

W. H. Webb *Sept 11, 1955* *72*

MINUTES
of the
SIXTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
Antioch Association
Of Free Will Baptists

HELD WITH KENWOOD CHURCH
CONWAY COUNTY, ARKANSAS
September 8-9-10-11, 1955

Next Session Will Be Held With
NEW LIBERTY CHURCH, LOGAN COUNTY
Beginning on Thursday Night Before the Second Sunday
in September, 1956

- ELD. ELLIS WARREN** Moderator
Russellville, Ark.
- ELD. R. G. WEBB** Assistant Moderator
Atkins, Ark.
- BRO. E. O. WRIGHT** Clerk and Treasurer
Atkins, Ark.
- SIS. PRUE JONES** Assistant Clerk
Blaine, Ark.

MINUTES OF ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

Sixty-fourth Annual Session Which Met in Regular Session
With Kenwood Church, September 8-9-10-11, 1955.

THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

Opened with singing led by Elder Dale Munkus and Eld. J. D. Coffman.

Prayer led by Eld. Loy Smith.

Song led by Bro. E. O. Wright.

Devotional Service conducted by Bro. E. O. Wright.

Prayer led by Eld. J. D. Coffman and then the clerk introduced Eld. Bobby J. Chronister, the alternate, to preach the introductory sermon. Text, I King 18:21. Proof text, Joshua 24.

Adjourned with prayer by Eld. Dale Munkus to meet at 9:30 Friday morning.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Assembled with singing led by Bro. W. W. Crow.

Opened by Moderator, Eld. R. G. Webb.

Prayer led by Eld. J. A. Venable.

Song led by Sis. Mary Ruth Wright.

Letters from the Churches of the Antioch Association were called for, read, and messengers invited to eat.

SLATY CROSSING—Sis. Mary Lou Fink, Evelyn Geurian.

ST. JOE—Bro. Bill Duvall, Sis. Alice Johnston.

UNION GROVE—Bro. Truman Hill, Bro. Grady Gipson, and Sis. Mary Ruth Wright.

OAK GROVE—Sisters Vella Biffle, Nina Warren, Cecelia Johnston.

WELCOME HOME No. 2—Sis. Lora Bell Coffman and Bro. Truman Coffman and Roy Williams.

HARMONY—Sis. Sylvia Carlile, Sibel Coffman, and Bro. L. D. Carlile.

WALNUT GROVE—Sis. Lora Ferguson.

PINE RIDGE—Sis. Jeanette and Clara Standridge.

RUSSELLVILLE—Bro. Henry Campbell, Sis. Mary Coffman.

HICKORY GROVE—Sis. Bertha Cody, Millisa Robertson and Clestia Cody.

MOUNTAIN HOME—Bro. Edward O. Chronister, Willie Hutchins, Sis. Audria Chronister.

RED OAK—By letter.

HOLMAN—Bro. Ralph and Sis. Marie Crotts.

JERUSALEM—Sis. Cora Adams, Elsie Henderson and Bro. L. G. Henderson.

DUBLIN—Bro. J. C. Burnette, Sis. Burnette, Bertha Whitby.

MORELAND — Sis. Blanche Duvall, clerk, Sis. Jauneta Stubblefield, Bro. O. J. Chronister.

NEW LIBERTY—Sis. Prue Jones, Bro. Authur Dixon and Bro. G. R. Brown.

M. VERNON—Sis. Betty Powers, Bro. Jack Powers.

MAPLE SPRINGS—Bro. Glen Latham, Sis. Violet Williams.

LITTLE ROCK—Bro. Luther Chapple, Sis. Lorine Lee.

CHERRY HILL—By letter.

PHOENIX—Bro. Odus Burris.

HECTOR—Sis. Clytie Coffman, Vada Kimbrell.

SWEET HOME—Sis. Lucille and Lorene Compton, Martha Louise Friedell.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN—By letter.

KENWOOD — Bro. Sam Foshee, Sis. Rintha Foshee, Bro. Wayne Douthit.

MORRILTON—Bro. John Creach, Sis. Artie Creach, and Sis. Jeanette Parks.

The right hand of Christian fellowship was extended.

