

*In
Search
of ...*

Truth & Right

Tim Henderson, Editor

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"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)

A publication of the
**Wellsburg
church of Christ**
Which meets at:
**112 Sunset Ave.
Wellsburg, WV 26070
304-737-1422**

We appreciate so much your presence here with us today. We would like to extend an invitation to join us at any of our other times of worship.

TIMES OF SERVICES
SUNDAY
Bible Classes* 10:00 AM
AM Worship 10:45 AM
PM Worship 6:30 PM
WEDNESDAY
Bible Classes* 7:00 PM
(* Bible Classes for All Ages)

Today's Preachers:

AM-Ed Roberts

PM-Dan Marton

*Audio CD's are available
free of charge in the foyer.*

*Please visit our website:
www.truthandright.org*

*If you have any questions regarding
what we teach and practice,
please feel free to ask*

"Let Us Pr ... Play"

*By Stan Cox
via Watchmanmag.com*

In a recent issue [this article was written several years ago-*TRH*] of *Sports Illustrated*, the above title was used for an article written by the back page feature writer, Rick Reilly. I normally enjoy Reilly's writing, as it is incisive as well as humorous. This particular article was no exception.

Reilly mentioned that more and more youth leagues are beginning to have their athletic activities on Sunday. It is a time when coaches and parents are off of work, and as the emphasis on organized youth sports increases, time becomes more precious. A time period which was once off limits (Sunday morning) is now routinely filled with regularly scheduled softball, baseball and soccer games.

And, as Reilly put it, we can't really expect the officials and coaches to take the lead in changing the trend. It happens more and more often **because of the parents!** After all, if the parents did not allow their children to play on Sunday, there would be no games, no matter what the league or coach wanted.

In the article a denominational preacher told the coach that his son would not be able to play in the game scheduled that Sunday. The coach seemed amazed, and so the father said, "You are acting like this is the first time anyone ever told you

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that.” The Coach’s response? “It **is** the first time anyone has ever told me that!”



I don’t have the article in front of me now, but Reilly finished it in his typical humorous fashion. He said, in effect, to go ahead and play on Sunday if you want... but if at the end of the game, with only a second left, little Suzy is on the foul line needing to make the two shots to win the game, who is going to answer your prayers?!

What is interesting is that the article is another example of a worldly person recognizing a truth which Christians sometimes are unwilling to admit. **When we allow such recreational activities to come before our service to God, we are forsaking Him.** It doesn’t matter if it is “just one time” or habitual, we are part of the problem, rather than part of the solution. This is an evil trend, a trend toward secularism and away from God. The Christian should not be contributing to the trend.

I will never forget when my daughter first had to miss a tournament softball game to come to worship services. She approached one of the older ladies in the congregation, and said, “I had to miss my game to come to church.” I appreciated so much the answer given. Rather than saying, “I’m sorry”, the good sister said, “I am so proud of you!” My daughter walked away beaming at the praise, and with an appreciation of what it means to sacrifice for the Lord.

We can’t expect the world to become more accommodating to our desires to serve God. The trend is what it is, and as time progresses it will become more difficult, not easier, to juggle these conflicts. Where once it

was an occasional “make-up” game on Wednesday night, it is now a continual bombardment almost every single Sunday. Reilly mentioned that the trend has become even more pronounced in the past two years, though in our area softball leagues have scheduled Sunday play at least since my own daughter began playing 10 years ago. As Christian parents, we must determine not to be swayed by our children’s immature desires, and the fear that we might “disappoint” the other kids or parents. We must remember that our devotion to God must be singular and complete. As Paul wrote to the Colossians, *“And he is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, **that in all things he may have the pre-eminence**”* (1:17-18).

In the church, Christ must always come first. If we have truly counted the cost, we know this. Our lives should mirror this recognition. It should be evident in our own actions, and in our instructions to our children, as we seek to bring them up *“training and admonition of the Lord”* (Ephesians 6:4).

Remember the words of our Lord, as he instructed a lawyer who had asked him, *“Which is the greatest commandment in the law? Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment”* (Matthew 22:36-38).

Why we do not use Instrumental Music in Worship

By Donnie V. Rader

One of the first things that people notice when they visit our worship services is that we don’t use instrumental music. Some wonder whether it is a matter of finance, personal preference or a matter of conviction.

