

M I N U T E S

of the

FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

of the

ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

OAK GROVE CHURCH

Pope County, Arkansas

September 10, 11, 12, 13, 1942

NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH

NEW LIBERTY CHURCH

Logan County, Arkansas

W. F. McGEE, Russellville, Arkansas.....Moderator

H. L. BURRIS, Russellville, Arkansas, Route 4.....Clerk

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
FREE WILL BAPTIST ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

The fifty-first annual session of the Free Will Baptist Antioch Association convened with Oak Grove Church eight miles north of Atkins, Pope County, Arkansas, Thursday night, September 10, 1942, and remained in session over Sunday.

THURSDAY NIGHT—Opening song was directed by Homer Eakin. Invocation by Eld. W. F. McGee. Song by congregation.

INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE—Eld R. G. Webb. Scripture lesson the 12th Chapter of Rev. Text Rev. 12:1, And there appeared a great wonder in Heaven; A woman clothed with the Sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: Concluding remarks by W. F. McGee.

At this time the doors of the homes in Oak Grove community were opened, and a hearty welcome extended to all delegates and visitors who through the comforts and hospitality were delightfully entertained during the session. Dismissing Prayer by Eld. J. K. Dunkin of Kansas City, Mo.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opening song directed by Eld. J. D. Coffman. Scripture lesson, the first chapter of Psalms, and prayer by Moderator W. F. McGee.

Business Session—In the absence of Clerk E. O. Wright, Bro. H. L. Burris was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem.

The roll of churches was called; their letters received and delegates enrolled as follows, including all ordained ministers, deacons and church clerks:

St. Joe—Lowell Tanner, Ruby Virden and Lethie Virden.

Mt. Vernon—Carrie Henderson, Eva Blankenship and Lula Mae Burris.

Hickory Grove—Bro. Irby Teel and wife.

Maple Springs—W. M. Bowen, Julia Gideon and Violet Williams.

Union Grove—T. L. Tackett, Myra Hill and Evelyn Polk.

Mt. Home—Vandella Voss and wife.

Oak Grove No. 2—R. G. Webb, C. U. Kinder and Newt Hice.

Moreland—Lona Virden and Blanch Duvall.

Harmony—J. J. West and Nettie West.

Cherry Hill—D. W. Bird, Grace Taylor and Annie Moore.

Walnut Grove—Albert Coffman, Dan Coffman and H. W. Coffman.

Welcome Home—Roscoe Crouch, Roy McCuin and Nancy Crouch.

Holman—Represented by letter.

Sweet Home—Myrtle Blankenship, Vernon Fridell and Luveary Compton.

Slaty Crossing—Bill Fink and wife.

Pine Ridge—R. S. Reed, Willie Standrige and Jasper Standrige.

New Liberty—Martha Vassaur and Tennie Johnson.

Oak Grove No. 1—Sister Nannie Lowry.

Dublin—Represented by letter.

Shiloh—Reported inactive.

Galla Creek—Reported inactive.

The usual organic Fellowship with song and hand clasp was entered into and by motion the rules were suspended and all Christians were invited to participate in the ovation.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS—Eld. W. F. McGee was re-elected moderator. Eld. W. S. Isbell was elected assistant moderator. Bro. H. L. Burris was elected clerk, Russellville, Route 4.

The following committees were appointed:

Divine Service—J. R. Whitfield, G. B. Maxwell and H. R. Condley.

Resolution—J. D. Coffman, Irby Teel and J. A. Venable.

Temperance—F. M. Hudson, Jack Lathem and John Reel.

Sabbath Schools—Martha Vassaur, Homer Coffman and D. W. Bird.

Obituary—Sisters J. R. Whitfield, Edith Whitenburg, Artie Blankenship.

Non-Represented Churches—Lee Tacket, Billie Bowden, G. M. Condley.

Union of Churches—C. U. Kinder, Frank Burris and John Harris.

Credentials—Dan Coffman, Willie Standrige and Ruby Virden.

Committee on Divine Service reported that Eld. J. A. Venable and C. U. Kinder were to bring the eleven o'clock message.

