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STRYPER - <i>Greatest Hits: Live In Puerto Rico</i> [DVD]		Music Video Distributors
	Posted: 09/13/07	
	Reviewed by: Dirt	
	Category: Christian Metal	
	Released: 04/24/07	
	Label URL: www.mvdvisual.com	
	Artist URL: www.stryper.com	
<p>Stryper reformed in 2004 to do a bunch of live dates. This particular DVD captured the band on March 6, 2004 in Puerto Rico, where the band performed in front of a very sizeable crowd. Clearly the 80s is not over in Puerto Rico!</p> <p>Fronted by Michael Sweet, the band in 2004 was powerful, played with precision, and were anything but a washed up 80s act. Primarily concentrating on their more metallic, riff and power chord driven tunes, the band played like a well-oiled machine, leading you to believe that they never took any time off. Michael Sweet's voice is something that will leave you in awe. While Rob Halford may be known as the <i>Metal God</i>, Sweet's high-pitched screams make Mr. Halford look like an old hack. Sweet's range is phenomenal, maybe better than in the band's heyday. The rest of the band come of similarly - Oz Fox is a Guitar God, Robert Sweet is an attention-grabbing drummer, and the now departed Tim Gaines laid down some thumping basslines. All together the band present beautiful live harmonies, something a lot of other bands fake with pre-recorded backing tracks. The band's image is toned down, but Michael, Oz, and especially Robert still look like rock stars. Tim doesn't look anything like he did in the 80s. In fact, he looked incredibly reserved with his short hair and non-rock n' roll attire.</p> <p>Highlights include "Caught In The Middle," "Free," "Soldiers Under Command," "To Hell With The Devil," and "Make Me Wanna Sing."</p>		

The Bloody Truth: This is a great showing for this often forgotten metal/hard rock band. The band is on point and their talent is obvious. I don't think the sound quality of the recording has as much punch as it should, though. Despite the 5.1 surround sound setting, I can definitely tell the recording is a bit flat as I had it pump through my Bose surround sound system, so that's a bit of a disappointment. Bonus material is a few live songs from 1989 (Japan?), the quality of which is a tad grainy and flat sound-wise, but really interesting to see because of the band's huge emphasis on their image (yellow and black spandex and big hair). The addition of an interview would have been nice too given the fact that this was a reunion. Despite the few flaws, I would recommend this DVD to all fans of the band and 80s hard rock/metal.