

Church of God in Christ (COGIC) History

1. Why is Our Church commonly known as being Holiness or Pentecostal?

Our Church is known as being Holiness or Pentecostal because of the importance ascribed to the events which occurred on the Day of Pentecost.

2. On what day did the Day of Pentecost occur?

The 50th day after the Passover.

3. In what church does COGIC have its origin?

The General Association to the Baptist Church (Elder Mason's parents were members of a Missionary Baptist Church).

4. Who is the founder and organizer of the Church of God in Christ?

Elder Charles Harrison Mason.

5. When was Elder Charles Harrison Mason Born?

September 8, 1866.

6. Where was Elder Charles Harrison Mason born?

Elder Charles Harrison Mason was born near Memphis, Tennessee on the Prior Farm.

7. What was the name of Elder Charles Harrison Mason's parents?

Jerry and Eliza Mason.

8. When and where was Elder Mason converted/accepted Christ?

November, 1878 (baptized by his brother, I. S. Nelson, a Baptist Preacher) at the Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church near Plumerville, Arkansas

9. What year did Elder Charles Harrison Mason begin his Christian Ministry?

1893.

10. **True or False.** Elder C.H. Mason received his license to minister from Mason Temple C.O.G.I.C. in Memphis, Tennessee?

False. He received his license from the Mt. Gale Missionary Baptist Church, in Preston, Arkansas.

11. What was the first Pentecostal-related name for C.O.G.I.C.?

Church of God.

12. How was the name "C.O.G.I.C." revealed to Elder C.H. Mason?

Through prayer and seeking God for a name to set it apart from other Pentecostal churches.

13. What scripture was revealed to Bishop Mason by God for naming the church?

I Thessalonians 2:14 (For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they *have* of the Jews.)

14. What promise/covenant did God make with Bishop Mason if he used the name C.O.G.I.C.? God said to Bishop Mason, “If you take this name, Church of God in Christ, there will never be a building large enough to hold the people that will follow.”

15. What scripture was revealed to Bishop Mason by God for the Name “Convocation”? Leviticus 23:4 (These *are* the feasts of the LORD, *even* holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.)

16. What does the phrase “From the street to the courthouse entrance to the living room to the gin to the church” refer to?

The phrase provides a historical tracking of Bishop Mason’s ministry.

17. Why did the Elders withdraw the “right hand” of fellowship from Elder C. H. Mason after he received the Holy Ghost?

They referred to the Holy Ghost as a delusion. They did not believe that a man could receive the Holy Ghost.

18. Name two (any two) of the Elders who were instrumental in assisting Elder C.H. Mason in organizing the first Pentecostal General Assembly of the “Church of God in Christ.”

- 1) E. R. Driver
- 2) J. Bowe
- 3) R. R. Booker
- 4) R. E. Hart
- 5) W. Welsh
- 6) A. Blackwell
- 7) E. M. Page
- 8) R.H. I. Clark
- 9) D. J. Young
- 10) James Brewer
- 11) Daniel Spearman
- 12) J. H. Boone

19. When and where was the first National C.O.G.I.C. Tabernacle built?

The first National C.O.G.I.C. Tabernacle was built and completed at 958 South Fifth Street, Memphis, TN in 1925.

20. In what year was the first Tabernacle destroyed by fire?

1936

21. When was Mason Temple dedicated?

1945

22. Who gave his final "Mountain Top" speech from the Mason Temple Pulpit?
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 19

23. Who gave the powerful "Memphis Speech" during the 86th National Holy Convocation?
President Bill Clinton.

24. What auditorium in 1945 became the largest convention hall owned by any African American religious group in America?
Mason Temple.

25. What is the seating capacity at Mason Temple?
3,732 people

26. True or False. The C.O.G.I.C. has churches throughout the United States, in every continent, and in many of the islands of the sea.
True

27. Where does COGIC rank among Protestant churches in the United States?
Number 4

28. What are the two most distinctive doctrines and teachings of the COGIC?
#1 – our teaching regarding holiness and sanctification
#2 – our teaching regarding the baptism in the Holy Spirit

29. Who was the first Presiding Bishop of the C.O.G.I.C.?
Bishop Charles Harrison Mason.

30. What was the title and scripture for Bishop Mason's first sermon?
Bishop Mason's very first sermon is recorded as being entitled "Holiness", taken from II Timothy 2:1.

31. Who is the current presiding Bishop?
Bishop J. Drew Sheard

32. What is the name of our current Presiding Bishop's wife?
Lady Karen Clark Sheard