



# Answering Challenging Questions:

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**“Why do we not use musical instruments in our worship services?” (Part 2)**

# The Challenging Accusations & Questions we are looking at in this study:

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- Why do we not use musical instruments in our worship services?
- Can I go to Old Testament for the authority to use musical instruments in worship?
- What does the New Testament say about music in the worship of the church?
- What about the historical reference to music in the church?
- How should we sing in worship?




A top-down view of various musical instruments scattered on a light-colored surface. In the upper left, a portion of a piano keyboard is visible. To the right, the neck and body of an acoustic guitar are shown. On the left side, there is a large brass cymbal and a snare drum with two wooden drumsticks resting on it. In the center, there are several pairs of black drumsticks and a pair of black brushes. At the bottom center, a black handheld microphone lies horizontally. In the bottom left corner, a yellow rubber mallet with wooden handles is partially visible.

Why do we not use  
musically instruments  
in our worship?

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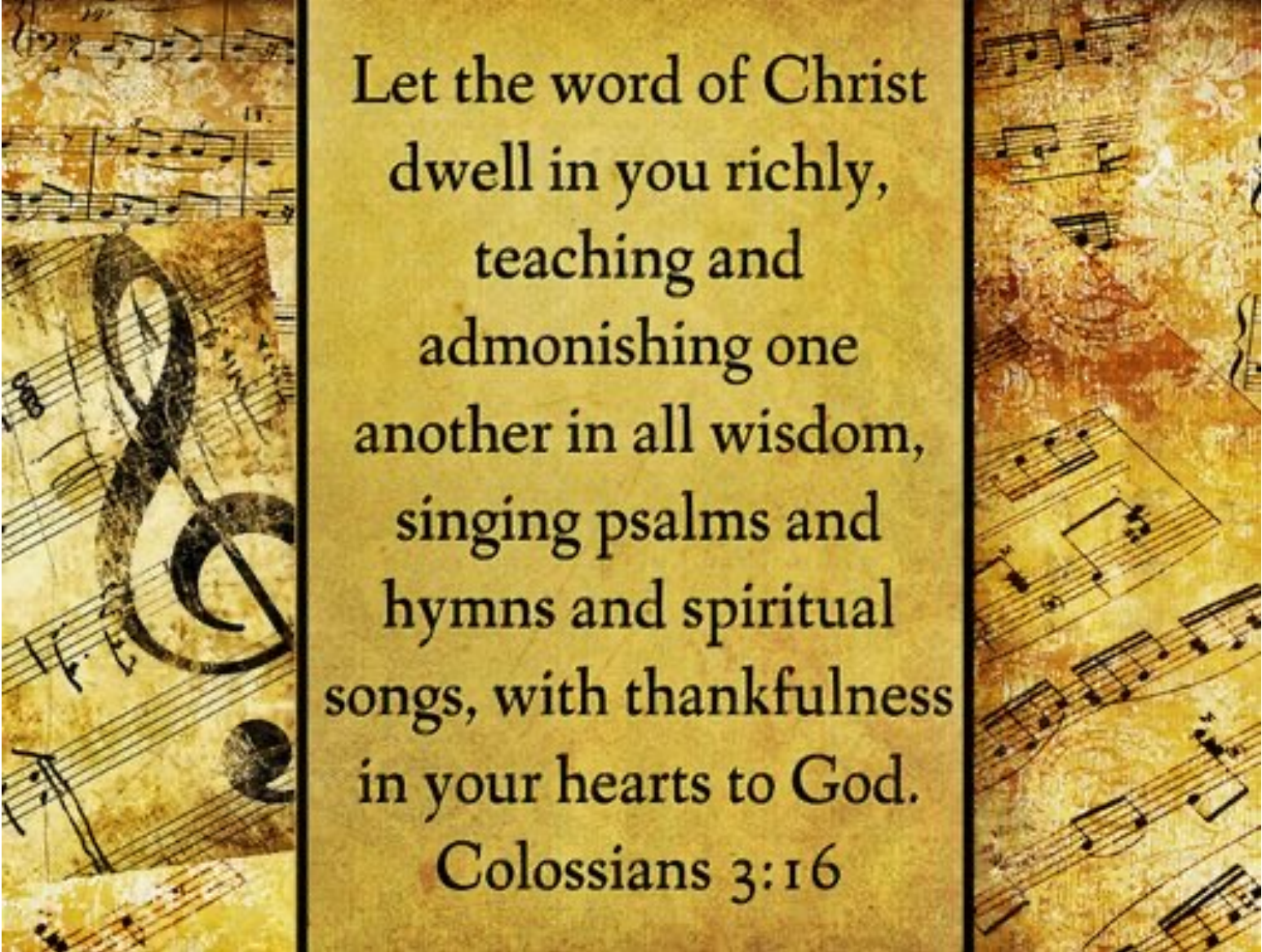
Is acapella singing just a tradition?

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a pen, poised to write on a sheet of music paper. The paper is filled with musical notation, including staves and notes. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the skin of the hand. The overall tone is contemplative and focused.

What does the New Testament say about music in the worship of the church?

# There are 10 References to singing and/or music in the N.T.:

- Matthew 26:30 (ESV) (30 And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.)
- See also Mark 14:26
- Acts 16:25 (ESV) (25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them,)
- Romans 15:9 (ESV) (9 and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.”)
- 1 Corinthians 14:15 (ESV) (15 What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also.)
- Hebrews 2:12 (ESV) (12 saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation, I will sing your praise.”)
- Hebrews 13:15 (ESV) (15 Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.)
- James 5:13 (ESV) (13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.)
- Ephesians 5:19 – 20
- Colossians 3:16

The background of the image is a collage of musical notation on aged, yellowed paper. It features various musical symbols such as treble clefs, bass clefs, and notes on staves, creating a textured and artistic backdrop for the text.

