul H. Dixon

You'll find this question again coming up. There were some people who were eating with the Lord Jesus, and they that said meet with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgive it sins? Also, they

saw him perform his miracles and healed people, and now he said that people's sins were being forgiven.

00;06;54;19 - 00;07;15;29

Paul H. Dixon

And they say, Who is this? That can do that? They knew the answer. Look at Luke Chapter nine, verse nine. Akin asked the same question, not only the common people and the religious people, but also a nobleman, a king and Herod the king, said, John, have I beheaded?

00;07;16;10 - 00;07;31;21

Paul H. Dixon

Speaking of John the Baptist, but who is this of whom? I hear such things? And he desired to see him. He said, I'm hearing so much about this man called Jesus. I'd like to see him and find out exactly who he is.

00;07;31;26 - 00;07;51;20

Paul H. Dixon

And I want to say that that's the purpose of this message tonight. I'll be touching on many things, but the main reason I am preaching tonight is the Talya who Jesus Christ really is. But before I tell you who he is, I want you to notice some interesting verses in second Corinthians and Galatians.

00;07;52;00 - 00;08;27;29

Paul H. Dixon

Look at second Corinthians eleven for. one of my favorite versus the second Corinthians eleven three. If you haven't memorized that, you ought to. It speaks of the simplicity that is in Christ. How the devil is out to corrupt our minds and to get us away from the simplicity that's in the Lord Jesus.

00;08;28;14 - 00;08;42;13

Paul H. Dixon

Simple faith in him that saves the reason there are so many denominations today, reason you can go in one church and they say you have to be baptized to be saved and go on to another church. And they say you have to go up to church on Saturday to be saved.

00;08;43;07 - 00;08;52;18

Paul H. Dixon

So you have to keep the law to be saved. Another one says, Well, you don't even need to get saved. Everybody's going to have in any way. Someone else says you have to speak in tongues to be say.

00;08;52;28 - 00;09;13;10

Paul H. Dixon

The reason there's so much confusion is because the devil is all the time doing that, trying to get people away from the simplicity that is in Christ. Salvation is just you a sinner, Christ dying percenters and you very simply repenting of your sin and turning to Christ in Christ alone by faith to meet your need of salvation

00;09;13;10 - 00;09;39;29

Paul H. Dixon

. Now known as verse for variety that cometh. Preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached or receive another spirit, which you have not received one other gospel which you have not accepted you might well bear with. In other words, Paul says that there are those who are going to come and they're going to preach Jesus.

00;09;41;06 - 00;10;09;18

Paul H. Dixon

But it's another Jesus. It's not the same one that's true today. Look at Galatians Chapter one, verse six. Paul is writing again, and he said, I marvel that you are so soon removed from him. That is from God that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel.

00;10;10;11 - 00;10;27;17

Paul H. Dixon

There's something else that's going around that claims to be the truth. And it's not the truth. It's completely foreign to God. Look at first John Chapter four verses one and two the admonition that John gave us. I think sometimes we forget this.

00;10;28;02 - 00;10;42;14

Paul H. Dixon

We get so excited today, and we're so gullible. Anything that happens today in the name of Christianity, if it reaches a lot of people and people who weren't previously interested in the things of God now are we say it has to be OK?

00;10;43;22 - 00;11;02;03

Paul H. Dixon

Go ahead, John Z. first, John, for our beloved believe not every spirit. But try this spirit, whether they are a God, because many false prophets are going out into the world here by, I know you, the spirit of God, here's the test.

00;11;03;04 - 00;11;23;03

Paul H. Dixon

Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ is common, the flesh is of God. He says you need to put everyone to the test as to how they treat Jesus Christ. Now, with that in mind, let's think about some of the music today, that's about Jesus and what it's saying.

00;11;23;11 - 00;11;41;29

Paul H. Dixon

But before I deal with the music of today. Let me say to you, teenagers who are here tonight and you young people. This is nothing new. Every generation has had some music that hit the popular field and made it to the top of the hit parade.