Moderator appointed a Committee on Divine Service: Bro. Roy Williams, Luther Chapple, Joseph Hubbard, L. D. Carlile, Sam Foshee.
The committee announced Eld. Rupert Pixley to fill the stand at eleven and Eld. Lonnie Coffman concluded.

Intermission.

Assembled with singing led by Bro. Roy McCuin.

Prayer led by Bro. Lenord Crowder.

Preaching by Eld. Pixley. Scripture lesson, Eph. 1:5. Text, Col. 1:16-18.

Concluded by Eld. Lonnie Coffman.

Dismissed by Eld. Coy Douthit.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Assembled with singing led by Bro. Lester Coffman.

Scripture lesson, I John 1:5, read by Moderator, Eld. R. G. Webb.

Prayer led by Eld. Rayburn Teague.

Opened by Moderator, Eld. R. G. Webb.

Tardy letters.

New church, First Free Will Baptist Church, Morrilton.

The Association further organized by electing the following officers: Eld. Ellis Warren, Moderator; Eld. R. G. Webb, Assistant Moderator; Bro. E. O. Wright, Clerk and Treasurer by acclamation; Sis. Prue Jones, Assistant Clerk.

Honorary members: Bro. T. L. Tackett, Sis. Blanche Duvall, Sis. Mary Coffman, Sis. Mary Hopper, Sis. Lara Beard, Bro. E. W. Teague, Sis. Edith Chapple, Sis. Mary-Kinder.

Visiting ministers: Eld. Rupert Pixley, Zion Hope Assn. No. 2; Eld. Lenord Crowder, Fort Smith; Eld. Lonnie Coffman and wife of Searcy, New Hope Ass'n.; Eld. John B. Ewing, Hot Springs, Little Mo. River Ass'n.; Eld. R. A. Patrick, 1st Free Will Baptist Church, North Little Rock.

Visiting member: Bro. T. W. English.

Moderator appointed the following committees:

On Obituary—Eld. W. E. Coffman, Bro. John Burris, Sis. Cecilia Johnston.

On Finance—Bro. E. O. Wright, W. W. Crow, Sis. Lois Gideon.

On Temperance—Bro. Roy McCuin, Bro. Ralph Crotts, and Sis. Mary Ruth Wright.

Sabbath Schools—Sisters Ruby Hubbard, Mary Coffman and Billie McCoy.

On Resolutions—Eld. J. D. Kinder, Eld. W. F. McGee, Eld. Loy Smith, Eld. Bob Chronister and Eld. W. S. Isbell.

On Non-represented and Union of Churches: Eld. John Parks, Bro. Elmo McCoy and Sis. Gertie Crow.

Reading of Rules of Order by Clerk, E. O. Wright.

Motion made and carried to have Eld. Lonnie Coffman make a report on missions.

Eld. Ellis Warren was elected on the Examining Council for Ordination to fill the place of Eld. W. S. Isbell.

Motion made and carried to recess.

Reassembled with singing.

The Committee on Divine Service announced that Eld. W. E. Coffman would fill the stand that night and Eld. C. U. Kinder conclude. Eld. Rayburn Teague to conduct devotional.

Committee on Examination for Ordination and Executive: Elders T. J. Robinson, W. F. McGee, W. A. Crouch, Ellis Warren, J. D. Kinder.

Report of Resolution No. 1 adopted.

Report of Temperance was received and committee discharged.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

Dismissed by Eld. Homer Eakin.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Assembled with singing.

Prayer by Eld. J. D. Kinder.

Devotional service conducted by Eld. Rayburn Teaue.

Song, "Won't It Be Wonderful There?"

Preaching by Eld. W. E. Coffman.

Scripture lesson, Eph. 6:10-18. Text: Eph. 6:11.

Concluded by Eld. C. U. Kinder.

Dismissed by Bro. W. W. Crow.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Assembled with singing led by Clerk, Bro. E. O. Wright, and Sis. Mary Ruth Wright.

Scripture, 1st. John 1-5, read by Moderator, Eld. Ellis Warren.

Prayer by Eld. W. S. Isbell.

Tardy letters.

A good talk by Eld. John B. Ewing of Hot Springs.

Report by Eld. W. S. Isbell on Home Mission. Report accepted. Eld. Isbell re-elected.

