



MUSIC MINISTRY



To worship God through music: Psalm 27:6 NIV:

6

Then my head will be exalted
above the enemies who surround me;
at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

To praise God through music: Psalm 150:3-4 NIV:

3

Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,
praise him with the harp and lyre,

4

praise him with timbrel and dancing,
praise him with the strings and pipe,

The Prayer of Faith



To lift the emotions of the heart: James 5:13 NIV:

13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.

To learn Scripture and spiritual truths by singing.

Psalm 32:7-8 NIV:

7

You are my hiding place;
you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance.

8

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

To encourage one another with Biblical truth through music.



Ephesians 5:18-19 NIV:

18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, **19** speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,

To instruct and convict by the scriptural texts of the songs.

Isaiah 55:11 NIV:

11
so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

To introduce others to Jesus Christ through special concerts which can be an outreach to the unsaved.



Psalms 40:3 NIV:

3

He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear the Lord
and put their trust in him.

SPIRITUAL MUSIC COMES FROM SPIRITUAL PEOPLE

The Levites separated themselves from the world, renounced their earthly inheritance, and consecrated themselves to God and His service for a lifetime.



The Old Testament musicians were very skilled:

1 Chronicles 15:22 NIV:

22 Kenaniah the head Levite was in charge of the singing; that was his responsibility because he was skillful at it.

2 Chronicles 34:12 NIV:

12 The workers labored faithfully. Over them to direct them were Jahath and Obadiah, Levites descended from Merari, and Zechariah and Meshullam, descended from Kohath. The Levites—all who were skilled in playing musical instruments—

Not only were they skillful, but there were many of them:

1 Chronicles 23:3-5 NIV:

3 The Levites thirty years old or more were counted, and the total number of men was thirty-eight thousand.

4 David said, “Of these, twenty-four thousand are to be in charge of the work of the temple of the Lord and six thousand are to be officials and judges.

5 Four thousand are to be gatekeepers and four thousand are to praise the Lord with the musical instruments I have provided for that purpose.”

God used this combination of sanctified, skilled and unified men in meaningful worship:



2 Chronicles 5:12-14 NIV:

12 All the Levites who were musicians—Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun and their sons and relatives—stood on the east side of the altar, dressed in fine linen and playing cymbals, harps and lyres. They were accompanied by 120 priests sounding trumpets.

13 The trumpeters and musicians joined in unison to give praise and thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, the singers raised their voices in praise to the Lord and sang:

“He is good;

his love endures forever.”

Then the temple of the Lord was filled with the cloud,

14 and the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the temple of God.

Amos 5:23 NIV:

23

Away with the noise of your songs!
I will not listen to the music of your harps.

God tells His people that their hearts were far from Him.

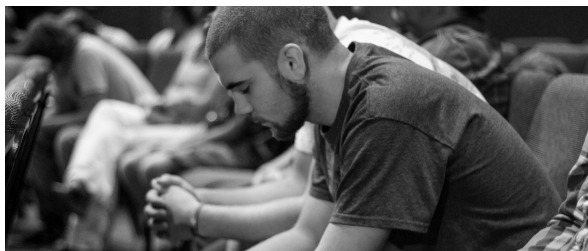
Amos 6:5 NIV:

5

You strum away on your harps like David
and improvise on musical instruments.

Here in Amos 6:5, God sends a judgment against those living luxuriously “who improvise to the sound of the harp, and...have composed songs for themselves,” instead of worshiping and living for God.

THE ACTIVITIES OF BIBLICAL CORPORATE WORSHIP



Praise and adoration based on the nature and work of God as revealed in His Word. The Psalmist illustrates, at least two characteristics of this:

Our praise is to be expressed through vocal and instrumental music:

Psalm 33:2-3 NIV:

2

Praise the Lord with the harp;
make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

3

Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully, and shout for joy.