00;11;42;13 - 00;11;58;05

Paul H. Dixon

And it was about God and Jesus Christ. In fact, I know many people a day who have certain entertainers that they think are just great because they closed out their program with a hymn. They may live a rock.

00;11;58;27 - 00;12;19;25

Paul H. Dixon

They may be very inconsistent, they may go out and get drunk after the program. They may even drink on that program. But as long as they close it out with him, they say, Isn't that great? And then of course, in my day and the other generations represented here, we have the great scriptural songs like this, I believe

00;12;19;25 - 00;12;42;16

Paul H. Dixon

, for every drop of rain that falls on Flower Grove. I believe that somewhere in the darkest night, the candle glows. I believe for everyone who goes astray, someone will come to show the way I believe, I believe and always say, Isn't that wonderful?

00;12;43;04 - 00;12;58;23

Paul H. Dixon

Bunch of foolishness doesn't say anything. That's about as empty as you can get. I believe in what I believe in who. And then, of course, we had songs like this old house. Have you ever listened to the words of this old house?

00;13;03;07 - 00;13;14;00

Paul H. Dixon

And then they started thinking back, I was a disc jockey in high school when I got saved and one of the songs I used to take requests, I'd play for an hour and a half. Every day the kids would sing, you know, send in their request.

00;13;14;00 - 00;13;30;03

Paul H. Dixon

And while they were eating lunch, I'd be up there spending the death. And they'd come out and say, we want to hear the man upstairs by the Blackwood brothers, the man upstairs, while we thought that was great. God isn't a man upstairs.

00;13;30;22 - 00;13;47;24

Paul H. Dixon

That's blasphemous to talk about him like that. And then Pat Boone came along and he was really on a religious kick then and then it supposedly went back on it. And he's back on it, on the religious kick again now, and he's written some books and come out with the movie and all the rest and all.

00;13;47;25 - 00;14;09;18

Paul H. Dixon

Pat Boone had a song called Walla Walla Walla. Everybody's going to have religion and glory. Can you beat that? Everybody's going to have religion in glory? That's a bunch of baloney. Everybody's not going to have religion and glory and all that, you know, but what about that?

00;14;10;10 - 00;14;23;16

Paul H. Dixon

You know, the past generation thought that was tremendous too, because there were songs about God and about religion, and sometimes even they they use the name of Christ. But I have to admit, and I think you'll have to that in this day.

00;14;24;09 - 00;14;46;22

Paul H. Dixon

There has been a real intrusion of religion into the pop field, especially in the last 18 months. To just prove it, I have some quotes from some of the leading periodicals dealing with pop music today. You'll ask most people, disc jockeys and so forth what magazines to get to find out what's going on in the world of

00;14;47;09 - 00;15;17;12

Paul H. Dixon

records and they'll say the Rolling Stones magazine and Billboard magazine. Listen to what Rolling Stone magazine said. Jesus Rock. Is about the hottest thing going these days in the record field. Billboard magazine says many of the major rock groups are now deep in the religious groove, quote unquote.

00;15;18;16 - 00;15;33;00

Paul H. Dixon

And I think we do recognize how many songs there have been just in the last two and a half years even that have talked about Christ and religion. Back in 1969, a song hit number five on the hit parade called Oh Happy Day.

00;15;33;12 - 00;15;50;15

Paul H. Dixon

Another song back in 1969 that was very popular was called Jesus is a Soul Man. Back in 1970, there was Spirit in the Sky, written by a Jew that made it number one on the charts in the spring of 1970.

00;15;50;24 - 00;16;06;24

Paul H. Dixon

Then, in late 1970, there came Jesus Christ Superstar. The rock opera that completely took this country much of the English world by storm. At the last count, they sold the last record I had, and it goes back now quite a few months.

00;16;07;03 - 00;16;23;28

Paul H. Dixon

It already sold \$35 million worth of records, at least \$8 million worth of tapes. And when they opened on Broadway, their stage production had \$1 million worth of advance tickets sold before they ever opened. I mean, it was really taking this country by storm.

