

MINUTES

OF THE

Alabama State Conference

OF THE

ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

Belk Church

October 28, 1935

OFFICERS

Rev. M. L. Hollis	Moderator, Tupelo, Miss.
Rev. J. E. Tilley	Vice Moderator, Ethelville, Ala.
Bro. L. E. Parker	Secretary-Treasurer, Millport, Ala.
Sister Nellie Dupree	Field Secretary, Guin Ala.

The next Session of this conference will be held with Masedonia Church, Millport, Ala., beginning Monday night after the 4th Sunday in October, 1936 at 7:00 o'clock P. M.

The Alabama State Conference of the original Freewill Baptist met with Belk church, Monday evening, October 28th, 1935.

7:00 o'clock—Song service conducted by L. E. Parker. Devotional service by Rev. M. L. Hollis. Sermon by Rev. J. M. Haas. Text, 17th chapter of 1st Samuel.

TUESDAY MORNING

9:00 o'clock—Song service by brother Lando McAdams. Devotional by Rev. H. E. Cobb. Reading 12th chapter of Romans.

9:30 o'clock—Conference message by the moderator, Rev. M. L. Hollis

10:00 o'clock—Called for letters and delegates from the different Associations and churches of same, received and delegates seated as per list. (See list of churches and delegates.)

Called for membership of Association in the Alabama State Conference, the North East Mississippi came forward, Rev. J. M. Haas, delegate. Moved in order to receive the north east Mississippi Association in our Alabama State Conference. Vote carried. Called for visiting ministers and delegates and seated as same. From the Progressive Association Rev. A. J. Lambert, Bro. Claud Gann, P. H. Pike and Bro. J. W. Pike. From the Arkansas State Association Rev. W. N. Guin, Rev. J. D. Coffman.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

(On devotion.) Brother Jim Sims, M. J. Dupree, Lando McAdams with deacons of Belk church.

(On Querries.) Brother J. A. Hickman, Harvie Yerby and S. G. Johnson.

(On Temperence.) Brother Lester Duncan, Rev. J. M. Haas and Rev. J. D. Byars.

(On Resolutions) Brother M. B. Fields, Jim Ruffin, Alford Robertson and J. H. Harless.

(On Sunday School.) Brother Harvie Yerby, M. F. Whitman and A. F. Barnes.

Called for a partial report of the State Statistician which was made by Miss Nellie Dupree. See full report as per report later.

11:00 o'clock—Song service by L. E. Parker. Sermon by Rev. J. E. Tilley. Text the 8th verse of the 3rd chapter of Revelations. After which intermission for lunch.

TUESDAY EVENING

1:30 o'clock—Song service by Bro. Lando McAdams. Devotion by Rev. J. D. Byars. Reading from the 3rd chapter of 2nd Timothy.

2:00 o'clock—Called for the yearly report of the ministers, report as follows:

MINISTERIAL REPORT OF REV. M. L. HOLLIS

For the year 1934-1935 ending October the 1st, 1935. Greetings to the Ministers, Delegates and Messengers of the Alabama State Conference of Free Will Baptist, when convened with the Belk church, Belk, Ala., on Monday night after the fourth Sunday in October, 1935. Bretheren: With a heart filled with gratitude to

our Heavenly Father for His wonderful Love and Goodness that has been shown me during the past year. I submit the following report:

I have tried in my humble way to pastor ten churches, giving one of them (Red Bay) two Sundays in each month. I have preached four hundred and sixty-four (464) sermons. Traveled 18000 miles. Held fourteen (14) revivals. Conducted fifty-two (52) funerals. Married one couple. Received 214 into churches, including revivals. Received from churches pastored \$1,390.00, received for revivals \$255.00. Total received \$1,645.00. Preached one commencement sermon. Preached four Memorial sermons.

Respectfully submitted,
M. L. Hollis.

Report of Rev. J. E. Tilley.

I have tried in my humble way to pastor four churches. Traveled 3000 miles, Preached 71 sermons. Received 29 into the church. Held 9 funerals. Married 2 couples. Received total money \$265.04.
(Yours for Christ,)

J. E. Tilley.

Called for report on Temperance.

Report on Temperance read and received as read (See report.)

Called for the churches in the different Associations to list and pay their fee of one dollar each. Came forward as per list. (See list of churches.) Intermission 10 minutes.

2:30 o'clock—Reassembled in house. After song and prayer and reading 10th chapter of Romans Rev. M. Montgomery brought the message. Text 12th verse of the 10th chapter of Romans.