As this was Memorial Service, the Obituary committee reported the following brothers and sisters departed this life since our last Association:

New Liberty—Sis. Hattie Dixon.

Hickory Grove—Bro. George Robinson.

Russellville—Sis. Nora Henderson.

Phoenix—Sis. W. R. Hendrix.

Harmony—Bro. Raymond Eugene Lay and Sis. Estella Pigg.

Moreland—Bro. Andrew Eakin.

Walnut Grove—Bro. M. A. Coffman.

Oak Grove—Bro. Arther Johnston.

Red Oak—Sis. Nora Stutterfield, Sis. Ola Horton, Sis. Myrtle Lewis.

Jerusalem—Bro. Hilman Reel.

Oak Grove No. 1—Sis. Ella Wade.

Holman—Bro. John S. Crotts.

Sweet Home—Sis. Bell Shumate.

Slaty Crossing—Sis. Mary Bowden.

St. Joe—Sis. Maggie Teague, Sis. L. G. Owens.

Pine Ridge—Eld. H. F. Banks.

Bro. E. O. Wright assisted the Committee.

Eld. R. G. Webb spoke in memory of Sis. Nora Sutterfield, Bro. Arthur Johnston, Bro. George Robinson, Sis. Estella Pigg, Sis. Bell Shumate and Sis. L. G. Owens.

Eld. J. D. Kinder spoke in memory of Sis. W. R. Hendrix, Sis. Hattie Dixon, Bro. M. A. Coffman, Sis. Violet Churchill.

Eld. Thomas Brashears spoke in memory of Sis. Eliza Story, Bro. Clemo Coffman and Bro. Raymond Eugene Lay.

Eld. W. S. Isbell spoke in memory of Sis. Nora Henderson and Bro. Monroe Robinson.

Eld. W. F. McGee spoke in memory of Sis. Maggie Teague.

Eld. W. A. Crouch spoke in memory of Bro. Hillman Reel.

Eld. C. U. Kinder spoke in memory of Bro. John C. Crotts and Eld. H. F. Banks.

Eld. Melvin Snow spoke in memory of Sis. Etta Wade.

Songs, "Anywhere is Home" and "Precious Memories". Handshake.

Eld. W. F. McGee ask the blessing at the noon meal Friday. Eld. Melvin Snow ask the blessing at the noon meal Saturday.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Assembled with singing led by Bro. E. O. Wright.

Scripture Lesson, 2nd Peter 3:11-18, read by Eld. Bob Sanders.

Prayer by Eld. T. V. Johnston.

Moderator declared the Association opened for business.

Report of Sabbath School received.

The Moderator declared nomination in order for home for next Association and New Liberty was selected to meet in September, 1956.

Eld. Bobby J. Chronister was selected to preach the introductory sermon and Eld. Bob Sanders, alternate.

Election of State Delegates: Sis. Prue Jones, Bro. Bill Duvall, Bro. Frank Enlishg, Sis. Jessie Robertson and Sis. Sylvia McCuin. Alternates, Sis. Imo Brashears, Bro. Jack Powers and Sis. Dovie Barnes.

The Committee on Divine Service announced that Eld. Thomas Brashears and Eld. R. G. Webb will fill the stand at night, Eld. Bob Sanders to conduct devotional service.

The letter forms were deferred until next session.

Dismissed by Bro. Bobby J. Chronister to meet with New Liberty in 1956.

SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION

Assembled with singing by different leaders at which a good song service was enjoyed. We were favored with two quartets, the junior and senior quartets from Union Grove.

Prayer by Eld. T. J. Robertson.

Song and offering of \$22.32.

Devotional service conducted by Eld. Bob Sanders.

Preaching by Eld. Thomas Brashears. Scripture Lesson, St. Matthew 3:1-12. Prayer by Eld. Thomas Brashears. Text: "The Tree and God's Ax".

Concluded by Eld. R. G. Webb.

Resolution of Thanks — Be It Resolved that We, the Officers and Delegates and Visiting Members of the Association, wish to extend the Kenwood church and community a rising vote of thanks for their kindness and hospitality shown us while in their midst. We pray God's richest blessings upon all in attendance.

