

Following the New Testament Pattern – Music In The Church

What Do You Notice About Music In The Assembly Of Most Religious Groups?

- Most groups use mechanical instruments (organ, bands, etc).
 - Their music seems to be very popular and satisfying.
 - Music is advertised/ marketed to encourage attendance.
- There is a small minority who do not use mechanical instruments.

Why Is The Music Used During The Church Assembly Important?

- It is a form of prayer used to express praise/thanksgiving to God.
- The members of the church are lifted up.
- Using the correct form of music in the church honors God..
- The method used to approach God has always been VERY important.
 - There are severe consequences for not approaching God properly.
 - * Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire, Lev. 10:1-3.
 - * Uzzah touched the ark of the covenant, 2 Sam. 6:1-7.
 - * Uzziah offered incense on the altar, 2 Ch. 26:16-23.
 - * Saul offered the sacrifice at Gilgal, 1 Sam. 13:8-14.
 - Man has no authority to add or subtract from God's word.
 - * Deut 4:2, Deut 5:32, 2 John 9, 1 Cor 11:1-2

What Type Of Music Is Authorized For The Church Assembly?

- Has God spoken or can man choose?
- David used mechanical instruments to praise God, (2 Chr 29:25).
 - David lived under the Old Testament law.
 - The Old Testament law has been replaced, Rom 7:4, Gal. 3:23-25.
 - Other practices of the Old Testament law are not practiced today.
- No examples of early Christians playing musical instruments during the church assembly.
- Vocal music (singing) without the aid of mechanical instruments is approved during the church assembly. The specific command is to sing.

Reference Verses

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

Eph 5:18, "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;"

Col 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."

I Cor 14:15, "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."

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

Rom 15:9, "... For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name."

James 5:13, "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms"

Your Important Role.

- Participate in praising God through song.
- There are a multitude of reasons to be thankful to the Lord.
 - God gave His Son for you – John 3:16
 - Blessings for this life and the life that is to come – 1 Tim 4:8

There Is No Mention of Using the Aid of Mechanical Instruments During the Assembly of the First Century Church.

What Is Our Goal? Follow the practices of the first century church.

How? Adhere to the approved practices of the first century church by not adding what God has not authorized.