

## DOES ACTS 3 PROVE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC IS SCRIPTURAL?

Perry Hall

An up-and-coming trend to defend musical instrument in praising God consists of this line of argument:

- 1) Peter and John went to the temple at the hour of prayer to pray (Acts 3).
- 2) The temple used instruments in prayer.
- 3) Therefore, Peter and John's actions show it is scriptural to use instruments in prayer to God.

However, there is a problem. The text does not say, "Peter and John went to the temple to pray."

Here is the text: *"Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the ninth hour, the hour of prayer"* (Acts 3:1). Does this text say **why** they went, or **when** they went? **When!**

So, **why** did they go? To heal and to preach. *"When Peter saw this, he replied to the people, 'Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this, or why do you gaze at us, as if by our own power or piety we had made him walk?'"* (Acts 3:12).

This is parallel to Acts 2. **When** were the apostles together? It was the Day of Pentecost. **Why** were the apostles gathered? Was it to celebrate the Jewish Feast of the Ingathering? Or was the reason because that is where the people were and they wanted to preach?

This is for the same reason Paul later went to the Synagogue on the Sabbath. He wasn't observing the Sabbath. He was going to where the people are to preach.

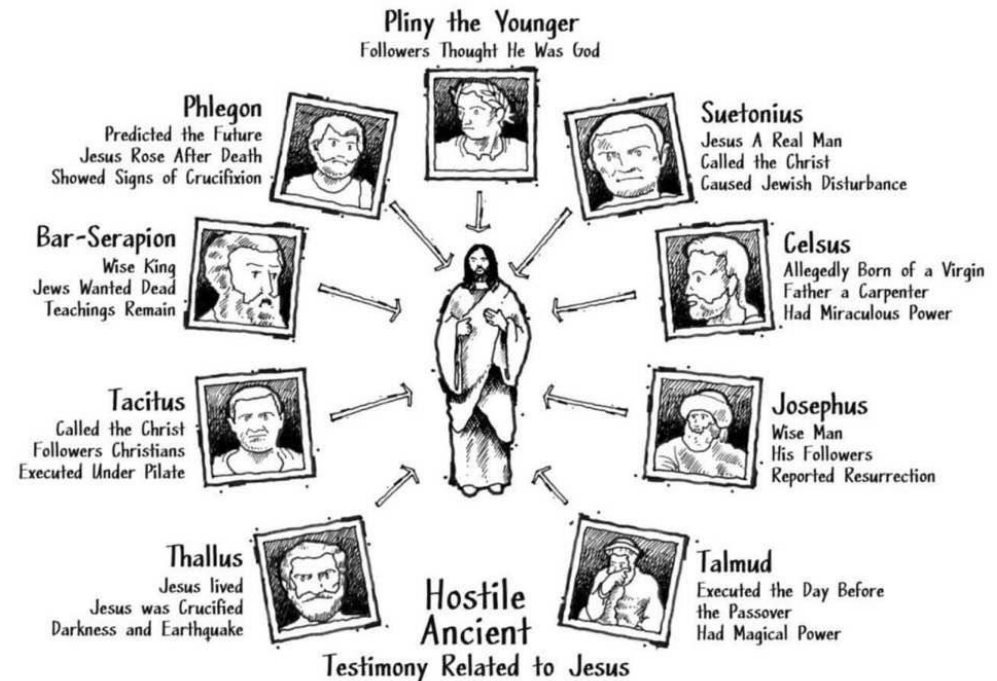
What Acts 3 demonstrates is not **how** to worship in song or prayer. It teaches **why** we should go to where people are – to preach Jesus.

## WAS JESUS FICTITIOUS?

Terry Wane Benton

Occasionally, we will hear from someone, who never even looked at the evidence, making the claim that Jesus was a fictitious character made up to control people, but the truth is that the history of Jesus was so well documented that it was ludicrous for anyone to even question His existence and it never occurred to anyone until recently to make such a claim while trying to appear credible. What is clearly going on is that the deniers of Jesus are trying to control people through making ignorance the opportunity for propaganda. Equip yourself with knowledge and the propaganda is exposed!

## ARE THERE NON-BIBLICAL SOURCES THAT CONFIRM THE EXISTENCE OF JESUS?



***"WHAT MUST I DO  
TO BE SAVED?"***

***ACTS 16:30***

**LEARN THE GOSPEL**

John 6:45; Romans 10:17

**BELIEVE IN CHRIST**

Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16

**CONFESS CHRIST**

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

**REPENT OF SIN**

Acts 3:19; 17:30

**BE BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST**

Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-6

**REMAIN STEADFAST**

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

***"THE ASSEMBLING OF  
OURSELVES TOGETHER"***

***HEBREWS 10:24-25***

**SUNDAY**

Worship @ 10:00 a.m.

Studies @ 11:45 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY**

Studies & Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

75 Sherrod Boulevard  
Belén, New Mexico

**Seekers Welcome.  
Members Expected.**

***"IF A MAN IS OVERTAKEN IN  
ANY TRESPASS...  
RESTORE SUCH A ONE"***

***GALATIANS 6:1***

**CONFESS TRESPASSES**

James 5:16; 1<sup>st</sup> John 1:9

**REPENT OF SIN**

Acts 8:22

**PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS**

Acts 8:22

**REMAIN STEADFAST**

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

***"A WORD FITLY SPOKEN IS  
LIKE APPLES OF GOLD IN  
SETTINGS OF SILVER"***

***PROVERBS 25:11***

"When I ask God to direct my path, I have to accept the roadblocks He sends, too."

***"WHOLE COUNSEL"***

***ACTS 20:27***

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**INTRODUCTIONS & CONCLUSIONS**

Robert Perkins, adapted

Introductions and conclusions in a letter are generally short summations of what is contained in the letter. A conclusion is usually a restatement of the introduction. Compare the introduction and conclusion in the Roman letter for instance.

*"That you may be established"* (Romans 1:11) and *"Now to Him who is able to establish you"* (Romans 16:25).

*"The gospel of God which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures."* (Romans 1:1-2) and *"my gospel... now made manifest... by the prophetic Scriptures"* (Romans 16:25-26).

*"For obedience to the faith among all nations"* (Romans 1:5) and *"made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith"* (Romans 16:26).

See the similarities?

From the introduction and conclusion, which agree with each other, we can say that the part in between is an expansion of the introduction and conclusion.

Specifically, then, the letter to the Romans is about being established in the gospel through preaching about Jesus Christ and the obedience of faith. It is for all nations, as has been revealed by the prophets in the Scriptures. To God be the glory.

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