Dismissed by Eld. E. L. Hill.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

After a good song service was enjoyed, the ordination service was held, united prayer at which Eld. Loy Smith, Eld. Bob Sanders and Eld. Bobby J. Chronister were ordained to the ministry to preach the gospel of the Free Will Baptist.

Message was brought by Eld. R. G. Webb. Scripture Lesson: Ephesians, 4th Chapter.. Prayer by Eld. Webb. Text: Romans 11:29.

Prayer of Consecration led by Eld. J. D. Kinder. Handshake. Collection of \$20.33 for Home Mission. Dismissed by Bro. D. L. Wright.

Eld. Ellis Warren, Moderator.

Bro. E. O. Wright, Clerk and Treasurer.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Sabbath School

We find all churches have Sunday School but one and we urge the pastor and deacons to make a special effort to organize Sunday School. We feel that churches should show more interest in our young people and give them a place to work. We recommend that all Sunday Schools use Free Will Baptist literature and to use Christians as teachers and if possible those that are best qualified.—Committee.

Resolution No. 1

Inasmuch as we do not have an "Executive Board" and whereas it is needful that there be such a board to act with authority in case of an emergency, therefore be it resolved that the "Examining Board" for ordination be also known as the "Executive Board", who shall officiate as heretofore, and be it further resolved that they, with the Moderator and Clerk, shall supervise in the organization of new churches, keeping them under observation for at least one year or until such time that they show evidence of being on sound basis. Also to act in any other matters that may come to their attention.—Committee.

Temperance

We contend that strong drink is one of our greatest evils today. Its influence leads to great crime and moral standpoint of our great standpoint of our great nation and churches. We furthermore recommend that we should be temperate in our conduct and worldly amusement. We, your Committee, recommend our influence of all churches to help stamp out all intemperance.—Committee.

Finance

We your Committee on Finance have collected from the different churches: for Anitioch, \$52.00; for state funds, \$70.00; for use of mimeograph machine, \$12.50; Collection, \$22.23. Total, \$156.73—Committee.

Non.-Rep. — Union of Churches

We find that all are represented in this Association and working in unity, except Zion Hope, Kimbrell Creek and Pleasant Grove. — Committee.

Report of Contact Man

As contact man from Home Missions I beg leave to submit the following:

We are happy to report a great improvement in this field from last year. This proves to me that our people are working up to the fact that there are many doors to opportunity standing open in this field of our denomination work.

Our records show that there has been the amount of \$509.03 given this year.—Eld. W. S. Isbell.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ and adopted the word of God as our rule of Faith and Practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this Solemn Covenant.

1. We promise by His graces to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusement and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanctions of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to provide things honest in the sight of all men.

2. We agree faithfully to discharge our obligation in reference to the study of the scriptures, secret prayer devotion and religious worship and by self denial, faith and good works endeavor to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

3. We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for Church Conference, public worship, and the observance of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the Church, of its poor and its benevolent work.

4. We agree to accept Christian admonitions and reproof with meekness and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the Church and of the Gospel.

5. We will everywhere hold Christian principals sacred and Christian obligations and enterprise supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and telling that God's will may be done in us as in Heaven.

6. To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprise, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world, and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CONSTITUTION

From 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, their wives and church clerks of our faith and order in the bounds of the Antioch Association shall be members, when present. In the event of the failure of part or all of the elected delegation to report by 1:30 p.m. Saturday that said vacancy be filled, providing some official or delegate from said church recommend others for said vacancies.

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, 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, Logan, Conway, Perry, Searcy, and Pulaski counties, the Association to have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power over churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church acting disorderly.

4. The Association shall have a moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, and assistant 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 the 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 \$10.00 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 presbytery 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 said 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 the Examining Council for Ordination.

Those who are to be ordained must—

(1) Have preached for 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 this plan of this work.

(6) This committee shall report to this body, while in session, the misconduct or disregard of any rule, 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 Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, equal in divine essence, Purpose, Power and Glory. St. John 1:1; 1 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 accepted, 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 again to gather His jewels home. Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Math. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-41.

3. HOLY SPIRIT—We believe that the Holy Spirit 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; Eph. 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 Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 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 and 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 with all their posterity, 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; Gen. 2:16-17; Rom. 11:11-35; Psalms 37:24; Rom. 5:18.

