

Outside Hymns

Hymns written and/or composed by worldly “christians” are unclean/blemished and should not be used for worshipping God.

Haggai 2:11-14

“Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘Now ask the priests concerning the law, saying, “If one carries holy meat in the fold of his garment, and with the edge he touches bread or stew, wine or oil, or any food, will it become holy?”’” Then the priests answered and said, “No”. And Haggai said, “If one who is unclean because of the dead body touches any of these, will it be unclean?” So the priests answered and said, “It shall be unclean.” Then Haggai answered and said, “So is this people, and so is this nation before Me,’ says the Lord, ‘and so is every work of their hands; and what they offer there is unclean.

Worldly hymns cannot be made holy just because something holy (the COG) is using it. Some *thing* cannot be made holy if it is already unclean. That’s what this verse is saying. Saying it’s ok to use worldly hymns to worship the true God is no different than taking other forms of worship (Christmas and Easter) to worship God. It’s the exact same concept. In fact, that is the exact concept of Haggai 2:11 and why this passage even exists... God was explaining the Israelites were unclean because they used pagan items as offerings!

Deu 12:29-31

*When the Lord your God cuts off from before the nations which you go to dispossess, and you displace them and dwell in their land, take heed to yourself that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, “How did these nations server their gods? I will also do likewise.’ **You shall not worship the Lord your God in that way;** for every abomination to the Lord which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods.*

Deu 12:2

*You shall utterly destroy all the places where the nations which you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree. And you shall destroy their altars, break their sacred pillars and burn their wooden images with fire; you shall cut down the carved images of their gods and destroy their names from that place. **You shall not worship the Lord your God with such things.***

The nations use hymns that *they created* to worship *their* gods - the nations have *never* worshipped the true God. The nations today worship the same god they worshipped back then (Sunday worship (Ra/Nimrod), christmas (Saturnalia), easter (Moloch), halloween (Day of the dead), lint, etc). These verses tells us we are not supposed to use what they use to worship their gods. Using hymns created by the nations is going directly against this command. We are

NOT supposed to worship God the way they do; this *must* include their hymns as “such things” in Deu 12:4. If one believes this isn’t speaking about worldly “christians”; God clears it up and includes those who sacrifice their children to Moloch - in other words, easter. Anyone keeping easter is promoting and perpetuating the worship of Moloch. Who keeps easter? “Christians” of the world.

Things Offered to Idols

Abstaining from things that have been offered to idols is one the most basic, entry-level requirements of Church of God members, as the new covenant council outlined in Acts.

Acts 21:25

*But concerning the Gentiles who believe, we have written and decided that they should observe no such thing, except that they should keep themselves from **things offered to idols**, from blood, from things strangled and from sexual immorality. [Cross reference Rev 2:14, 20]*

This isn’t just limited to physical meat. Sexual immorality isn’t meat. Things offered to idols can be anything. Clean animal meat can be offered to idols and become unclean as we already read in Haggai. Hymns which are written to the god of a Sunday worship must qualify as a “thing offered to an idol” since that god isn’t the true God - it’s a god that doesn’t actually exist. There is no real god of a Sunday worship service. It’s a made up, created, imaginary god - an idol.

2 Cor 6:16-17

*And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people”. Therefore, “Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. **Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you**”*

Touching anything unclean (such as something created for the worshipping of idols) means *God will not receive us*. 2 Cor 6 isn’t just speaking of physical unclean animals. It’s spiritual. The world is unclean. Idols are unclean.

Our Hymns are Our Offerings to God

Psa 51:14-16

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, the God of my salvation and my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall show forth your praise. For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering.

Eph 5:19-20

Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Col 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly with all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Acts 16:25

*But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and **singing hymns to God** and the prisoners were listening to them.*

Through countless scriptures showing that offerings and sacrifices should be animals without any blemishes, our offered hymns should be without blemishes as well. Blemished offerings are a curse to the one offering it.

Mal 1:14

*But cursed be the deceiver who has in his flock a male, and takes a vow, but sacrifices to the Lord **what is blemished**...*

The old covenant sacrifices were required to be unblemished.

Lev 1:3

If his offering is a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish:

Christ was an unspotted sacrifice (1 Pet 1:19).

1 Peter 1:19

But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

We can scripturally connect that “unblemished” in the old covenant is the same as “unspotted” in the new covenant. A broad instruction is that we are to keep ourselves “unspotted” from the world.

James 1:27

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble and to keep oneself unspotted from the world. [Cross reference 2 Peter 3:14]

If we are to be unspotted or unblemished, then our offerings to God, which are parallel with the old covenant offerings, must be the same.

1 Peter 2:5

You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Again, refer back to Mal 1:14 and how blemished or spotted sacrifices are a curse - they are not acceptable to God. Anything blemished or with spot is not holy (Eph 5:27). Amos is specific in describing how there are unacceptable hymn offerings.

Amos 5:22

Though you offer Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them, nor will I regard your fattened peace offerings. Take away from Me the noise of your songs, for I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments.

Hymns that were created to be offered to other gods (idols) and then used as an offering to the Father are no doubt blemished or spotted offerings.

Prerequisite

The above explanation is easily digested for those who believe that the entirety of the world outside of the Church of God is worshipping a false god - this overall belief is almost a prerequisite of grasping whether using worldly hymns is acceptable to God or not.

However, to those who do not agree or grasp that the world or “nations” are separated (cut off) from God, the hymn singing issue is a moot point. It would defeat the purpose of the instruction in Ezekiel 33 (to blow the warning trumpet) to not, at least, make a short reminder of this concept while explaining the hymn singing situation:

The nations around us are the world. They are not the nation of spiritual Israel. They are not a *special* people (Ex 19:5, Deu 26:18, 1 Pet 2:9). The nations (the world) around us today are the same “nations” that are mentioned in Deuteronomy - otherwise “special” and “chosen” means nothing. The *concept* is the same today as it was back then. There is and always has been a *separation* between God’s nation and the rest of the nations (Ex 33:16, Ezra 10:11, Psa 4:3, 2 Cor 6:17). There is a distinctive identifier that separates God’s nation from the rest of the nations; that is the Holy Spirit (God’s presence - Ex 33:16 again).

Ignorance on their behalf doesn’t excuse that they are still the “nations” worshipping other gods as they did in the OT and these OT scriptures still apply. Sin is still sin, even done in ignorance, and still requires an atoning (Lev 5:18, Eze 45:20, Atc 17:30). Ignorant sin doesn’t somehow make one to be following God. Ignorant sin (such as Christmas or Easter) doesn’t minimize or remove one’s worshipping of a false god. If one keeps worldly holidays, they keep it to Baal - just like the “nations” around the Israelites did back then. The concept remains the same... and so do the scriptures dealing with the concept.