

PARK HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Thus Saith the Lord

NOAH AND SINGING

By Jeff Sweeten

It must have taken a lot of disappointments for God to finally reach the end of His patience and command Noah to build an ark (Genesis 6:14). Fortunately for his family, Noah paid attention to God better than most people today who claim to follow Divine instruction: “*Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did*” (Genesis 6:22). The ark was made from gopher wood because that is the type of wood God said to use; substituting mesquite, fir or pine would have been disastrous. Noah did not decide to adapt divine instruction with oak trim to fit his felt needs because it’s so pleasing to the senses, don’t ya know (cf. Genesis 3:6). He just obeyed; he did not add to or take away from God’s directive (cf. Deuteronomy 12:32). And, it pleased God to save eight souls.

Now, push forward to today. God tells us to sing and make melody in our heart (Colossians 3:16). He did not say play, yodel, hum or whistle, all of which are types of music but different than singing, making them additions or adaptations to His original and singular commandment to sing. A fifth-grader can distinguish between sing and play because the two are not synonymous. One can know what God wants in our worship assemblies: He said **sing**; anything else is a departure from God’s instructions and since He spoke nothing concerning those alternative music methods in New Testament worship, one can know that they will not be pleasing to God (Hebrews 7:14). So, playing, yodeling, humming or whistling will not be included in worship. Even clapping fits in that unauthorized category since it’s a rhythm instrument; the only difference between clapping and drumming is live human skin and dead animal skin – and, unless one is sending Morse code, it is not “*speaking*” (Ephesians 5:19) or “*teaching and admonishing*” (Colossians 3:16).

It is really that simple. Yet religious people of every digression imaginable think that God is pleased with the clanging, cowbell music of their worship services because it caters to someone’s felt needs. From honky-tonkin’ to heavy metal, communion with God becomes a corrupt concert with which only Satan could be pleased.

Noah did not use unauthorized wood and his obedience pleased God. Christians will not use unauthorized music and that obedience will please God.

JOIN US ON SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY!

SUNDAY: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study • 10:25 a.m. Morning Worship • 1:30 p.m. Bible Study

WEDNESDAY: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study • Contact the minister at 254-370-4130