



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 Works of Ephesus
 Revelation 2:1-7

PM Sermon:
 "Three Requirements
 of Discipleship"
 Luke 9:23

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:

DO I HAVE A BIBLICAL RIGHT TO MARRY?

Do I have a Biblical right to marry? Does the person I will marry have a Biblical right to marry? Do I have a Biblical right to be married to my spouse? Does my spouse have a Biblical right to be married to me? These are important, necessary questions to ask if we want God's blessings on our marriage. Yet, few people think about asking them when considering marriage. Let us make sure we understand that marriage is God's business. He originated it. He holds the patent on it. He copyrighted it. The trademark is His. State governments may issue their licenses, but He holds the ultimate control over which marriages receive His approval with His license. Without His approval no marriage is a right marriage! Jesus said, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate" (Mt. 19:4-6). Let's remember this! Consider these questions:

(1) Have you, or your proposed spouse, or your present spouse, been previously married? If both answer no then you have a Biblical right to marry or be married. Obviously, in Genesis 2:18-25 that is what God did - married previously unmarried persons. (2) Have you been previously married but your spouse is dead? Is that true of the one you are marrying? Is this the circumstance of your present marriage? If both answer yes, then you have a Biblical right to marry or be married. "So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man" (Rom. 7:3). (3) Are you seeking to be reconciled, or are you reconciled, to a former spouse to whom you were Scripturally married? If the answer is yes then you have a Biblical right to marry or be married. "Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from her husband. But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband. And a husband is not to divorce his wife" (1 Cor. 7:10-11). (4) Did you, or your proposed spouse, or your present spouse, divorce a spouse guilty of fornication? If both answer yes then you have a Biblical right to marry or to be married. If you did not, then you do not have a Biblical right to marry or be married! "But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery" (Mt. 5:32). "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery" (Mt. 19:9).

Perhaps it is not necessary to say, but for clarity purposes, let me say that any combination of these circumstances, excluding reconciliation, will also give a Biblical right to marriage. For example: if someone who has never married marries, or is married to, someone who divorced a spouse guilty of fornication.

Let me emphasize one other point. The Biblical right of divorce belongs only to the person who has a spouse guilty of the Biblically approved "cause/reason"; that is, "fornication/sexual immorality." If your spouse is not guilty of fornication, then you have no Biblical "cause" or "reason" to divorce them (Mt. 5:32). If you are guilty of fornication, then understand, you do not have a spouse guilty of fornication and you have no Biblical right to divorce. You do not have a "cause"; you are the "cause"!!

Some might think these matters are not important; that they do not affect our salvation. Remember, marriage is the first human relationship established by God, and, it was God who brought the first couple together. "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge" (Heb. 13:4). Note carefully the later thought. Violators of what God has said, "God will judge." Jesus wants us to understand that He has spoken to everyone about divorce, and what He said is spoken with His full authority. "But I say to you that whoever..." "And I say to you, whoever..." (Mt. 5:32, 19:9).

I urge you, to carefully consider this article. Do you have a right to marry? Is your marriage relationship approved of God? It is an issue that affects your eternal salvation.

“RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD”

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE – ACTS



#42 “The Acts of the Apostles” was written in the early 60's A.D., likely from Rome. Luke was the servant of God that recorded this lone book of New Testament history. Acts begins where the book of Luke ends, with Jesus having commissioned His apostles to bear witness of His passion and resurrection among all nations. One of the priceless, unique features of the book is that it is the only book in the Bible that records examples of sinners actually becoming Christians. Secular historians acknowledge Luke to be an accurate and reliable writer, and the findings of archaeology confirm the exactness of the technical expressions he uses in relation to places and officials.

Bro. Melvin Otey

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

WORSHIP LINE-UP

AM

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lifelines Ministry Mtg. Immediately following AM services.

Fundamentals of the Faith Class, TODAY, 3:30PM. “Ascertaining Biblical Authority.”

New converts are strongly encouraged to attend, and everyone is welcome.

Door Knocking, Sat, 5/23, 9:45AM-12:00PM.

Capitol coC Gospel Mtg, 5/24-5/29. Spkr: Franklin Florence. 7PM nightly M-F.

Singles' Movie Night 5/30, 7PM. @ home of Alisha & Jessica. Chikara has details.

Ladies' Pray Without Ceasing Session, Sat, 6/6, 10:30AM. @ Sis. Moore's home.

Jania and Sis. Moore have details.

Mid-Atlantic Lectureship, 7/17-7/19. “The Holy Spirit.” No registration costs.

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

STATISTICS

May 10, 2009

Sunday Class: 41 AM Worship: 64 PM Worship: 27 Wed Class: 33

Cleaning:

Mary Merriweather & Mary Moore

Communion:

Shewana Skinner & Yolanda Weir

Food Pantry Items of the Month: General Non-Perishable Items