The reason a flag is raised is that most of the denominations have some form of instrumental music in worship. An organ or piano is most common. However, it is not uncommon to find churches with a full band - including drums and brass instruments.



Why do we not use instrumental music in worship?

It Is Not Authorized

Careful students know that we must have Bible authority for all that we do in service to God. Paul said, *“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him”* (Colossians 3:17). To do a thing “in the name of” someone is to do it by their power or authority (Acts 4:7). John wrote that we must abide within the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9).

Bible authority is established by (1) Command, (2) Example or (3) Necessary inference. All three of these were used in settling the matter of circumcision in Acts 15. Without a command or direct statement, an example that is approved of God or some principle that necessarily infers the matter, it is without Bible authority.

To illustrate: what would be wrong with having grape jelly on the Lord's table - along with the bread and fruit of the vine? There is no command to have it. We find no example of such. Furthermore, there is no passage that causes us to conclude that it was used or should be. Thus, there is no Bible authority for it. The same is true with instrumental music. To do something without Bible authority

is sinful (2 John 9).

What God did authorize, as far as music is concerned, is singing. Consider the following passages:

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Colossians 3:16).

“Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19).

There are seven other passages in the NT that deal with music in worship. All refer to singing (Matthew 26:30; Acts 16:25; Romans 15:9; 1 Corinthians 14:15; Hebrews 13:15). There is no passage authorizing the instrument.

God did authorize singing. God did not authorize instrumental music. Therefore, it is unscriptural.

An Addition To The Word of God

Since God *specified* singing, we are not at liberty to use any other kind of music. For example, Noah was told to build the ark of “gopher wood” (Genesis 6:14). Had God said, “wood” (leaving it in the generic), Noah would have been at liberty to use any kind of wood. Yet, because God specified “gopher” that eliminated the use of any other *kind* of wood. To build the ark of oak would not be authorized. To use gopher and oak would not be authorized.

Let's consider again the matter of the Lord's Supper. God specified that the unleavened bread and fruit of the vine should be used (Matthew 26:17-28). If we decide that we want grape jelly to go with our bread, we now have *another* element on the table and thus an *addition* to the word of God.

The same is true of music in worship. Had God told us to have music (leaving it in the generic), we could have chosen vocal or instrumental or a combination of both. However, since God specified, *singing* (Ephesians 5:19), other kinds of music are thus eliminated. Instrumental music is therefore an *addition* to the word of God.

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Dan Marton
Announcements	Harold Marshall
Song Leader	Nathan Marshall
Scripture	Ezekiel 24:14-27
Reader	Terry Smith
Prayer	Ken Prager
Speaker	Ed Roberts
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Don Coen, Jr.
Fruit of the Vine	Earl Miller
Serve	Matt Ferrell
Serve	Chuck Isinghood
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

Please inform the one in charge of announcements if you are unable to fulfill your responsibilities.

Sunday PM

Announcements	Harold Marshall
Song Leader	Earl Miller
Scripture	Ezekiel 25
Reader	Ed Roberts
1st Prayer	Dave Harless
Speaker	Dan Marton
Communion	Nathan Marshall
Closing Prayer	Chuck Isinghood

Wednesday

Announcements	Harold Marshall
Class Prayer	Earl Miller
Song Leader	Ken Prager
Invitation	Chuck Isinghood
Closing Prayer	Dan Marton

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Traveling:

- The Henderson's are in Parkersburg, WV for a Gospel Meeting at the Winding Road congregation

Recovering:

- Ann Rudolph - Mary Jane Myers
- Joyce Coen - Marie Roberts

Prayer Requests:

- Zeda Goddard's sons, Dallas and Terry
- Frank Miller, Dorothy Lancaster's brother, was diagnosed with prostate cancer and is currently taking radiation treatments
- Rick Miller, Dorothy Lancaster's nephew, was diagnosed with colon cancer, and will be having surgery October 16th.
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Lucille Harless, Dave Harless' mother
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband, as he continues to deal with cancer treatments.
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother, continues to be in Weirton Medical Center
- Blake Swanson, Dorothy Lancaster's grandson
- Bud and Merl Frey
- Tammy Garrison, Zeda Goddard's daughter
- Ila Marshall, Harold Marshall's mother
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Cary and Grace Lancaster

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Nursing Home:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

At Home:

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Pauline Midcap