



Welcome

Welcome to the assembly of the church of Christ that meets at Georgia Avenue, where we strive to follow God's plan for the New Testament church as closely as possible. Thank you for coming. We are encouraged by your presence and invite you to search the scriptures with us.

Sermon Text & Title

AM: "How To Keep Yourself From Falling"
Jude 1:17-23

PM: "Desire the Sincere Milk of the Word"
1 Pet. 2:1-3

Schedule of Services

<i>Sun Bible Study</i>	9 AM
<i>Sun AM Worship</i>	10 AM
<i>Sun New Converts</i>	4 PM
<i>Sun PM Worship</i>	5 PM
<i>Wed Bible Class</i>	7 PM

Gene Cooper
Minister
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Melvin Otey
Asst. Minister
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FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK:

"My Theology of Preaching" Pt. 4

III. My Approach to Sermon Delivery

While I value the effective and focused use of words, I am not required to be eloquent in my preaching. I have seen many preachers who seem to approach the delivery of sermons as performances to arouse the crowds. I avoid this because, by attempting to be eloquent, I may well draw the focus away from the message, which is God's power to save (Rom. 1:16), and draw attention unto myself. The apostle Paul, as effective as he was in preaching God's word, apparently was not an extraordinarily gifted speaker. If he was, he did not rely upon this gift to win souls. He affirmed to the Corinthians that he did not use "wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect" (1 Cor. 1:17). Likewise, he told the Thessalonians that the time he spent among them was profitable, in part, because he did not use "flattering words" in sharing the gospel with them (1 Thes. 2:5). Because my desire is to please God and not men, I speak plainly and directly so that men will understand and have every opportunity to obey. This is what God requires of me.

Although I do not need to be eloquent to be an effective preacher, I do need to be persuasive. Because I want men to both hear and obey, I do my best to persuade men to action. As Paul said, "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men" (2 Cor. 5:11). Charles Koller put it this way, "The aim, therefore, is not merely to impart knowledge, or provoke thought, or arouse the emotions, but to move the will to an affirmative response." (How to Preach Without Notes, p. 18.) I do not preach merely to be heard. My goal is for men to understand, accept and embrace the will of God for their lives. In most cases, I have to convince them of their need to do that.

It is also important that, when I preach, I speak with the authority and power befitting of a message from the Holy One. The word "preacher" in the New Testament refers to a herald with public authority. Even in the Old Testament, the prophets were criers (Isaiah 58:1; Jonah 3:2-4). Therefore, I do not give a quiet discourse as I might do when teaching on secular matters. I lift up my voice as a trumpet and speak with vigor and exhort men as though our lives depended upon my sharing the message and their receiving it. I believe that there is a difference between lecturing and preaching from the pulpit, just as there is a difference between reporting the news on a television broadcast and crying aloud in the streets. The latter has a much more dramatic impact on the hearer.

Bro. Melvin Otey

Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

“RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD”

BIBLE STUDY TOOLS - SECULAR HISTORY

#15 Secular history provides an important source of information about biblical matters. For example, when one studies the book of Exodus, it is very helpful to understand ancient Egyptian culture and religion. Only with the aid of secular sources can we truly appreciate the severity of the plagues that God brought upon the empire. When studying the New Testament, it beneficial to understand Roman government, culture, and religion. It adds to one's understanding of the political interchange between the various Jewish sects and the Roman officials and the important role that Paul's Roman citizenship played in the book of Acts. Careful consideration of secular history can be very enlightening for the Bible student.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women in the Word, Sat, 8/9 & 8/23, 12:30-1:30PM. @ 766A Princeton Pl. NW. Sisters, bring your friends for a study on salvation. If you plan to attend, see Sis. Johnson or Mosby the preceding Fri by 3PM.

Singles Bible Study, Fri, 8/15, 7:30 p.m. Bro. Wall will give a training on “While I Am a Single” from I Corinthians 7:32-34. For more details, see Bro. Crutcher.

Nursing Home Visitation, Sun, 8/17, 2 p.m. @ Washington Center for the Aging: 2601 18th St. NE. Talk with Sis. Mosby for details.

Youth Ministry Lock-in, Fri, 8/29, 7 p.m. to Saturday, 8/30, 8 a.m. Please let Bro. and Sis. Williams know if your child will participate. Youths, please invite your friends. Everyone, encourage other youths (10-17yrs.) to attend.

PRAYER REQUESTS

L. Clemons. Travel grace for church youth group coming to D.C. **C. Bingham.** Please pray for my nephew, Victor Bingham, who is having some rough times. Pray that he will learn to lean not unto his own understanding. **C. Davis.** Prayers for my mom, Sis. Roslyn Davis, that she will have travel grace to and from Georgia. **K. Campbell.** Please pray for my supervisor, Deirdre Chester. Her father has to undergo some major surgery next week. **B. Crutcher.** Prayers for Dr. James Bexfield and family. He lost his mother.

WORSHIP LINE-UP

AM

Usher	K. Wall
Song Leader	M. Williams
Announcements	M. Otey
Invocation	O. Eaton
Scrip Reading	O. Eaton
Message	G. Cooper
Lord's Table	A. Johnson
Assist	R. McQuirter
	M. Thweatt
Giving	A. Johnson
Benediction	M. Klesta

PM

Usher	K. Wall
Song Leader	B. Crutcher
Announcements	G. Cooper
Invocation	M. Davis
Scrip Reading	M. Davis
Message	M. Otey
Lord's Table	C. Bingham
Assist	K. Wall
	M. Klesta
Giving	C. Bingham
Benediction	L. Clemons

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel. Rom 10:17

Believe in Jesus. John 8:24; Heb. 11:6

Repent of Sin. Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30

Confess Christ. Rom. 10:9-10

Be Baptized. Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:38

The Lord adds you to the church.

Acts 2:47

Live Faithful Unto Death. Rev. 2:10

STATISTICS

July 20, 2008

Sunday Class: 35 AM Worship: 52 PM Worship: 39 Wed Class: 81

21 79 00

Clean Up This Month:

G. Cooper and J. Gibson

Communion:

D. and P. Armstrong