

"Fear Knocked - Faith Answered - No One Was There"

Ralph Beebe, Editor Of Doubleday, First Saw These Words Over The Fireplace Of The Hind's Head Hotel, A 500 Year Old English Inn, In Bray-On-Thames, Not Far From London. They Were Ascribed To No Author, But It Is Thought That They Were Put In The Wall In 1940, When Britain Was Menaced By Invasion.

These Words Caused Ralph Beebe To Say: "Too Often Fear Rules Over Our Lives Intruding Into Every Situation. Fear Would Sit By Our Sides And Whisper Gratuitous Advice While We Make Decisions. Fear Would Embrace Us When We Meet Grief. Fear Would Seize Our Sleeves When We Step Forward. Fear Would Fray Our Bodies And Our Minds, And Rob Us Of The Very Sleep We Need To Mend Them.

Fear Masqueraded In Countless Forms And Under Many Names: Doubt, Indecision, Procrastination, Alarm, Nervousness, Anxiety. In Dress Clothes Fear Becomes Terror, Horror, Shock, Panic.

Fear Constantly Knocks At Our Door, Asking To Enter Our Lives. **Fear Poses As A Friend.** Fear Claims To Be Prudence, Caution, Care, Diligence, And Discretion. But If We Open The House Of Our Lives To Fear, We Admit A Guest Who Will Not Soon Or Gracefully Depart.

Faith Is The **Comrade** Which Will Serve Us Best Against Fear. For Fear Is Shadow, But Faith Is Real. Faith, Too, Assumes Other Shapes And Names. There Is The Faith That Is Met As Prayer, The Alliance With The Almighty That Enables One To Meet The Contrary Ways Of The World.

Faith Is The **Courage** That Has Battled For Man's Highest Ideals. Some Have Known Faith As Will-To-Live When Fear Would Bring Death Also Over The Threshold. Faith Supports Us As Confidence, In Ourselves, In Those We Serve, And Those Who Serve Us.

Keep Faith As A **Constant** Companion. When Fear Knocks At YOUR Door, **Send** Faith To Answer. Faith Carries The Light Of Truth Dissolving The Shadow Of Fear That Would Blot Every Thought And Action. The Apostle John Wrote, "There Is No Fear In Love: But Perfect Love Casteth Out Fear . . . (1 John 4:18)". How, Then, Can The Christian Fear When He Knows That He Is Surrounded By The Love Of God?

God Will Let Nothing Come To Us Today That He And We Together Cannot Handle. So When Our Daily Path Is Blocked By Demons Of Fear, Vague Fears Which Cannot Be Defined, Fears Of Death, Of Poverty, Of Guilt, Of Sickness, Of Failure - Whatever Your Particular Fears Are, Give In No Longer! Let Our Faith Be Manifested In Saying, "God Loves And Cares For Me! His Son Died To Become My Savior, The Source Of Power And Strength To Conquer My Fears!"

"Fear Thou Not For I Am With Thee; Be Not Dismayed For I Am God: I Will Strengthen Thee; Yea, I Will Help Thee . . . (Isaiah 41:10)".

(I do not know who the author of this good article is, but the sentiment and message is good and we should all take note of it. We cannot let fear rule us – not yesterday, today, not ever. We are Christians and Christians do not live in fear of anyone but God -- Matthew 10:28. TJK)

WHAT IS WRONG WITH INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC?

Darrell E. Beard

Most people find it very curious that churches of Christ do not use instrumental music in worshipping God. Since this is so unusual in the religious world, the question naturally rises, "Why?" Something so familiar seems so right. People ask, "What is wrong with using an instrument in worship?" In response to such a question asked sincerely and with an open, inquisitive mind, let us make a few suggestions.

1. Instrumental music often springs from the wrong motive. In worship we are to express praise and adoration to God in ways authorized by and pleasing to Him. Sometimes people forget this as they defend instrumental music on the grounds that they enjoy it. Is our motive in worship to please God or ourselves? If we worship to please God, should we not do what He has authorized?

2. Instrumental music involves the wrong kind of worship. Jesus taught that God seeks worship offered in spirit and truth. God's Word is the standard of truth (John 17:17) and guides us in the acts through which we worship. The New Testament teaches singing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). The doctrines of men constitute vain worship (Mat. 15:19). Since instrumental music is of men rather than God, it is vain as worship.