TUESDAY EVENING

7:00 o'clock—Song service by Rev. A. J. Lambert. Sermon by Rev. Joe S. Fredrick. Scripture the 5th chapter of James. Subject the Great need of Prayer.

WEDNESDAY MORNING

9:00 o'clock—Song service by Bro. Harvie Yerby. Special song by Rev. W. N. Guin and J. D. Coffman of Ark. Also a solo by Rev. J. D. Coffman.

Moved in order to seat rest of delegates that have come in. Carried. Names added to list. (See list.)

9:30 o'clock—Talks on present day needs. Discussion opened by Rev. J. D. Byars, Bro. P. H. Pike, Rev. Joe S. Fredrick, Rev. A. J. Lambert, Rev. H. E. Cobb and Bro. Williams. All the discussions was very interesting and much needed for the building of God's Kingdom here in the earth.

10:30 o'clock—Song service by Bro. F. M. Whitman, after reading 5th chapter of St. John a special song by Rev. J. D. Coffman of Ark. I rather be an old time Christian than anything I know.

11:00 o'clock—Sermon by Rev. J. D. Coffman. Text: Ephesians 4-5. Subject the Five Baptisms which was enjoyed by a large congregation. Dismissed for lunch.

1:30 o'clock—Devotion service by Rev. Joe S. Fredrick. After which there was a move in order to ignore the service of Thursday

as outlined on program and go in business session to finish business of the Conference. Vote carried.

Called for report on Sunday School, read and adopted as read.

We your committee on Sunday Schools report as follows:

We find several of our churches have good live Sunday Schools, but some churches have no Sunday Schools at all.

We recommend that our preachers and deacons advocate the Sunday School cause and organize Sunday Schools in all our churches, for we believe the Sunday School to be next to the home in training our children in the ways of right.

Respectfully submitted,
R. H. Yerby, chairman.

Called for report on Temperance, read and adopted as read:

We, your committee on Temperance submit the following report:

1st. We ask that our people adhere to the principles of Temperance as found in God's Divine Word. 2nd. That we as Free Will Baptists strive to keep our States dry, and thus, keep the temptation of intoxicating beverages from our people. 3rd. That we use our ballot to the best interest of our State and nation toward ending the menace of the liquor traffic.

L. E. Duncan, J. M. Haas, J. D. Byars, com.

Called for report on Querries, report as follows:

Who are the Spirits in prison spoken of in the third chapter First Peter and the 19th verse?

Will there be a final judgement day after death, or is the judgement spoken of in the Bible taking place in this present life? Read and adopted as read to be discussed at the next session of the State Conference in October 1936.

Called for vote on the place for the next session of the State Conference, after a number of churches asked for the conference, there was a unanimous vote to meet with Masedonia church 3 miles south of Millport, Alabama.

Called for report on Resolution, report as follows:

That we pay moderator and clerk \$5.00 dollars for their service out of treasure, and the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes.

Resolved that we tender our sincere thanks to the church and community for the able manner in which they have taken care of this conference, M. B. Fields chairman. Moved in order to receive the report, carried.

Moved to go into election of officers, carried.

Moved to nominate and elect the same officers we now have, carried as follows: Moderator, Rev. M. L. Hollis; Assistant Moderator, Rev. J. E. Tilley; Clerk, L. E. Parker; Field Secretary, Miss Nellie Dupree.

Moved in order that a Statistical report blank be added to the minute, carried.

Moved that the clerk pay for printing of program to Rev. M. L. Hollis, \$3.00, carried and paid.

2:30 o'clock—Moved to adjourn for preaching, carried. Song rendered by congregation after which a special song rendered by Rev. J. D. Coffman from Ark., after this song Rev. W. N. Guin brought the message reading the 8th chapter of Romans. Text Romans 8-9.

3:30 o'clock—(Business Session) Moved in order for the Moderator and Clerk to arrange for the program for the next session of the State Conference October 1936, carried.

Moved in order to send three delegates to the National Conference to convene at Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 5, 1935, carried. Delegates as follows: Rev. Joe S. Fredrick, Rev. M. L. Hollis, Rev. J. M. Haas and Rev. J. D. Byars, alternate.

Moved in order to elect two delegates to go to the General Conference to be held at Glenville, Ga., June 1936 and to pay our fee of \$10.00 to General Conference, carried. Delegates elected as follows: Rev. M. L. Hollis, Rev. Joe S. Fredrick and Rev. J. M. Haas, alternate.