Recess til two p. m. with prayer by Dewey Kinder.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE FRIDAY

Songs directed by W. F. McGee, T. L. Tackett and Irby Teel. Scripture lesson, the fourth chapter of Heb. by J. A. Venable. Prayer by Check Kinder. Text, Heb 4:9, There remaineth therefore a rest to the people if GOD. The consoling thoughts presented by Brothers Venable and Kinder in this message were edifying and very much appreciated by all present.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Collective Song was directed by J. D. Coffman, (what a fellowship). Eld. John Reel was asked to open the session. He read the first chapter of James and offered the devotion.

Order of Business resumed—A letter was received and read from Clerk E. O. Wright who stated that he could not be present on the account of contract in defense work. Motion carried to receive the letter and express our thanks and appreciation, by a standing vote, for the many years of service and untiring efforts of Bro. Wright in this great cause.

Resolution No. 1 read and adopted.

Committee reported that Bro. Henry Teel would have charge of the devotional service Friday night and W. S. Isbell and John Reel to bring the evening message.

Business session was adjourned until nine o'clock Saturday morning.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

A real song service directed by Irby Teel was followed by the devotional service led by Bro. Henry Teel. The cloud of witnesses that testified was not numbered, evidently there was great rejoicing.

W. S. Isbell brought the message followed by John Reel. Scripture lesson the eleventh chapter of Heb. Text Heb. 11:10, For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is GOD. The high spiritual interest continued throughout the service which closed with a revival.

BUSINESS SESSION SATURDAY MORNING

Opening Song, "How Firm a Foundation," directed by W. F. McGee.

Eld. Charley Forest was invited by the Moderator to be in charge of the opening exercise. He read as a scripture lesson, Second Peter 1:18, and offered prayer. Bro. Forest was then received as a corresponding messenger from the Arkansas Association.

J. J. West, committee and treasurer of the tent fund reported the following churches of the Antioch Association had paid \$10.00—St. Joe, Walnut Grove, Slaty Crossing, Welcome Home, Harmony, Oak Grove No. 2, Mountain Home, Holman, Maple Springs. Total \$90.00. A total paid in from all sources to date is \$243.85.

Motion carried to adopt the committee's report on Church Discipline.

Obituary Report—We your committee, submit the following report. We find that there has been five deaths since our last meeting: Union Grove Church—Deacon C. A. Loyd and Sarah Cooksy. Pine Ridge—Brothers Odell Duvall and Walter Potinger. Mountain Home—Sister Macie Chronister.

Because of their Christian life and faithful service, we sadly miss them; but they have only gone the way of other weary servants to enter that rest that remains to the people of GOD. So we weep not, as those who have no hope but rejoice in their victory and eternal happiness.

The Committee on Divine Service reported that Eld. J. D. Coffman would have charge of the Memorial service at eleven o'clock and Chas. Forrest to have the concluding remarks.

Eld. J. A. Venable spoke in memory of Sister Sarah Cooksy and Walter Potinger.

Eld. F. M. Hudson spoke in memory of Bro. Odell Duvall.

Eld. W. S. Isbell spoke in memory of Sister Macie Chronister

Eld. John Reel spoke in memory of Bro. C. A. Loyd.

Scripture lesson for the service was the twenty-third Psalm by Eld. J. D. Coffman. Text Acts 1:9, "And he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight." Closing remarks by Bro. Forrest. The consoling words of gratitude and comfort by these brethren was gloriously received by all present. This service too, ended in a great revival.

AFTERNOON SESSION SATURDAY

Opening Song, "Leaning On the Everlasting Arm." Eld. Walter Kinslow was invited by moderator to open the session with scripture reading and prayer.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

NON-REPRESENTED CHURCHES—We, your Committee, by investigation find that the following named churches are not represented: Shiloh, Jerusalem, Galla Creek, and that Shiloh and Galla Creek are not having regular meetings.—T. L. Tackett, G. M. Condley, W. M. Bowden, Committee.

CREDENTIALS—We, your Committee, have secured every minister's name and address possible and submit the following:

Ministers Present at this meeting—W. F. McGee, Russellville; W. S. Isbell, Russellville, Route 4; A. J. Latham, Russellville, Route 2; T. V. Johnson, Russellville; J. A. Venable, Atkins; R. B. Venable, Atkins; John Reel, Atkins; F. M. Hudson, Moreland; R. A. Johnson, Delaware; J. D. Coffman, Hector; G. M. Condley, Hector; R. G. Webb, C. U. Kinder, Dewey Kinder, Elles Warren, E. F. Flower, Lytle Hallum, Charley Dauthett.

