

THIRTY REASONS WHY WE DO NOT USE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC IN WORSHIP TO GOD

Gary Colley

It can be stated without fear of successful contradiction that there is no command, approved example, or necessary inference in the New Testament (which is the way to establish Truth) for churches of Christ ever, with authority, to use instrumental music in worship. We are not desiring to be different, nor are we financially unable to have mechanical instruments, nor is our reason for not using this in worship simply that we do not like musical instruments. The basic scriptural reason for not placing an instrument in the Lord's church is simply that we have no authority from Heaven.

In the eight scriptures which mention the kind of music to be used in New Testament worship there is no mention of any kind of music except singing. Read them all and see:

"And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives." (Matt. 26:30)

"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them." (Acts 16:25)

"And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name." (Rom. 15:9)

"What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also." (I Cor. 14:15)

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." (Eph. 5:19)

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." (Col. 3:16)

"Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee." (Heb. 2:12)

"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms." (Jam. 5:13)

Hence, we do not presumptuously place mechanical instruments into the worship because:

1. Jesus never taught it. (Acts 1:1)
2. The disciples of Christ never practiced or taught it. (Matthew 28:18-20)
3. Peter and the other apostles, who had been given the keys to the kingdom, did not authorize it. (Matthew 16:19; Matthew 18:18)
4. The Holy Spirit never instructed it. (John 16:13)
5. One cannot speak as the oracles of God and teach its use in worship. (I Peter 4:11)
6. Instrumental music is not "in truth." (John 4:24; John 17:17)
7. It does not pertain to life and godliness. (2 Peter 1:3)

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8. It is not a good work in God's eyes. (2 Timothy 3:16,17)
9. To preach its use is to preach another gospel. (Gal. 1:8,9)
10. By the admission of most, such teaching is an effort to please the ears of men (Gal. 1:10)
11. It did not come by the revelation of Jesus Christ. (Gal. 1:11,12)
12. It is no part of the counsel of God. (Acts 20:27)
13. It is not according to sound words. (2 Tim. 1:13)
14. It is not in the better covenant. (Heb. 8:6)
15. It is not of faith. (Rom. 10:17; 2 Cor. 5:7).
16. It is not a blood-sealed practice. (Heb. 10:28,29)
17. Instrumental music in worship is a doctrine of men. (Matt. 15:8,9)
18. It is an addition to the worship prescribed in the Word of God. (Rev. 22:18)
19. It is the offering of "strange fire" in worship to God. (Lev. 10:1; I Tim. 3:14,15)
20. To use such is not to abide in the doctrine of Christ. (2 John 9-11)
21. It is will worship. (Col. 2:20-23)
22. It is a substitute for the God-given system of religion. (Acts 2:42)
23. It cannot be done in the name of the Lord. (Col. 3:16,17)
24. Preaching the use of it is not preaching the word faithfully. (2 Tim. 4:2)
25. It should not be contended for by the faithful. (Jude 3)
26. One cannot walk in the light and support the use of it in worship. (I John 1:7)
27. The practice of such departs from the simplicity that is in Christ. (2 Cor. 11:3)
28. The introduction of it causes division. (John 17:20,21; I Kgs. 18:18)
29. Its addition constitutes the sin of presumption. (Deut. 18:20; Psalm 19:13)
30. The only safe and correct course is to refuse the use of mechanical instruments of music in worship to God. (John 12:48)

HYPOCRITICAL SINGING

We sing "Sweet Hour Of Prayer," and are content with five or ten minutes a day.

We sing "Heavenly Sunlight," and stay away from church because it is too hot.

We sing "Onward Christian Soldiers," and wait to be drafted into His service.

We sing "O For A Thousand Tongues," and do not use the one we have.

We sing "There Shall Be Showers Of Blessings," but we do not come to church when it rains.

We sing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds," and let the least little offense sever our ties.

We sing, "When They Ring Those Golden Bells," but we seem to never hear the church bells.

We sing, "Serve The Lord With Gladness," and gripe about all we have to do.

