

Do you like riffs? Well I bring very exciting news: 'Tempo of the Damned' by Exodus is filled full of them! Don't like riffs? Then why are you checking out a thrash metal band, exactly? You do know what TotD would be without riffs, right? Do you want to listen to a not exactly talented singer rant about hating people for a few minutes to no backing, hear a guitar solo, and then more lone vocals? If so, why? I mean I DO have an album of Japanese people talking, but I bought that by mistake. Alternatively do you like thrash because of the jazz keyboard solos? For the operatic soprano singing? The poetry about nature? I hate to say this, but you've been pranked by someone and they are laughing at you right now. Thrash metal is not the music for you. Although it may be a breath of fresh air. Like sniffing a fragrant flower, but if you have hay fever. There's a strong possibility you will be sick everywhere. It goes both ways though, if I listened to jazz-opera about flowers or whatever, I'd be sick. So there.

You know who else would throw up? Hippies and anyone wanting peace and love. However, we all know such people have no access to thrash as their flower painted vans only contain LSD. Such narcotics would only make metal artwork heavily based on skulls and weapons look like more damn flowers. Not cool. Moving on, what exactly IS the tempo of the damned? Well, the song of the same name on the album is 194 bpm. So I guess THAT'S the tempo of the damned. But why? I guess I could research the lyrics online but you and I both know that would be no fun. So let's hypothesise: We are all aware the number '666' is associated with the devil (as is '616' for those in the know), so let's compare how 194 and Beelzebub's digits are similar. Well they're not are they? I'm not going to go into this subject any more because that's what a crazy person would do. I know from personal experience, and you know what I learnt about numbers? Nothing whatsoever. But I tried.

Let's see if the cover can give any clues as to its meaning. On it is a demon/goblin playing a church organ. By the position of his fingers, he seems to be playing around 194/195 bpm actually. Well maybe the creature screwed up the music he's playing. He certainly looks angry. I'm sure most people would assume he's angry because he's evil, not so, he's just mad at himself. After reading this review you can impress your friends with your deep musical/psychiatric knowledge. You want some more? The guitarists out there will know of the seven modes. But do you know the story behind their names? Grab your pen and paper, because here's another lesson from professor Simon: The Ionian mode interestingly means 'I own Ian'. Pretty self-explanatory really. That's why it's so happy. Some musician really wanted to own Ian and did. Want to know why the Phrygian scale is so dark? Well the owner of Ian didn't want him to be in a fridge and when he was he was really depressed. It's a long story. Again, thank me later for the extra points on your test. Ok, that's it from me! 8.5/10!