

TOPICAL SERMON: SHOULD MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS BE USED IN CHURCH?

[2] The title of the sermon today is "SHOULD MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS BE USED IN CHURCH?"

- Many "Christian" denominations today believe that musical instruments shouldn't be used in church.
- Why is that? Why do they say that musical instruments shouldn't be used in church?

Here's their reasoning behind not allowing musical instruments in church:

- Yes, there are all kinds of musical instruments used in the Old Testament to worship God.
- God loved musical instruments in the Old Testament.
- They'll say that the New Testament Church started in the Book of Acts.
- Since we're living in the New Testament Church age, we should follow the pattern for the New Testament.
- They'll say that musical instruments aren't ever shown in the Bible after Acts Chapter 2.
- They'll say that the New Testament Church started in Acts Chapter 2 and musical instruments are never used after that point.
- They'll say, "If God wanted musical instruments to be used in church, He would have said something."

And yes, people fall for this because it's logical within their minds. "Oh yeah that makes sense now."

- This argument can make sense to you, but it doesn't mean that's what God says in His Bible.
- For example, Seventh Day Adventists will say that sinners can't enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.
- They'll say, "We have to get better before we die so that we don't sin any more before we can go to heaven."
- This makes sense to us. We must be sinless to enter into heaven because sinners don't go to heaven.
- But, that's a lie because we're all sinners. We continue to sin until we die just like the Apostle Paul said.

[3] Romans 7:14-16 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. 15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. 16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.

[4] Romans 7:17-19 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. 18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. 19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

- We MUST use Scripture to develop our beliefs. We want our beliefs to match what God says.
- You can argue that the Apostle Paul was the greatest Christian to ever live.
- Once he found out the truth from Jesus Himself, he went after the truth with all that he had. Thank God.
- But for some reason, the Seventh Day Adventists think they're better Christians than Paul.
- Paul is saying that he can't stop sinning because no good thing dwells there in his flesh or his body.
- Because we have this shell called flesh or body, we're going to sin. We will sin in this no good flesh.
- But Scripture can be twisted, but it will never be changed.

So, we have to make sure we don't just believe everything because it makes sense to us.

- That's how people start going away from God. They don't compare teaching to the Scriptures.

- And they trust man and what man is teaching without ever going to God's word to verify and test.
- "Well, they have a good argument so I believe what they're saying." That's not what we do.

[5] John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

- If you want to know what Jesus wants you to believe, HE SAYS to search the Scriptures.
- If you want to have a close relationship with Jesus, HE SAYS: "You'll find me in the Scriptures."
- We don't want to have the wrong Jesus. We want to find the right Jesus within HIS WORDS.

[6] Acts 17:10-12 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. 12 Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

- We are to SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES daily to find and to know the truth.
- The question we're trying to answer is "Should musical instruments be used in church?"
- Should we be answering this question today? Shouldn't we already know the answer?
- Let me explain what I mean with Scriptures. Going all the way back to Deuteronomy.

[7] Deuteronomy 11:18-19 Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. 19 And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

[8] Deuteronomy 11:20-21 And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates: 21 That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.

- We need to have the Scriptures in our hearts and in our souls.
- "Bind them for a sign upon your hand that they may be frontlets between your eyes."
- "And ye SHALL teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house."
- When we go out walking by the way, we are to be speaking of the Scriptures.
- When we lie down to rest, we should be speaking of the Scriptures. When we get up, the Scriptures.
- When we're having trouble in our life, THE SCRIPTURES. When we're doing great, THE SCRIPTURES.
- They should be written in our homes. THEN WILL WE PROSPER. God's word is only good.

[9] Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

- We don't want to go against God and His words because it won't end up good.
- Let's say the other side is right and we shouldn't use musical instruments in church.
- Let's say that God did say NOT to use musical instruments in church. This is a very serious thing.
- We don't want to err not knowing the Scriptures.