00;16;24;07 - 00;16;47;11

Paul H. Dixon

And then in just recent months, in the last year, 1972, Judy Collins came out with her song Amazing Grace and Amazing Grace. All went all the way to the top. And then after it fell off of the top a few months later, there came the Scottish bagpipes playing amazing grace, and again, it made it all the way

00;16;47;11 - 00;16;59;22

Paul H. Dixon

to the top of the hit parade. I'm glad that Amazing Grace was being sung across this country. I'm glad that people like to hear Amazing Grace. I'm thankful that I was saved by the grace of God and you pardon me, I.

00;16;59;27 - 00;17;16;19

Paul H. Dixon

I don't like to be overly critical, but I do have a real difficult time listening to Judy Collins singing Amazing Grace. Because at the very time she was singing Amazing Grace about the grace of God that saved a wretch like me.

00;17;16;26 - 00;17;34;12

Paul H. Dixon

She was expecting a baby wasn't even married and she said, I don't plan to get married either. And yet she was talking about the grace of God that would save a wretch like her. Sounds to me like she found a song and make her a lot of money and she took it to the top.

00;17;34;19 - 00;17;47;07

Paul H. Dixon

And people were excited about it, but it kind of leaves an empty feeling with me. And then, of course, another one that people were really excited about was the Ocean Group singing Place your hand in the hand of the man who walked on water.

00;17;47;25 - 00;18;01;12

Paul H. Dixon

And some of the bands picked it up and started playing it, the high school bands and college bands. And again, everybody was talking about this in this great. Did you ever evaluate the words to place your hand in the hand of the man who walks on water?

00;18;01;25 - 00;18;18;22

Paul H. Dixon

It doesn't say anything. I mean, it really doesn't say anything. It's very shallow, it's very frivolous, it's very empty. It doesn't glorify the savior. It doesn't lift him up as it ought. And then George Harrison came out with my sweet lord.

00;18;19;03 - 00;18;39;16

Paul H. Dixon

And people thought this was really tremendous, a guy thing and my sweet lord. And actually what this ex-Beatle did. He combined hand clapping revival music with the happy intensity of an Indian chant, and the refrain ships gradually from Hallelujah.

00;18;39;26 - 00;19;00;10

Paul H. Dixon

And at first you hear that Alleluia say, Isn't that wonderful singing about my sweet lord? Hallelujah. Listen. Because before long you saying Harikrishna Harikrishna Harikrishna, he's not singing about Jesus Christ. He's singing about Harikrishna. I mean, again, we see that actually.

00;19;00;18 - 00;19;17;27

Paul H. Dixon

It completely missed the boat. It's not revival, that's for sure. It's nothing to really get excited about when it comes to the things of God. Then another one came up called American Pie. And why are people listen to American Pie and been fascinated, I have the words to it tonight.

00;19;19;11 - 00;19;37;21

Paul H. Dixon

There have been many interpretations about American Pie, and though most of you teams know what it's all about. If it's all right with you, I like to inform some of the adults as to what American Pie says. I am not going to read the whole thing, but I would like to read the chorus to you and maybe

00;19;37;21 - 00;19;54;29

Paul H. Dixon

excerpts from the close of the song. The chorus goes, Bye bye, Miss American Pie drove my Chevy to the levee, but the levee was dry. Them good old boys were drinking whiskey and rye singing, and that'll be the day that I die.

00;19;55;17 - 00;20;21;26

Paul H. Dixon

That'll be the day. Did you write the Book of Love? And do you have faith in God? Above, if the Bible tells you so now, do you believe in rock and roll? Can music save your immortal soul? So again, we see the intrusion of religion and even salvation and talking about going to heaven.

00;20;21;29 - 00;20;40;21

Paul H. Dixon

That's the chorus. Then the close of it goes in the streets. The children screamed. The lover cried and the poets dream, but not one word was spoken, the church bells all were broken and the three men I admire most.

