

= Haunting the Chapel =

Haunting the Chapel is an EP released by American thrash metal band Slayer in 1984 through Metal Blade and Enigma Records . Slayer 's debut album Show No Mercy became Metal Blade 's highest selling , leading to producer Brian Slagel wanting to release an EP . Recorded in Hollywood the recording process proved difficult when recording drums in a studio without carpet , although it resulted in drummer Dave Lombardo meeting Gene Hoglan who was to become an influence in his drumming style and speed . However , Hoglan said he gave him a bunch of tips and never really gave him lessons ; he was influenced by Slayer too .

Although originally featuring three songs , the record evidences a marked evolution from the style of their previous album , Show No Mercy , and is considered the first demonstration of the band 's " classic " style displayed on later albums and is often described as a " stepping stone " . The songs " Captor of Sin " and " Chemical Warfare " are regularly featured on the band 's live set list . " Chemical Warfare " appears in Guitar Hero : Warriors of Rock .

= = Recording = =

Slayer 's previous album Show No Mercy had sold over 40 @,@ 000 copies worldwide and the band were performing the songs " Chemical Warfare " and " Captor of Sin " live , which made producer Brian Slagel want to release an EP . The album was recorded in Hollywood with sound engineer Bill Metoyer , in a studio with no carpet which was a problem while recording the drums . Slagel was acting as executive producer . Metoyer is Christian and the lyrics from Show No Mercy did not bother him . However , the first words Araya sang when recording Haunting the Chapel were " The holy cross , symbol of lies , intimidates the lives of Christian born " , and other anti @-@ religious lyrics ; Metoyer thought he would go to Hell for his part in recording the lyrics . These lyrical themes were inspired by the band Venom , who influenced King and was also into the Satanic image .

Slayer drummer Dave Lombardo set his drum kit on the concrete and the kit went " all over the place " while playing . Lombardo asked Gene Hoglan to hold his kit together , while recording " Chemical Warfare " , with Hoglan thinking , " I hope he does this in one or two takes , because this is rough . " Hoglan was coaching Lombardo how to use double @-@ bass drums to improve his drumming ability and speed ; Lombardo asserts Hoglan was " an amazing double @-@ bass player even back then " , although Hoglan played double bass since a short time then . Eddy Schreyer provided audio mastering and digital remastering , with the cover art design created by Vince Gutierrez . Haunting the Chapel was darker and more thrash @-@ oriented than Show No Mercy , and laid the groundwork for the future direction in the band 's sound .

= = Touring = =

Hoglan worked as a roadie for the band after their lighting guy did not show up one night , and performed Lombardo 's soundchecks . Slayer and Hoglan would play Dark Angel songs during soundchecks , which is how Hoglan eventually joined Dark Angel . Hoglan approached Dark Angel guitarist Jim Durkin : " He came up to me one day and started giving me his criticisms of the band . He said we needed to be more evil . And then he goes , ' By the way , I 'm a better drummer than the guy you have in Dark Angel right now . ' " .

Hoglan was fired as he thought a roadie only did lighting , while vocalist Tom Araya 's brother Johnny Araya would do all roadie duties , such as moving equipment , working with sound and lights , and setting up the stage . The band performed a show in Seattle in front of a crowd of 1500 , the largest show they performed at the time , supporting Metal Church , and in Texas played with a band also called Slayer in San Antonio . However , it was the San Antonio Slayer 's goodbye show .

= = Reception = =

Although the EP did not enter any charts , Eduardo Rivadavia of AllMusic awarded the EP three out of five stars . Rivadavia said Haunting the Chapel was a " stepping stone " that " offers important clues about this transition period , which saw Slayer 's rock @-@ based song structures give way to the non @-@ linear , genre @-@ defining style thereafter regarded as thrash metal 's signature sound . " The tracks " Chemical Warfare " and " Captor of Sin " are played at Slayer 's live shows regularly .

Vocalist Karl Willetts of the death metal band Bolt Thrower asserts the record was an inspiration for the band : " When Slayer 's Haunting the Chapel came out I had never heard anything like that before with that style of guitar playing . We were punks and heavy metal was alien to our upbringing . And other bands we heard like Venom , Slaughter and Metallica . So we took the elements of musicianship from metal and the aggression of punk and poured it all together . " Chuck Schuldiner of the band Death said the record was " life changing at the time " asserting , " That was some of the early stuff that gave me that push . "

The black metal band Perverseraph covered " Chemical Warfare " on a tribute CD to Slayer titled Gateway to Hell , Vol . 2 : A Tribute to Slayer . Thrash metal band Equinox also made an appearance on the album covering " Haunting the Chapel " . Melodic death metal band At the Gates released " Captor of Sin " on a 2002 re @-@ issue of their 1995 album Slaughter of the Soul .

= = Track listing = =

= = = Bonus track (re @-@ issue) = = =

The re @-@ issue features a bonus track previously found on the Metal Massacre Vol . 3 compilation and some vinyl and cassette copies of Show No Mercy

= = Personnel = =

Tom Araya ? bass guitar , lead vocals
Jeff Hanneman ? guitar
Kerry King ? guitar
Dave Lombardo ? drums