

Come Christians Join to Sing



God's Warning – Do Not Tamper With His Commandments

- **Deuteronomy 4:2** – “You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.”
- **Proverbs 30:6** – “Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.”
- **Revelation 22:18-19** – “For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book”.

Danger of Adding Tradition to Worship

- **Matthew 15:9** - “And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”
- **2 John 9** – “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.”

Make Melody in Your Heart

- **Ephesians 5:19** – “Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and **MAKING MELODY IN YOUR HEART** to the Lord.”

Early Religious Leaders

- Early religious leaders condemned instrumental music in worship.
 - **John Wesley** . . . Methodist . . . “I have no objection to the organ in our chapels provided it is neither seen nor heard.”
 - **John Calvin** . . . Presbyterian . . . “Musical instruments in celebrating the praises of God would be no more suitable than the burning of incense, the lighting up of lamps, and the restoration of other shadows of the law.”
 - **Joseph Bingham** . . . Church of England . . . “Music in the church is as ancient as the apostles; but instrumental music is not.”
 - **Adam Clarke** . . . Methodist . . . writing on page 686 in Vol. 4 of *Clark’s Commentary*, said: I am an old man, and an old minister; and I here declare that I never knew them (musical instruments) productive of any good in the worship of God; and have had no reason to believe that they were productive of much evil. Music as a science I esteem and admire, but instruments of music in the house of God I abominate and abhor.”
 - **Charles Spurgeon** . . . Baptist . . . “I would as soon attempt to pray to God with machinery as to sing to Him with machinery.”
 - **Martin Luther** . . . Lutheran . . . Called the organ an “ensign of Baal.”

The Early Church Used Only
Vocal Music

Arguments Made in Defense of
Mechanical Instruments in
Worship

“I don’t see any harm in it.” . . . “I don’t see anything wrong with it”

- There is harm in it.
- It has divided the religious world.
- It has caused trouble in nearly every religious group.
- It discourages congregational singing.
- It makes worship vain.
- **Matthew 15:9** – “And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

“The Bible doesn’t say not to use them.”

- When God says something a certain way, it excludes everything else.
- **Romans 10:17** – “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

“I like it and it sounds good.”

- In the worship service, whom are we trying to please . . . God . . . or ourselves?
- In our worship services we are striving to please God in rather than men.
- Music here is worship . . . not an art.
- It is not what pleases us but rather what pleases God that counts.

“It was used in the Old Testament.”

- Instruments of music were used in the Old Testament . . . Even at the temple in Jerusalem. Other things were used in the Old Testament as well. Among them:
 1. Animal sacrifices were used for religious purposes at both the Tabernacle and the Temple . . . But not in the New Testament.
 2. The burning of incense was used as well . . . But not in the New Testament.
- **The fact that these things were used in the Old Testament does not justify their use in the New Testament.**

The New Testament

- **Colossians 2:14** – “Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”
- **Hebrews 10:9-10** – “Then He said, ‘Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.’ He takes away the first that He may establish the second. 10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”
- **Hebrews 7:12** – “For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.”

Let Us Sing in Worship

- **Ephesians 5:19** - ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing** and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Music” is a generic term . . . “Sing” is a specific term

- In Koinie Greek, **“Psallo”** means specifically singing without instrumental accompaniment