Denominational Doctrines
Part 2 - Instrumental Music

Introduction:
A. First thing noticed by new visitors.
B. Instrumental music is common to almost all denominations.
   1. It is has not always been. (Clarke’s comments)
   2. It is now the exception and not the rule.
C. Instrumental music subject to three basic objections:

Discussion:
I. No New Testament References To It.
   A. Only singing. (Mt. 26:30; Mk. 14:26; Acts 16:25; Rom. 15:9; 1 Cor. 14:15; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Heb. 2:12; Jas. 5:13).
   B. Figurative references. (Rev. 5:8; 14:2; 15:2).
      1. If literal, then other things too.
      2. If in heaven puts it in church: angels, infants, etc.
      1. N. T. worship not same as O.T.
      2. Also animal sacrifices, etc.

II. No New Testament Principles Include It.
   A. Does not have to be specified to be authorized or forbidden.
      2. Jewish synagogue apparently under general authority to teach, etc.
      3. Golden calf not specified, but graven images were.
      4. Church buildings, song books, preacher's home, etc.
   B. Does have to be included in generic terms if not specified.
      1. Illustrated by common every day affairs.
      2. Illustrated by Bible examples. cf. Gopher wood.

   A. It is a human tradition like hand-washing ritual. (Matt. 15:1-9)
   B. It does not respect silence of the scriptures. (Heb. 7:11-14).
   C. It goes beyond doctrine or gospel of Christ. (2 John 9-11; Gal. 1:8,9).
   D. It adds to the word of God. (Rev. 22:18-19).

Conclusion:
A. Let us understand seriousness of unauthorized religious activity. (Cain, Nadab & Abihu)
B. Let us content ourselves with scriptural things in worship.
C. Let us sing without adding some other kind of music.
D. Let us sing with all of our ability, improve it when we can.