

WHY CHURCHES OF CHRIST DO NOT USE MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTS OF MUSIC #13

I DON'T SEE ANY HARM IN IT. EVERYBODY USES THEM

Often in frustration, when every possible argument has been used and shown to be false, proponents of mechanical instruments of music will say, "I just don't see any harm in it, everybody else is using them."

Such attempts to assure one's use of instruments in worship shows their total disregard for Bible authority! They might as well say, "I don't care what the Bible says, I'm going to do it anyway!"

No one has a choice to do what they want to do when it comes to worshiping and serving God. Acceptable worship is according to **God's will**, not man's will.

Jesus taught the woman at Jacob's well that TRUE worship is offered "**in spirit and in truth**" (John 4:24). One may worship with the proper "spirit" (the right attitude, thought, disposition of heart, sincerity) and their worship be in vain because it is not "in truth." Likewise, one may worship "in truth" (according to God's instructions, his Word) and their worship be in vain because it is not "in spirit" (from the heart). Acceptable worship therefore involves BOTH man's "spirit" and God's "truth." The tragedy is that so many believe and practice that as long as you have a sincere heart, God will accept "anything" offered to him in worship. That is just not so!

Nadab and Abihu did not see any

harm in offering "strange fire" when they worshiped God in burning incense, but God sent down fire from heaven and killed them where they stood (Lev. 10:1-2). The fire they used was different (strange) from what God had commanded to be used. King Saul did not see any harm in bringing the king of Amalek and many of the best animals back from battle even though God had commanded them to be killed. As a result, God rejected him from being king over Israel and tells the whole world that it is better to obey God than to have the best of intentions (1 Sam. 15). Uzzah did not see any harm in touching the ark to keep it from falling, but God killed him for touching it (2 Sam. 6:6-7).

It does not matter if the majority of people use instruments of music. Jesus said the majority are lost (Matt. 7:13-14). God warns us all, "*Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil*" (Exod. 23:2). One's belief, teaching and practice are not determined by popular vote or how one feels. We must look to God and his word, not men and their practice.

There is great spiritual harm in going against God's Word. God has the power to punish in hell (Matt. 10:28). We better do what he says. Why would anyone fight so desperately to do those things THEY desire and care not at all what GOD desires? Why?

One more time, let us ask, WHERE'S THE SCRIPTURE FOR IT?

—Garland M. Robinson