

# MUSIC IN WORSHIP PT.1

**THE USE OF MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**



# INTRODUCTION:



# **I. USE OF THE INSTRUMENT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**



“Make two silver trumpets for yourself; you shall make them of hammered work; you shall use them for calling the congregation and for directing the movement of the camps.”

**NUMBERS 10:2**

**NKJV**



“The sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets; and these shall be to you as an ordinance forever throughout your generations.”

**NUMBERS 10:8**

**NKJV**



“Also in the day of your gladness, in your appointed feasts, and at the beginning of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; and they shall be a memorial for you before your God: I am the Lord your God.””

**NUMBERS 10:10**

**NKJV**



“And he appointed some of the Levites to minister before the ark of the Lord, to commemorate, to thank, and to praise the Lord God of Israel: Asaph the chief, and next to him Zechariah, then Jeiel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Mattithiah, Eliab, Benaiah, and Obed-Edom: Jeiel with stringed instruments and harps, but Asaph made music with cymbals; Benaiah and Jahaziel the priests regularly blew the trumpets before the ark of the covenant of God.”

**1 CHRONICLES 16:4-6**

**NKJV**



“And he stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, with stringed instruments, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, of Gad the king’s seer, and of Nathan the prophet; for thus was the commandment of the Lord by his prophets.”

**2 CHRONICLES 29:25**

**NKJV**



“four thousand were  
gatekeepers, and four thousand  
praised the Lord with musical  
instruments, “which I made,”  
said David, “for giving praise.””

**1 CHRONICLES 23:5**

**NKJV**



## **II. THE RESTORATION PRINCIPLE**



“Also Jehoiada appointed the oversight of the house of the Lord to the hand of the priests, the Levites, whom David had assigned in the house of the Lord, to offer the burnt offerings of the Lord, as it is written in the Law of Moses, with rejoicing and with singing, as it was established by David.”

**2 CHRONICLES 23:18**

**NKJV**



“And he stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, with stringed instruments, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, of Gad the king’s seer, and of Nathan the prophet; for thus was the commandment of the Lord by his prophets.”

**2 CHRONICLES 29:25**

**NKJV**



“They broke down the altars of the Baals in his presence, and the incense altars which were above them he cut down; and the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images he broke in pieces, and made dust of them and scattered it on the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. He also burned the bones of the priests on their altars, and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.”

**2 CHRONICLES 34:4-5**

**NKJV**



“When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the Lord, according to the ordinance of David king of Israel.”

**EZRA 3:10**

**NKJV**



“And the heads of the Levites were Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brothers across from them, to praise and give thanks, group alternating with group, according to the command of David the man of God.”

**NEHEMIAH 12:24**

**NKJV**



“and some of the priests’ sons with trumpets—Zechariah the son of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Michaiah, the son of Zaccur, the son of Asaph,”

**NEHEMIAH 12:35**

**NKJV**



“Both the singers and the gatekeepers kept the charge of their God and the charge of the purification, according to the command of David and Solomon his son. For in the days of David and Asaph of old there were chiefs of the singers, and songs of praise and thanksgiving to God.”

**NEHEMIAH 12:45-46**

**NKJV**



1. So what about instruments of music in the Old Testament?

1. Israel used instruments because **God told them to.**
2. For **400 years** the only instruments were two silver trumpets.
3. For the next **1000 years** the only instruments used were those God commanded David to add to the worship.



# III. THE NEW TESTAMENT



“Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp!” Is often quoted in defense of using the instrument today.

**PSALM 150:3**

**NKJV**



“Praise the Lord! Praise God in  
His sanctuary; Praise Him in  
His mighty firmament!”

**PSALM 150:1**

**NKJV**



“For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.”

**HEBREWS 7:12**

**NKJV**



“In that He says, “A new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.”

**HEBREWS 8:13**

**NKJV**



“Early Christianity saw the sacrificial system and temple worship as superseded by the sacrifice of Christ and the worship of the church. When the Levitical priesthood and the sacrificial cults were abolished, naturally its accompaniments were too” (Everett Ferguson. *A Capella Music In the Public Worship of the Church*. pg.41).



“What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.”

**1 CORINTHIANS 14:15**

**NKJV**



“Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.”

**JAMES 5:13**

**NKJV**



“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**

**NKJV**



1. Should we just assume they were used?

1. There is no historical evidence for first **1100** years of church history of an instrument ever being used in worship.
2. The instrument was introduced in the 10th century .



“The church does not use instruments such as the harp or lyre when praising God, in case she seem to fall back into Judaism” -Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274).



“Musical instruments would be no more suitable than the burning of incense, the lighting of lamps, and the restoration of the other shadows of the law.”

JOHN CALVIN

