

MINUTES
OF THE
Fifty-second Annual Session
OF THE
Antioch Association
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH NEW LIBERTY CHURCH
LOGAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS,
SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11, 12, 1943

NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH
SLATY CROSSING CHURCH, PERRY COUNTY, ARK.

W. F. McGEE, Russellville, Arkansas.....**Moderator**
E. O. WRIGHT, Atkins, Arkansas.....**Clerk**

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

The Free Will Baptist Antioch Association convened with New Liberty Church, Logan County, Delaware Arn., Thursday night, September 9, 1943, and remained in session over Sunday.

THURSDAY NIGHT

Opening song, "What a Friend." Directed by Eld. W. F. McGee. Prayer by Eld. J. A. Venable. Cinging by congregation, "Draw Me Nearer," "Love Lighted Me," and "Down at the Cross."

Eld. W. F. McGee conducted the devotional service. Introductory message by Eld. Dewey Kinder. Scripture lesson, St. John 3:14-19. Text: St. John 3-16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Concluded by Eld. C. U. Kinder.

The Moderator appointed a Committee on Divine Service: Bro. C. A. Crouch, Bro. T. L. Tackett, Bro. Coy Baker.

Dismissed by Eld. Dewey Kinder.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened at 9:00 o'clock, with singing directed by Eld. W. S. Isbell, "Standing on the Promises." Scripture lesson, second chapter First Timothy 1:10, by Moderator W. F. McGee. Prayer by Bro. C. A. Crouch. Song, "Sweet By and By."

BUSINESS SESSION

In the absence of Clerk H. L. Burris, Bro. E. O. Wright 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.

Slaty Crossing—Sister Gertha Barnett, Bro. Joe Standridge, LaAttress Standridge.

Oak Grove No. 2—Sister Maggie Isbell.

Walnut Grove—Eld. J. D. Coffman.

Union Grove—Sister Olgie Wright, Bro. T. L. Tackett, Bro. Ira Wright, Clerk Sister Edith Whittenburg.

Welcome Home—Bro. Rosco Crouch.

Harmony—Bro. J. J. West, Sister Eva Dover.

Mountain Home—Sister Arizona Chronister, Sister Ruth Taylor.

Hickory Grove—By Letter.

Pine Ridge—Clerk Huel Dixon.

Holman—By Letter.

Moreland—By letter.

Mt. Vernon—Sister Lulu Burris, Sister Ruth Burris, Sister Clemmie Burris, Clerk Bro. Dolan Burris.

Maple Springs—Bro. Tommy Bowden, Sister Lucy Bowden, Sister Julia Gideon, Clerk Lois Gideon.

New Liberty—Sister Mary Worst, Sister Mary Farnum, Bro. Charley Farnum, Clerk Tinnie Blair.

Oak Grove No. 2—Sister Nannie Lowery, Sister Lena Denton, Clerk Iva Henderson.

Dublin—Eister Cordus Johnson, Bro. Elmo Eddings, Clerk Ethel Eddings.

Jerusalem—By letter.

St. Joe—Sister Goldie Maxwell.
Cherry Hill—Not represented.
Shiloh—Reported inactive.
Sweet Home—

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. J. D. Coffman, Assistant Moderator; Bro. E. O. Wright, Clerk.

Honorary Delegates: Sister Tennie Johnson, Sister Cordus Johnson.

The following committees were appointed by the Moderator:

Resolution—W. S. Isbell, Huel Dixon, Rosco Crouch.

Sabbath School—Eva Dover, Martha Vassour, Ola Blair.

Obituary—C. U. Kinder, Sister Norma Lowery, J. D. Coffman.

Finance—J. J. West, Dewey Kinder, Tommy Bowden.

Temperance—Iva Henderson, Lois Gideon, Jess Looper.

Non-Represented Churches—Goldie Maxwell, Virdell Smith, and Nettie West.

Union of Churches—Scott Willis, Julia Gideon, Maggie Isbell.

Credentials—Steve Taylor, Lucy Bowden, Lena Denton.

The Committee on Divine Service announced that Eld. J. A. Venable fill the stand at 11:30, Eld. R. G. Webb to conclude.

Readingg of Rules of Order by the Chair.

Recess until 2:00 p. m., with prayer by Eld. R. G. Webb.