3. Instrumental music is in the wrong dispensation. Under the Old Testament age, God tolerated [better "authorized" or "commanded," TJK] the use of instruments which were introduced by David. However, the church is a New Testament institution guided by a new and better covenant. The law of Moses has been taken away (Col. 2:14). Such things as animal sacrifice, sabbath day worship, instrumental music, and feast days which were characteristic of the old system are not part of the new.

4. Instrumental music is from the wrong source. Singing is the specified music of the New Testament church. God is the source of vocal music. Instrumental music was introduced hundreds of years after the church was established. Man, not God, is the source of instrumental music.

The use of instrumental music is wrong. It is a sin because it goes beyond God's Word and adds something not authorized by Scripture (2 John 9; Rev. 22:18- 19).

NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)

Please be sure to pick up Church Directory Additions and Corrections on the table in the foyer.
Pray for those directly and indirectly affected by Covid-19, and please keep us updated.

The Friend of Truth

Greensboro Road church of Christ

Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405

(870) 932-3920

“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

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KeeNotes

I trust that everyone has had a good week and continues to do well. We have been blessed by God as we always are. Some have gotten sick with this new virus and some have died in our nation and around the world and for this we are truly sorry and pray for a remedy soon. I know that God can stop this and will at His discretion. I also know that times like this will bring the cream to the top and it has. So many have stepped up and taken in hand to help in every way you can. We rejoice each week as we see those who are growing and maturing in Christ. The faith of all is seen by God and He is the judge. However, we also see how some have risen above the fears and shown a strong faith and resolve as we have pressed on. God is not blind and sees those who have fought through and He sees those whose faith is weak.

Kent Bailey wrote this recently and I simply ask you to ask yourself, what kind of faith do you have? Only *Great faith* is acceptable to God (cf. Luke 7:9).

Not all faith in the lives of individuals is genuine Consider various aspects of what we would refer to as a faith that lacks genuineness. Such is identified in various forms.

- ***Such would be a limited faith:*** This type of faith fails to trust in God’s providence (Matthew 6:30). It is filled with fear and doubt that allows human wisdom to cause one to forget the power of God (Matthew 8:26; 14:31; 16:8-9).
- ***Such would be a dead faith*** that fails to produce work of obedience (James 2:17,20; 2:26).
- ***Such would be a demonic faith*** This type of faith brings fear into one’s life, yet the individual desires to be left alone (James 2:19; Mark 1:24).
- ***Such would be an unconfessed faith*** This type of faith is developed where one accepts the truth regarding Christ and his word, however refuses to take openly admit and agree to what they believe (John 12:42-43. Such a faith will not save any individual (Matthew 10:32-33).
- ***Such would be an external faith*** This type of faith would be limited to favorable external circumstances wherein one is faithful only in favorable circumstances.
- ***Such would be a blind faith (credulity)*** This would be a type of faith without proper evidence (Matthew 22:37).

SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols
Randy Oden
Jody Pickens

DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard
Jerry Dodson
Mike Felts
Jason Garland
Marshall Lands
Mark Wooten

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

MISSIONARIES

Michael Hughes
Samrit Kammanee
Arnold Kelley
Guyana, South America
Warren, PA

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God
Romans 10:17

Believe the Word of God
John 8:24

Repent of your sins
Luke 13:3

Confess your faith in Jesus
as the Son of God
Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for the
remission of your sins
Acts 2:38

Live faithfully
Revelation 2:10

“Where there is no vision,
the people perish...”
Proverbs 29:18

**God Give Us 2020 Vision
in 2020**

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK

May 10, 2020

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Sunday Bible Study | |
| Sunday AM Worship | 105 |
| Sunday PM Worship | 64 |
| Wednesday Bible Study | 70 |
| Contribution | \$5545 |

**“A soft answer turneth
away wrath: but grievous
words stir up anger.”**

Proverbs 15:1

Those Privileged To Serve

May 10, 2020

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader: Scottie Blanchard
Opening Prayer: TBA
Closing Prayer: TBA
Bible Reading: TBA
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

LORD’S TABLE

Presiding:
TBA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jody Pickens

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader: Scottie Blanchard
Opening Prayer: TBA
Closing Prayer: TBA
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Song Leader: Randy Oden
Opening Prayer: TBA
Closing Prayer: TBA

DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

TBA