[10] Matthew 22:29 *Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.*

- We should know the POWER OF GOD, and we should want to follow what HE SAYS.

[11] 2 Timothy 3:16 *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

- His words are always PROFITABLE. My words aren't. I waste so many words. God doesn't waste words.
- Every word of God is true and good and profitable. So let's hear HIS WORDS today.
- We should only allow the word of God to enter and to dwell within us.

[12] 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.*

- We must allow the word of Christ to dwell within us RICHLY in all wisdom.
- If you want wisdom, Christ is the way to get that wisdom.
- And we don't want worldly wisdom. We want heavenly wisdom from God.
- I don't want to know how to live on the streets and get whatever I want from anyone at any time.
- I want heavenly wisdom that increases God's Kingdom on this earth. I want God's will to be done.

We know 100% for sure that we should be singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.

- We should be singing with grace in our hearts to the Lord. Not to each other. TO THE LORD.
- When we sing, we don't just sing in church. And we don't sing to each other so others can hear us.
- We sing to the Lord God Almighty who gave us life and gives us eternal life.
- Everything we do in church and out of church should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus.

[13] Colossians 3:17 *And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.*

- We know we sing to the Lord but what about using musical instruments to give thanks to God?
- We know that singing in church to get glory for ourselves is wrong. The glory goes to God.
- Individual performances in which people are worshipping the singer is evil.
- If a great singer is there simply to get raised up themselves, this is evil.
- If a musician playing in instrument is there to get noticed by others, this is evil.
- Singing and instruments can be evil but not if those people are doing it all in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- If they're giving thanks to God through the playing of instruments, it's not evil.

Notice that we just read from the book of Colossians. This is the New Testament.

- We just read in Colossians Chapter 3 verse 16 that we should sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.
- Are there other Scriptures in the New Testament with clear commands concerning singing? Yes.

[14] Ephesians 5:18-20 *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;*

- This is the New Testament. And it's a command from God. Be filled with the Holy Spirit. How?
- Singing and making melody in your heart. PSALMS, HYMNS, SPIRITUAL SONGS.
- And how else? Giving thanks always for all things unto God in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[15] James 5:13 *Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.*

- Sing psalms. Must we have musical instruments to sing psalms? No, of course not.
- Is it wrong for a church not to use musical instruments? I don't think so.
- If they want to sing to God with all that they have with just their voices, I'm sure God will be happy.
- LET HIM SING PSALMS. God doesn't command us to use musical instruments in these Scriptures.
- People can even use their voices to imitate musical instruments and it's amazing.

But, is it wrong to use musical instruments with our psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs?

- Let's keep going. Are there any examples of Jesus singing in the Bible?
- If we go to Matthew Chapter 26, we'll find this:

[16] Matthew 26:27-28 *And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; 28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

- So, we know this is the Lord's Supper in Matthew Chapter 26. Let's keep going in verse 29.

[17] Matthew 26:29-30 *But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom. 30 And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.*

- Do you see that there? "AND WHEN THEY HAD SUNG AN HYMN."
- Looks to me like Jesus was singing a hymn with the disciples. So that's we'll do in church.
- We'll sing hymns because Jesus sang hymns. He commands us to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.

[18] Mark 14:26 *And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.*

- We are commanded to sing psalms in the New Testament. That's very clear.
- Guess what? The Old Testament commands us to do the same thing.

[19] 1 Chronicles 16:8-9 *Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people. 9 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.*

- Why are we singing psalms to the Lord? Because we're happy. We break out with singing.
- Shouldn't we be happy enough to just start singing to the Lord? Where is the joy for the Lord?
- When God saved the children of Israel by parting the Red Sea, they were happy!!!
- Imagine that you were there. The Egyptians, a much mightier people in the earth, were after you.
- They had their great weapons of war and you had nothing to fight with. You had a stick.
- God leads the way in the front and protects them in the back and protects from all sides.
- You come upon a dead end at the Dead Sea. The Egyptians are coming to kill you.

God steps in and parts the great waters of the Red Sea. "PASS ON THROUGH MY CHILDREN."

- You pass through the mighty Red Sea on dry land. The Egyptians are still coming after you.
- You turn around after you've crossed onto dry land and see all the Egyptians coming.
- God returns the waters of the Red Sea and they come crashing down on the Egyptians.
- God saves you from the people trying to kill you. Now, are you going to be happy or not?
- Are you going to be joyful or not? Are you going to jump up and down and praise God or not?
- Guess how God was praised after He saved the children of Israel? Let's listen to this closely.

[20] Exodus 15:1-2 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. 2 The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

- They're singing a song. Who knows if Moses could sing well or not, but who cares?
- THEN SANG MOSES AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL THIS SONG UNTO THE LORD.
- "I WILL SING UNTO THE LORD!!!" And I want you to watch what happens in Exodus Chapter 15.

[21] Exodus 15:20-21 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. 21 And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

- Do you see that? Miriam was praising God. What did she have in her hand? OH NO! A musical instrument.
- Did God strike her down right there because she had a timbrel in her hand?
- Where did she get that timbrel? Why did she have a musical instrument?
- This is probably close to what a timbrel looked like.

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- Miriam takes a timbrel after God had just saved them and SINGS TO THE LORD. Not as a show.
- Not to be recognized as some amazing musician. And ALL THE WOMEN went out with her.
- What did they have? TIMBRELS. And guess what else happened? They danced with all their might.
- They didn't dance so people would look at them. They danced to the Lord a happy dance.
- They played instruments to the Lord, danced to the Lord, and sang to the Lord.
- And guess what didn't happen?

God didn't strike them down like He did Nadab and Abihu when they offered strange fire upon God's altar.

- Miriam and all the women had instruments. That means the children of Israel had instruments.
- What do you think they did with those instruments? They didn't just sit there. They used them in songs.
- They used instruments when singing psalms to the Lord. God NEVER says He hates musical instruments.
- If you're playing a musical instrument in church to the Lord, I guarantee that He'll like it.
- How can I say that? Because it's all throughout the Bible.
- If you aren't playing a musical instrument to the Lord but singing with all your might to the Lord, He'll like it.

[23] 1 Samuel 18:6-7 And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with tabrets,

with joy, and with instruments of musick. 7 And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

- Where do you think musical instruments for singing to the Lord came from?
- God has musical instruments in heaven!!! And you don't think He wants musical instruments in church?
- It's good enough for heaven but not for some church down here on earth? Really?
- In verse 6 right there of 1 Samuel Chapter 18, the women came out singing and dancing after victory!
- They had tabrets and instruments of musick. THEY PLAYED THE INSTRUMENTS!!!

[24] Judges 11:34 And Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances: and she was his only child; beside her he had neither son nor daughter.

- They played music with instruments when they were joyful. They danced with joy with the music.

[25] 2 Samuel 6:3-4 And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart. 4 And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab which was at Gibeah, accompanying the ark of God: and Ahio went before the ark.

[26] 2 Samuel 6:5 And David and all the house of Israel played before the LORD on all manner of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals.

- King David was a man after the Lord's own heart. They played BEFORE THE LORD with instruments.
- Do you think God would have stayed there and allowed them to play before Him if He hated instruments?
- God's nature doesn't change.
- If He enjoys musical instruments praising Him in the Old Testament, then I'll for sure play instruments for Him in the New Testament church.
- "They played before the Lord on ALL MANNER of instruments."
- Fir wood instruments, harps, psalteries, timbrels, cornets, cymbals.

[27] 2 Samuel 6:14-15 And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. 15 So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

- So, I'm telling you about this story of the ark being brought home for a reason.
- I want you to see this today. David danced before the Lord with all HIS MIGHT. Do you see that?
- They were happy and joyful because God was there!!! The sound of a trumpet was used.
- That trumpet is a musical instrument. But let's keep reading in 2 Samuel Chapter 6.

[28] 2 Samuel 6:16 And as the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal Saul's daughter looked through a window, and saw king David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

- King David is so happy that he's dancing and singing with everything he's got.
- His wife sees him dancing BEFORE THE LORD and she despises him for it.
- David was dancing as a show so he could be noticed by everyone. He was dancing to God.
- And his wife didn't like it. Did God like it? YES HE DID. Watch what happens to Michal Saul's daughter.

[29] 2 Samuel 6:20 *Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the king of Israel to day, who uncovered himself to day in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself!*

[30] 2 Samuel 6:21 *And David said unto Michal, It was before the LORD, which chose me before thy father, and before all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel: therefore will I play before the LORD.*

- King David says, "I WILL PLAY BEFORE THE LORD." David tells her, "IT WAS BEFORE THE LORD."
- It wasn't for you, it wasn't for the handmaids, it wasn't for anyone else BUT GOD.
- "And I will play before the Lord."
- He's talking about playing instruments, music, dancing, and JOY TO THE LORD.
- And watch how this isn't a joke. Michal despised King David for being joyful unto the Lord with song.

[31] 2 Samuel 6:22-23 *And I will yet be more vile than thus, and will be base in mine own sight: and of the maidservants which thou hast spoken of, of them shall I be had in honour. 23 Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death.*

- Michal was punished by God for despising King David as he praised the Lord that day.
- How did he praise the Lord? With song, music, instruments, and dancing.
- God loves to be praised with musical instruments.
- And to show you how serious that is, He gives us 2 Samuel Chapter 6.
- If you're in a church that despises other churches that use musical instruments to praise GOD alone, then you should probably read verse 23 there again.
- "Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death."

We've already seen the commandments in the New Testament to sing psalms to the Lord.

- So, let's look to the best examples we have of singing psalms to the Lord with the BOOK OF PSALMS.
- God gave us an entire BOOK OF PSALMS and commands us in the New Testament to sing psalms!!!
- So, wouldn't you think we would go to the Book of Psalms and actually see what they say?
- Keep in mind that the Book of Psalms is filled with SONGS FOR US TO SING.

[32] Psalm 33:2-3 *Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings. 3 Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise.*

- Did you know God wrote that right there? That's a command from God Himself.
- The Holy Spirit wrote that. The Holy Spirit likes harps, psalteries, instruments of ten strings.
- The Holy Spirit likes new songs played skilfully. Did you notice He likes it loud too?
- PLAY SKILFULLY WITH A LOUD NOISE!!!

[33] Psalm 43:4 *Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.*

- How did Psalm Chapter 43 right there tell us how to praise God?
- "UPON THE HARP WILL I PRAISE THEE!!! O GOD MY GOD."

[34] Psalm 47:5-7 *God is gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet. 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises. 7 For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.*

- They sang to God with music and instruments. It's very clear within the Book of Psalms.
- Sing praises to God. Sing praises to God. Sing praises to God. Sing with understanding.
- While you sing, understand that God is the King of all the earth.

[35] Psalm 57:8-9 *Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early. 9 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations.*

- I will play the psaltery and harp. I will praise thee O Lord. I will sing unto thee.
- How does he praise God? He plays instruments and sings unto the Lord.

[36] Psalm 68:22-25 *The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring my people again from the depths of the sea: 23 That thy foot may be dipped in the blood of thine enemies, and the tongue of thy dogs in the same. 24 They have seen thy goings, O God; even the goings of my God, my King, in the sanctuary. 25 The singers went before, the players on instruments followed after; among them were the damsels playing with timbrels.*

- The singers, the players on instruments, the damsels playing with timbrels.
- What else do you need to see? God commands us to sing the PSALMS.
- And the PSALMS have musical instruments being played throughout.
- Don't make up some false dispensation or division saying the Bible never mentions instruments after the New Testament Church is formed.
- God says sing the psalms. God says He loves musical instruments.

