

MINUTES

of the

FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With

MAPLE SPRINGS CHURCH

Pope County, Arkansas

September 5, 6, 7, 8, 1940

Next Session Will Be Held With

CHERRY HILL CHURCH

Perry County, Arkansas

W. A. CROUCH, Hector, Arkansas.....Moderator

E. O. WRIGHT, Atkins, Arkansas.....Clerk

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MINUTES OF ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

Forty-Ninth Annual Session

The Antioch Association of Free Will Baptist met in regular session with Maple Springs Church, September 5-6-7-8, 1940.

Opened with singing led by Bro. Tom Bowden. Devotional service led by Bro. J. L. Harris. Preaching by A. J. Lathum. Text, James 4.

The Committee on Divine Service was appointed as follows: Bro. Henry Teel, H. S. Walker, and John Harris.

Dismissed by Bro. A. F. Taylor to meet at 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING

Called together by singing led by Bro. Tom Bowden, "I Am Completely Satisfied," and "We'll Strike the Pavement Then."

Association opened by A. F. Taylor, assistant moderator. Scripture Lesson, St. John 14:1-8. Prayer by Bro. Taylor. Song, "Be Ready for That Day."

The Moderator declared the Association opened for business and the list of churches were called. Letters were read and messengers invited to seats.

Union Grove—Sisters Walsie Tackett, Sister Georgia Wright, and Bro. T. L. Tackett.

St. Joe—Sister Betty McKinney, Sister Goldie Maxwell, and Sister Alice Johnson.

Oak Grove No. 2—Bro. Dewey Morris, Bro. C. V. Kinder, and Bro. R. G. Webb.

Harmony—Bro. J. J. West, Bro. B. H. Harris, and Sister Maggie Freeman.

Maple Springs—Bro. Bill Bowden, Bro. Tom Bowden, and Sister Lois Gideon.

Slaty Crossing—Bro. John McMellon, Sister Maggie McMellon, and Bro. Steve Clay Pool.

Mt. Home—Bro. B. H. Chronister, Sister Gustie Chronister, and Sister Arizone Chronister.

Cherry Hill—Bro. Alvis Evans, Bro. Delter Lipps, and Bro. Woodrow Bird.

Mt. Vernon—Sister Maudie Henderson.

Holman—Sister Erie Crofts, Sister Lottie Sparks, Bro. Charley Cowell.

Moreland—Bro. C. A. Nichols.

Hickory Grove—Sister Alma Robinson, and Sister Sira Faulkner.

Sweet Home—Bro. and Sister George Crabtree.

Galla Creek—Bro. R. C. Savage.

Shiloh—Sister Elzada Maxwell, Bro. Chalmer Duvall and Coye Douthit.

Liberty—Sister Rosella Garrison, Bro. Anderson Vassour, and Bro. Coy Baker.

Dublin—Bro. Ballard Ennis, Bro. Everett Walker, and Sister Ethel Edding.

Walnut Grove—Bro. Munroe Robertson, and Bro. C. E. Taylor.

Jerusalem—Sister D. A. Thompson.

Welcome Home—Sister Sylvia McCuin, Sister Nancy Crouch, and Sister Dorthy Bone.

Pine Ridge—Bro. Frank Burris, and Bro. Huel Dixon.

Oak Grove No. 1—Nannie Lowery.

by Bro. E. L. Hill. Song, "At the Cross." Preaching by Bro. R. M. Johnson. and Bro. E. L. Hill would fill the stand at eleven.

Dismissed by Bro. F. M. Hudson to meet at 2 o'clock.

INTERMISSION

Called to order by singing led by Bro. Tom Bowden, "What a Singing in the By and By." "Traveling On the Glory Road."

Scripture lesson, St. John 19:13, read by Bro. R. M. Johnson. Prayer by Bro. E. I. Hill. Song, "At the Cross." Preaching by Bro. R. M. Johnson. Text St. Matt. 22:42. What Think Ye of Church.