Our praise is to review, the attributes of God and doctrines of the Word:

Psalm 51:14 NIV:

14

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,
you who are God my Savior,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

Psalm 59:16 NIV:

16

But I will sing of your strength,
in the morning I will sing of your love;
for you are my fortress,
my refuge in times of trouble.

Psalm 89:1 NIV:

A *maskil*[b] of Ethan the Ezrahite.

1

I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;
with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known
through all generations.

Psalm 119:172 NIV:

172

May my tongue sing of your word,
for all your commands are righteous.

Thanksgiving

(Psalm 50:23, 95:2, 100:4, 107, 136, 140:13; Colossians 3:17, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Hebrews 13:15).

For the reading of scripture:

Exodus 24:7, Deuteronomy 31:11, Nehemiah 8:1-8, Luke 4:16, Colossians 4:16, 1 Thessalonians 5:27, 1 Timothy 4:13, Revelation 1:3.

For confession (repentance, submission:

Leviticus 26:40-42, Nehemiah 9:2, Proverbs 28:13, Acts 19:18, James 4:7, 5:16; 1 John 1:9).

For Prayer (numerous public prayers utilized in Israel's worship are Psalms:

Matthew 21:13, Acts 2:42, 6:4; Ephesians 6:18, Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:17).

Intercession:

(2 Corinthians 1:11, 1 Thessalonians 5:25, James 5:14-16).

Ordinances of baptism:

(Matthew 28:19, Acts 2:38, 10:38, 19:5; Galatians 3:27, Ephesians 4:5, Colossians 2:12)

Communion:

(Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

Giving:

(Acts 2:45, 11:29; 1 Corinthians 16:2, 2 Corinthians 9:5, 7; Philippians 4:16).

Instruction in the Word:

(Acts 2:42, 1 Timothy 4:13, 5:17; 2 Timothy 3:16, 4:2).

Application of the Word:

(Nehemiah 8:7-8, 2 Corinthians 10:11, 2 Timothy 4:2).

Fellowship:

(Acts 2:42, Galatians 2:9)

How can we know, that the music, being played in a church service is consistent with the spirit and purpose of worshiping our Lord?

Are the words doctrinally sound?

Is the text Biblical?

Does it stimulate spiritual thought?

Does it properly instruct?

Does it inspire high spiritual ideals?

Does the music fit the text?

Is it excellent?

Does it fit the need?

Does it produce a wholesome response?

Do harmful associations come to mind because of the musical style or the composer's name?

In setting standards it is essential to avoid making traditions or personal preferences take precedence over the Word of God, for that would be to “exceed what is written”:

1 Corinthians 4:6 NIV:

6 Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, “Do not go beyond what is written.” Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other.

A good verse to determine the value of a musical piece is found in

Philippians 4:8 NIV:

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

A good verse to determine the appropriateness of a musical piece for corporate worship is:

1 Chronicles 25:1 NIV:

The Musicians

25 David, together with the commanders of the army, set apart some of the sons of Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun for the ministry of prophesying, accompanied by harps, lyres and cymbals. Here is the list of the men who performed this service:

1 Chronicles 25:6 NIV:

6 All these men were under the supervision of their father for the music of the temple of the Lord, with cymbals, lyres and harps, for the ministry at the house of God.

Asaph, Jeduthun and Heman were under the supervision of the king.

What is the ultimate purpose of the Music Ministry:



To prepare your souls, your mind, and your body, to receive the “Logos,” (the word of God), during a Bible Study, or Sunday Bible Sermon.

Engaging in theologically rich music, is like choosing to linger in a treasure trove, a room full of precious gems, that bring color and texture to the way you value knowing God.

Joining words of faithful teaching to melodies that move us is a way that we can meditate on what is true, and thus allow the holistic work of music to connect our heads to our hearts, where true change and transformation takes place.

David reflected this when he penned the Psalms.



Friends, please remember, You can't buy your way into heaven or out of hell.

Rev. Jesus Del Rio, Ed