



Ordination Study Guide

*Mississippi Southern Second
Jurisdiction*

120 Old Airport Road
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

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Introduction

Ordination as an Elder in the Church of God in Christ is a matter of tremendous importance. With it comes many great responsibilities and opportunities of unparallel proportion. Therefore, your personal seriousness in this matter is a must!

An Ordained Elder is one who has been commissioned to carry out the mandates of the Gospel Ministry. Also, he has been sanctioned by the Church of God in Christ as a duly authorized representative of the organization.

An Ordained Elder along with Pastors, Jurisdictional Bishops and General Board members are provided the opportunity to serve as a delegates to the General Assembly of the National Church. The General Assembly is the only law making and doctrine expressing authority in this organization. The actions of this Assembly affect thousands of local congregations. More importantly, millions of souls are affect for eternity by the actions of this body.

Only an ordained Elder may administer the Ordinances of the Church.

Also, the appointment of all Bishops of Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions and Foreign Jurisdictions is from the roster of qualified elders of the Church of God in Christ. Hence, it should be obvious that becoming an Ordained Elder in the Church of God in Christ should NOT be seen a assuming another "title" but assuming a wonderful opportunity to "serve".

Article III, Part II, Section D, Paragraphs 13-15 of the Church of God in Christ Constitution provides the following:

- A member of a local church may be licensed to preach by his Pastor.
- A licensed Minister of a local Church shall be ordained by the following procedures:
 1. He must first be recommended by his Pastor to the Ordination Committee of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of which his Church is an affiliate, and said Pastor shall present the credentials and qualifications of the candidate to said committee.
 2. The credentials and qualifications of the candidate shall include his moral, spiritual fitness, and attested loyalty to the Church and he shall also be required to satisfactorily complete a prescribed course of study as recognized by the General Assembly.
 3. If the Committee approves the application of the Candidate after examination and investigation of his credentials and qualification, the candidate shall be recommended for ordination to his Jurisdictional Bishop.
 4. If the Bishop approves, he shall thereupon ordain the applicant, who thereby becomes an Ordained Elder of the Church.



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Church History

1. Who partner with Elder C. H. Mason when he first began to preach the doctrine of sanctification?

Elder C. P. Jones

2. In what year and city did Elder C. H. Mason receive the name "Church of God in Christ?"

1897 in Little Rock, Arkansas

3. What scripture was he given to support the name "Church of God in Christ?"

1 Thess. 2:14, 2 Thess. 1:1, Gal. 1:22

4. Who conducted the revival at which Elder C. H. Mason received the baptism in the Holy Ghost?

Elder W. J. Seymour

5. In what year did Elder C. H. Mason receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost?

1906

6. Over what doctrine did Elder C. H. Mason and Elder C. P. Jones split?

The doctrine of the speaking with tongues

Church Law and Practice

1. What is the only law making and doctrine expressing body in the Church of God in Christ?

The General Assembly

2. Can a member of the Church of God in Christ have membership at more than one church?

"No member shall have membership at more that one place."



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3. Is it necessary that members contact their pastor before moving their church membership?

"No member should leave his or her church home without notifying the pastor."

4. Can a person be a member of the Church of God in Christ with not local church affiliation?

"Every member of the church shall be a member of some local body."

5. Who is authorized to administer the Ordinances of the Church?

An Ordained Elder.

6. Can a person be a member of the Church of God in Christ with not local church affiliation?

"Every member of the church shall be a member of some local body."

Church Doctrine

1. Is God the Father and God the Son the same person?

No

2. What three persons make up the trinity?

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost

3. True or False. Man by nature is good.

False. Man by nature is sinful. Man is born in sin. Therefore to be restored back to his state of holiness from which he has fallen, must be born again. (John 3:7)

4. True or False. "The Holy Scriptures contains all things necessary to salvation and is a complete and infallible guide and standard of authority in all matters of religion and morals . . ."

True. 2 Tim. 3:16-17

5. What is the church?



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The church is composed of baptized members, such as are saved by grace through faith, sanctified through the truth and redeemed through the blood of Jesus Christ.

6. Must one receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost in order to be saved?

"We do not believe nor teach that we are baptized in the Spirit to be saved and become the sons of God, but that we are baptized with the spirit because we are saved and sons of God.

7. Do we believe that those who have spoken tongues do not possess the Holy Ghost in any measure?

No. "We do not presume to teach that no one has the Spirit that does not speak with tongues, yet we believe that a full baptism of the Holy Ghost as was poured out on the day of Pentecost, is accompanied by speaking with other tongues."

8. Do we believe that the Baptism in the Holy Ghost and the New Birth are one in the same?

No.

9. What is divine healing?

Divine healing is the process of being cured of sickness and disease by faith in the power of God.

10. Do we believe in divine healing?

"Divine healing is a part of our faith and practice."

11. What does water baptism symbolize?

Regeneration (The new birth)

12. Under whose authority (name) do we administer baptism and with what? Formula?

"We believe that it is to be administered in the name of Jesus Christ who died for us, with the formula given us: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 28:19"

13. Who instituted Feet washing and for what purpose?

"Feet washing was also instituted by the Lord as an indication of humiliation and necessi-



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tates the practice of the Christian believer today." John 13:4

14. In the Church of God in Christ, what is our rule of Faith and Practice?

The Holy Scriptures as contained in the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible.

Further Study

- The Church of God in Christ Official Manual
 1. Article III, Part II, Section D
 2. Articles VI through X (i.e. 6-10)
 3. The Articles of Religion—Section II
 4. General Rules of Order (All sections)
 5. Services for Administration of the Ordinances (All sections)
- The Holy Bible

When the Board of Ordination receives your application to take the exam, it will assume that you are already prepared. During your years of preparation, you should have already become familiar with the Church of God in Christ DOCTRINALLY and ORGANIZATIONALLY.

This study guide is NOT designed to prepare you for Ordination. Its purpose is only to serve as a "reminder" of those things that you should already know, and to give you a general guide for the types of questions you will have to answer during the "written" and "oral" parts of the exam.

Items You Should Bring with You for the Ordination Exam Process

- The Church of God in Christ Official Manual
- The Holy Bible