Song, "We Are Passing Away." Concluded by Bro. E. L. Hill. Dismissed by Bro. Edgar Allison to meet at 2 o'clock.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Called to order by singing led by Bro. C. A. Nichols. Song, "Where He Leads Me I Will Follow." Scripture lesson, 8th Psalms, read by Bro. G. B. Maxwell. Prayer by Bro. R. L. Rainwater.

The Moderator declared the nominations were in order for Moderator and Clerk.

Bro. W. A. Crouch was elected Moderator and Bro. E. L. Hill assistant. Bro. E. O. Wright was relected Clerk by acclamation. Reading of Rules of Order by Clerk.

INTERMISSION

The Moderator appointed the following Committees:

Resolutions—L. W. Mickel, Tom Bowden, B. W. Bird, D. A. Thompson, R. L. Rainwater.

Finance—C. A. Nichols, Aude Fisher, Ballard Ennie.

Temperance—W. S. Isbell, G. M. Condley, A. J. Lathum.

Sabbath Schools—Sister Aude Fisher, Sister Lois Gideon and Sister Betty McKinney.

Obituary—E. Henderson, Rosseller Garrison, and Sister Alma Robertson.

Non-Represented Churches—A. F. Taylor, J. W. Coffman, T. L. Tackett.

Union of Churches—W. W. White, C. L. Cowell, Edgar Allison.

Credentials—Dewey Kinder, Sister Walsie Tackett, and Jess Looper.

Visiting Brothers—Willie Heflin, A. D. Rainey, and T. L. Sparks.

Dedication song to Bro. J. L. Harris, "Angels Rock Me To Sleep." and to Bro. F. M. Hudson and Bro. A. F. Taylor, "Heaven Now is in View," by Syble Wilcombs, and Betty Whisnant, Mary Sue Taylor and Norene Harris.

By motion of Bro. W. F. McGee the entire Association stood one minute in reverence to the memory of Bro. Virgil O. Stamps, one of the greatest gospel song writers. At this time Bro. W. F. McGee was ordained as a minister of the Gospel by Bros. F. M. Hudson, W. A. Crouch, W. S. Isbell, J. A. Venable, and J. L. Harris. Prayer by Bro. W. A. Crouch.

The Committee on Divine Service announced that Bro. John Reel and W. F. McGee to fill the stand at night, and Bro. W. S. Isbell to conduct Devotional Service.

Dismissed by Bro. J. L. Harris.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Called together by singing led by Bro. Tom Bowden, at which a good song service was enjoyed.

Devotional Service was conducted by Bro. W. S. Isbell. Preaching by Bro. W. F. McGee. Text, Roman 11:28. The Gifts and Calling of God Are Without Repentance.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. R. B. Venable

SATURDAY MORNING

Called together by singing led by Bro. J. W. Coffman, "Take The Name of Jesus With You." Opened by Moderator, Bro. W. A. Crouch. Scripture lesson, 85th Psalm. A special request for prayer for Bro. J. H. Harshfield.

INTERMISSION

Called together by singing led by Bro. Tom Bowden, "Traveling the Glory Road," "What a Singing in the By and By." As this was memorial service, the Obituary Committee reported the following: Bros. and Sisters have departed this life since our last Association. We realize our loss is Heaven's gain: Alma Robertson, E. Henderson, and Rosseller Garrison.

Shiloh Church—Sister Bell Jeffries. Bro. R. M. Johnson spoke in her memory.

St. Joe Church—Bro. Jessie Marble.

Oak Grove No. 2—H. E. Singleton. Bro. W. S. Isbell spoke in their memory. Song, "Farther Along."

Welcome Home No. 2—Sister Lou Bailey. Bro. J. D. Coffman spoke in her memory. Song, "Jesus Lover of My Soul."

Jerusalem Church—Bro. Oscar Clariday. Bro. Dave Thompson spoke in his memory. Song, "Precious Memories," Quartet.

Welcome Home Church No. 2—Bro. B. F. Lathum. Bro. G. M. Condley spoke in his memory. Song, "Rock of Ages."

Maple Springs Church—Bro. George Newcomb. Bro. A. J. Lathum spoke in his memory. Song, "Sweet Bye and Bye."

