

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

# God Once Winked

## OUR FAMILY NEWS

**Pray:** Terri Douthitt , Alice Stone and Peggy Beebe needs our prayers. Tray for Herb and Jean Watson. Pray for Thad Douthitt and for Kenneth Hurst who is being deployed to Kuati.

**Traveling/Working:** Slope workers. Tom is traveling.

**Radio Program:** Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.

**Gospel Meeting:** Windell Fikes will preach a short meeting here from September 29 to October 2, 2019. Invite your neighbors, and plan to attend.

**Evangelism:** We will begin our fall door knocking on September 21. Plan now to participate.

**Men's Meeting:** There will be a Men's Business Meeting on the 22nd. Agenda items are due to Ed by the 15th.

**Today's Scripture:** "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:" **Acts 17:30 (KJV)**

**Wisdom for Today:** "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction." **Proverbs 1:7 (KJV)**

**Attendance Last Sunday 74/38: Our Record: 107**

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September 15th, 2019 BULLETIN for the



## God's Plan of Salvation

Hear.....	Romans 10:17
Believe.....	Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent.....	Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess.....	Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized .....	Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise & Walk in Newness of Life .....	Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### MEETING TIMES

#### Sunday:

Bible Classes:	10AM
AM Worship:	11AM
PM Worship:	5PM

#### Wednesday:

Bible Study:	7PM
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### OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

### COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

[www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

## God Once Winked

We often hear people say that it has to be ok because that is the way it was done in the Old Testament. We especially hear this in relation to the use of musical instruments when singing in worship to God. The argument is that God authorized it when the Jews worshiped, so it has to be the way He wants us to worship Him in song today. But is this, in fact the way God authorized worship originally? The original use of a musical instrument in relation to the children of Israel was two trumpets that God had Moses make out of silver. Their use was authorized and described in **Numbers 10:1-10 (KJV)** <sup>1</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup> Make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly, and for the journeying of the camps. <sup>3</sup> And when they shall blow with them, all the assembly shall assemble themselves to thee at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. <sup>4</sup> And if they blow but with one trumpet, then the princes, which are heads of the thousands of Israel, shall gather themselves unto thee. <sup>5</sup> When ye blow an alarm, then the camps that lie on the east parts shall go forward. <sup>6</sup> When ye blow an alarm the second time, then the camps that lie on the south side shall take their journey: they shall blow an alarm for their journeys. <sup>7</sup> But when the congregation is to be gathered together, ye shall blow, but ye shall not sound an alarm. <sup>8</sup> And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow with the trumpets; and they shall be to you for an ordinance for ever throughout your generations. <sup>9</sup> And if ye go to war in your land against the enemy that oppresses you, then ye shall blow an alarm with the trumpets; and ye shall be remembered before the LORD your God, and ye shall be saved from your enemies. <sup>10</sup> Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the LORD your God."

The next account of the use of instruments in relation to Israel is **Numbers 29:1 (KJV)** <sup>1</sup> And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you." And next in **Numbers 31:6 (KJV)** <sup>6</sup> And Moses sent them to the war, a thousand of every tribe, them and Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, to the war, with the holy instruments, and the trumpets to blow in his hand."

These accounts center around giving the Israelites instructions to assemble, to move and to go to war. However, in Numbers 10:10 Moses indicates that the trumpets should be used when making burnt offerings, but there is no indication that singing was also used to accompany these burnt offerings. The first account of instruments used in worship to God is in **Exodus 15:20-21 (KJV)** <sup>20</sup> And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

By: Bill Beebe

<sup>21</sup> And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea." And later we see David adding musical instruments to the worship of God: **2 Samuel 6:5 (KJV)** <sup>5</sup> And David and all the house of Israel played before the LORD on all manner of instruments made of fir wood, even on harps, and on psalteries, and on timbrels, and on cornets, and on cymbals."

We also hear that God must allow divorce since he authorized it in the Old Testament. Moses commanded in **Deuteronomy 24:1 (KJV)** <sup>1</sup> When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, because he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house."

In both these things, singing with instruments in worship to God and in divorce, we see a change in the New Testament. Jesus was extremely clear concerning divorce when he taught the people. Listen carefully to his instructions: **Matthew 19:3-6 (KJV)** <sup>3</sup> The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? <sup>4</sup> And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, <sup>5</sup> And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? <sup>6</sup> Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." And concerning singing, we find the command to make melody in our hearts to God. Paul was clear on this, **Ephesians 5:19 (KJV)** <sup>19</sup> Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;" And history teaches us that the early church sang without the use of an instrument for about 600 years after the church began before an organ was added. Since the early church avoided music for 600 years, we know that singing without it is acceptable to God.

So, once upon a time God winked at divorce because of the hearts of the Israelites. And for a while he winked at the use of instruments of music in worship. But we see something that is quite important to us in these discussions today. That is **Acts 17:30 (KJV)** <sup>30</sup> And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:" God once winked at some of our sins, but now with the sacrifice of Jesus, we are to repent and follow his commands. It will be a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God (Hebrews 10:31) with sins unrepented of. Don't count on God winking at our hard hearts again!