WHY WE SING AND DO NOT PLAY

INTRODUCTION:
1. Many people ask the question, "Why does the church of Christ sing, but does not use instruments of music?"
2. Some members of the church do not understand why we do not play instruments in worship.
3. The church of Christ is a divine institution, of which Christ is the founder (Matt. 16:18), foundation (I Cor. 3:11), and head (Col. 1:18). He has all authority in all things that pertain to it (Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:22-23).

I. WHY WE SING
      (1) To the church at Ephesus -- Eph. 5:18-19
      (2) To the church at Colossee -- Col. 3:16
      (3) James to the individual Christian -- James 5:13
      (4) To the church at Corinth -- I Cor. 14:15
      (1) Paul and Silas -- Acts 16:25

II. WHY WE DO NOT PLAY
   1. Because we have no New Testament command.
      (1) Nowhere in the New Testament do we find a command where God's people are to use any kind of musical instruments.
   2. Because we have no Bible example.
      (1) You can search the New Testament and you will not find one example of an instrument being used.

III. THE USE OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC IN WORSHIP IS SINFUL.
   1. Because it is not of faith.
      (1) "For we walk by faith, not by sight" (II Cor. 5:7).
      (2) Without faith it is impossible to please God. (Heb. 11:6).
      (3) Faith comes by the word of God (Rom. 10:17).
   2. Because it is not commanded by Christ.
      (1) Matt. 28:18-20; 18:18; Col. 3:17
      (2) We are not to go beyond the doctrine of Christ (II John 9-11).
3. Because it is not a good work.
   (1) All good works are revealed in the scriptures ( II Tim. 3: 16 - 17).
4. Because it goes beyond what is written (I Cor. 4:6).
5. Because it is drifting away from the Word.
   (1) Heb. 2:1 "Lest haply we drift away from them".
6. Because it is another gospel ( Gal. 1: 6 - 9).
7. Because it is vain worship (Matt. 15:9).
8. Because it is not according to the oracles of God ( I Pet. 4:11).
9. Because it is adding to God’s word ( Rev. 22:18 - 19).
10. Because it is a transgression of the law of Christ ( Gal. 6:2; I Cor. 9:21).

IV. SOME ARGUMENTS PEOPLE MAKE WHO FAVOR THE USE OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
1. "They had it in the Old Testament times".
   (1) In the Old Testament they had:
   a. The Sabbath
   b. Animal Sacrifices
   c. The Law could not justify -- Gal. 2:16
2. We today do not live under the authority of the Old Testament.
   (1) Col. 2:14 - 17
   (2) II Cor. 3: 6, 7, 13
   (3) Eph. 2:15
   (4) Gal. 3: 19, 16
   (5) Gal. 3: 24 - 25
   (6) Heb. 10:9
   (7) Heb. 8: 7 - 12
   (8) Heb. 1: 1 - 2
   (9) Gal. 2: 16, 21
   (10) Matt. 17: 1 - 5
3. The New Testament does not say NOT to.
   (1) We must respect the silence of the scriptures (I Cor. 4:6; II John 9; I Pet. 4:11).

V. INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC IS NOT THE WORSHIP GOD SEEKS.
1. God seeks worship that is in spirit and in truth - - John 4: 23 - 24
2. FOUR KINDS OF WORSHIP in the New Testament:
(1) "Vain worship" -- Matt. 15:9; James 1: 26
(2) "Ignorant worship" -- Acts 17:23
(3) "Will worship" -- Col. 2:23
(4) There is worship that is in spirit and in truth -- John 4:24
   a. God seeks this kind of worship -- John 4:23
   b. This is the kind of worship singing is -- Eph. 5:19

VI. THE PURPOSE OF WORSHIP IN SONG

1. Not for Entertainment
   (1) Our worship to God involves feeling and actions for more noble than entertainment.

2. Not to exhibit abilities.
   (1) Singing in worship is not for the purpose of showing others our ability to sing.

3. Not an optional.
   (1) Not just for those who like to sing.
   (2) Eph. 5:10

4. Singing is to praise God.

5. Singing is for teaching and admonishing one another -- Col. 3: 16; Eph. 5:19