

Why We Do Not Use Instruments In Our Worship To God

I. We Believe We Are Under The Authority Of The New Testament Alone

Psalm 150:3-5 Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp! 4 Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes! 5 Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals!

Galatians 3:24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Hebrews 7:18 For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness,

Hebrews 8:7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.

Hebrews 8:13 In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away

Hebrews 10:9 then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second.

Romans 7:4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another — to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

Galatians 4:24 which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar —

Galatians 4:30 Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman."

Galatians 5:3 And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law.

Psalm 66:15 I will offer You burnt sacrifices of fat animals, With the sweet aroma of rams; I will offer bulls with goats.

II. Worship Without Authority Is Rejected By God

John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Leviticus 10:1-2 Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. 2 So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

1 Samuel 15:21-23 But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal." 22 So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king."

Matthew 15:9 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

Revelation 22:18-19 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

III. Under The Authority Of The New Testament We Are Commanded To Sing

Ephesians 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Colossians 3:16 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.

Hebrews 13:15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

Mark 14:26 And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

IV. The History Of The Use Of Instruments In Worship

"Hymn singing is the earliest recorded musical activity of Christian Church."... "The early church excluded instrumental music from public worship."... "The organ does not seem to have been used regularly with the choir in Mass much before the thirteenth century."

(The History Of Western Music, Donald Grout, pp. 13, 26, 64)

"The rejection of all musical instruments for Christian worship is consistent among the Fathers. They were associated with pagan, orgiastic rites."

(The New Catholic Encyclopedia, "History of Sacred Music," X:106)

"The primitive Christian community held the same view, as we know from the apostolic and post-apostolic literature: instrumental music was thought unfit for religious services; the Christian sources are quite outspoken in their condemnation of instrumental performances. Originally, only song was considered worthy of direct approach to Divinity."

(New Oxford History of Music, "The Music of Post-Biblical Judaism, I:135)

"Musical concerts with viol and lute belong to Apollo, to the Muses, to Minerva and Mercury who invented them; ye who are Christians, hate and abhor these things whose very author themselves must be the object of loathing and aversion"

(Tertullian, AD 160-230)

"Our church does not use instruments, as harps and psalteries, to praise God withal, that she may not seem to Judaize."

(Bingham's Antiquities, Thomas Aquinas, AD 1225-1274)

"Musical instruments in celebrating the praises of God would be no more suitable than burning of incense, the lighting of lamps, and the restoration of the other shadows of the Law."

(Commentary of Psalms, John Calvin, p.33)

"What a degradation to supplant the intelligent song of the whole congregation by the theatrical prettiness of a quartet, bellows and pipes! We might as well pray by machinery as praise by it."

(Commentary on Psalms, Charles Spurgeon, 42:4)