Cherry Hill Church—Bro. Harper Brock. Bro. W. A. Crouch spoke in his memory. Song, "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be."

Union Grove Church—Sister Ola Wright Whorton. Bro. John Reel spoke in her memory. Song, "Dear Lord I'll Not Be Able."

Mt. Home Church—Sister J. S. Willis. Bro. R. M. Johnson spoke in her memory. Song, "Only a Dream."

Hickory Grove Church—Sister Lila Moore. Bro. Henry Teel spoke in her memory. Song, "Where the Soul of Man Never Dies."

New Liberty Church—Sister A. R. Baker. Bro. R. L. Rainwater spoke in her memory. Song, "Shake Hands With Mother Again."

Phoenix Church—Sister Sarah Mayhew. Bro. R. M. Johnson spoke in her memory. Song, "Shake Hands With Mother Again."

Dismissed by Bro. Dave Thompson to meet at 2:30 o'clock.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Called together by singing led by Bro. W. S. Isbell, "Down at the Cross." Scripture lesson, 2nd chapter 1:11 of Ephesians, read by Moderator W. A. Crouch. Prayer by Bro. J. J. West. Song, "Nearer My God To Thee."

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

We, your Committee on Temperance, recommend that we carry the report as carried in the last Minutes of this Association.

We, your Committee, beg leave to submit the following report: Realizing since the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, the Devil is putting up a strong fight with intoxicating liquor, we feel it the duty of every child of God to stand firm for Temperance in every way, denouncing intemperance on every hand.

We urge every child of God to put on the whole armour of God without fear and trampling, and we urge each and every pastor to preach at least one sermon on Temperance to each church he pastors, a year, showing and stressing the evil in intoxicating drink.

W. S. Isbell, Chairman.

Sabbath Schools—We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report as follows: We find Sunday Schools in most all our churches. We urge all our people to donate more time in prayer and study in behalf of our Sunday Schools. We believe that a Sunday School and League as one of the best means of developing and moulding the lives of our youth of today. We believe that officers and teachers should be a Christian and a member of the church.

Susie Fisher, Chairman.

We, your Committee on Union of Churches, beg leave to report that all churches as far as we know are in union one with another.

W. W. White, Chairman.

We, your Committee on Non-Represented Churches, beg leave report the following churches not represented: Welcome Home No. 1, Rambo, Watts.

J. W. Coffman, Chairman.

We, your Committee on Resolutions, submit the following resolutions, that each church pay \$2.50 on Minutes fund to the Finance Committee before the close of the Association each year.

D. W. Bird, Chairman.

Report of Finance Committee—We beg leave to report we have collected \$42.50 from the delegation and turned over to our Clerk for printing of Minutes and state funds.

C. A. Nichols, Chairman.

The Moderator declared nominations were in order for next place of meeting. Cherry Hill was selected to hold our "Golden Anniversary" session. Bro. R. M. Johnson to preach the introductory sermon, and Bro. W. A. Crouch as alternate.

Committee on Divine Service announce that Bro. E. L. Hill conduct devotional service. Bro. J. A. Venable and Bro. R. B. Venable fill the stand.

Delegates to State Association were selected: Bro. Vandella Voss, Bro. Ollie Robertson, Bro. J. J. West, Bro. Dewey Morris, Sister Ethel Edding. As Alternates, Bro. Joe Wilkins, Bro. D. W. Bird, Bro. Bill Bowden, Bro. Dolan Burris, and Sister Ola Blair.

Bro. R. M. Johnson tendered his resignation as a member of the Ordaining Examining Council, and was accepted by the Association. Bro. G. M. Condley was elected to fill this vacancy.

Dismissed by Bro. L. W. Mickel to meet with Cherry Hill Church, September 11-12-13-14, 1941.

SATURDAY NIGHT

Called to order by singing led by Bro. C. A. Nichols, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Songs by Bro. Tom Bowden, "I'm Completely Satisfied," "Take My Life and Let It Be."

