

Worship – Music

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Notes for sermon “Worship – Music”

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There is a right way and a wrong way to worship God. “In spirit” means we are to worship God with the right attitude and “in truth” means we are to worship God as command in His Word.

Jesus spoke of this when he said, (read **Matthew 15:8-9**) They were worshipping God in vain because “their heart is far from Me” they did not have the right attitude and they were not worshipping “in truth” because they were following the teaching and commandments of men.

Therefore, if we want to be pleasing to God, everything we do in worship must be done by the authority of God.

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This is exactly what Paul was speaking of when he said....(read Colossians 3:17)

Everything we do must be done “in the name of the Lord Jesus.” “In the name” means by the authority of Jesus. If God’s Word does not authorize it we can not do it.

I Peter 4:11 tells us...(next slide)

We are to speak nothing more or nothing less than what God has told us in His Word.

Walk by faith = doing what God has specified in His Word.

Walk by sight = doing what we want to do.

Where does our faith come from? (read Romans 10:17)

By hearing (reading) God’s Word.

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Everything we need that pertains to our relationship with God is found in His Word. Nothing else is needed.

In fact, God has warned us several times that we are not to change His Word by adding to or taking away from it. We read in **Deuteronomy 4:2** that....

And in **Revelation 22:18-19** it says...

To be pleasing to God we must worship God exactly as He has commanded. God has never allowed man to change His law in anyway.

Today I want us to look at what God has said concerning “Music In Worship”

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There is much controversy concerning the use of mechanical instruments in worship. One thing is certain; there are only two types of music that we can offer to God - vocal and mechanical.

The question before us is “What has God authorized in our worship to Him today, vocal or mechanical?”

Let’s begin by looking at all of the verses found in the New Testament that talk about music.

Let’s begin by looking at **Matthew 26:30** (read Matt. 26:30) Note that this account is also found in **Mark 14:26**.

Continue reading all the other verses.

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Some will try to justify the use of mechanical instruments in our worship today by stating that they used instruments in the Old Testament and that harps are used in heaven. Well, we are not under the Old Testament Law and we are not yet in heaven.

What matters is not what God allowed in the Old Testament or what God may allow in heaven. Rather, our question is, “What does God authorize us to do in our worship to Him today!” The law, the Gospel of Christ, is what we live under and by which we will be judged!

Jesus said in **John 12:48**....

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Read **John 12:48**..... The Words of Jesus, the Gospel, is what we must live by. It is the only authority that we have in service to God.

And Paul in **Romans 1:16** said.... The Gospel is God’s power to save. If we want salvation then we must obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ exactly as He commands. As we read in **Deuteronomy 4:2** and **Revelation 22:18-19**, we can not add to or take away from God’s Word and still be pleasing to Him.

We can only do what God has authorized through His Word.

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So what have we learned about what God has authorized as music in our worship to Him? Remember, we do not live under the authority of the Old Testament nor are we yet in heaven. We are only concerned with what God has authorized in His church today! So, let's look at the passages in the New Testament, excluding the ones in the book of Revelation that deal with singing in heaven, and look at only the verses that apply to us today in our worship to God.

(NOTE: Go through each verse and see what God allows in worship to Him in the New Testament age. After reading each verse and before you put the answer on the screen, have the congregation answer ALOUD what the verse says we are to do, either vocal or mechanical)

Matt. 26:30	they had <i>sung</i> a hymn
Acts 16:25	Paul and Silas were praying and <i>singing</i> hymns to God,
Rom. 15:9	For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, and <i>sing</i> to Your name
I Cor. 14:15	I will <i>sing</i> with the spirit, and I will also <i>sing</i> with the understanding
Eph. 5:19	<i>singing</i> and making melody in your heart to the Lord.”
Col. 3:16	<i>singing</i> with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”
Heb. 2:12	In the midst of the assembly I will <i>sing</i> praise to You.”
Heb. 13:15	Let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the <i>fruit of our lips</i> ,
Jms. 5:13	Is anyone cheerful? Let him <i>sing</i> psalms.”

So what has God authorized for music in our worship to Him?

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Is it instruments of music or singing? **SINGING!**

“Whatever we do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Colossians 3:17

Let us always remember to....

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Worship God in Spirit and In Truth!
Extend the invitation.