Ministers Not Present—E. Henderson, Russellville, Route 4; R. L. Rainwater, Delaware; Frank Harris, Pottsville, Route 1; C. E. Douthitt, Russellville, Route 4; Joe Harris, Atkins; W. A. Crouch, Hector; M. A. Thompson and Dave Thompson, Jerusalem; Jack Walker, Scranton; Mart Crouch, England, A. F. Banks, Pottsville; Edgar Alderson, Clarksville; E. L. Hill, Atkins; P. C. Denton, Scranton.

TEMPERANCE—We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report as follows: We view with alarm the work of sin in the form of intemperance since the return of the saloon in our state and nation, but eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and we sincerely urge our members to join all other Christian workers, to curb the horrible evils of whiskey habit, until we may again become able to banish the same from our land. We earnestly urge parents, to keep, as far as possible, their sons and daughters from all immoral places of amusement which tend to weaken their power of resentment.—Committee, F. M. Hudson, A. J. Lathem and John Reel.

SABBATH SCHOOLS—We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, submit the following: We find that twelve churches have reported in thier letters that they have Sabbath Schools. Realizing the great responsibility of child training which begins in the home, with parents as teachers, who should plan and provide for them the next best thing, which is the Sabbath School and Literary School. This should not be neglected in any church or community. Here let us stress the urgent need of Sunday Schools in our churches and a greater interest manifested in this work. Too often they get the wrong training elsewhere.—D. W. Bird, Homer Coffman, and Martha Vassaur, Committee.

UNION OF CHURCHES—We, your Committee, upon investigation, find that all churches are in union and fellowship.—C. U. Kinder, Chairman.

Report of a special committee appointed by a vote of the Association to consider a reply to a series of articles printed in the Courier-Democrat viz: "Back to the Bible."

With reference to the above articles, there were many things given of great importance that we highly endorse; while there were other statements made which we consider to be unscriptural and very dangerous and misleading in being presented to the public. But when all has been considered, we feel that in answering said article it would have a tendency to give publicity to an objectional measure which in the long run would do more harm than good.—F. M. Hudson, H. W. Coffman, W. S. Isbell, J. D. Coffman, and W. F. McGee, Committee.

FINANCE—We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following:

For Antioch Minutes fund	\$38.00
By W. F. McGee, Holman \$2.50 and Dublin \$2.50	5.00
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	\$43.00
For State funds	\$30.00

—Dewey Kindre, chairman

New Liberty Church near Delaware, on Highway 22, was selected for the next place of meeting. Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1943.

Eld. Check Kinder was elected to preach the Introductory sermon. Delegates to the state meeting—J. J. West, R. C. Crouch, John McMellon, Lee Tacket and Ralph Whitenburg.

Alternates—Edgar Reel, Vandella Voss, Lee Dover, C. W. Taylor and W. M. Bowden.

League and Sunday School—Sisters Eva Dover, Julia Gideon and Eula North.

Eld. J. D. Coffman was elected as Evangelist for 1942-43.

Committee reported that Eld. F. M. Hudson and A. J. Lathem preach Saturday night and Eld. R. B. Venable be in charge of the Prayer and Praise meeting. Business session adjourned in regular order.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opening song, "We Will Work Til Jesus Comes." Prayer by Eld. A. J. Lathem. R. B. Venable in lead of the devotional service, a great number gave praise and adoration for the wonderful blessings even of this meeting.

Scripture lesson the first Psalms, by F. M. Hudson, Text, God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life. Bro. Lathem made the concluding remarks to the largest gathering of the session. After taking the parting hand many of the delegates left for their homes.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Called together at ten o'clock by singing. Prayer was offered by Eld. Walter Kinslow. Scripture lesson the 15th chapter of Acts, by W. F. McGee, who commented on the Jerusalem Conference that settled the dispute over the work of Paul and Barnebus in organization of their churches in Asia and preaching that Salvation comes by Grace and not by circumcision of the law.

At this time the following brethren were ordained as ministers—Lytle Hallum, C. U. Kinder, Dewey Kinder, R. G. Webb, Elles Warn, Charley Dauthett and E. F. Flower.

