

# Some Things People Find Odd about the Church of Christ

## Introduction:

- A. We always count it a honor to have visitors with us.
- B. We also know that often first time visitors observe some things odd about us.
- C. We want to acknowledge some of these “odd things” and explain why we do them.

## Discussion:

### **I. No Kind of Instrumental Music in Worship.**

- A. We do not find any New Testament authority for it.
  - 1. There is authority for singing (Eph. 5:18, 19; Col. 3:16)
  - 2. Worship without divine authority is vain (Matt. 15:9; 21:23-27).
- B. We find the only music *specified* is singing.
  - 1. Like the wood of Noah’s ark - Gopher (Gen. 6:14).
  - 2. Like the animal of sacrifice (Num. 19:2)
- C. We find no general terms that would include instrumental music.

### **II. The Weekly Observance of the Lord’s Supper.**

- A. The Lord’s supper was instituted by Jesus (Matt. 26:26-29).
- B. The early church assembled on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week to break bread. (Acts 20:7).
  - 1. This “breaking of bread” was not a common meal (1 Cor. 11:22, 34).
  - 2. The Lord’s supper is the only “breaking of bread” done religiously.
- C. The expression “the first day of the week” necessarily infers every first day.
  - 1. If not which could leave of and know you are fulfilling the requirement.
  - 2. If remember the Sabbath meant every Sabbath, why not every 1<sup>st</sup> day..

### **III. No Women Taking a Public Part in the Service.**

- A. The head of woman is man (1 Cor. 11:3-9).
- B. The woman is not to have authority over the man (1 Tim. 2:11-14)
- C. The women are to keep silence in the church rather than speak (1 Cor. 14:34)

### **IV. The Preacher Is Not Called “Pastor.”**

- A. Preaching and pastoring are separate functions in the New Testament.
  - 1. Preaching was the same as evangelizing – thus, evangelists (Eph 4:11)
  - 2. Pastors were Shepherds who were overseers of the church.
- B. No church in the New Testament had only one “pastor”
- C. In the New Testament there was a plurality of men ruling or leading called by different terms.
  - 1. They were “Elders” or Presbyters from *presbyteros* (Acts 14:23; 1 Tim. 4:14)
  - 2. They were “Bishops” or overseers from *episkopos* (Acts 20:28; Phil. 1:1)
  - 3. They were “Pastors” or shepherds from *poimen* (Eph. 4:11)
  - 4. Two passages that show their interchangeability (1 Pet. 5:1-4; Acts 20:17,28)

## Conclusion:

- A. Hopefully these things have clarified some things for one who might think them odd.
- B. Hopefully these things have us to be better able to answer those who might question us.