INTERMISSION

Called together by singing, "There Is a Fountain," directed by T. L. Tackett. Preaching by Eld. J. A. Venable. Scripture lesson, 1st Psalm. Prayer by Eld. R. G. Webb. Song, "A Charge to Keep I Have." Text, St. John 14:1, "Let not your hearts be troubled ye believe in God believe also in me." Concluded by Eld. R. G. Webb.

Dismissed by Moderator W. F. McGee.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Opening song, "Draw Me Nearer." Scripture lesson, 23rd Psalm, read by Eld. C. U. Kinder. Song, "Wonderful Words of Life."

Motion made and carried to go on record as to seating of delegates. When the regular delegates are absent, by motion other members are seated as delegates.

Committee on Divine Service announced that Eld. W. S. Isbell and Eld. J. D. Coffman to fill the stand at night, and Bro. J. J. West to conduct devotional service.

Song, "Sweet Bye and Bye."

Dismissed by Bro. Scott Willis to meet at 9:30 Saturday.

The visiting brothers and Sisters: Bro. A. L. Pattinger, Bro. and Sister George Farnum; Bro. W. R. Boggs, Clarksville, as missionary of the American Sunday School Union.

Talk by Bro. Boggs.

Dismissed by prayer by Bro. Jess Looper.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Song, "I Need Thee Every Hour," directed by T. L. Tackett. Song, "Standing On the Promises," directed by T. J. Bowden. Songs, "Satisfied With Jesus" and "Living for Jesus," directed by Z. D. Lee. Songs, "The Beautiful Garden of Prayer" and "Love Lifted Me," directed by Sister Lucille Rainwater. Quartet, "Press

Along Weary Pilgrims," by Bro. T. J. Bowden, Bro. J. D. Coffman, Sister Goldie Maxwell and Sister Virdell Smith.

Bro. J. J. West opened Devotional Service. Prayer by Eld. W. F. McGee, Eld. W. S. Isbell and Eld. Dewey Kinder. All present enjoyed a good testimonial service, as evidence was given by a large number.

Song, "Amazing Grace."

Preaching by Eld. J. D. Coffman.

Scripture lesson, Romans 5:1-12. Prayer by Ed. Coffman. Text, I Cor. 15:21, "Life and Death." Song, "We'll Walk." Concluded by Eld. W. S. Isbell. Song, "I've Found a Friend." Dismissed by Eld. W. F. McGee.

SATURDAY MORNING

Opening songs, "I Am Resolved" and "Tell It to Jesus," directed by Bro. T. L. Tackett. Service opened by Bro. C. A. Crouch by reading Scripture Lesson, St. John 14:1-10. Prayer by Bro. J. A. Venable. Song, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?"

BUSINESS SESSION

A letter was received and read from Eld. F. M. Hudson, and voted to be placed in the minutes:

"To the Members of the Antioch Association of Free Will Baptists: Owing to circumstances surrounding me and to my advanced age, perhaps it would be inexpedient for me to attend the 1943 session of the Association; but I desire to assure you that the desire of my heart, soul, mind, and strength is for the success of the meeting. I fully realize that the time has come when the duties and honors should be left to younger persons than myself. Yesterday I celebrated my sixty-third birthday in the pleasant, happy service of the Lord. I trust that all our people may be blest and encouraged to preach a full and free gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through full and complete repentance and Faith in Jesus Christ to be faithful till death. Respectfully submitted, Eld. F. M. Hudson."

"Resolved, That we, the Ministers, Deacons, Clerks, and delegates, extend to Eld. Hudson a vote of thanks for his service as a minister and pray that he may be permitted to live to enjoy future sessions of this Association.

INTERMISSION

Song, "What a Friend."

Obituary Report—We, your Committee on Obituary, find that the following brothers and sisters have been called from our midst since our last Association:

New Liberty, Eld. R. A. Johnson; Walnut Grove, Sister Neomi McCalister; Mt. Home, Bro. N. E. Jennings, Sister Nervie Smith, Sister Rutha Mae North; Union Grove, Sister Maudie Loyd, Sister Dollie Haralson, Sister Clara Lillian Tylor; St. Joe, Sister Eliza Bell, wife of Eld. J. A. Venable; Slaty Crossing, Sister Donnie Garner.

May they rest in peace until we meet them in that home where parting will never come. —Committee: C. V. Kinder, J. D. Coffman, and Nannie Lowery.

As this was Memorial Service, Bro. J. D. Coffman taken the lead in the service.

Song, "Sweet Bye and Bye," directed by T. L. Tackett. Scripture lesson, 23rd Psalm, by Eld. R. G. Webb. Prayer by Eld. Dewey Kinder. Song, "Take the Name of Jesus With You," directed by Bro. T. J. Bowden.

Eld. W. S. Iebll spoke in memory of Sister Nervie Smith, Sister Retha Mae Taylor North, and Bro. R. E. Jennings. Quartet, "In the Garden." Eld. J. A. Venable spoke in memory of Sister Maudie Loyd, Sister Dollie Haralson and Sister Clara Lillian Tylor. Eld. W. F. McGee spoke in memory of Sister McAlister and Sister Venable. Eld. J. D. Coffman spoke in memory of Eld. R. A. Johnson. Quartet, "When They Ring the Golden Bells for You and Me." Song, "Lord Life Me Up."

Dismissed by Sister Carroll Rainey.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Opened with singing. Song, "Oh Won't It Be Wonderful There."

BUSINESS SESSION

Motion made and seconded that the Moderator and Clerk visit the Galla Creek Church and grant letters to its members if they desire.

The Moderator announced that it was in order for the selection of the next place of meeting, and Slaty Crossing was selected. To meet on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1944.

Eld. H. L. Burris was selected to preach the introductory sermon. Eld. Lytle Hollum as alternate.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

(1) Resolved, That it shall be the duty of those holding elections of pastors to furnish the church a list of all ordained ministers of our association that they may select therefrom.

(2) Resolved, That the table of churches be revised so as to show the Moderators of the past year and present, and that it shall show the resident or active membership, as well as the total; further, that it shall show the churches that have paid their tent money, also money paid for help in revival work, the churches having Sunday School Leagues, prayer meeting and amount sent for minutes.

(3) Resolved, That we gladly extend our heart-felt thanks to the good people of New Liberty Church and community for the warm reception, 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.

W. S. Isbell, R. E. Crouch, Euel Dixon, Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your Finance Committee, have received \$42.00 for Antioch, and \$32.00 for state.

J. J. West, Dewey Kinder, T. J. Bowden, Committee.

SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, submit the following:

We find that thirteen churches have reported in their letters that they have Sabbath School. 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 Sabbath School Leagues and Literary School. This should not be neglected in any church or community. Here let us stress the urgent need of Sunday Schools and leagues in our churches and a greater interest manifested in this work. Too often they fet the wrong training elsewhere.

Mrs. H. A. Vassour, Mrs. Eva Dover, Mrs. Ola Blair, Committee.

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 the 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.

Iva Henderson, Jess Looper, Mrs. Lois Gideon, Committee.

UNION OF CHURCHES

We, your Committee, upon investigation find that all churches are in union and fellowship.

Mrs. Julia Gideon, Chairman.

NON-REPRESENTED CHURCHES

We, your Committee, by investigation find that the following named churches are not represented: Sweet Home, Jerusalem, Cherry Hill and Shiloh.

Mrs. J. J. West, Mrs. Goldie Maxwell, Mrs. Verdell Smith, Com.

MINISTERS PRESENT AT THIS MEETING

W. F. McGee, Russellville
W. S. Isbell, Russellville, R. 4
J. A. Venable, Dumas, R. 1
J. D. Coffman, Hector
R. G. Webb, Russellville, R. 4.
C. U. Kinder, Russellville, R. 4
Dewey Kinder, Caglesville
P. E. Denton, Scarnton
NOT PRESENT
R. M. Johnson, Russellville, R. 4
A. J. Lathan, Russellville, R. 2
T. V. Johnson, Russellville, R. 4
R. B. Venable, Atkins, R. 3
John Reel, Tulsa, Okla., R. 5
F. M. Hudson, Moreland
G. M. Candy, Hector
Ellis Warren, Russellville, R. 4
Lytle Hallman, Hector

Charley Douthett, Atkins, R. 3
E. F. Flower, Russellville, R. 2
E. Henderson, Coruthersville, R. 1
R. L. Rainwater, Prairie View
Frank Harris, Russellville, R. 2
J. L. Harris, Atkins
W. A. Crouch, Hector
M. A. Thompson, Jerusalem
Dave Thompson, Jerusalem
Jack Walker, Scarnton
A. F. Banks
Edgar Alderson, Clarksville
E. L. Hill, Atkins
Clarence Tillman, England
Coy Dauthitt, Atkins, R. 3
Hershel Burris, Atkins, R. 4
W. E. Coffman, Hector
Melvin Snow, England

State Delegates were selected, as follows: Bro. T. L. Tackett, Bro. J. J. West, Bro. Roscoe Crouch, Sister Julia Gideon, Bro. Bill Finks; as Alternates: Bro. Tress Marble, Sister Walsie Tackett, Sister Ruth Taylor, Sister Olgie Wright, Bro. Ralph Whittenbrug.

The Committee on Divine Service announced that Eld. W. F. McGee bring the message at night and Eld. Dewey Kinder would follow.

Dismissed with prayer by Eld. J. D. Coffman, to meet with Slaty Crossing church in September, 1944.

ELD. W. F. McGEE, Moderator.

E. O. WRIGHT, Clerk.

The Saturday night session opened with singing, "Are You Washed in the Blood" and "Rescue the Perishing," directed by Bro. Randell Farnum. Song, "The Lilly of the Valley" and "Tell Me the Story of Jesus," directed by Lucille Rainwater. Duet, "Neath the Olive Tree," by Z. D. Lee and Lucille Rainwater. Song, "Brethren We Have Met to Worship," and "Standing On the Promises," directed by Z. D. Lee. Prayer by Bros. Farnum, J. J. West and W. S. Isbell.

Devotional Service conducted by Eld. Dewey Kinder.

Solo, "I Am Just Going Over Home," by Z. D. Lee. Song, "Rock of Ages," by congregation.

Preaching by Eld. W. F. McGee. Scripture lesson, St. Luke 4:14-20. Text, St. Luke 2:40, 52. (40) "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him." (52) "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and man.

Dismissed by Bro. Ernest Rainey.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

Called together by singing. Preaching by Eld. W. F. McGee.

REPORT OF MINISTERS

I have traveled 2,865 miles, pastored four churches, delivered 145 messages, received 10 in church, baptized 5, conducted 4 funerals and received \$373.05. W. C. McGee.

I have pastored 3 churches, delivered 125 sermons, held 3 revival meetings, helped in one more, witnessed some conversions, done some local preaching, baptized 5, received 5 into the church, traveled about 1,200 miles, received \$194.30. R. G. Webb.

I have pastored the Jerusalem Church, preached 40 discourses, conducted 14 funerals, baptized 12, received 14 into church and received \$48.00. M. A. Thompson.

I have not had any pastoral work, but I have had regular appointments at two churches, and did some other local preaching; I have attended all our quarterly meetings. C. U. Kinder.

I have pastored 4 churches, held 4 meetings, did some local preaching, attended all of our quarterly meetings and ministers'

conference, delivered 125 messagegs, conducted 5 funerals, baptized 4, received 6 members into the church and received \$332.73.

W. S. Isbell.

I have had two regular appointments, delivered 56 messages, held 2 revival meetings and assisted in 3 others, witnessed 25 conversions, baptized 13, assisted in one funeral, traveled 864 miles and received \$57.85.

J. D. Kinder.

I worked with three churches, preached 75 sermons, helped in one revival, traveled about 250 miles and received \$20.00.

James E. Warren.

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 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 proceeds 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.

Pstor—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 be moderator at all church meetings when present and exercise all rights as far as his office provide.

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 Tim. 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's Supper, and Feet Washing, conduct religious meetings, moderate church when the conference by a majority vote grants the request 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 dismissal should be made at a con-

ference 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 worshiping 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 the 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 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 punish-

ment 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 same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming of Christ. Gen. 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; 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 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 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 the 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 3:22; 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 stitution 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. 18:18; Rev. 1:4; II 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 in Hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck from his hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully 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. 10:13; Heb. 12:15-17, 6:1-6, 3:12; I 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; I 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. Philip. 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 hapiness to reign with God forever; but the wicked shal 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 shal 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 of our Union, and each church is 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.

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 the 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 churches 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 services, 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 as 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 this plan 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 the 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 clerk.
9. Appointment of the following committees: (a) Resolution; (b) Finance; (c) Divine Service; (d) Temperance; (e) Sabbath Schools; (f) Obituaries; (g) None-represented churches; (h) Union of Churches.
10. Reports of committees holding over from last Association, and other unfinished business.
11. Report of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Adjournment.

TABLE OF CHURCHES OF THE ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

[illegible]