Ordaining Presbytery—Eld. A. J. Lathem, T. V. Johnson, Homer Eakin, W. S. Isbell, George Rollen.

This seemed to be the climax of all services by reference to Acts 8:8, we can cord with the writer and say there was greatjoy in that city. Dismissed with prayer.

Noon: A bountiful delicious dinner was served at the noon hour.

After noon was spent in singing and W. S. Isbell baptised two candidates, Hoyt and Paulene Hips.

RESOLUTION—Resolve that section one of the Constitution be amended to read as follows: This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, and each church be entitled

to three messengers. All ordained ministers, deacons, their wives and church clerks of our faith and order in the bounds of the Antioch Association shall be members when present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2—We gladly extend our heart-felt thanks to the good people of Oak Grove community for the warm receptive, generous, hospitality shown us during our stay with them. It seemed to be the chief desire of all to make this an enjoyable occasion. To this end, everything was carried out in the very best way regardless of sacrifice. Such kindness is to be remembered and long cherished in our hearts. In your benevolence, may you ever find this true friendship.—J. D. Coffman, Irby Teel and J. A. Venable, Committee.

MINISTERS REPORT

I have pastored four churches, delivered 152 messages, conducted five funerals and assisted in two others, baptized four, received 11 members into the church, received \$281.90.—W. S. Isbell.

I have delivered 48 messages, traveled 580 miles, helped in one revival, received \$32.00.—E. F. Flower.

I have pastored three churches, preached 95 sermons, helped in three revivals, witnessed some conversions, done some local preaching, married one couple, received from all sources \$148.38.—A. J. Lathem.

I have pastored one church, done local preaching, held one revival, and helped in three others, traveled about 375 miles, received \$24.10.—T. V. Johnson.

I have had the care of four churches, delivered 133 messages, conducted five funerals, held three revival meetings, witnessed a number of conversions, traveled about 2,650 miles, received \$244.00.—W. F. McGee.

W. F. McGee, Russellville, Moderator
H. L. Burris, Russellville, Route 4, Clerk

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

When seven or more Christians wish to be united into a Free Will Baptist church organic body, a committee of three or more, composed of one ordained minister, one Deacon, and one Layman, with others, who are members of churches within the bounds of the Association where said church is being organized, by the authority here invested, shall examine the applicants, as to the faith and doctrine of the Free Will Baptist and if found to be orthodox, will proceed as follows:

- (1) The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice.
- (2) The Church Covenant is read.
- (3) A prayer of consecration is offered.
- (4) The hand of fellowship is given.

(5) The church then precedes to elect its officers: a clerk, a treasurer, a pastor, and two deacons. Other deacons may be elected and ordained as the church grows or when a vacancy occurs.

Pastor—The pastor is to be elected for the period of one year, by a majority vote of members present at a regular, or stated meeting. His time will expire at the setting of each annual Association. He is to moderate all church meetings when present and exercise all rights as far as his office provides.

Clerk and Treasurer—The clerk and treasurer are to be elected in the same way and at the same time as the moderator. They are to keep a record of all the business proceedings of the church: Roll of membership, minutes of conference meetings, and all funds collected and paid out by the membership.

Deacons—Special care should be taken by the church in the selection of deacons. First Tem. 3:8 to 13 gives some of the qualifications pertaining to deacons that should be heeded. They are elected by a majority vote of the church and ordained to office by a presbytery of three, one of which should be a minister. They serve their church during their lifetime unless relieved by the church for some grievance or disorderly act.

Duties of Deacons—They are to assist at baptizings, the Lord' Supper, and Feet Washing, conduct religious meetings, moderate church conference in absence of the pastor, collect funds for the support of the church in its benevolence, look after the spiritual interest of the church in general.

Members Received—Applicants are received into the church by a majority vote of members present in a church conference if they acknowledge their sins forgiven and believe in Jesus Christ.

Members Dismissed—Members may receive letters only when in good standing with the church; and cease to be members of the church when the conference by a majority vote, grants the request and authorizes the clerk to write the letter, signed by moderator and clerk. Request for letters of dismission should be made in person at a conference meeting or in writing through the church clerk stating the cause for the request.

Members Dismissed, dropped, excluded or severed in any other way from the church it should be for legal and just cause and done in church conference by a majority vote of members present, at a regular meeting.