00;20;41;05 - 00;21;05;17

Paul H. Dixon

The father, son and holy ghost. They caught the last train for the coast the day that music died. Oh. Many people have tried to interpret that, but I think to be fair to the guy who wrote it, as far as I know, he has gone on record as saying he wasn't talking literally about the father and the

00;21;05;17 - 00;21;23;00

Paul H. Dixon

son and the Holy Ghost. He was talking about Elvis Presley, and he was talking about Diane, and he was talking about Holly, the pop artist

popular in their field. And so he wasn't even trying to get a religious message out.

00;21;23;14 - 00;21;34;18

Paul H. Dixon

But some people are so gullible that they say, you know, he's really got something religious. He's trying to say to us, he's really trying to tell us about God. And the man who wrote it said, No, I wasn't.

00;21;35;22 - 00;21;54;01

Paul H. Dixon

I wasn't trying to say that at all. Well, let's go on, and of course, there came the Broadway success with the off-Broadway success based on Matthew's gospel called Godspell. And I know if you go on the most record stores, you can still find that God's Bell is as there.

00;21;54;11 - 00;22;11;04

Paul H. Dixon

It's kind of lost. Its people have lost their interest in it. I picked up a magazine in and February. It's dated February eleven, 1972. I read through superstar and and listen to some of these other songs just to see what they're saying.

00;22;11;12 - 00;22;28;17

Paul H. Dixon

I must admit I have not heard Godspell. But I took this out of a secular magazine, and I thought you would be interested what the secular magazine said about Godspell. Common Weal says that Act one is a reenactment of parables and episodes in the Gospels.

00;22;29;10 - 00;22;52;21

Paul H. Dixon

All done in the style of familiar entertainers W.C. Fields. Jonathan Winters. Mae West. Leonard Cohen, the Rockettes, etc.. Act two reaches for drama and gets mixed up in plot. Jesus is called the crucified tap dancer. It never says who he is or why he died.

00;22;53;14 - 00;23;09;22

Paul H. Dixon

If we had never heard of Jesus, now they're saying this, I'm quoting if we'd never heard of Jesus, we would have been baffled by the whole thing. During intermission, the audience is encouraged to clap, sing, drink wine with the cast, and only reminded occasionally that Jesus is what it's all about.

00;23;11;08 - 00;23;39;11

Paul H. Dixon

Now, listen very carefully. Commonwealth says it presents to young people a popular Jesus who wants everybody to make love, drink, be merry, do the things you really enjoy. And I think that if you would evaluate much of the popular rock music today about Jesus, what they are saying is that Jesus is really a good bag you ought

00;23;39;11 - 00;23;51;14

Paul H. Dixon

to tack on to him and they don't present the Jesus as he really is. But they say this Jesus is a Jesus. You don't have to worry about him changing your lifestyle. You can just go on the way you are.

00;23;51;14 - 00;24;06;09

Paul H. Dixon

You can enjoy the things you want do and everything will be hunky dory in the end. Well, that's not the Jesus of the Bible. And then, of course, the Jesus Christ Superstar. I have a whole message on this, and I'm not going to take the time to go into it tonight.

00;24;06;21 - 00;24;33;18

Paul H. Dixon

one man evaluated superstar as Jesus, being pictured as a long haired kid who feels he's misunderstood by everybody. He knows this special, but others don't know it. A superstar curse by fame and adoration surrounded by an evil world pure of heart but victimized all Marilyn Monroe, Judy Garland, Bob Dylan and Jane Fonda.

00;24;34;26 - 00;24;45;17

Paul H. Dixon

And that's exactly how he's pictured in superstar, he's pictured as somebody who doesn't know what it's all about. He doesn't know why he came to this Earth. He doesn't know why he is dying. He says, Oh God, go ahead.

00;24;45;17 - 00;25;03;06

Paul H. Dixon

Kill me. Take me. Break me. Beat me now before I change my mind. That's the Jesus in superstar. I think it's interesting that Rolling Stone on April the 16th of 1970, said of Jesus Rock. All of it is tongue in cheek.

