

MINUTES
OF THE NINETY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE

Antioch Association
of Free Will Baptists

Held with Mt. Vernon
Pope County, Arkansas
August 2-4, 1990

NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH

Atkins Church
Pope County, Arkansas

BEGINNING ON THURSDAY NIGHT
BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY IN AUGUST, 1990

Jimmy Williams Moderator
Solgohachia, AR

Reece Webb Assistant Moderator
Atkins, AR

Lila Webb Clerk
Atkins, AR

Theresa Burris Assistant Clerk
Hector, AR

MINUTES OF THE ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Ninety-ninth Annual Session which met in regular session with
Mt. Vernon Free Will Baptist Church, August 2-4, 1990.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. Darwin Kelton	5	Years
Bro. Emery Crossland	4	Years
Bro. Leon Hill	3	Years
Bro. Jimmy Williams	2	Years
Bro. Jimmy Chronister	1	Year

EXAMINING COMMITTEE FOR ORDINATION

Same as Executive Board.

HOME MISSION BOARD

Bro. Robert Williams	5	Years
Bro. James (Cowboy) Henderson	4	Years
Bro. Earl Stapleton	3	Years
Bro. James Freeman	2	Years
Bro. Gary Huett	1	Year

Please note the following breakdown in the amount of fees to
be sent to the Antioch Association in 1991:

For Antioch Minutes	\$25.00
For Executive Board Expenses	\$10.00
For State and National Fees	\$35.00
TOTAL	\$70.00

THURSDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 2, 1990

Service was called to order by Moderator Bro. Jimmy Lee Chronister. Bro. Robert Williams led the congregation in singing "Tell it to Jesus." Bro. Junior Stovall then offered the opening prayer. A congregation song was led by Bro. Dewayne Helton, "Where the Soul Never Dies." Bro. Earl Stapleton Welcomed everyone to Mt. Vernon Church and to the Ninety-ninth annual session. A congregation song was led by Bro. Jim Martin, "I'll Fly Away." Bro. Darrell Robinson led for the congregation, "That Glad Reunion Day."

Specials Included Sis. Becky Williams playing "Sweet Hour of Prayer," Bro. Darwin Kelton singing, "How Great Thou Art," and Bro. Robert and Sis. Melba Williams singing, "What a Day That Will Be" and "Prayer Changes Things." Altar prayer was led by Bro. Leon Hill. The Devotional Service was led by Bro. Bill Duvall. The

moderator introduced Rev. Herb Tilly for the message. The message was brought from St. Luke 5:17-24 on "Soul Winning." A good message was brought by Bro. Tilly. The service was then turned back to the moderator and the service was dismissed in prayer by Bro. Bill Williams until 9:30 Friday morning.

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 3, 1990

The Ninety-Ninth session of the Antioch Association was called to order by the moderator Bro. Jimmy Lee Chronister. The moderator announced that this was the ninety-ninth session of the Antioch Association.

The "Rules of Order" were read by the assistant moderator, Jimmy Williams. Bro. Jimmy Williams led a congregation song, "I Feel Like Traveling On." The opening prayer was led by Bro. Earl Stapleton. Motion was read, and the delegates representing the churches were as follows:

ANTIOCH — None present
ATKINS FIRST — Sis. Retha Travis, Sis. Lillian Pearce
BEN HUR — Sis. Marsha Willis, Bro. John Collins
CENTERVILLE — Sis. Joyce Robinson, Sis. Helen Wells, Sis. Gwen Mans
CHERRY HILL — Sis. Jova Bird
CLARKSVILLE — By letter
DUBLIN — None present
FAITH — Bro. Clifford West, Bro. Buddy Allen
HECTOR — Bro. Donald Brown
HOLMAN — None present
JOHNSON — None present
KILGORE — Sis. Annette Crowder, Sis. Jerri Spires, Bro. Ricky Spires
MAPLE SPRINGS — None present
MORELAND — By letter
MORRILTON FIRST — None present
MT. VERNON — Sis. Naomi Matchett, Bro. Don Burris, Sis. Syble Chronister
PHOENIX — None present
PINE RIDGE — Sis. Ruby Rondinone, Bro. Richard Rodinone
SLATY CROSSING — Sis. Rhonda Reece, Bro. Robert Williams, Sis. Melba Williams
SMITH SPRINGS — Bro. Bob Renfrow, Sis. Leigh Sigler
SOUTH MOUNTAIN — None present
ST. JOE — Bro. John Manning, Sis. Edith Manning, Sis. Ann Virden
SWEET HOME — By Letter
WAYTON — None present

Bro. Darwin Kelton led the congregation in singing "Victory In Jesus" while the delegates were seated by the right hand of fellowship.

Bro. Jimmy Chronister informed us that Bro. Emery Crossland would not be able to bring the message and Bro. Leon Hill would be the speaker.

The following committees were appointed by the moderator and assistant moderator:

PULPIT: Bro. Author Harrell, Sis. Rhonda Reece, Sis. Syble Freeman

RESOLUTION — Bro. Leon Hill, Bro. Richard Rondinone, Bro. Earl Stapleton

TEMPERANCE — Bro. Bob Renfro, Bro. Donald Brown, Bro. Ricky Spires

NON-REPRESENTED & UNION OF CHURCHES — Bro. Don Burris, Bro. Darwin Kelton, Bro. Herb Tilly

OBITUARY — Sis. Melba Williams, Sis. Mary Ruth Wright, Sis. Betty Tilly

FINANCE — Bro. T. A. Miller, Bro. James Freeman, Bro. Robert Williams

The following officers were elected for the new church year:

Clerk/Treasurer Sis. Lila Webb

Assistant Clerk Sis. Theresa Burris

Sis. Lila Webb gave the report from the Associational Revival.

Letter read from Slaty Crossing requesting Bro. Robert Williams be ordained as a minister. Letter read from Bro. George E. Hanna requesting his name be dropped from our Minister's Diary.

Bro. