

Instrumental Music

By

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The Bible teaches us to:

- Not follow the teaching of men
(Matt. 15:9)
 - “And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men”

The Bible teaches us to:

- Worship in spirit and in truth
(Jno. 4:24)
 - “God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

The Bible teaches us to:

- Not go beyond the teaching of scripture (2 Jno. 9-10)
 - “Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds”

The Bible teaches us to:

- Not engage in will worship (Col. 2:23)
 - “These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, *false* humility, and neglect of the body, *but are* of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.”

The Bible teaches us to:

- Have authority (Col. 3:17; 1 Tim. 4:16)
 - “And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”
 - “Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.” (1 Tim. 4:16)

The Bible teaches us to:

- Follow the pattern (2 Tim. 1:13; Heb. 8:5)
 - “Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.” (2 Tim. 1:13)
 - “Who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See *that* you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.” (Heb. 8:5)

Is the use of instrumental music in worship

- Following the teaching of men?
(Matt. 15:9)
 - Yes, Its use began with man!
- Worshiping in spirit and in truth?
(Jno. 4:24)
 - No, consider the NT passages concerning music!

NT Passages on Music

- “And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives” (Matt 26:30).
- “But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them” (Acts 16:25).

NT Passages on Music

- “...For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name” (Rom. 15:9).
- “...I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding” (1 Cor 14:15).
- “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Eph. 5:19).

NT Passages on Music

- “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).
- “...I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You” (Heb. 2:12).
- “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” (Heb. 13:15).
- “Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms” (James 5:13).

Is the use of instrumental music in worship

- Going beyond the teaching of the scripture? (2 Jno. 9-10)
 - Yes!
- Will worship? (Col. 2:23)
 - Yes!
- Authorized by the scriptures? (Col. 3:16)
 - No!
- Following the pattern (2 Tim. 1:13; Heb. 8:5)
 - No!

Questions

- Wasn't it used in the O. T.?
 - Yes (Psa. 149:1-9; 150)
 - Answer: Col. 2:14; Gal. 5:4
- What about song books, pitch pipes?
- Isn't it used in heaven?
- Can't we use our gifts to glorify God
- Where does the Bible say not to?

Questions

- It is authorized by the Greek word, “Psallo.”
 - Translated “sing” in Rom. 15:9; 1 Cor. 14:15 and Jas. 5:13 and translated “making melody” in Eph. 5:19
 - “Psallo” has several meanings according to Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the N.T. He lists these:
 - “To pluck off, pull out...to cause to vibrate by touching, to twang....”
 - The meaning must be determined by the context. Where are we to “psallo?” In the human heart, Eph. 5:19.