Devotional Service conducted by Bro. G. M. Condley. The audience engaged in a season of prayer for a request of Sister Lucy Harris and Sister Lathum. Then the congregation enjoyed a love feast in testimonial service, in which a number taken part.

Preaching by Bro. J. D. Coffman. Text, Acts 2:39. For the promise is unto you and to your children, and to all that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Song, "When I Can Read My Title Clear."

Concluded by Bro. R. B. Venable.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We, the Ministers, Deacons, Clerks, Delegates, and visiting members of this Association, wish to extend to the good people of Maple Springs Church and surrounding community our thanks of appreciation for their kind hospitality and generous treatment extended us during our Association and pray God's blessings on each of you.

Resolutions Committee.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. J. L. Harris.

SUNDAY A. M.

Called together by singing led by Bro. Tom Bowden, "Be Ready For That Day." Scripture reading, Zechariah 13th chapter, by Moderator, Bro. W. A. Crouch. Prayer by Bro. G. M. Condley.

Song, "Where He Leads Me." Preaching by Bro. W. A. Crouch. Subject, "Sin."

Bro. W. A. Crouch, Moderator.
Bro. E. O. Wright, Clerk.

We, the Committee on Credentials, beg to report we have secured every minister's name and address possible, the list of which is hereby submitted.

J. D. Kinder, Chairman.

Ministers Present—Bros. R. B. Venable, Atkins; J. A. Venable, Atkins; John Reel, Atkins; W. S. Isbell, Russellville; E. Henderson, Russellville; F. M. Hudson, Moreland; R. M. Johnson, Russellville, R. F. D.; R. L. Rainwater, Delaware; J. D. Coffman, Hector; G. M. Condley, Hector; W. A. Crouch, Hector; E. L. Hill, Atkins; D. A. Thompson, Jerusalem; A. F. Taylor, Dover; A. J. Lathum, Russellville, Rt. 2; Edgar Alderson, Clarksville; Frank Harris, Pottsville.

Non-Present—T. V. Johnson, Russellville, R. F. D.; Mart Crouch, England; R. L. Taylor, Hector; M. A. Thompson, Jerusalem; R. A. Johnson, Delaware; H. J. Walker, Scranton; Clarence Tillman, Scranton; H. F. Banks, Pottsville.

REPORT OF MINISTERS

I have pastored two churches, visited nine other churches, and did some other local preaching; held two meetings and helped in two others, in which there were about fifty-five conversions; preached 98 sermons; conducted 6 funerals. Received \$77.65.—W. S. Isbell.

I have had the care of 4 churches. On account of my wife's afflictions only filled about half of the monthly appointments, held two revivals with 18 conversions, 16 additions to the churches; baptized 10; conducted 2 funerals. Received \$118.87.—W. F. McGee.

I have pastored two churches, preached about 87 sermons, held three revival meetings, married three couples. Received \$94.90.—A. J. Lathum.

I have pastored one church, done some local preaching. I have preached 36 sermons, received 4 into the church; baptized 3; conducted one funeral. Received \$6.11 from the church.—R. L. Rainwater.

I have pastored two churches, have preached 56 sermons, witnessed about 14 conversions, have married 6 couples, conducted 6 funerals, traveled about 1,000 miles. Received \$40.00.—John L. Reel.

I have pastored 4 churches, did no work through January, February, but did revival work. Received \$189.35.—W. A. Crouch.

Our next session with Cherry Hill Church will be our Golden Anniversary session. We urge all churches to represent and if you have an old Minute before the 1922 session please notify the clerk.—E. O. Wright.

CONSTITUTION

For a long series of experiences we, the Churches of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union and a communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, we therefore propose to keep orders and rules of our association, according to the following plan or form of government:

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, and each church is entitled to three messengers. All ordained ministers, deacons and church clerks of our faith and order in the bounds of Antioch Association shall be members when present.

2. Letters from the different churches shall be prepared, read to and approved by each church conference assembled, signed by the moderator and clerk before presentation to the Association. Also to express their number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letter, recommendation or restoration, dismissed, excluded, and that have died since the last association. Also the moderator and clerk, county and postoffice, Sabbath or meeting and the amount paid pastor.