6. **REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION** — We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, and 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 into the glorified Kingdom above. Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; Heb. 1:4; St. John 3:16; Isa. 45:22.

7. **CONDITION 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 an ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ, John 3rd chapter; Matt. 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 whomsoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the gospel. I Peter: 9-13, 25; 2-9-24; Rev. 22:17.

9. **BAPTISM**—We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son and 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. Matt. 3:14-15-16; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19.

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 Savior to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sons 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 by our Lord 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. 29-29; St. John 13:1-18; Matt. 26:27, 29, 29.

11. **THE SABBATH**—We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest 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; Exodus 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matt. 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, impressed His

ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call become irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise their native gifts according to the scriptures 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; Matt. 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 able to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people. Ephes. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; I Peter 2:5; Ephes. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 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; Third John 1:10; Matt. 18-17; Acts 20:29; 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 of 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 duty, they would backslide and if persistently continued, would be eternally lost. Second Cor. 9:10; Second Peter 1:4-8; I Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy; Second Peter 1:8-9; First Cor. 10:1-31; Heb. 12:15-17; First John 5:16; Heb. 6:16; First Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32.

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; Matt. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Matt. 21:42; Ephes. 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. 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. I Cor. 6:11; II Thes. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; Sec. Thes. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; Sec. Tim. 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 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28.

19. **THE RESURRECTION** — We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of 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. Matt. 28:6; St. John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58.

20. **JUDGMENT**—We believe that there will be a general, 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 eternal happiness. II Thes. 1:4-18; Rev. 14:-13; Acts 17:31; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Math. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13.

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 Baptists 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 consecration 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.

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 be moderator at all church meetings when present and exercises 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 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. 8-13 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 letter 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 a letter, signed by the moderator and clerk. Request for letters of dismissal should be made at a conference meeting or in writing through the church clerk, stating the cause for the request.

Members dismissed, dropped, excluded or several 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 for 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 one 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 of 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.

MINISTERS DIARY

M. A. Thompson, Jerusalem.
Edgar Alderson, Clarksville.
E. L. Hill, Atkins.
Hershel Burris, Ft. Smith, R. 4.
Auvaugh Vaughn, Moreland.
G. Z. Claybourn.
W. E. Coffman, Hector, R. 1.
T. J. Robertson, Dover, R. 3.
J. E. Phillips, Oklahoma.
John Parks, Morrilton, R. 1.
Thomas Breashears,
Russellville, R. 2.
J. M. Crouch, Atkins, R. 2.
Junior Proctor, Dover.
Paul Jones, Marshall, R. 4.
Will Crouch, Atkins, R. 2.
Everett G. Farnum, Little Rock,
R. 2.
R. S. Harrison, Little Rock.
Fate Mize, Watts.
Homer Eakin, Russellville, R. 4.
R. L. McVey, Atkins, R. 2.

W. F. McGee, Lamar, R. 1.
W. S. Isbell, 605 East G. St.,
Russellville.
R. L. Taylor, Hector.
Frank Harris, Russellville, R. 2.
J. A. Venable, Dumas, R. 1.
J. D. Coffman, Hector.
R. G. Webb, Atkins.
C. U. Kinder, Russellville, R. 4.
J. D. Kinder, Russellville, Star Rt.
* P. C. Denton, Scranton.
A. J. Lathum, Russellville, R. 2.
T. V. Johnson, Russellville, R. 4.
Ellis Warren, Russellville, R. 4.
Lytle Hallum, Russellville, R. 2.
Melvin Snow, Scranton.
E. Henderson, Corruthersville, Mo.
W. A. Crouch, Hector.
Dale Mankus, Russellville.
Bob Sanders, Atkins, R. 3.
Bobby J. Chronister, Moreland.
Loy Smith, Atkins, R. 2.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded with a prayer.

2. Those who speak shall rise, address the Moderator, and personal reflection shall be avoided.

3. All motions made and seconded shall be open 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 contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.

5. Motion made and lost shall not be recorded on 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 called to order by Moderator, in his absence, the Assistant Moderator, or 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 of 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) Obituary. (g) Non-represented and Union of Churches.
10. Report of Committees appointed at last Association and other unfinished business.
11. Report of new committees.
12. New business.

[illegible]