Moved in order that each church in each association collect and send our clerk, L. E. Parker, Millport, Ala., Route 2 one dollar by the first of June, 1936, to help pay the expense of our delegates to the General Conference, carried.

Called for report on Finance, report read and received as read. (See report.)

Moved carried to adjourn this conference to meet with Masedonia church 3 miles south of Millport, Ala., on Monday night after the 4th Sunday in October, 1936 at 7:00 o'clock.

Rev. M. L. Hollis, Moderator,

L. E. Parker, Clerk.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Congregation song service after which duet by Rev. W. N. Guin and Rev. J. D. Coffman of Ark., also a solo by Rev. J. D. Coffman, after which Rev. W. N. Guin from Ark., State Association brought the closing message, reading 1st John. Text 1st John 3-9. Subject: Who soever is borned of God does not committ sin for His seed remaineth in him.

Different Association and delegates from same: Mt. Mariah, Rev. J. D. Byars, Rev. J. E. Tilley, Rev. H. E. Cobb, Rev. M. Montgomery, J. A. Hickman, Jim Ruffin, Harvie Yerby, M. B. Fields, T. A. Guin, W. R. Buckhalter, Lando McAdams, Janie Williams, Albert Buckhalter, Rev. T. L. Walker, O. L. Pearson and J. H. Harless.

(Vernon) S. G. Johnson, Alford Robertson, Lester Duncan, Jim Sims, L. E. Parker, R. N. Yerby, T. J. Hankins, A. F. Barnes, Pink Turner, S. L. Cash and Rev. J. L. Lavender.

(Jasper) Rev. Joe S. Fredrick, M. J. Dupree, M. F. Whitman, A. J. Underwood and Miss Nellie Dupree.

(North East Mississippi) Rev. M. L. Hollis and Rev. J. M. Haas. Visitors from different Association. Alabama Progressive

Association: A. J. Lambert, Claud Gann, P. H. Pike, J. W. Pike, From Ark. State Association: Rev. W. N. Guin, Rev. J. D. Coffman.

CHURCHES PAID IN

(Mt. Mariah Association) Shiloh, A. J. Buckhalter, paid \$1.00; Masedonia, J. E. Ruffin, paid \$1.00; Belk, R. H. Yerby, paid \$1.00; Union, paid \$1.00; Pleasant Hill, Pearson, paid \$1.00; Mt. Mariah, J. D. Byars, \$1.00; Union Hill, 50c.

(Vernon Association) Mt. Harmony, Jim Sims, paid \$1.00; Pearces Chapel, Bro. Duncan, paid \$1.00; Friendship, J. A. Robertson, paid \$1.00; Union Chapel, paid \$1.00; Liberty, R. N. Yerby, paid \$1.00.

(Jasper Association) Brilliant, M. F. Whelman, paid \$1.00.

ASSOCIATION FUNDS

Vernon paid \$5.00; North East Mississippi paid \$5.00; Mt. Mariah paid \$5.00; Jasper paid \$5.00.

FINANCE REPORT

(Report as follows) Balance in treasury \$5.32. Collected from the different churches \$12.50. Collected from the different Associations \$20.00. Total collected this session \$37.82.

Paid Moderator and Clerk \$10.00 for their service this session. Paid for printing of programs \$3.00. Fee paid to General Conference \$10.00. Total paid out this session \$23.00. Balance in Treasury \$14.82.

L. E. Parker, Secretary and Treasurer.

FIELD SECRETARY REPORT

	1934	1935
I. Mt. Mariah Association churches	15	15
Number of Ministers	16	15
Number of Members	1772	1940
Number of Deceased	14	
Number of Sunday Schools		4
Number of Ladies' Aid		2
Number of F. W. B. Leagues		\$10,500.00
Value Church Property	19	13
II. Vernon Association churches	9	8
Number of Ministers	969	1623
Number of Members	8	
Number of Deceased		7
Number of Sunday Schools		3
Number of Ladies Aid		2
Number of F. W. B. Leagues		\$11,500.00
Value Church Property	28	23
III. Jasper Association churches	24	28
Number of Ministers	1808	2244
Number of Members	11	9
Number of Deceased	18	17
Number of Sunday Schools	3	4
Number of Ladies Aid		

Number of F. W. B. Leagues	4	4
Value Church Property	\$10,450.00	\$15,150.00
IV. Cahaba River Association churches	17	
Number of Ministers	17	
Number of Members	1045	
Number of Deceased	1	
Number of Sunday Schools	15	
Number of Ladies' Aid		
Number of F. W. B. Leagues		

Miss Nellie Dupree, Field Secretary.

