

# THE GREENWOOD BULLETIN

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## **“Thoughts About David & Instrumental Music”**

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Here are some quick thoughts about instrumental music in worship.

### **Why Did David Use Instruments?**

In discussions with denominational folks about instrumental music, they will sometimes claim that David's use of them justifies their use today. Is this true?

First, let us establish that David is not our Savior. He is not the authority in Christianity, Jesus is (Col. 3:17; Matt. 28:18). David was a prophet; he was the sweet psalmist of Israel, guided by the Spirit of God. Still, the New Testament reveals that we are not to follow and heed the Law or prophets, but the Son of God (Matt. 17:1-5).

Second, David used the instruments because God commanded him to (2 Chron. 29:25). It is not as though David presumptuously changed the worship of God. Many today believe they can. Without a commandment from God, they alter what the New Testament says about worship. They add instrumental music, social activities, even outright entertainment. All such activities are without divine authority and render the worship vain (Matt. 15:7-9).

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Third, there are many things David did that we cannot do. David offered and commended animal sacrifices (Psa. 51:19). He had many wives (2 Sam. 3:2-5; 5:13; 12:8). Who will argue that we should offer bulls and goats or that a man can practice polygamy because David did? Honesty demands that none of these things are permissible because of David's practices; not sacrifices, not polygamy, not instrumental music in worship.

The bottom line is, David used instruments because that is what God commanded him to do. In our worship we must sing, because this is what God commands us to do (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). Let us be like David, people after God's own heart, by submitting to the Lord's will, not living by ours.

## **Lessons from the Life of Jesus**

A Selected Article

### *The Temptation of Jesus*

#### **Rewards of Resisting Temptation**

*Resisting temptation has its rewards in this life.*

1. Prov. 11:3,5 avoid reaping a harvest of woes resulting from sin.
2. Prov. 5:22 Avoid many enslaving habits that become cruel masters
3. Many have given into Satan & have gone off in search of "Sexual freedom", but what has it gotten them? AIDS, VD, unstable family lives, emotional problems--live righteous & avoid these.
4. Alcohol & drug use--means to popularity, relaxation, status, ease problems; addicts, young mothers

giving birth to addicts, broken homes, shattered dreams, wasted potential.

5. Greed, materialism--promises a happiness that it cannot deliver (Prov. 15:27 "He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house...") material resources kept in perspective a great blessing.

*Resisting temptation has its eternal rewards.*

1. Rev. 2:7, 22:2
  - a. Eat of tree of life, full complete abundant life with immunity from death
  - b. Lost in garden, regained in eternal glory
  - c. What can Satan offer to compete with this?
2. Rev. 14:13
  - a. Die in the Lord, rest from labors; no fear in death
  - b. Can Satan compete with this peace?
3. Rev. 19:1-2, 19-21; 20:10
  - a. Enemies to be judged & punished
  - b. What can Satan do in regards to our persecutors?
4. Rev. 21:3-4
  - a. Cessation of pain & all that makes life miserable; all of which has been caused by sin
  - b. God to "tabernacle" with us; dwell with us in same tent
5. Rev. 21:7
  - a. Overcome Sons of God
  - b. We, who are so undeserving, will be claimed by God as members of His family?
  - c. Do we really want Satan for our father?
6. Rev. 22:4
  - a. See God face to face!
  - b. A great reward to life of devotion
  - c. We long to talk with God, now, but finally face to face.
  - d. Satan separates.

**Is it worth it--you be the judge!**