

WHY CHURCHES OF CHRIST DO NOT USE MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTS OF MUSIC #4

Some say the church of Christ does not believe in MUSIC. But, regardless of what men say, nothing could be further from the truth! We believe: what God says, “rightly dividing” what God says (2 Tim. 2:15), and doing what God says.

There are two kinds of music: **vocal** and **mechanical**. Vocal music is “God-made” and uses the human voice. Mechanical music is “man-made” and uses mechanical instruments outside the human voice. Both kinds of music can be used independently of the other or in combination with the other. The question is, **what does God require in the worship of the church?** Does it matter with God what we do? YES!

The Bible is specific concerning the KIND of music God wants. Every passage concerning music in the New Testament church can only be obeyed by using the human voice, not a man-made instrument. The chart illustrates this point well.

The evidence is overwhelming as to what God wants us to do in worship. Book, chapter and verse can be given for vocal music. But no verses can be shown for mechanical instruments of music.

Man-made instruments in worship are SINFUL because they: 1) Reject New Testament authority (Col. 3:17), 2) Go beyond that which is written (2 John 9-11), 3) Violate scriptural worship (Col. 3:16), 4) Cause division (Prov. 6:19).

The Bible is either the word of men or the word of God. If it the word of men, then it carries no more authority than any other book written by man. However, if it is the WORD OF GOD, it carries all the authority that heaven demands (cf. Matt. 24:35; Col. 3:17).

The Bible is from God and claims ALL AUTHORITY. Jesus said, “All power (authority) is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matt. 28:18). Christ’s words have ALL AUTHORITY and will judge all humanity at the end of the world (John 12:48). Therefore, what we do must be by his authority (Col. 3:17). Are YOU ready for the judgment?

—Garland M. Robinson

The Bible Commands to:	The Voice	The Instrument
Sing unto God (Romans 15:9)	Can	Cannot
Speak in song (Ephesians 5:19)	Can	Cannot
Make melody in the heart (Eph. 5:19)	Can	Cannot
Teach in song (Col. 3:16)	Can	Cannot
Admonish in song (Col. 3:16)	Can	Cannot
Sing with the spirit (I Cor. 14:15)	Can	Cannot
Sing with understanding (I Cor14:15)	Can	Cannot
Praise God (Hebrews 2:12)	Can	Cannot
Give thanks (Hebrews 13:15)	Can	Cannot
Sing psalms (James 5:13)	Can	Cannot