00;25;03;10 - 00;25;25;07

Paul H. Dixon

Of course, no one really believes a word of it. John Sheridan of the Catholic World said they give only a misty, shadowy picture of Jesus that has scant resemblance of the Jesus of history. That's the music. Let me talk just a few minutes about the method.

00;25;27;13 - 00;25;47;28

Paul H. Dixon

Now. I can understand why people who are not Christians, how they unsaved can get somewhat excited about this music, about Jesus, and it's different and they can say they enjoy it and they are at least thinking about Jesus more than they were before.

00;25;50;05 - 00;26;03;09

Paul H. Dixon

But for the life of me, I can understand why we have so many Christians today who are defending this type of thing, and we even have people who are saying, Well, maybe it's not right, but at least it's reaching people with the gospel.

00;26;03;10 - 00;26;21;04

Paul H. Dixon

We have to give it credit for that. That doesn't make it right. I've known men who were lost to preach the gospel and people got saved, but that doesn't make him right being lost. Preaching the gospel. That doesn't mean we should get more lost preachers.

00;26;22;13 - 00;26;45;19

Paul H. Dixon

I've known men who are living in sin out now, sin and there are preaching and things were happening. God was blessing his word, but that doesn't mean it's all right for him to be in sin. And I'm personally appalled that even many Bible believing churches and Bible believing groups are having groups that come in and putting on

00;26;45;19 - 00;27;00;09

Paul H. Dixon

stuff that is just flat outright rock, but it's got a Christian message to it and they say We're doing this so we can reach young people for Christ. I say baloney. I am opposed to this for four basic reasons.

00;27;00;14 - 00;27;19;09

Paul H. Dixon

Number one, it's dishonest. You say, Paul, what do you mean it's dishonest. I mean, I believe it's dishonest to take the message of Jesus Christ and the person of Jesus Christ and to cloak him in the ranks of the world.

00;27;23;18 - 00;27;44;04

Paul H. Dixon

I believe it's dishonest for those people who are coming many times, they advertise this thing as a big rock festival and they emphasize the music and then they get people all caught up in the rock. And they just kind of slide in a testimony for Jesus, you know, as if they're just under handedly trying to get the

00;27;44;04 - 00;28;03;13

Paul H. Dixon

message in when people won't know what's hit them. I don't buy that second thing. Not only is it dishonest, I believe it's ineffective. With all the statistics and all the rest, I don't believe we're getting lasting converts and real results with this type of methodology.

00;28;04;28 - 00;28;26;14

Paul H. Dixon

You mark it down. Generally, the circumstances that accompany a person's conversion have a great impact upon the kind of a Christian they make. And someone who makes a decision in a very light, frivolous atmosphere. Well, the emphasis is not upon the word of God and the moving of the spirit of God.

00;28;26;19 - 00;28;47;28

Paul H. Dixon

And generally many times even separated from the local church. Invariably that person doesn't go on for God and amount too much for God. I was in Akron, Ohio, for a meeting and they put on one of these big shindigs all the Christian organizations that Kent State decided to try and reach some of the kids there at Kent

00;28;47;28 - 00;29;08;09

Paul H. Dixon

State. This was before the riots there about 20,000 students at Kent State. I understand they spent hundreds of dollars in advertising about this rock group coming in and rock singers and so forth. They had about 500 people turned up, and most of them were local Christian high school kids.

00;29;11;05 - 00;29;29;18

Paul H. Dixon

I mean, the college kids came and I was talking to somebody about this is a professor, a Ph.D. in archeology at Akron University, who said Paul. He said, I believe you to come in and pull up a tip that would see thousands of people and sawdust all over the floor and just go to get a good quartet

00;29;29;18 - 00;29;43;17

Paul H. Dixon

in there that really sings the gospel and a trumpet trio and somebody to sing a solo and get up there with a Bible in your hand and tell them about sin and hell and Jesus. He said, I don't believe you reach ten times the number of people that they reached with that kind of a show.

