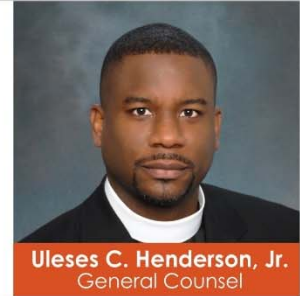


OFFICE  OF THE
GENERAL COUNSEL
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC



MEMORANDUM IN DEFENSE OF PRESIDING BISHOP CHARLES E. BLAKE, SR.

Most of you know Bishop Charles Edward Blake, Sr. as a prolific preacher, an astute administrator, and amazing pastor, but through my years of service as Special Counsel to the Presiding Bishop and, now, General Counsel, I've come to know Bishop Blake as a dedicated husband, caring father, incredible mentor, and faithful friend. If you take away all the titles and accolades, Bishop Blake is simply a great person. Matthew 7:16 tells us that you will know them by their fruits. And by his fruits, Bishop Blake has consistently proven himself to be a man of prayer and impeccable character, integrity, morality, wisdom and strength. I am blessed and proud to know him and call him my spiritual father and friend.

Over my professional career, I have met many great men, but few have impacted my life more than our Presiding Bishop. That's because his wit, humility, and uplifting spirit are contagious and he undeniably has a shepherd's heart. Most recently, in the loss of one of my family members, Bishop Blake re-scheduled his annual physical so he could attend the funeral and provide words of comfort to my family. We did not even know that he was coming, but that's how much our Presiding Bishop cares about us. That's why I, without hesitation, stand in his defense.

Bishop Blake's compassion is rare. It is common to see our Presiding Bishop shaking hands and taking photographs and selfies with teenagers or interrupting his meal to speak to an admiring congregant. That's the kind of leader we have in Bishop Charles Blake.

I'm saddened that I must defend a man who has given our church all that he has. I have seen Bishop Blake work himself to exhaustion, all because he loves the Church Of God In Christ. What troubles me most is how a man, who does not know Bishop Blake, can attack his character and reputation in such a vile manner, with no regard for Bishop Blake's wife and children. There

is nothing suspect about Bishop Blake and we should not allow this nonsense to continue. These attacks against our leader are purely demonic and demonstrate that integrity isn't something that you can buy or that comes easy; integrity is a gift that only God gives us.

As we approach our Holy Convocation, let us be in earnest prayer for our leader and our church. We cannot allow the enemy to malign our leadership and fracture and divide our church. Let's stand united! We are the Church Of God In Christ!

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:
~Hebrews 12:14

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Uleses C. Henderson, Jr.', written in a cursive style.

Uleses C. Henderson, Jr.
General Counsel
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.