

January 28, 2018

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803

Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Singing with Grace and Making Melody in Your Heart

Ephesians 5:19: *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;*

Colossians 3:16: *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.*

These two verses teach the truth about how we must worship God through song.

Notice toward the beginning of both verses that the phrases “**speaking to yourselves**” and “**teaching and admonishing one another**” are used. An important purpose of “congregational” singing is to edify one another.

This does not mean though that the purpose of such singing is to please ourselves. Notice the ending of both verses says “**to the Lord.**”

It is God who we must please. It is God who has the right to determine what is and is not acceptable in our worship. We must therefore follow His commands.

The commands He has given in the New Testament concerning worship in song all reference singing (**Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; James 5:13**). The examples He has given concerning New Testament worship in song likewise all reference singing (cf. **Matt. 26:30; Acts 16:25; 1 Cor. 14:15**).

Singing with Grace and Making Melody in Your Heart (continued)

In the Old Testament, worshipping God with instrumental music was acceptable to God (cf. **Psalm 33:2**), as was offering animal sacrifices. The fact that animal sacrifices were willed by God under the Old Law does not make it so under the Law of Christ. Likewise, the presence of instrumental music in the Old Testament does not make it God's will for worship today (cf. **Col. 2:14**).

Some question how worshipping with instrumental music can be a problem if God has not come out directly and said it is sin.

Consider an illustration. If we are asked to paint someone's kitchen white, we would recognize that it needs to be painted white. The individual asking does not have to say NOT to paint it green, blue, yellow, red, or any other color. The understanding is that white means white alone.

This principle is illustrated in the biblical example of Noah. When God asked him to make an ark of gopher wood, God did not have to list hundreds of woods that could not be used (**Gen. 6:14**). The command necessarily inferred that gopher wood was all that was acceptable.

The problem with mechanical instruments in worship today is that God commands us to make melody in our heart by singing. Making melody with a piano, organ, or other mechanical instrument is not making melody in our heart by singing. It is worshipping God differently than He

commands, which He forbids (**Lev. 10:1-2**).

Making melody by listening to others sing is likewise not obeying the command. Everyone has a responsibility to sing...not just a select few in a "church choir." Those who are afraid their singing is "not up to par" should remember that God is their judge and He is listening to their hearts (those tempted to criticize such individuals should remember this too).

Having said all of this, it is important to note that the need for obeying God's command to sing is not fulfilled only by ensuring our outward actions follow His pattern of "**singing**." Consider additional instruction He gives concerning this.

Our singing must be sincere, as indicated by the phrase "**making melody in your heart to the Lord**." Our hearts should be moved as we sing words that we mean.

We must also sing with thanksgiving, as pointed out in **Colossians 3:16**. A thankful, joyful heart that means the words being sung is pleasing to God.

This should be the goal of our worship to God. Mankind can devise numerous ways to worship that *seem* like a good idea to our fallible minds. Yet, only those who follow God's commands are showing the love for Him He desires (**1 John 5:3**).

May we sing with grace and melody in our hearts, and thereby make a sound that is beautiful to God and edifies others.

-Michael Hickox

God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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Steps to Salvation

1. Hear – Matt. 17:5; Heb 1:2; John 6:45
2. Believe – Heb. 11:6; John 8:24, 20:31
3. Repent – Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
4. Confess – Matt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10
5. Be Baptized – Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38
6. Be Faithful – Matt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10

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Words to Consider

“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”

–Ecclesiastes 12:13

Prayer List

Holly
Barb
Hickox's Granddaughter, Lyla (Leukemia)
Harold (Prostate Cancer)
John & Linda (Heart Disease)
Sandy (Foot Injury)
Betty
Mabel
Norma's Grandson, Ryan (Head Injury)
Snyder's Niece, Tessa (Serving in Jordan)
Mike (Prostate Cancer)
Cheryl (Breast Cancer)
June's Sister, Nancy (Heart Irregularity)
Norma (Injuries from fall)
Dave (Surgery)
June & Family
Jerry (Throat Cancer)

Daily Bible Reading

Jan 28 – Exodus 4-6; Matthew 14:22-36
Jan 29 – Exodus 7-8; Matthew 15:1-20
Jan 30 – Exodus 9-11; Matthew 15:21-39
Jan 31 – Exodus 12-13; Matthew 16
Feb 1 – Exodus 14-15; Matthew 17
Feb 2 – Exodus 16-18; Matthew 18:1-20
Feb 3 – Exodus 19-20; Matthew 8:21-35

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

–2 Timothy 3:16-17

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Bible Study: Joe
Worship: Larry
Evening: Travis

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

Steve

Assignments

Sunday, February 4, 2018

Reading: Larry
Announcements: Dave
Table: Don
Serve: Carlyle
Dan H
Roger
Mark

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

Invitation: Dave

Cleaning Building

Jeanette

Prepare Communion

Jeanette

Preaching

Michael

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Feb 2 – Travis
Feb 5 – Mike
Feb 8 – Betty
Feb 13 – Darrell
Feb 15 – Dan D