

Music in the Home: Are Instruments Sinful?

I Timothy 6:10 “For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”

Did you know that a couple of centuries ago, many churches did not use instruments in their services? The churches did not even have staple instruments of today like pianos and guitars. Certain Christians believed that instruments were inherently evil.

Someone may think that I made a mistake in putting a verse on money as our text. :) But did you notice that the verse doesn't say what the world commonly believes, “Money is the root of all evil.” Money is simply an inanimate object. Money alone is not evil. It is sinful man's lust and greed that misuses and abuses money (“the love of money”). Actually there have been many believers throughout time who were both wealthy and godly. The issue is not money, but rather, man.

There are some today who, like the churches of old, do not accept certain instruments like guitars or drums because they still believe that certain instruments are inherently evil. Believe it or not, a drum is not evil. Guitars are not sinful. **Like money, the problem is not the instruments but the people playing the instruments and how they play those instruments and what they play on those instruments.** If a drum, for instance, is played in an older marching style and it is not the predominate part to a song, the drum is not being used sinfully.

The media jumps on this ship, too. They make you think that guns are somehow the problem for all of our social ills. No, friend. Guns don't move or shoot or do anything without a person. People are the problem, not objects. **You can play a drum within God's musical structure. You can play guitars within God's musical structure.** Instruments by themselves do not have sin in them.

Remember that God created Lucifer without sin, and God also created in Lucifer all 3 main instrument divisions (Eze. 28; Is. 14). Some people say that rhythm is wrong. But again, remember that all music requires some sort of rhythm. God made music to require some sort of rhythm. Even a church song leader or an orchestral conductor provides a certain rhythm for us to follow. **God even commands worship with rhythmic instruments.** Take the last psalm, for instance, Ps. 50. It includes all 3 main instrument divisions in God's command for us to praise Him.

Vs. 3-5 command “Praise him with the sound of the trumpet (**Wind instruments**): praise him with the psaltery and harp (**String instruments**). Praise him with the timbrel (**Percussion**) and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs (**Pianos and organs are mixed/combo instruments**). Praise him upon the loud cymbals (**Again percussion**): praise him upon the high sounding cymbals (**Again percussion**).”

At the same time, remember that perfect Lucifer with all of his instruments is not so good anymore. He is now the insanely wicked Satan who now misuses all 3 instrument divisions for wickedness. Musical instruments are not inherently evil, but any of them can be used for evil. Some believers seem to think that any song with a clarinet or piano or flute is okay. No, **any instrument can be distorted to play Satan's musical style**. Some instruments can be misused more easily like drums, but all instruments can be abused.