3. The members thus chosen and convened, to be denominated the Antioch Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of the churches of parts of Pope, Johnson, Yell and Logan counties, and the Association to have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclestical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church acting disorderly.

4. The Association shall have a moderator and a clerk, to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

5. New church may be admitted into the Association by letter or by delegates, if found to be orthodox in the faith of the Free Will Baptists, the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

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

7. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of this Association in proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution being made at the discretion of the Association.

8. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes, and that we pay our clerk \$5.00 for his service, and urge that the minutes be printed and mailed within 60 days after the Association, and that we urge each minister furnish a written report of his year's work, and especially those having care of churches.

9. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the moderator and clerk before the Association adjourns.

10. The Association shall have a fund for her support, which shall be supplied by voluntary contribution of the different churches, whose duty it shall be to send it by the hands of the messengers, which money sent shall be deposited in the hands of the treasurer for that purpose, and he shall be 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 church to attend, may inquire into the cause.

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

13. It is the sense of this Association that if a minister takes a letter from a church of this Association and neglect or refuse to place it in some church, for a period of one year, his name shall be dropped from the roll of ministers, his credentials revoked, and this Association will not recognize any work that may come under his hands as a presbyter after such time, and it shall be the duty of the clerk after such steps have been taken by the Association, to notify the clerk of the county in which such minister may live, or have his credentials recorded, of the action of this Association toward such minister. Any such minister who wishes to be reinstated by this Association, can do so by uniting himself with some church of this Association, and from the beginning of his membership his credentials shall be in full force, and his work recognized without again coming under the hands of a Presbytery of Elders.

14. This Association shall maintain a committee of five, to be elected by the body, which shall be known as an ordaining council.

Those who are to be ordained must—

- (1) Have preached at least one year in the bounds of this Association.
- (2) Must be set apart, and have the endorsement for ordination, by the church of which they are a member.
- (3) Must have the endorsement of the ordaining council, or a majority vote of a legally called meeting of the council.
- (4) Lack of endorsement by either of the above authorities will hold up any ordination.
- (5) No one can serve on the committee unless he fully believes in the plans of this work.
- (6) This committee shall report to this body, while in session, the misconduct or disregard of any rule, or ordinance, set forth and practiced by the Antioch Association, and said party shall be dealt with accordingly.

15. Amendments to this plan of Government may be made at any time when a majority may deem it necessary.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **God**—We believe in one true and living Trueine God; composed of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, equal in divine essence, purpose, power, and glory. St. John 1:1; Cor. 8:8; I John 5:7; St. John 10:30.

2. **Christ**—We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God; was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the creation; left he Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born of the virgin Mary, manifested his power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's new tomb, arose from the dead the third day, completing the great plan of salvation; walked and talked with his disciples, publicly ascended up to Heaven, and that he will descend to gather his jewels home. Isiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 7:26-28, 24:50-53; Math. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19, 15:22-41; Acts 1:9-12.

3. **Holy Spirit**—We believe the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages, and especially since the ascension of the Son back to the Father, and its coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up its office work among all nations of people as a Divine Reprover, Comforter, and Guide. Judges 6:34, 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 7:17-20.

4. **The Bible**—We believe the Bible which is composed of the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, was given by inspiration of God, is our

waybill from earth to Heaven, and only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Peter 1:19-21; Timothy 3:14-17; Daniel 10-21; Acts 1:16-17; Math. 21:42.

5. **The Fall of Man**—We believe that God created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed, with promises of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great Enemy of Souls, voluntarily transgressed the Law of God, fell under the just penalty of the same, and were unable under their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave to them the hope of salvation through the coming of Christ. Gen. 1:27, 2:16-17; Romans 11:11-35, 5:18; Psalms 37:23-24.

6. **Redemption, Salvation, Adoption**—We believe that Jesus Christ, by his birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension, paid the purchase price of redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come to Him upon Gospel terms; and a law of adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance in the glorified Kingdom above. Hebrews 9:12, 1-4; Gal. 3:13, 4-5; Titus 2:14; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 45:22.

