

CAN WE WORSHIP WITH MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS?

COLOSSIANS 3:17

INTRODUCTION:

1. God desires worship that is *"in spirit and in truth"* (John 4.23).
 - a) Spirit: Right attitude. Do you minimize worship?
 - b) Truth: According to the word of God.
2. How do you answer those who ask why we do not use instrumental music in our worship?

I. ACCURACY

- A. How does the Bible define worship?
 1. Worship (proskuneo): Literally, to kiss towards.
 2. As our king, God is deserving of worship. (1 Tim. 1.17)
- B. Who am I to worship?
 1. In a world of celebrities, our worship belongs exclusively to God. (Matt. 4.10; Rev. 22.9; Acts 14.15)
 2. Jesus is worthy of our worship. (Phil. 2.10)
- C. When do I worship?
 1. Worship is not a daily activity involving anything that has spiritual overtones. It is specific and intentional.
 2. **GENESIS 22.5:** *"the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."*

III. ACCEPTANCE

- A. **1 PETER 2.5:** *"to offer up spiritual sacrifices"*
 1. Our worship needs to be designed to be *"acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."*
 2. Offering spiritual sacrifices is to *"proclaim the praises of Him who called you"* (1 Pet. 2.9).
- B. What kind of music does God find acceptable in worship?
 1. **HEBREWS 13.15:** *"the fruit of our lips."*
 2. **COLOSSIANS 3.16:** *"in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

CONCLUSION: Is your worship acceptable to God?

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*"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners,
but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the
household of God" (Eph. 2:19)*

January 16, 2022

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

THE JUDGE WHO WAS JUDGED

Christ is the judge of the world. All will stand *"before the judgment seat of Christ"* (2 Cor. 5.10; Rom. 14.10). And the means by which He will judge us is His word (John 12.48). How ironic it is that Jesus, the judge of the world stood before Pilate to be judged.

Jesus knows what it is like to be judged. He stood before a man whose authority was delegated to him by God (John 19.11). And the authority that was given to him, he abused. He knew that Jesus was innocent, and three times he verbally and publically announced it (John 18.38; 19.4,6). Yet when he could have dispensed justice, he sought to please the crowd that shouted, *"Crucify Him!"* (John 19.6).

We have a Savior who can sympathize with us because He has endured the same (Heb. 4.15). We too will one day be judged (Heb. 9.37), but we are assured that our Judge is just. He will not pander to others that He wants to please. He will not judge us wrongly because He does not have all the information to make an accurate assessment. He will judge us in righteousness (2 Tim. 4.8).

The One who is perfect and holy who received no justice promises eternal life to many who do not deserve it, but were saved by His blood.

CLP

FOUR THINGS SIN WILL ALWAYS DO

GENESIS 4:7

INTRODUCTION:

1. What does sin bring into your life?
 - a) Some see sin as bringing pleasure into their lives.
 - b) Some see sin as bringing no punishment. (Isa. 57.11)
 - c) Some see sin as bringing popularity. (1 Pet. 4.4; John 15.19)
2. Sin is described in the Bible as breaking God's commandments. (1 John 3.4; James 2.8-12)
3. Cain is an example of the terrible and tragic things that sin can bring into your life. (cf. 1 John 3.12).

I. SIN WILL DESTROY HAPPINESS

- A. Sin destroyed Cain's happiness. (Gen. 4.3-5)
 1. Why was Cain's offering rejected? He did not give to God his best. (Heb. 11.4; cf. 2 Pet. 1.5)
 2. **GENESIS 4.5:** *"And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell."*
- B. Sin will destroy your happiness. (Prov. 29.18; Ps. 144.15)

II. SIN WILL CONTROL YOUR LIFE

- A. Sin controlled Cain's life. (Gen. 4.6,7)
 1. **GENESIS 4.6:** Self-Examination. (cf. Acts 15.8)
 2. **GENESIS 4.7:** Repentance.
 3. **GENESIS 4.7:** Warning
- B. Sin, if you let it, will control your life. (Rom. 6.12,16)

III. SIN WILL RUIN YOUR FAMILY

- A. Sin ruined Cain's family. (Gen. 4.8,9)
 1. Six times, we read the word "brother" (Gen. 4.8-11)
 2. **GENESIS 4.8:** *"Cain talked to his brother"*
 3. **GENESIS 4.8:** *"Cain...killed his brother."*
 4. **GENESIS 4.9:** *"Am I my brother's keeper?"*
- B. Sin will ruin your family. (Eph. 5.25)

IV. SIN WILL SEPARATE YOU FROM GOD

- A. Sin separated Cain from God. (Gen. 4.10-14)
 1. **GENESIS 4.13:** *"My punishment"*
 2. **GENESIS 4.14:** *"driven out...hidden from Your face"*
- B. Sin will separate you from God. (Isa. 59.2; 50.1)

CONCLUSION: Jesus is the solution to sin. (Rom. 7.24,25)

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN: HEARING

Salvation is only available to those who are Christians. However, just as the brand name "Kleenex" is applied to any kind of tissue paper, so the name "Christian" is applied to anyone who claims to believe in Jesus as the Christ.

Not only is the name "Christian" used loosely, but the teachings regarding how to become a Christian is varied and contradicting. Some teach that you can become a Christian simply by believing. Others teach that Christianity is something you were born into suggesting that if you were raised in a "Christian home" then you were a Christian by default.

A word is not defined by the popular use of it. Truth is not defined by what religious authorities teach about it. A word is defined by how it is used in the Bible. Truth is defined by what God says about the subject in His word. With that in mind, let's think about what God says about one becoming a Christian. What does God say about what you must do to become a follower of Christ?

The first thing that we find in the Bible is the necessity of hearing the gospel. In Romans 10.13, an assertion is made: *"Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."* If you want to be saved, you need to call on the name of the Lord. If you skip down to verse 16, an observation is made: *"But they have not all obeyed the gospel."* In the mind of this inspired writer, calling on the name of the Lord was the same thing as obeying the gospel.

Right in the middle of these verses, we learn how to call on the name of Lord and thus obey the gospel. In Romans 10.14,15, a series of questions are asked. First question: *"How shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?"* (v. 14). You cannot call on the name of the Lord to be saved if you don't believe in the Lord. Second question: *"How shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?"* (v. 14). You cannot call on the name of Lord believing in Him if you have not heard about Him. Third question: *"How shall they hear without a preacher?"* (v. 14). You cannot hear about Jesus and believe in Him unless someone tells you about Him. Fourth question: *"How shall they preach unless they are sent?"* (v. 15). The conclusion then is found in verse 17: *"So then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God."*

This is a passage that emphasizes the need to hear the gospel. It is only when you hear the gospel with an open and receptive heart (Matt. 13.23), that you can become a Christian. CLP