



## 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:

"A House Not Made  
With Hands"  
2 Corinthians 5:1-8

PM Sermon:

"The Work of  
A Gospel Preacher"  
2 Timothy 4:1-5

## Schedule of Services

<i>Sun Bible Study</i>	9 AM
<i>Sun AM Worship</i>	10 AM
<i>Sun (1st and 3rd) 'Fundamentals'</i>	3:30 PM
<i>Sun PM Worship</i>	5 PM
<i>Wed Bible Study</i>	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: Part II

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.

The second danger with this passage is using it as an excuse to sit back and do nothing at all. Christians excuse themselves from labor by arguing that God gives the increase. That is so, but who is it that plants and waters, but men? The increase cannot come unless the good news is proclaimed to those who need to hear it. Many churches are hoping to grow by waiting for Christians to move to the area. Their vital signs are weakening. We are to be involved in expanding the borders of the kingdom, not reconfiguring them. If such complacency overcomes an entire congregation, a pronouncement of doom is due her, for she has followed the path of Sardis, who had a name that they were alive, but were dead, Rev. 3:1. As long as the members of a local church are sowing the seed, the church is alive, despite a lack of numerical growth. The day the church stops sowing the seed, it is dead, though men would say it yet exists for it still has some members left. No, it is dead already! "Strengthen the things which are ready to die," Jesus cries.

The third danger is narrowing the responsibility of soul-winning to a few. It combines the trust in mere men with complacency and causes some saints to place the entire burden of soul-winning upon the preacher and the elders. Does a burden rest on their shoulders to proclaim the gospel? Of course! Is it theirs to bear alone, as the congregation at large becomes spectators? Certainly not!

Imagine a church of one hundred members, one of whom is a preacher and three are elders. Should we have 96 spectators and four workers? Wouldn't the cause of the cross be furthered more effectively with 100 workers, leaving the visitors to watch?

How many gospel preachers are in your workplace every day? How many elders are in your class at school? How many preachers of truth live in your neighborhood or know your family and friends as intimately as you do? When Christians leave all the teaching to others, their circle of influence is neglected and abducted by the devil. God has no voice where you will not speak; the devil employs false teachers, seduction and society to blast his message in the vacuum our idleness created. Bottom line: If a church is working, but not growing, that is nothing to be ashamed of. If a church is growing but not working, that will not last forever. If a church is not working and not growing, it is time for her members to resuscitate themselves.

Bro. Gene Cooper

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

**“RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD”**

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE – MATTHEW



#38 The book of Matthew is one of the four books that chronicle the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. More than the others, Matthew, the tax collector and apostle of Christ, emphasizes Jesus’ relationship to the Old Testament. In this way, the book serves as a bridge, connecting the Old Testament promises with New Testament fulfillment. It was clearly written to a Jewish audience in an effort to convince the readers that Jesus is the Messiah. It includes five key discourses from Jesus (Mt. 5:3-7:27; 10:5-42; 13:3-52; 18:3-35, and 24:4-25:46), who is depicted as the Master Teacher. While the writer does not identify himself in the text, the book has been ascribed to Matthew’s pen since the second century A.D.

Bro. Melvin Otey

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

**WORSHIP LINE-UP**

**AM**

Usher	M. Thweatt
Song Leader	M. Williams
Announcements	M. Otey
Invocation	O. Eaton
Scrip Reading	O. Eaton
Message	G. Cooper
Lord’s Table	L. Clemons
Assist	M. Davis
	S. Keaton
Giving	L. Clemons
Benediction	B. Crutcher

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Dollar Drive, TODAY.** Donate \$1 drive to assist the family that our congregation is supporting. Following the general collection. Completely voluntary.

**Fundamentals of the Faith, TODAY, @3:30PM.** “A Few Fundamentals of Prayer”

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

**Mid-Atlantic Lectureship, 7/17-7/19.** Please plan to attend and invite others.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**



Usher	C. Merriweather
Song Leader	B. Crutcher
Announcements	G. Cooper
Invocation	A. Johnson
Scrip Reading	A. Johnson
Message	M. Otey
Lord’s Table	K. Wall
Assist	M. Davis
	L. Clemons
Giving	K. Wall
Benediction	W. Ford

**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 12, 2009

Sunday Class: 40 AM Worship: 73 PM Worship: 43 Wed Class: 39

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