

# WHY CHURCHES OF CHRIST DO NOT USE MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTS OF MUSIC #5

## WHAT ABOUT PSALM 150?

**S**ome argue that the use of man-made instruments of music in worship are supported in Psalm 150. They tell us that since David used them, then we can also.

There are two things worthy of note in such a statement. It is admitted **1) that authority is necessary**, and **2) there is no authority in the New Testament**. This is extremely important because if authority could be found in the New Testament for their use, then such authority would be given. But, no Scriptures can be supplied to support it. Therefore, no New Testament authority exists for their use in the worship of the church today!

To turn to the Old Testament to justify any practice makes it necessary to practice ALL the Old Testament teaches, not just a part of it. This was made clear to the churches of Galatia as they sought to justify circumcision by the Old Law. In Galatians 5:3 we read, *“For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.”* The “whole law” includes animal sacrifices and burning incense in worship. Are proponents of instrumental music ready to practice these things? To practice any part of the Old Testament, even in one particular, is to be severed (cut off) from Christ (Gal. 5:4)! This is the point of the book of Galatians.

When Jesus died on the cross He *“blotted out the handwriting of ordinances (the Old Testament Law) that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross”* (Col. 2:14). A multitude of passages describe that the Old Testament has been superseded by the New Testament (Jer. 31:31; 2 Cor. 3; Heb. 7:12,18; 8:7-13; 10:1,9).

The question is not what may have been allowed under a previous dispensation (age), but “What does God desire in the PRESENT dispensation?” “What does God want for the church today?” A person may have once lived in another country and lived under their laws, but now lives in this country and must abide by its laws. Can it be argued that since the speed limit was 80mph there, then he should be able to drive 80mph here? Even a child knows better than that!

In the history of the world, everyone will be judged according to the law under which they lived. All men today live under a different law than those who lived before the time of Christ. We live under the authority of the New Testament, not the Old Testament. We will be judged by the New Testament, not the Old Testament (John 12:48).

Where is the New Testament Scripture that authorizes mechanical instruments of music to be used in the worship of the church today?? Not one!

—Garland M. Robinson