

**Minute**

OF THE

***Fifteenth Annual Session***

OF THE

***Alabama State Conference***

OF THE

***FREE WILL BAPTIST***

CONVENED WITH

***Macdonia Church***

MILLPORT ALABAMA

October. 24, 1928

Rev J. D. Byars,	-	-	Moderator
Rev. W. C. Austin	-	-	Assistant Moderator
O. L. Stokes	-	-	Clerk
E. Z. Mayfield	-	-	Treasurer

The next session of this Conference will convene with Cordova, Church, Cordova, Walker County Ala. On Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in October 1929.

# PROCEEDING

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15 Annual session of the Alabama State Conference met with Macedonis Church, Millport, Ala. October 24, 1928 Associations are as follows:

Bear Creek, Mt. Moriah, Cahaba, Jasper, Liberty, Vernon Southeastern, and Florida Stateline and Stateline of Aladama and Mississippi, Business was transacted as follows:

Committee on Credentials reported that all ministers present were in good standing and were recommended to the body.

## Enrollment of Delegates

Bear Creek, Rev. I. D. Garrison, Bro. Van Vickery.

Mt. Moriah, Revs. J. E. Mathis, J. D. Byars, W. V. Pool.  
O C. Weaver, O. L. Stokes, E. Z. Mayfield

Vernon Rev. J. M. Haas, Rev. S. T. Shutes.

Muscle Shoals Stateline Rev J. B. Bloss Rev. W. C. Dowdy. Mrs. J. B. Bloss

State Line Rev. I. K. Boyett.

Jasper Revs. W. C. Austin, B. M. Adkins, W. D. Martin, E. R. Eranks.

Called for the Peace and Fellowship. All were in peace.

Proceeded to elect a Moderator and Clerk, which resulted as follows:

Moderator, Revs. J. D. Byars, W. C. Austin, Ass't, Moderator O. L. Stokes, Clerk E. Z. Mayfield, Treasurer

Moved and carried that Rev. S. T. Shutes be made a member of the body.

No Motion the following committees were appointed:

On Devotional Service Mrs. J. B. Bloss E. Z. Mayfield O. L. Stokes.

Devotional Committee were reported that Rev. I. K. Boyett

preach at 7:30 Wed. night, Rev. J. B. Bloss preach at 11 A. M. Thursday and Rev W. C. Austin preach at 7:30 Thursday night.

On Publication Literature Education Revs. W. C. Austin, J. B. Bloss, S. T. Shutes.

On Missions Elders. W. C. Dowdy, I. D. Garrison, J. M. Haas.

Executive Committee Elders. J. B. Bloss, O. L. Stokes, E. Z. Mayfield.

On State of Denomination, Elders, I. K. Boyett, J. B. Bloss, W. C. Austin, J. M. Haas, I. D. Garrison, J. E. Mathis.

On Sunday School, Rev S. T. Shutes Mrs J. B. Bloss, Elders O. C. Weaver, I. K. Boyette, I. D. Garrison, W. C. Austin and J. E. Mathis.

On Temperance, Elders J. B. Bloss, W. C. Austin and W. C. Dowdy.

On Resolution, Elders O. C. Weavers and J. M. Haas.

Moved and carried that the body adjourn to meet Thursday at 9 a. m.

### Thursday Morning Session

House met at the appointed time and after reading the 104th Psalm singing and prayer, the house was called to order by the Moderator.

Called for the reading of the Committee reports:

### Document and Order of Business

Read and adopted as follow, by sections:

We, your committee on Document and Order of business report as follows.

1. We recommend that the moderator appoint a committee to revise the Constitution of this conference and outline a general order of business to be presented at the next session. 2. We recommend that a program committee be appointed by the moderator to outline a program for the next session of this conference and that each member to serve be notified at least thirty days before the conference meets. 3 We recommend

that a Field Secretary be appointed for the Conference whose duty it shall be to present the work of this conference to the various Associations of the state. 4. We recommend that the Clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and that he be paid \$20. for his services, that he have 700 copies printed. We further recommend that the next session of this Conference meet with Cordova Church, Cordova, Alabama, and that Rev. J. D. Byars preach the Introductory Sermon and that Rev. I. K. Boyett be alternate.

We recommend that the session begin on Wednesday before the Fourth Sunday in October 1929 and continue until all business is finished.

Rev. S. T. Shutes, Chairman

On motion the body adjourn to have preaching.

The following committee was appointed on drafting program for next Conference: Revs. B. M. Adkins, O. C. Weaver and W. C. Dowdy.

Addresses: B. M. Atkins, Glenn Allen, Rt. 2; O. C. Weaver, Millport, Ala.; W. C. Dowdy, Florence, Ala.

Field Secretary was appointed in the person of Mrs. J. B. Bloss, Sheffield, Ala. 210 Annapolis Ave.

On motion the following ministers were appointed, being one from each Association represented at this session, for the purpose of drafting Articles of Faith to be presented to the several Associations of the state, provided they are adopted by this Conference.

Elders W. C. Dowdy, Chairman; W. D. Martin, I. K. Boyette, I. D. Garrison, O. C. Weaver and J. M. Haas.

On motion the Clerk was authorized to collect money now in hands of Bro. Grady T. Williams, for the purpose of paying for the minutes of this Conference.

### On Education, Literature and Publication

We, your committee on Education, Literature and Publication report as follows. Seeing the dangerous doctrines sweeping over our land under the guise of Education and Modernism.