[37] Psalm 71:21-23 *Thou shalt increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side. 22 I will also praise thee with the psaltery, even thy truth, O my God: unto thee will I sing with the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel. 23 My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee; and my soul, which thou hast redeemed.*

- Maybe you don't have enough joy for the Lord if you don't want anything to do with musical instruments.
- Maybe you don't realize that God loves to be praised on musical instruments. Do you not see that?
- The Scriptures are very clear. The Book of Psalms must be important. Jesus talks about the PSALMS.

[38] Luke 24:44 *And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.*

- The Book of Psalms is 100% without a doubt GOD INSPIRED SCRIPTURE.
- Why aren't we following what the Psalms tell us to do?
- Why are certain so-called "Christian" denominations too good to use musical instruments?
- Why do they look down on others praising God with instruments like Michal the daughter of Saul?

[39] Psalm 81:1-2 Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob. 2 Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.

- How do you sing a psalm? Verse 2 of Psalm Chapter 81 tells us right there.
- 1) Take your psalm. You got it in your hand. 2) Bring hither the timbrel. 3) Bring the pleasant harp.
- 4) Bring hither the psaltery.
- Yes, you sing psalms with musical instruments.
- God didn't say, "In the New Testament Church you shall not sing Psalm 81 because it has instruments."
- People have lost their minds. That's called corruption. That's called being deceived.
- That's called listening to the word of man over the mighty WORD OF GOD. That's what this is.
- Psalm Chapter 87 talks about the CITY OF GOD. Watch what this says.

[40] Psalm 87:1-3 A Psalm or Song for the sons of Korah. His foundation is in the holy mountains. 2 The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. 3 Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah.

[41] Psalm 87:4-5 I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this man was born there. 5 And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her.

[42] Psalm 87:6-7 The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, that this man was born there. Selah. 7 As well the singers as the players on instruments shall be there: all my springs are in thee.

- Guess who will be in the CITY OF GOD? "The singers as the players on INSTRUMENTS shall be there."
- God says, "The players on instruments shall be there." And that's what God means.
- He means what He says. He's not trying to trick us. He loves musical instruments.
- If He didn't, He would have told us clearly. If He did love instruments, He would have told us clearly.
- Can this not be any more clear? It's everywhere in the Bible.
- "Well, that's the Old Testament so it doesn't count. We're in a more modern age now."
- "We're in a modern age where we don't listen to what God says. He's different now."
- HEY, NO HE'S NOT. He loves musical instruments.

[43] Psalm 149:2-4 Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King. 3 Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp. 4 For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

- When you praise Him name in the dance and sing praises unto Him with the timbrel and harp, guess what happens?
- He takes pleasure in HIS PEOPLE who praise Him and worship Him as HE WANTS.
- God says, "I like dancing to me. I like shouting to me. I like musical instruments praising me."
- "I like singing unto me." He will beautify the meek with salvation. PRAISE GOD!!!
- And just so you know what the Book of Psalms ends with, I'm going to read Psalm Chapter 150 to you.
- This is the last PSALM in the Book of Psalms. Watch how this ends.

[44] Psalm 150:1-3 Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. 2 Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. 3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

[45] Psalm 150:4-6 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. 5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. 6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

- How in the world can you be saved Christian today and tell me not to use musical instruments in church?
- You can't. Either you haven't trusted the Lord Jesus Christ alone to save you, or you have not faith in God's word.

[46] Matthew 6:30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

[47] Matthew 8:26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

[48] Matthew 16:8 Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?

- Stop reasoning among yourselves. "Well, there's no mention of musical instruments after Acts Chapter 2."
- "This must mean that we aren't supposed to use musical instruments."
- Did you not see the clear commandments from God in the New Testament to sing the Psalms?
- Did you not see the clear commandments in the Book of Psalms to praise God with instruments?
- This is all a matter of faith. Simply have faith in God's word. It's all right there. Just believe it and do it.

