Written by Paul Martinez
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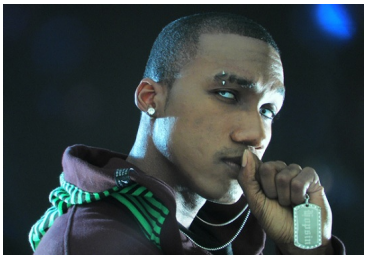
UPDATE (3/18/13): A picture of Hopsin hanging out with Lecrae during SXSW 2013 has added even more fuel to the rumor. After seeing the picture, fans seemed eager for a Hopsin and Lecrae collab to actually go down. One look at the comments on Hopsin's instagram account will clearly display that. The fact that Hopsin himself tweeted about being backstage with Lecrae shows that the picture had significance to him. Andy Mineo has already collaborated with Krizz Kaliko from Tech N9ne's label Strange Music so it's possible that Reach Records and Funk Volume will do something together based on collaborations Reach has already allowed happen.



Recently international Hip-Hop artist Hopsin announced through an interview with Hard Knock TV that he had a spiritual awakening. The interviewer asked the rapper if there was a moment of clarity that caused a shift in his music and Hopsin responded by saying that he was blown away by how people were praising him and wants to influence them to do something greater than waste their life. He went on to say that during the Raw Tour he realized how money, girls and fame is not all this life is about. Hopsin said that he felt like God spoke to him and the blindfold was removed. The respected emcee said many interesting statements in the interview. Many of the statements he made lined up with Christian doctrine. He mentions Jesus and talks about how his sinful habits will slowly evaporate as he matures in his walk with God. In the interview he talks about how he would feel conviction if he wrote another song that transmitted a negative message. The emcee even said he is working on his relationship with God and is striving to follow his creator.

"I feel like God is going, no, don't lose hope cuz these humans are driven by the ways of the flesh and they are all brainwashed. God is saying, just stick with me Marcus and everything is going to be good. Just follow my lead and everything is going to be good." – Hopsin

With that being said, how should those who are a part of the Christian Hip-Hop movement respond? I believe that we should pray first. We should pray that God places strong men and women of God to sharpen him if he doesn't have any and pray that he gets plugged into a community of believers. Also those who have influence in our movement should reach out to

Hopsin and just build a friendship with him and let God continue his refining work. What we shouldn't do? As believers we shouldn't expect an immediate change. He just proclaimed that he is following God this year, give him room to breath and time to grow. In the interview he mentioned that he isn't going to be doing Christian music. One of his latest songs “Ill Mind of Hopsin 5” had vulgar language but displayed a transformation in content and had substance.

If you’re unfamiliar with the underground sensation, Hopsin is a national artist that was signed to Ruthless Records a label that contributed to the careers of artist like Eazy E, Dr.Dre, Ice Cube and Bone Thugs-N-Harmony. He is now running his own label called "Funk Volume Music". Also he has accumulated hundreds of thousands of fans and millions of YouTube views, collaborated with Hip-Hop heavy weights like Tech N9ne, BoB, DJ Whoo Kid, appeared on the XXL top 10 Freshman list, rapped in the 2012 BET Cypher, and his song “Ill Mind of Hopsin 5” charted number 17 on Billboard’s Hot R&B/Hip-Hop digital song category.

Based on his interview with Hard Knock TV he has obviously made a decision to put his trust in God. Again let’s pray God surrounds him with the people of God to encourage him and that he gets plugged into a faith based community. If Hopsin reads this, we want him to know that we are praying for him and want him to walk out his purpose.

Watch the interview below: {youtube}nJzpbLZasO8{/youtube}
Lastly, according to a post on Funk Volume's forums, during one of Hopsin's hangouts with his fans it was announced that he will be collaborating with Lecrae on something in the future. No other details have been disclosed about this news yet. Stay tuned to Rapzilla.

Would you like to see Hopsin on 'Church Clothes Vol. 2'?

Additional contributions by Steven Solis