



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 Sermon:

"The Gospel"

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

PM Sermon:

"Three Customs
of Christ"

Luke 4:16

Schedule of Services

Sun Bible Study 9 AM

Sun AM Worship 10 AM

*Sun (1st and 3rd)
'Fundamentals'* 3:30 PM

Sun PM Worship 5 PM

Wed Bible Study 7 PM

Our Ministers

Gene Cooper
703.380.6008 (c)

Melvin Otey
202.345.4528 (c)

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK:

God Gives the Increase!

Pt. 1 of 2

It's no great revelation that our world is carnally-minded rather than spiritually-minded. This is nothing new, for it has always been this way. Still, it is evident that carnality is increasing its influence in the streets of America. Carnality is growing because the devil is craftier than we give him credit for. Satan has carried the day by carnalizing spirituality.

"For when one says, 'I am of Paul,' and another, 'I am of Apollos,' are you not carnal (1 Cor. 3:4)?" Even in the shadow of the incarnation, the devil was carnalizing spirituality by engendering division among God's children (1 Cor. 1:10-13). Christianity was becoming a cult of personality in the minds and conduct of its adherents. Hence, the saints at Corinth were sowing the seeds of denominationalism. They were creating an Apollonian convention for those who preferred Apollos, a Petrine convention for those behind Peter and a Pauline convention for those who liked Paul best.

The three preachers, not desiring such ill-placed glory, sent them back to Christ and their brethren who held that line firmly. Paul reproved them: Who are we, "but ministers through whom you believed ..." Preachers and teachers are merely servants, sowing the gospel seed wherever they find soil. "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase," Paul said in 1 Cor. 3:6. His prayer was that the Christians be united in the Lord, not divided in their preferences for certain men's personalities 1 Cor. 4:6. There are a few dangers inherent in this passage. The writer deals with the work of teaching the gospel to others. While noting the vital importance of the work that men do to sow the seed of truth, He strikes the lectern, as it were, in proclaiming that the increase of souls in the kingdom is due to God.

The first danger is in thinking too highly of the abilities of men to win souls. Sometimes we blame ourselves when our numbers do not grow and the fact is, the community is rejecting the old Jerusalem gospel, not us in particular. We get discouraged and the good attempts that we once made fade into memory, complacency and idleness. I wonder at the solitude and despair of Elijah or the unpopularity and disdain suffered by Jeremiah. Our lot surely is not as grievous as theirs. These men were encouraged by God to carry on with their work, and so, we too, in the face of rejection, must go on. Even if it seems that the seed we sow continually falls on poor soil, that is, in unreceptive hearts, we continue to sow in hopes of it falling on a good and honest heart, Matt. 13:18-23. One success makes up for a lot of failures. And the one abiding consolation is that such pain has been shared by your brethren since time began. Noah was a preacher of righteousness who labored over the ark for a century and was able to preserve only seven other precious souls when destruction called. Despite converting thousands out of sin, Paul failed to change the mind of Agrippa and Festus and thousands more Jews. The lesson is about perseverance--they never quit sowing the good seed, despite hardship, and neither can we.

Bro. Gene Cooper

If God be for us, who could be against us...

“RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD”

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE –MALACHI



#37 Malachi, whose name means “the messenger,” was the last Old Testament prophet. He faced a nation that had grown indifferent to God. Writing during the days of Nehemiah, he used a series of questions and answers to emphasize the problems of corrupt priests, neglected offerings, infidelity, indifference, mixed marriages, divorce, false worship, and arrogance. He called the spiritually complacent to repent and promised God’s blessings to those who did so. For some four hundred years following Malachi’s indictment, God remained silent. That silence was broken with the coming of John the Baptist and the Lord Himself.

Bro. Melvin Otey

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

WORSHIP LINE-UP

AM

Usher	O. Eaton
Song Leader	A. Johnson
Announcements	G. Cooper
Invocation	B. Crutcher
Scrip Reading	B. Crutcher
Message	M. Otey
Lord’s Table	M. Williams
Assist	L. Hayes
	A. Brown
Giving	M. Williams
Benediction	K. Wall
Usher	O. Eaton
Song Leader	M. Williams
Announcements	G. Cooper
Invocation	C. Bingham
Scrip Reading	C. Bingham
Message	M. Otey
Lord’s Table	A. Brown
Assist	O. Eaton
	L. Hayes
Giving	A. Brown
Benediction	W. Ford

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the Family! Baptized: Robyne Rivers (3/31) and Marvin Powell (4/5)
Dollar Drive, TODAY. Donate \$1 drive to assist the family that our congregation is supporting. Following the general collection. Completely voluntary.

Men’s Worship Training, TODAY, 3:30PM. “The Elders’ Qualifications”

Singles Ministry Bible Study, 4/17, @ 7:30pm. “A Lifetime of Work, Yet Still Single.” @ home of Sis. Alisha Williams and Jessica Hullett. See Brian for details.

Fundamentals of the Faith, 4/19, @3:30pm.

Door Knocking, Sat, 4/25, 9:45AM-12:00PM.

HU Bible Study, Thursdays @ 5PM, Sch. of Bus. Rm. 548.

PRAYER REQUESTS



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

Cleaning:

Pauline & Denise Armstrong

Communion:

LaTeisha Williams & Shirley Glaze

STATISTICS

April 5, 2009

Sunday Class: 29 AM Worship: 61 PM Worship: 48 Wed Class: 35

Food Pantry Items of the Month: Dried cereals, jarred applesauce, powered milk, peanut butter, & canned fruit.