

# Instrumental Music



# Instruments of Music in the Old Testament



## *In the Organization of Israelite Worship*

Numbers 10:10 – The Silver Trumpets

1 Chronicles 16:4-7 – Ark Brought to Jerusalem

1 Chronicles 23:2-6 – Organizing the Levites

1 Chronicles 28:11-13 – The Plan for the Temple

# Instruments of Music in the Old Testament



*In the Organization of Israelite Worship*

*In the Restoration Work of Good Kings*

2 Chronicles 23:18 – The Levitical Singers

2 Chronicles 29:25-28 – During the Burnt Offering

2 Chronicles 35:5, 15-16 – Levites, Sons of Asaph

# Instruments of Music in the Old Testament



*In the Organization of Israelite Worship*

*In the Restoration Work of Good Kings*

*After Babylonian Captivity*

Ezra 3:10 – The Foundation of the Temple

Nehemiah 12:27, 31, 45-46 – Dedication of the Wall

# Instruments of Music in the Old Testament



*In the Organization of Israelite Worship*

*In the Restoration Work of Good Kings*

*After Babylonian Captivity*

“All this he made clear to me in writing from the hand of the LORD, all the work to be done according to the plan.”

1 Chronicles 28:19

# Instruments of Music in the Old Testament



*In the Organization of Israelite Worship*

*In the Restoration Work of Good Kings*

*After Babylonian Captivity*

“...according to the commandment of David and of Gad the king’s seer and of Nathan the prophet, for the commandment was from the LORD through His prophets.”

2 Chronicles 29:25

# Arguments for Instrumental Music



- “The New Testament doesn’t say not to”
- “There were instruments before the Law”
- “There were instruments in the Psalms”
- “Jesus went to the temple where there would have been instruments”
- “There are instruments in the book of Revelation”

# Arguments for Instrumental Music



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- “There were instruments before the Law”
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# Arguments for Instrumental Music



- “The New Testament doesn’t say not to”
- “There were instruments before the Law”
- “There were animal sacrifices, circumcision, and the Aaronic Priesthood!”
- “Jesus had a world”
- “He had a world”

So were animal sacrifices,  
circumcision, and  
the Aaronic Priesthood!

# Arguments for Instrumental Music



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“I testify again to every man  
who accepts circumcision  
that he is obligated to keep  
the whole law.”

*Galatians 5:3*

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# Arguments for Instrumental Music



- “The New Testament doesn’t say not to”
- “There were instruments before the Law”
- “There **Why do we only argue**”
- “Jesus **for instrumental music?** would have been instruments”

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- The Passing of the Old Covenant

*“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”*

*Matthew 5:17*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament
  - The Passover Lamb

*“The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”*”

*John 1:29*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament

- The Passover Lamb
- The High Priest

*“Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?”*

*Hebrews 7:11*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament

- The Passover Lamb
- The High Priest
- The King

*“Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”*

*Acts 2:36*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament

- The Passover Lamb
- The High Priest
- The King
- The Tabernacle

*“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

*John 1:14*



# An Argument of Fulfillment



- Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament

- The Passover Lamb
- The High Priest
- The King
- The Tabernacle

*“Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ The Jews then said, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?’ But he was speaking about the temple of his body.”*

*John 2:19–21*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- As God’s people, we also fulfill much of the Old Testament
  - The Priesthood

*“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”*

*1 Peter 2:9*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- As God's people, we also fulfill much of the Old Testament

- The Priesthood
- The Temple

*“Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?”*

*1 Corinthians 3:16*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- As God’s people, we also fulfill much of the Old Testament

- The Priesthood
- The Temple

*“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?”*

*1 Corinthians 6:19*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- As God’s people, we also fulfill much of the Old Testament

- The Priesthood
- The Temple
- Sacrifice

*“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”*

*Romans 12:1*

# An Argument of Fulfillment



- As God’s people, we also fulfill much of the Old Testament

- The Priesthood
- The Temple
- Sacrifice
- Instruments

*“Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.”*

*Hebrews 13:15*



# Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

“These instruments were  
figures of something  
else.”



# Origen (185-254)

“We want to honor God in truth and no longer in types, shadows, and examples even as the angels do not serve God in examples and the shadow of heavenly realities but in realities that belong to the spiritual and heavenly order.”





# John Chrysostom (349-407)

“David formerly sang songs, also today we sing hymns. He had a lyre with lifeless strings, the church has a lyre with living strings. Our tongues are the strings of the lyre with a different tone indeed but much more in accord with piety. Here there is no need for the cithara, or for stretched strings, or for the plectrum, or for art, or for any instrument; but, if you like, you may yourself become a cithara...”

# Why Do We Not Use Instruments?



*Nothing in the New Testament Instructs Us to Use Instruments*

*Instruments Have Grown Old and Have Passed Away*

*Because We Are Instruments – God Wants Our Hearts and the Fruit of Our Lips*