# Musical Instruments in the Old Testament

Musical instruments are among the earliest recorded human inventions (Genesis 4:21). The earliest instruments were the harp, cymbals, and pipe. From these all these were developed. Exact names are uncertain. Many are named in Psalm 150. While instruments were used in a variety of way under the Mosaic Law, **there is not one command or example in the Bible of them being used in the church in the first century**.

## PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

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| Bells | Exodus 28:33; Zechariah 14:20 |
| Cymbals | 1 Chronicles 15:16-28; 2 Samuel 6:5; Ezra 3:10 |
| Timbrel | Genesis 31:27; Exodus 15:20; Psalm 150:4 |
| Tambourine | 1 Samuel 18:6; 2 Samuel 6:5; Jeremiah 31:4 |
| Sistrum | 2 Samuel 6:5 |

## STRINGED INSTRUMENTS

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|---|---|
| Harp | Genesis 4:21; 31:27; 2 Samuel 6:5; Daniel 3:5-15 |
| Lyre | Daniel 3:5-15 |
| Stringed Instruments | 2 Samuel 6:5; 1 Chronicles 25:1; Nehemiah 12:27 |

## WIND INSTRUMENTS

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|---|---|
| Flute | Genesis 4:21; 1 Kings 1:40; Daniel 3:5-15; Isaiah 5:12 |
| Horn | 1 Chronicles 15:28; Daniel 3:5-15 |
| Lute | Psalm 92:3; Psalm 150:3 |
| Trumpet | Exodus 19:13; Joshua 6:4; Judges 7:16; 1 Chronicles 16:6; Ezra 3:10 |

Chart Content Idea: Scofield Study System