

Developments within
the Restoration Movement
1906-present

1906 Separation

Relative Size of Disciples of Christ and Churches of Christ in 1906		
	Congregations	Members
"Disciples of Christ"	8,293 (75.8%)	982,701 (86.0%)
"Churches of Christ"	2,649 (24.2%)	159,658 (14.0%)
Total "Disciples or Christians"	10,942	1,142,359

- “Disciples of Christ” were predominantly urban and in the North.
 - College-educated clergy
 - Wealthier with more expensive church building
 - Businessman ideal
- “Churches of Christ” predominantly rural and in the South.
 - Opposed professional clergy
 - Opposed display of wealth (when present)
 - Modest structures
 - Austere yeoman farmer ideal

Subsequent Development Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

- Tensions within the group
 - Missionary efforts: cooperative/individual congregations
 - Biblical Criticism in Biblical interpretation, especially “historical criticism” (1920’s) -- a branch of criticism that investigates the origins of ancient texts in order to understand “the world behind the text” as opposed to “textual criticism”
 - Open membership (pious unimmersed)
- Two groups emerged in the 1960’s
 - **Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**
 - Unaffiliated **Christian Church/Church of Christ**

Subsequent Development Churches of Christ

- Stress on **congregational** church governance
- Tensions within the group
 - “Sponsoring church” cooperation for cooperative work for
 - Inter- and intra-church variability
 - Methods and procedures related to restoration of primitive work and worship
- Two groups emerged (1960’s)
 - **Mainstream** (80% of total membership) shared consensus on practice and theology
 - **Antis** (differing practices)
 - **Non institutional**
 - **No classes**
 - **One-cup**
 - **Mutual edification**

Subsequent Development

International Churches of Christ

- Movement arose within the **mainstream** Church of Christ (1970's)
 - Spawned by University of Florida campus ministry of Chuck Luces at the 14th Street Church of Christ in Gainesville, Florida
 - The church changed its name to the **Crossroads Church of Christ**
 - Focus:
 - Personal evangelism
 - Intimate religious atmosphere
 - Soul talks and
 - Prayer partners
 - The movement spreads to Boston (Kip McKean)
 - In 1993 reorganized as the “**International Churches of Christ**”