Be it resolved, that we as Free Will Baptists of Alabama go on record, endorsing the doctrines fostered by our one school

at Ayden, N. C., that is, Eureka College, and that we urge our boys and girls to pursue their training at Eureka College. Furthermore, that we ask our different Associations to require their applicants to the ministry to make a strenuous effort to take the course in Theology taught at our College. After the applicant has proved calling his finances being such as to debar him training, it shall be the duty of the Association to which he is a member, to aid him.

Publication; We urge people to be constant readers of our church organs, The True Blue, Cordova, Ala. and the Free Will Baptist, Ayden, N. C. Also to use our Sunday School Literature edited by Rev. E. T. Phillips and to use our League literature edited by Rev Henry Melvin and published at Ayden, N. C.

Eld W. C. Austin, Chairman

Report received and committee discharged.

### **Temperance**

We, your committee on Temperance beg leave to report as follows.

We recommend that all our people abstain from all intoxicating liquors that they be temperate in all things, that we fight with all our power and influence all proposed laws which would tend to tear down the present Prohibition Amendment. We further recommend that we vote against all candidates who are opposed to prohibition, and that we do all for the upbuilding of our Government on clean and higher plains of Christianity. We further recommend that we discourage the use of tobacco in every way among our churches. Report received and committee discharged.

Rev. J. B. Bloss, Chairman

### **Sunday School**

We, your Sunday School Committee reports as follows, we have made a survey of the state and find only two Sunday Schools in Bear Association Muscle Shoals State Line 16; Vernon 10, State Line 8, Mt. Moriah 9, Jasper 10. We recommend that this body strive for nothing less than a Sunday

School in each church in the state. We further suggest the organization of a Sunday School Convention. This will give the different schools an opportunity to report annually, further we suggest the importance of the pastors preaching a Sunday School Sermon once each year and we urge them to take part in the work in every way possible.

Report received and Committee discharged.

Rev. S. T. Shutes Chairman

### **Articles Of Faith**

We you committee on Articles of Faith recommend that we adopt the Articles of Faith as appeared in the True Blue on August 1 1928 with the amendment on the 16th article added (Water Baptism)

Report received and Articles adopted as printed in back of minute.

Rev. W. C. Dwody, Chairman

### **Mission**

We, your committee on Missions report as follows; 1. We recommend that this Conference retain or elect a Home Mission Board. 2. We recommend that this conference ask each association to collect and send in to this board not less than 10 cents per copy and more if they see proper that this board take money and buy a Gospel Tent and elect or send out their best evangelistic preacher to hold meetings in the various towns and cities and other places for the purpose of organizing churches in this state. We recommend that the Home Mission Board devise plans for the support of the evangelist and that each pastor take and interest and cooperate with the board in collecting the funds. Report received and committee discharged.

Rev. W. C. Dowdy Chairman

Rev. J. D. Byars Moderator  
O. L. Stokes, Clerk

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all attributes.—1 Cor. 8:6; Isa 40: 28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God born of the Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world because of the great love wherewith he loved the world; and Christ as freely gave himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man, who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to Judge both the quick and the dead.—1. Tim. 2:5, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1:7 Acts 24:15; 1. John 2:2,

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world, who quickeneth and draweth sinners home to God,—St John 16:7, 8; Acts 2:4, Eph 2:1; Eph 4:4-6.

4. We believe that in the beginning God made man upright and placed him in a State of glory without the least mixture of misery from which he voluntarily, by transgression

fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal state subject to death.—Gen 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish; but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of the truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15-17. I. Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that bought them; because they believe not in the name of the only begotten Son of God Unbelief therefore being the cause why the just and righteous God of heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all contradiction that all men, at one time or other, are found in such a capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; I. John 5:10.

7. We believe the whole Scripture are infallibly true and that they are the only rules of faith and practice—II. Tim. 3:16, 17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in

Christ for the benefit of all mankind who repent and believe the Gospel.—Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:19-20; Luke 13:3-5 Luke 24:47; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God the Father by the Holy Ghost through Christ His Son and that the Holy Ghost offers his divine aid to all the human family, so as they all might be happy would they give place to His divine teaching whereas such do not receive impressions of His Holy Spirit. shall at a future day, own their condemnation just and charge themselves with their own damnation for wilfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Mat 11:27; St. John 6:44; 65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jer. 22:29.

10. We believe that men not considered simply as men but ungodly men were of old ordained to condemnation; considered such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ who bought them and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying

therein for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1; 2 Thes. 2:11, 12; Rom. 2:9-11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy having not actually transgressed against the law of God in their own persons only subject to the first death which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any one of them dying in that state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin for such is the kingdom of God.—1 Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matt. 19:14.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving, and that in the use of the means of grace and out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men—Rev. 22:14, 15; Isa. 1:19, 20; Matt 7:8; Jer 6:16; Luke 13:34 35.

13 We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through his own works, power or ability which he has in and of himself only as he by grace is made able to come to God, through Jesus Christ believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21.

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all

supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting death or everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice farther than He hath appointed the godly unto life and the ungodly who die in sin unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31; Matt. 25:31-46.

15. We believe as touching Gospel ordinances in believers baptism laying on of the hands receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine washing the saints' feet anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God and the ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19-20; John 13:5-17; Jas. 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode Water of Baptism is by immersion, and that believers and the only subject for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38, 39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28, 29; II. Cor. 5:10.

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless—Matt. 25:46.

#### FOOT NOTE

Concerning the washing of feet as a Gospel ordinance, each member shall have the right to wash feet or not, as he can best answer his own conscience to God.