

Singing Redemption's Song



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- Eph. 5:18-19 - “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”
- Col. 3:16 - “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.”

God's People Have Always Sung Praises To Him

- Israel sang praises to God before the Law was given

– Ex. 15:20-21 - “Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. 21 And Miriam answered them: Sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea!”

God's People Have Always Sung Praises To Him

- Israel sang praises to God under the Law of Moses

– Num. 21:16-17 - “From there they went to Beer, which is the well where the LORD said to Moses, Gather the people together, and I will give them water. 17 Then Israel sang this song: Spring up, O well! All of you sing to it...”

God's People Have Always Sung Praises To Him

- They sang praises to God in the days of the prophets
 - Ezra 3:11 - “And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD: For He is good, For His mercy endures forever toward Israel. Then all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.”
 - Jer. 20:13 - “Sing to the LORD! Praise the LORD! For He has delivered the life of the poor From the hand of evildoers.”

God's People Have Always Sung Praises To Him

- 65 times the psalmist encouraged the singing of praise to God
 - Psalm 147:1 - "Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God, For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful."

God's People Have Always Sung Praises To Him

- Jesus and His Apostles sang praises to God
 - Mark 14:26 - “And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.”
 - Heb. 2:11-12 - “For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12 saying: I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.”

God's People Have Always Sung Praises To Him

- Christians have sung praise to God from the beginning of the church until the present day
 - Acts 16:25 - “But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.”

Christians Are Instructed To Sing

- Eph. 5:18-19
- Col. 3:16
- James 5:13 - "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms."
- Heb. 13:15 - "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name."

Why Christians Sing When Assembled For Worship

- Christians have never assembled and sang purely for entertainment. Worship is pleasant and fills us with joy, but that is not the purpose of worship

– Psalm 122:1 - “I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.”

Why Christians Sing When Assembled For Worship

- Music has a powerful effect on our hearts. But that is not why we sing.

– 1Sam. 16:23 - “And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him.”

Why Christians Sing When Assembled For Worship

- Christians sing to express the adoration and worship in their hearts to God.
 - Eph. 5:19 - singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord
 - Col. 3:16 - singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God
 - Acts 16:25 - Songs are means of expressing praise to God

Why Christians Sing When Assembled For Worship

- Christians sing to teach and to encourage each other - Col. 3:16
- Speaking to one another in psalms mandates words, not instruments - Eph. 5:19
- Singing is about teaching, not entertaining

Why Christians Sing When Assembled For Worship

- Christians build each other up with songs
 - 1Cor. 14:26 - “How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.”
- Edification and encouragement is one of the reasons we assemble
 - Heb. 10:24-25 - “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Singing And Singing Only

- The specific, positive command is to sing. The principle of exclusion applies.
- Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19 - Singing excludes all other musical forms
- Worship activities must be limited to what God has specified or it is not acceptable worship.

Singing And Singing Only

- Gen. 4:3-5 - Cain was not given a list of things not to offer
- Lev. 10:1-2 - Nadab and Abihu were not given a list of incorrect fires.
- Num. 20:8-12 - Moses was told to speak to the rock; he did not need to be told not to strike it, or yell at it, or dance around it, or sprinkle it with pixie dust. When God said speak to it, He excluded all other actions
- 2Sam. 6:3, 6-7 - They were told to carry the ark with staves; they did not need to be told not to use new carts, or ox carts, or horse carts, or go-carts. Carry it with staves excludes all other forms of transport.

Singing And Singing Only

- God considers any alteration to His instructions as disrespectful of Him. Nadab, Abihu, and Moses' offense was that they disrespected God.
 - Lev. 10:3 - "And Moses said to Aaron, This is what the LORD spoke, saying: By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified. So Aaron held his peace."
 - Num. 20:12 - "Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them"

Singing And Singing Only

- There is no need for an aide to singing in worship.
- Only man listens to and appreciate instruments made by man's hands, God listens to the instrument He created, our hearts.
- The instrument increases man's enjoyment; singing from the heart increases God's glory.