

# WHY CHURCHES OF CHRIST DO NOT USE MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTS OF MUSIC #9

## I LIKE MUSIC, IT MAKES ME FEEL CLOSER TO GOD

**T**he number one reason why instruments of music are used is because people like them; never mind what the Bible says. They can pretend to point to scriptures to justify their use, but the bottom line is, “I like them, and I’m going to use them!”

The major thing wrong with this statement is the word “I.” Since they enjoy them, they expect God to enjoy them as well. The only way to be acceptable in God’s sight regarding worship is to do that which God has authorized. That’s how we feel “close” to God. Worship is not about me (us), it’s about God. The church in the New Testament never used them.

Second Corinthians 5:7 says, “*we walk by **faith**, not by **sight**.*” Doing what “I want” and what “I like” is walking by sight, not faith. Romans 10:17 says “*...faith cometh by hearing...the word of God.*” Therefore, to walk “by faith” is to walk (live) according to God’s Word. But, since God’s Word does not authorize instruments of music in worship, then they cannot be used “by faith.” To use them is to walk by human “sight” (what pleases us) instead of the word of “faith.”

Just because something feels right does not make it right! Proverbs 14:12 says, “*There is a way which **seemeth right** unto a man, but the end thereof*

*are the ways of death.*” The Israelites felt right when they worshiped the golden calf, but it was a grievous sin (Exodus 32). Saul felt right when he persecuted the church, but he was wrong (Acts 26:9). We can’t go by our feelings!

The truth is, one is only close to God when God is close to him. It doesn’t matter what “I think” or how “I feel.” The question is, “What does God think, how does God feel?” When I do things “God’s way” with a sincere heart, then and only then, can I be close to God. “*And hereby we do know that we know him, **if we keep his commandments***” (1 John 2:3).

Acceptable worship is not only “*in spirit*,” it’s also “*in truth*” (John 4:24). “*The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him...in truth*” (Psalm 145:18). God’s Word is truth (John 17:17). Therefore, we must worship according to God’s Word, the Truth, not what we like or enjoy.

Jesus asked, “*...why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say*” (Luke 6:46)? He also said, “*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but **he that doeth the will of my Father** which is in heaven*” (Matt. 7:21).

Are you following God’s will or your own will? God’s will does not authorize man-made instruments of music!

—Garland M. Robinson