Church may be disbanded by the same rules under which they were organized, when they cease to function properly as churches: failing to hold a conference meeting for the period of one year and by consent of the majority of members living near the church at the time.

Quarterly meetings and annual Associations are organized and disbanded by the same rules of authority as the local church; except when a majority of the churches vote to unite with another Quarterly meeting or Association.

Property deeded to, and owned by the Free Will Baptist, shall be under the supervision of the local church worshipping in that locality or using said property. For any legal or just cause of its proper use it may be disposed of for the benefit of said church, by public sale and the proceeds put into the treasury of the Association where the property is located, and can only be used to build or repair churches in the Association. The executive committee of the Association shall have the authority of all business transactions.

Amendments may be made to this Discipline in Annual Conference of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **GOD**—We believe in one true and living Triune God; composed of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, equal in divine essence, purpose, power, and glory. St. John 1:1; 1st Cor. 8:6; 1 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 the 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. Isaiah 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; 1st Thes. 4:13-18.

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; Isaiah 63:10-12; Ephesians 4:30; Acts 8:17-20.

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; II Timothy 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Math. 24:14.

5. **THE FALL OF MEN**—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 of 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 the 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; 1:3-4; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; St. John 3:16; Isa. 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 person 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 whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the Gospel. I Peter 1:9-25; 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 and Holy Ghost, 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; 28:19; 3:5-6; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47.

10.—COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING—We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of feet are ordinances of the gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate his broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to 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.

11. 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 20:11; 31-12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Math. 28:1; Luke 23-56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

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, 2:19-22; 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 16:5; 20:28; III John 1:10; Math. 18:17; Rev. 1:4, 11-20; 2nd Cor. 8:18-19.

15. PERSEVERANCE—We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life that all the combined force of the great enemy of souls on earth 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 duty they would backslide and if persistently continued would be eternally lost. II Cor. 9:10; II Peter 1:4-8; I Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy; II Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17, 6:1-6, 3:12; 1st John 5:16; I Tim. 4:1-2; St. John 15:1-7; Math. 12:31-32; Jude 1st chapter.

16. CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH—We believe that Christ is the great head of the Church, and the government of the local church is with the body. Col. 1:18-19; Math. 16:18, 21:42; Heb. 12:23; 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; 1st 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. Philp. 1:23; Luke 23:43, 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.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience 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. All ordained ministers, deacons, their wives, 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 ecclesiastical 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 contributions 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.

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 exercises 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.
11. Reports of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Adjournment.

TABLE OF CHURCHES OF THE ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

CHURCH	MODERATOR	CLERK	Dismissed	Received	Excluded	Died	Paid Pastor	Day of Meeting	Membership
St. Joe	Rece Rainwater	Maudie Burris						3	117
Slaty Crossing	W. F. McGee	Girtha Barnett	2				\$ 59.38		144
Mt. Vernon	T. V. Johnson	Dolen Burris			1		17.35	2	33
Hickory Grove	W. S. Isbell	Irby Teel	2	8			83.81	4	49
Maple Springs	A. J. Lathem	Lois Gideon	2				53.16	4	30
Union Grove	John Reel	Edith Whitenburg	3	6		2	27.00	2	123
Mt. Home	W. S. Isbell	Ben Chronister	2	1	1	1	108.10	1	61
Moreland	W. S. Isbell	Blench Duvall	2				26.74	2	44
Harmony	R. G. Webb	J. M. Sparks		3			60.00	3	53
Cherry Hill	A. J. Lathem	Frank Moon					40.00	2	66
Walnut Grove	W. F. McGee	Nola Coffman	1				64.45	1	40
Welcome Home	A. J. Lathem	Arizona Crouch	1	1			84.00	3	75
Holman	W. F. McGee	Helen Colvin					85.21	4	89
Jerusalem	M. A. Thompson	Not represented							
Oak Grove No. 1	W. F. McGee	Niva Henderson						2	20
Oak Grove No. 2	John Reel	Mary Johnson		2		1	32.50	1	103
New Liberty	W. S. Isbell	Tennie Blair					26.39	1	36
Sweet Home	R. G. Webb	Charley Compton							23
Pine Grove	J. A. Venable	Willie Standrage		9		2	40.00		52
Shiloh									
Dublin	Rece Rainwater	Ethel Eddings					34.71	2	17
Galla Creek									