PEARCES CHAPEL

Report of the Ladies Aid Society for the past year of Pearces Chapel F. W. B. Church, from September 1934 to September 1935.

Sick visits	115
Trays	22
Money in treasury September, 1934	\$13.89
Amount of money raised during year	\$32.35
Total in treasury	\$46.24
Paid on piano	\$33.18
Home Mission	4.43
Expenses	3.82
Total	\$41.43
Amount left in treasury	\$ 4.81

We have enrolled 14 members with an average attendance of seven active members.

We ask the prayers of all the Christian people, that we may be able to do a greater work the coming year.

MRS. J. C. BRASFIELD, President.

MRS. RUBY MAXEY, Secretary.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Rev. H. E. Cobb	Millport, Alabama
Rev. J. L. Lavender	Steens, Mississippi
Rev. Joe S. Fredrick	Fayette, Alabama
Rev. J. M. Haas	Tupelo, Mississippi
Rev. M. L. Hollis	Tupelo, Mississippi
Rev. T. L. Walker	Gordo, Alabama
Rev. J. E. Tilley	Ethelville, Alabama
Rev. J. D. Byars	Millport, Alabama
Rev. M. Montgomery	McConnells, Alabama
Rev. G. F. Cormack	Glenn Allen, Alabama Route One
Rev. W. N. Guin	Booneville, Arkansas
Rev. J. D. Coffman	Heltar, Arkansas
Rev. A. J. Lambert	Cordova, Ala.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience, we, the Association of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptised upon the profession of faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of combination of Associations to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, we therefore purpose to keep order and rules of our Association according to the

following plan of government.

1. The State Association shall be composed of five Messengers chosen by each District Association of this union and all regularly ordained ministers, Deacons and Association clerks.

2. Letters from different Associations shall express their number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letter or recommendation, dismissed, restored, and that have died since our last Association; and the name of the clerk, moderator, county post-office, Sabbath of meeting, and the amount paid for Minute Fund.

3. The members thus chosen and convened, to be denominated the State Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of the subordinate Associations of the State of Alabama, and the Association to have no power to Lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power of the Association, reserving the right of withdrawing from any Association becoming disorderly.

4. The Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and a Corresponding Clerk, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

5. New Associations may be admitted into the Association by letter and delegates of found orthodox in the faith of Free Will Baptists, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it be withdrawn by the members making it.

7. This Association is to endeavor to furnish the subordinate Associations with the minutes of this Association, in proportion to the number of members in each Association, the distribution being at the discretion of the Association.

8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the Minutes.

9. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and the Clerk before the Association closes.

10. The Association shall have a fund for her support, which shall be supplied by voluntary contribution of the Association, whose duty it shall be to send it to the hands of messengers, which money so sent shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer for that purpose and he shall be held accountable to the Association for all money received by him until paid out as they may direct.

11. The Association, in case of failure of any Association to attend, may inquire into the cause.

12. It is the duty of the Association to see after the union of the Associations.

13. Amendments to this plan of government may be made at any time when the majority of the members may deem it necessary.

STATISTICAL REPORT BLANK
To Be Filled Out By All Free Will Baptist
Churches in the State of Alabama

For The Year Ending.....**193**.....

N. B. Pastor or Clerk, please see that this statistical report blank is properly filled out and sent to the statistician appointed for the State of whose address is

..... This information is necessary in order that a true status of the denomination may be reported to the General Statistician for the purpose of compiling a denominational year book.

Name of Church Name of Association of.....
 Conference in or near what town.....
 County State

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Value of Church \$..... Value of Parsonage
 Indebtedness on Church \$..... Indebtedness on Parsonage \$.....
 Paid Pastor \$..... On building and repairs \$.....
 For benevolent purpose \$..... Total expenditures\$.....

MEMBERSHIP

Received by baptism..... by letter..... by restoration or otherwise.....
 Lost by death by letter by expulsion number
 male members over thirteen years of age Number female
 members over thirteen years of age Number members under
 thirteen years Number of ordained ministers on the Church
 roll Total membership

AUXILIARY WORK

S. S. Enrollment F. W. B. L. Enrollment..... L. A.
 Society, or Missionary Circle Enrollment Any other aux-
 iliary organization enrollment and name.....

How often do you have preaching services?

Pastor's name Address

Church Clerk's name Address