00;29;43;21 - 00;30;02;02

Paul H. Dixon

I believe that too. I believe it's an effective I don't believe it works. Number three, I believe it's inconsistent. Totally inconsistent. Somehow, we have bought the idea today that if you're going to reach the world, you have to get as close to the world as possible.

00;30;02;02 - 00;30;24;02

Paul H. Dixon

You ever hear this word relevant? Well, you got to be relevant today. I am somewhat acquainted with the largest churches in this nation. I mean, churches that run 5000 on Sunday morning, 6000 on Sunday morning, where many times they'll have a youth group of 500 kids.

00;30;24;29 - 00;30;43;21

Paul H. Dixon

And yet these are churches that have some of the strongest convictions. They wouldn't think of having a group like that into their pulpit, and they're running scores of kids the Christ every week. In fact, they've got so much of an impact upon their high school that the principals check with those churches before they do a lot of

00;30;43;21 - 00;30;57;07

Paul H. Dixon

things because they're afraid they'll get the church mad at you. So you can't reach young people today with the old fashioned gospel. You can't reach young people today. What we're really saying is we don't have faith in the word of God today.

00;30;57;16 - 00;31;08;21

Paul H. Dixon

We're saying we don't have faith in the working of the Holy Spirit that I believe that God will bless the world. I think we're selling the young people. Should I give these young men and young ladies more credit than that?

00;31;10;10 - 00;31;28;21

Paul H. Dixon

one girl senior in high school came to me real intelligent girl, she said. Paul, I was at a rock festival. An evangelist came and she named him on the outstanding evangelist in this nation. He stood up there before us and the first thing he said.

00;31;29;03 - 00;31;44;12

Paul H. Dixon

He said, You are the greatest generation of young people in the world. She said We were sitting there smoking our pot and we were saying baloney. We know better than that. We know that there's an emptiness, a boy today among us.

00;31;45;13 - 00;32;01;27

Paul H. Dixon

And then he said that our music was the greatest. And she said, we know better than that, too. And he ended up not telling us anything. And she said, I came to this service tonight and you told me I was a sinner and you told me I was on my way to hell and I needed to get

00;32;01;27 - 00;32;15;11

Paul H. Dixon

safe. And she said, That's what I've been waiting for somebody to tell me for years. She said We don't need all of that stuff that just tries to take the world and get the message out to us. We want somebody to tell it like it is.

00;32;17;25 - 00;32;33;04

Paul H. Dixon

I believe God still bless his word today. We don't need to use this methodology. But what is the message of Christ as we find it in the Bible that the message of Jesus that the song sing about the present, a very humanistic Jesus?

00;32;33;15 - 00;32;45;20

Paul H. Dixon

They don't present him as God. They don't present him as somebody who will change your lifestyle. What does the Bible have to say about Jesus? Well, you know, the gospel of John was written that we might believe in Jesus.

00;32;45;28 - 00;33;01;08

Paul H. Dixon

So John, 2031, says, says these are written that you might believe that Jesus is the son of God and that believing you might have lived through his name. So I think if we looked at some verses in this gospel of John, that will help us to see who the real Jesus is and why he came first.

00;33;01;08 - 00;33;45;26

Paul H. Dixon

Look at John Chapter twelve, verse 47. If any man hear my words, Jesus is speaking and believe not, I judge him, not. Well, I came not to judge the world, but save the world. He that rejected me and received, but not my words, that one, the judge in the word that I've spoken the same shall judge him

00;33;45;26 - 00;34;02;11

Paul H. Dixon

in that last day. He said I came to this Earth for one reason. I came to save the world. Jesus Christ is pictured in many of these popular songs, and especially in superstar as somebody who didn't know what it was all about.

00;34;02;17 - 00;34;18;18

Paul H. Dixon

Didn't know why he came, he said. Here I came to give pardon. I came to forgive your sins. I came to save your soul. Listen, young people, if you die in your sin, you'll go to hell. You need to get say you need to get born again.

