

# Music for Christian Worship

Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16

## Introduction:

- A. Did you ever hear, “The church of Christ doesn’t have music in worship?”
  - 1. May not understand what the “church of Christ” is.
  - 2. May not understand what “music” is.
- B. Does Bible teach anything about music for use in worship by Christians? If so what?
- C. We shall notice two things concerning the New Testament teaching on music in worship:

## Discussion:

### I. The Worship Music Taught in the New Testament.

- A. The *kind of music* mentioned — singing (Matt. 26:30; Acts 16:25; Rom. 15:9; 1 Cor. 14:15; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Jas. 5:13).
- B. The *kind of songs* mentioned — spiritual (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16).
- C. The *purpose of singing* mentioned.
  - 1. To honor, praise and glorify God. (Acts 16:25; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; cf. Heb. 13:15)
  - 2. To teach, admonish and edify one another. (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 14:15, 16).

### II. The Worship Music Not Taught in the New Testament.

- A. There is neither specific nor general authority for instrumental music.
  - 1. General and specific illustrated: Fruit, Building material (Gen. 6:14), Animal (Num. 19:2)
  - 2. NT authorizes singing, not music in general.
- B. There is no plausible defense for instrumental music.
  - 1. “Practiced in the Old Testament law” — Gal. 5:4; Animal sacrifices.
  - 2. “Bible does not say not to have it” — Rosary, praying to Mary, Coke on Lord’s table; cf. 2 John 9-11; 1 Cor. 4:6).
  - 3. “We have instruments in our homes” — Morally right, religiously wrong (Matt. 15:1-9).
  - 4. “It is said to be in heaven” — Throne of God, angels, bowls of incense.
  - 5. “Psallo” (sing/make melody) — All must psallo, thus all must play?
  - 6. “Can see no harm in it” — Nabab & Abihu likely saw no harm in their fire (Lev. 10:1-2)

## Conclusion:

- A. Let us be content to just sing to the best of our ability from the heart.
- B. Let us not be assume that God likes instrumental music because we may like it.