We sing, "We're Marching To Zion," but fail to march to Sunday school, mid-week Bible study, or gospel meetings.

We sing, "I Love To Tell The Story," and never mention it all year outside the building.

We sing, "Cast Thy Burden On The Lord," and worry ourselves into a nervous breakdown.

We sing, "Throw Out The Lifeline," and are content in throwing out the fishing line.

You know, we can sing a lie just as easily as we can speak one!

Author Unknown

NEWS AND NOTES

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

Gary London, son of Virginia, is recovering from hip surgery at Arkansas Continued Care Hospital.

Sheryl Taylor is suffering with severe back pain and sciatic nerve issues.

Hershel Colbert, a cousin to Myra Morris, Clydene Nelson and Craig Nelson, is in ICU at NEA Baptist.

Please continue to pray for all of these and others who are at home recovering from recent surgeries, confinement, or bereavement.

IN OTHER NEWS:

“Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.” (Hebrews 10:24)

Ukraine Missions Buckets: February items are antibiotic cream, baby powder, and disposable razors.

Upcoming Events:

Men’s Breakfast will be March 5 at 8:00 a.m. in the basement.

March Birthday/Anniversary Supper will be March 6 after evening services.

Ladies’ Night Out will be Tuesday night, March 8th at 6:30 p.m. in the basement.

New Family Bible Study Questions are on the *Missions Table* in the foyer for everyone to pick up and use.

Those Privileged To Serve

February 27, 2022

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader: Scottie Blanchard
Opening Prayer: Logan Snyder
Closing Prayer: Carroll Morris
Bible Reading: Stacy Eddleman
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

LORD’S TABLE

Presiding: Stan Honeycutt
Mike Felts Reginald Read
David Loggins James Johnson
Tom Carner Carlos Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Nichols

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader: Mark Wooten
Opening Prayer: Barry Roush
Closing Prayer: Scottie Blanchard
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

March 2, 2022

Song Leader: *Singing Night*
Opening Prayer: David Loggins
Closing Prayer: James Johnson

DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

March 2, 2022

Mike Felts

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK

Week Of

February 20, 2022

Sunday Bible Study	70
Sunday AM Worship	101
Sunday PM Worship	80
Wednesday Bible Study	NC
Contribution	\$5090

“Open rebuke is better than secret love.”

Proverbs 27:5

The Friend of Truth

Greensboro Road church of Christ
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405

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

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KeeNotes

The Sermon on the Mount is one of the most beautiful sermons one can ever read. These are the words of Jesus as He introduces the kingdom to the Jews. In this we learn how Jesus expects His followers to live their lives. But the question is always why? Why should we try to live this way?

First, and maybe most importantly, Jesus died that we might live this way. Paul told Titus, “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works” (Titus 2:14). This is an outline of how we should all be seeking to live our lives.

Furthermore, it shows our need for a new birth and with it, help from above. The beatitudes show to us our helplessness without God. This sermon brings to light the possibility of our living the Christian life. It shows us how we must become new and that we can live this new life. When reading these three chapters (Matt. 5-7), we become stronger and feel empowered to live for Christ.

There is no doubt but that the more effort we give to serving the Lord the more blessed we are. Surely, we seek to do for others, and we must reach out and seek the benefit of others, but this blesses *us*. The more we give the more we receive (cf. Matt. 5:6).

Finally, when we read and study the sermon on the mount and we pattern our lives according to the teachings of Jesus as described here, we become more attractive to others. When we live this life, others by seeing Christ manifested in us, are helped to see Christ more clearly. Living this life helps others to see Christ, but it also lets them know that they can live this life if they choose. This sermon is indeed one we ought to read and study more diligently.

TJK

SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols
Randy Oden

DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard
Jerry Dodson
Stacy Eddleman
Mike Felts
Jason Garland
Scott Pratt
Kevin Roush
Mark Wooten

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

MISSIONARIES

Samrit Kammanee,
Southeast Asia
Micah Robertson,
Montana
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

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” (2 Cor. 5:17)

Living Anew In 2022

Visit Our Website: greensbororoadchurchofchrist.com