00;34;18;20 - 00;34;29;28

Paul H. Dixon

That's what I needed. And I thank God I got saved. I didn't get saved through joining a church. I tried that. I didn't get saved through baptism. I tried that too. I didn't get saved through trying to live a good life.

00;34;30;01 - 00;34;45;09

Paul H. Dixon

I got saved. There's simple faith in Jesus Christ. I walked into a service like this. A man preached the Jesus of the Bible and invited sinners to step out and take him by faith. I did that night and I got to say, Well, I recommend them to you.

00;34;45;14 - 00;34;57;20

Paul H. Dixon

He came to give you pardon. Is he your savior? Do you know what it is tonight to really know that you're on the way to heaven? But he didn't just come to save your soul. He also came to give you peace.

00;34;58;01 - 00;35;14;23

Paul H. Dixon

There has never been a day when there was so much talk about peace. Young people are interested in peace, mainly because of the war in Vietnam. Young people by the tens of thousands have marched in the name of peace.

00;35;15;23 - 00;35;28;22

Paul H. Dixon

Young people today like to walk through the halls and give the high sign the peace sign. Many young people have their jackets on on the back of that jacket. It has a great big peace symbol out in California.

00;35;28;25 - 00;35;44;01

Paul H. Dixon

Many people have flags and they don't have the stars. The stars are gone and instead in the setting of blue, there's a great big peace symbol. Everybody's talking about peace. Peace in Vietnam, the Middle East, peace and United Nations.

00;35;44;26 - 00;36;01;27

Paul H. Dixon

Look at what Jesus said about peace. John. 1427. We're looking about the Jesus of the Bible, who claims to be the son of God, Peter said when Jesus said, What a man say that I am. He said, Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God.

00;36;02;01 - 00;36;15;11

Paul H. Dixon

Jesus said, What you've just said, Peter is so great. I'm going to build my church on that I am the son of God. And he said in John, twelve, I came to give part and he says than John, 14, 27, I came to give peace, peace.

00;36;15;11 - 00;36;37;16

Paul H. Dixon

I leave with you, my peace. I give unto you, not as the world give it given to you. Let not your heart be troubled. Neither let it be afraid. I look up from your Bibles for a minute. Jesus said, I've got peace, peace, I leave with you, my peace, I give unto you.

00;36;39;02 - 00;37;08;05

Paul H. Dixon

And he said the peace I want to give you is not as the world giveth question. What is different about the peace of Jesus and the peace the world is talking about? If we thought about that. Well, I think there are two things one, the peace the world talks about never has anything to do with the peace

00;37;08;05 - 00;37;20;05

Paul H. Dixon

with God. Have you heard McGovern talking about peace with God, talking about peace? Have you heard Nixon talk about peace with God? He claims to be a peace candidate. He claims he's going to give us a generation of peace.

00;37;20;26 - 00;37;37;12

Paul H. Dixon

Peace with God. No. They talk about peace with Russia and China and Vietnam, but not peace with God. So that's a different kind of peace. If

you don't have peace with God, you don't have peace. But wait a minute, there's something else that's different about this peace that Jesus gives.

00;37;39;05 - 00;37;56;16

Paul H. Dixon

You know, when Jesus said that right before he died, he explains to his disciples in these chapters, 1415 right in here that he's going to die. And if he knew that Judas would betray him, that Peter would deny him that he would go through the agonies of the cross.

00;37;56;21 - 00;38;16;20

Paul H. Dixon

And he said, with all of that, I got peace. When the world talks about peace, it talks about stopping the war in Vietnam War, in the Middle East, the strife between the races, closing the generation gap, getting our economic problems settled and then we say we have peace, external things.

00;38;17;22 - 00;38;36;17

Paul H. Dixon

When Jesus said this, all the external things were wrong. Everything was going bad. His whole world was collapsing around me, and he said, I got peace. Listen, Henry David Thoreau said, I will look for a change and outward affairs when I see a change in the inner man.

00;38;40;17 - 00;38;59;13

Paul H. Dixon

You don't change the world and then have peace. You change the man and the man changes the world. There will never be peace in the world until you get peace in your heart. And the only way you can have peace is through Jesus Christ.