Let the word of Christ  
dwell in you richly,  
teaching and  
admonishing one  
another in all wisdom,  
singing psalms and  
hymns and spiritual  
songs, with thankfulness  
in your hearts to God.  
Colossians 3:16

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.


- Ephesians 5:19-20 -



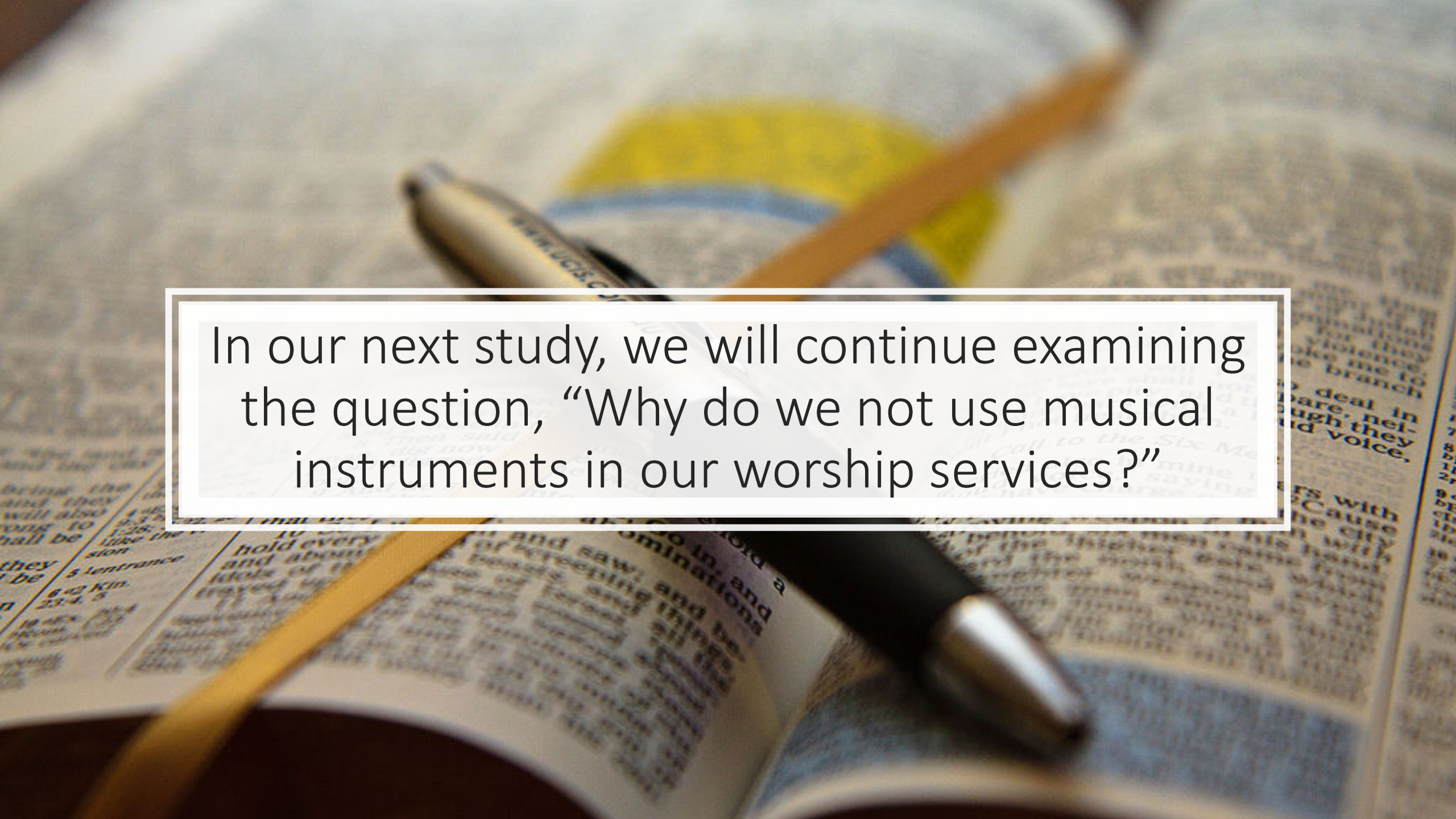
# Let's take a closer look at Colossians 3:16 & Ephesians 5:19

- “making melody”
  - Greek word – psallo
  - It means "to pluck; to rub; to touch.”
  - In order to be able to understand exactly what it means it is imperative to know what is the object of the sentence. In other words, what is being plucked?
  - It's the same as with the word “run.”
  - Like a refrigerator or a race or your nose.
- “in your heart”
  - In this verse, it is the individual's heart that being plucked, not an instrument.
  - This verse simply doesn't allow us license to incorporate an instrument.
  - That would be taking the verse out of the context God had intended.



A group of people, likely a church choir, are shown in profile, singing from sheet music. The image is dimly lit and has a soft, warm tone. The text is overlaid in the center in a white, sans-serif font.

Neither of these passages leave room for  
the use of musical instrument in our  
worship of our Lord & Savior!

An open book with a yellow highlighter and a pen resting on it. The text is overlaid on a white box with a thin black border.

In our next study, we will continue examining the question, “Why do we not use musical instruments in our worship services?”