

# God-Honoring Music for God-Honoring Worship

*Music principles that apply to worship in any cultural context*



- The music must make a UNIFIED CLEAR SOUND**  
*(II Chronicles 5:13a; I Corinthians 14:33, 40)*
- The music should be aimed at PRAISING God**  
*(II Chronicles 5:13b; Psalm 7:17; 18:49; 21:13; 27:6; 47:6-7; 68:4, 32; 150)*
- The music should be JOYFUL**  
*(Psalm 100:1-2 - "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands, serve the LORD with gladness, come before his presence with singing." Compare Psalm 98:4; I Chron.15:16)*
- The music should be properly ORDERED and BALANCED**

<b>Melody</b>	⇒	<b>Spirit</b>
<b>Harmony</b>	⇒	<b>Mind</b>
<b>Rhythm</b>	⇒	<b>Body</b>

*Melody should be pre-eminent (Ephesians 5:19 - "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.").*

- The music's message should be CLEAR not vague**  
*SEE: I Corinthians 14:7-11, 15-16*
- The music should REFRESH the SPIRIT**  
*(I Samuel 16:23 - "And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him."; II Chronicles 20:21;*
- The music should be DOCTRINALLY SOUND**  
*(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.")*
- The music should be sung or played from the HEART**  
*(Colossians 3:16b - "singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord"; Ephesians 5:19- "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.")*
- The music we sing or listen to should be based on STANDARDS** (Philippians 4:8), **not tastes** (not mere preferences, likes or dislikes) (Jeremiah 17:9)

**10. Musicians should be:**

**GODLY** (Psalm 33:1, 3 - "Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous; for praise is comely for the upright. Sing unto him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise.")

**SKILLED** (I Chronicles 15:22 - "And Chenaniah, chief of the Levites, was for song: he instructed about the song, because he was skillful";)

**WELL-ORGANIZED** (II Chronicles 34:12 - "And the men did the work faithfully. Their overseers were Jahath and Obadiah the Levites, of the sons of Merari, and Zechariah and Meshullam, of the sons of the Kohathites, to supervise. Others of the Levites, all of whom were skillful with instruments of music...")

and **SPIRIT-CONTROLLED** (Ephesians 5:18-19 - "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;"; I Corinthians 14:15 - "What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.")