00;38;59;19 - 00;39;15;01

Paul H. Dixon

With all the talk of peace, there are only two places where you can find it. one is in heaven. The others in the believers heart and Jesus is in both places. Wants to give you peace tonight. Number three wants to give you purpose.

00;39;15;16 - 00;39;41;09

Paul H. Dixon

Look at John Chapter ten. So many people today are looking for a reason to live. I don't think there's ever been a day when so many are reaching out, grasping at straws. first, there was the beatniks, and then we just started going up the alphabet beatniks, hippies, hippies, and I thought we'd reach the top.

00;39;41;09 - 00;39;58;28

Paul H. Dixon

What would you believe at the last month, they came up with the zippy? I know they've got to go back down the alphabet, but here are young people who are working for a cause flower children, whatever it may be, many today are rejecting that.

00;39;58;28 - 00;40;11;12

Paul H. Dixon

Totally. They're saying that's not the way to do it. Let's try something else. And many are getting on the political kick and then others are joining this cause and that cause Adobe to have been looking for reasons to love to.

00;40;11;12 - 00;40;32;19

Paul H. Dixon

They'll buy this thing and buy that thing and get this promotion and put that much money aside and saying, I'm looking for a reason to live. Jesus said in John. ten verse ten. The thief come at night, but the steal and to kill and to destroy him come that you might have life and that you might have

00;40;32;19 - 00;40;46;29

Paul H. Dixon

it more abundantly. He said, I want to give you a purpose to live for. I want to give you a reason to live. I want to give you a completely new life, a different life, an abundant life, a full life, and it's all centered in me.

00;40;47;01 - 00;41;02;13

Paul H. Dixon

And you know what? All across America today, young people and adults who are willing to take Christ as their savior and make him the Lord of their lives are finding out what life is all about. And you can't explain it.

00;41;02;13 - 00;41;17;00

Paul H. Dixon

You have to experience it. But all of a sudden, life is just different and life matters when you have Christ and you're endeavoring to point others to Jesus Christ, the young man walked into a coffeehouse in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

00;41;17;28 - 00;41;37;11

Paul H. Dixon

Ben Hayden is the pastor of the first Presbyterian Church there. Some of you have mentioned his name as a radio broadcast in the area. I believe they walked into Ben Hayden's coffee house and they'll let young people write anything on the wall they want to, some young man wrote.

00;41;37;29 - 00;42;02;28

Paul H. Dixon

I fight for nothing. Neither do I Rebel, I wandered through the dark lighting matches. See what he said. He said, I can't find a thing that's worth fighting for, rebelling over, dying for. I'm looking for a cause. I'm lighting matches in this maze.

00;42;03;02 - 00;42;20;16

Paul H. Dixon

I don't think I'll ever find it. I'd like to tell him about Jesus Christ is the answer, the Apostle Paul said. For me to live as Jesus Christ and

to die is gain to know that when you die, you're going to heaven and to know that you're spending a life that's going to have an impact on people

00;42;20;16 - 00;42;36;05

Paul H. Dixon

for all eternity. I wish to God some of you young people would get saved tonight. Some of you young fellows and go out and be evangelist and go out and be pastors and go out and be missionaries. How would some of you young couples would get saved and get right with God, some new Christians and go off

00;42;36;05 - 00;42;49;18

Paul H. Dixon

the Bible school together and study for the Lord's work? But you don't have to be in full time Christian service. God can use you right there in that high school next week. God can use you with your friends and with your mom and with your dad and men and women.

00;42;49;18 - 00;43;02;15

Paul H. Dixon

Tonight, God can use you for those men you work with and those ladies in that block and those young people God's entrusted to your care. The Christ of the Bible will give you everything you need. He came to give pardon, peace and purpose.

00;43;02;15 - 00;43;07;18

Paul H. Dixon

Is he yours? Do you know this, Jesus Christ in a very personal way? Tonight is your savior.