

Sing

# Old Testament singing

- He then stationed the Levites in the house of the LORD with cymbals, with harps and with lyres, according to the command of David and of Gad the king's seer, and of Nathan the prophet; for the command was from the LORD through His prophets. (2Ch 29:25 NAU)
- Singing with an instrument is authorized in the Old Testament and there are many references to its use. But in the New Testament, while there are references made to musical instruments, there is no mention of them being used by Christians in their worship to God.

# Sing

- After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. (Mat 26:30 NAU)
- But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them; (Act 16:25 NAU)
- and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, "THEREFORE I WILL GIVE PRAISE TO YOU AMONG THE GENTILES, AND I WILL SING TO YOUR NAME." (Rom 15:9 NAU)

# Sing

- What is *the outcome* then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also. (1Co 14:15 NAU)
- saying, "I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN, IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE." (Heb 2:12 NAU)
- Is anyone among you suffering? *Then* he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises. (Jam 5:13 NAU)

# A reason why

- An important reason to consider for the lack of authorization in the New Covenant for instrumental music, is given to us in Hebrews. Consider these verses: 7:11-12; 8:1-5; 9:6-14; 10:1-18.

# A reason why

- A number of things included in the Old Covenant are not included in the New Covenant.
  - Animal sacrifices, burning incense, Nazarite vow, Levitical priesthood, etc.
  - The Old Covenant was taken away along with many things which were only a shadow of the new things to come.
  - So Hebrews tells us, “Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.” (Heb 13:15NAU)

# Two important passages

- Ephesians 5:15-21
- Colossians 3:16-17

# F.F. Bruce

- “What is meant by the injunction: “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly”? Does “in you” mean “within you” (as individual Christians) or “among you” (as Christian community)? Perhaps it would be unwise to rule either alternative out completely, although the collective sense may be uppermost in view of the context. Let there be ample scope for the proclamation of the Christian message and the impartation of Christian teaching in their meetings. Christian teaching must be based on the teaching of Jesus himself; it must be unmistakably “the word of Christ.” It would “dwell richly” in their fellowship and in their hearts if they paid heed to what they heard, bowed to its authority, assimilated its lessons, and translated them into daily living”

# Singing to God

- Psalm 105:1-8
- When the heart is filled with the truths of God's word and the mouth speaks forth those truths and those truths are lived in that life, then our hearts make the melody of song our Lord longs to hear.
- "Blessed Assurance"
- A cappella – in the manner of the church or choir.