7. **Conditions of Salvation**—We believe that all persons dying in infancy, and all idiots, are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of God without any act upon their part; that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the Law of God, must upon their part exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father, and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the Lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ or God. John 3rd chapter; Math. 19:13-22; II Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. **Salvation Free**—We believe that God desires the salvation of all; Christ died for all; the gospel invites all; the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel. I Peter 1:9, 13:25, 2:9, 24:25; Rev. 22:17.

9. **Baptism**—We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, Son, of Holy Spirit, in which is represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presbytery of elders are qualified to administer the same. Math. 3:14-16, 28:29, 3:5-6; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47.

10. **Communion and Foot Washing**—We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of feet by our Savior to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the World, and show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians have a right to the Lord's Supper, and should be invited; "let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of feet was instituted at the same time that the supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all Christians until His second coming. Luke 22:19-20; I Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-18; Math. 26:26-29.

1. **The Sabbath**—We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements, and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted. Exodus 2:11, 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Math. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 227.

12. **Call to the Ministry**—We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise their

native gifts according to the scripture with a full reliance upon Him He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose. Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Math. 28:19.

13. **The Invisible Church**—We believe that the invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true Christians of every congregation from righteous Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people. Eph. 3:16-21, 2:20-22; Heb. 12:22-23; I Peter 2:5; Acts 2:47; Math. 16:18.

14. **The Visible Church**—We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the gospel. II Thes. 1:1; Acts 20:28; III John 1:10; Math. 18:17; Rev. 1:4, 11, 20.

15. **Perseverance**—We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in Hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from his hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and willfully refuse or neglect to perform their duties they would backslide and if persistently continued would be eternally lost. II Cor. 9:19; II Peter 1:4-8; I Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35; Apostasy; II Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17, 6:1-6, 3:12; I St. John 5:16; I Tim. 4:1-2; St. John 15:1-7; Math. 12:3-32.

16. **Christ the Head of the Church**—We believe that Christ is the great head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body. Col. 1:18-19; Math. 16:18, 21-42; Heb. 12:33; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. **Sanctification**—Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. And the sanctification of the body (which is held under subjection) will take place in the resurrection. I Cor. 6:11; II Thes. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; II Thes. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II Timothy 2:20-21.

18. **The Soul**—The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery according to the spiritual character here possessed. Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:24, 16:19-25; Rev. 6:9; Math. 10:28.

19. **The Resurrection**—We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and wicked. When the resurrection shall take place the soul and body shall be reunited, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. Math. 28:6; St. John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58.

20. **Judgment**—We believe that there will be a great universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into everlasting happiness. II Thes. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13, 20:12-13, 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Math. 12:36-37; Acts 17:31.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. Those who speak shall rise, address the moderator, and personal reflections shall be avoided.
3. All motions made and seconded shall be opened for discussion, but debate may be shut off at any time by a majority of the members of the Association.
4. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.
5. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded in the minutes unless so ordered at the time.
6. No one shall speak more than once on the same subject without special leave from the body.
7. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.
8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the moderator.
9. At the future sessions of this Association arrangements shall be made, so as to insure two sermons, or other devotional services which shall be equivalent thereto; and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.
10. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association shall be called to order by the moderator, or in his absence by the clerk.
3. Letters from the churches of this Association called for, read, and messengers invited to seats.
4. Right hand of fellowship.
5. Call for letters from newly organized churches.
6. Corresponding Associations.
7. Election of permanent officers.
8. Reading Rules of Order and minutes of last Association by the chair or the clerk.
9. Appointment of the following committees (a) Resolution; (b) Finance; (c) Divine Service; (d) Temperance; (e) Sabbath Schools; (f) Obituaries; (g) Non-represented churches; (h) Union of Churches.
10. Reports of committees holding over from last Association, and other unfinished business.
 1. Reports of new committees.
 12. New business.
 13. Adjournment.

Q 1000, David Parting 140 Fair
20.15

STATISTICAL TABLE

[illegible]