[49] Hebrews 2:12 Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

- In the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee!
- How do you sing praise? We just saw how to do that in the Book of Psalms. Instruments are used.
- "In the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee."
- Yeah, in the middle of church musical instruments should be used to praise God.
- To finish this out, I want to go to the last book of the Bible.
- And yes, this is the New Testament.

[50] Revelation 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

- The 24 elders around the throne of God in heaven have HARPS. Every one of them.
- Of all things, they have harps. They surround the throne of God Almighty.
- If He didn't want to hear any musical instruments, He sure wouldn't have them in heaven surrounding His throne.

[51] Revelation 14:2-3 *And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: 3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.*

- The Apostle John heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps in heaven.
- THOSE HARPERS with their HARPS were singing a new song BEFORE THE THRONE!!!
- Do you think God is angry with churches who are using musical instruments to praise Him?
- No way. If you think that, you aren't hearing the word of God.

[52] Revelation 15:1-2 *And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. 2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.*

- More harps in heaven. It sure doesn't make any sense that God wouldn't want instruments in churches.
- He sure wants to hear them in heaven. Why wouldn't He want to hear them on earth from His people?
- The saints achieved victory over the beast and stood on the sea of glass having the HARPS OF GOD.
- Whose harps were they? They were God's harps. Those were God's musical instruments.
- Are these so-called Christians going to call God evil for having HIS VERY OWN INSTRUMENTS?
- What did these people in heaven do with these harps? Next verse. Verse 3 of Revelation Chapter 15.

[53] Revelation 15:3-4 *And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. 4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.*

- They are worshipping God Almighty with musical instruments in heaven.
- This is the New Testament, and this is AFTER the New Testament Church in Acts Chapter 2.
- Do you know who can't use musical instruments to praise God? THE DEAD.
- The DEAD will never be able to praise God with musical instruments.

[54] Isaiah 38:18 *For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth.*

- The DEAD IN HELL will never be able to praise God with musical instruments.
- Why should we associate with the dead in hell by banning musical instruments?
- God tells us over and over again that He wants us to worship Him with singing.
- And the musical instruments accompany the singing. The Bible clearly states this over and over again.
- The next 2 verses in Isaiah Chapter 38 says this.

[55] Isaiah 38:19-20 *The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth. 20 The LORD was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD.*

- WE SHALL PRAISE GOD AS I DO THIS DAY.

- Verse 20 says, "We will sing my songs to the stringed instruments" all the days of our life.
- And where is that going to take place? Right there at the end of verse 20 says:
- "IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD!!!"
- Let me read it one last time:
- "Therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the Lord."

With all of this that you've heard today, do you really think that churches should not be using musical instruments?

- Of course churches should be using musical instruments to praise and worship God.
- If they're using musical instruments for any other reason, that's a different story.
- If you want to please God, the Bible tells us to sing the psalms and hymns with instruments.
- I hope you've seen the truth today from God's word.
- Remember, let's start listening to what God has to say and forget about what man says.
- Singing to God is good. Dancing to God is good. Playing musical instruments to God is good.

[56] 1 Chronicles 16:42 And with them Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those that should make a sound, and with musical instruments of God. And the sons of Jeduthun were porters.

- "With the musical instruments of God." The instruments were of GOD.
- It doesn't say that musical instruments are of the devil.

[57] Nehemiah 12:36 And his brethren, Shemaiah, and Azarael, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel, and Judah, Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God, and Ezra the scribe before them.

- I'm not sure what else you need to see to show that musical instruments are designed to praise God.
- They weren't designed for devil music. They weren't given to us for any other reason but praising God.
- And God loves to be praised and worshipped with singing and instruments.
- That's the end of the argument. The Bible ends all arguments. It's over.
- And look, that's not even close to all the SCRIPTURE regarding musical instruments.
- But really? That should be plenty of proof to put away the false doctrine of evil musical instruments.

Let's pray.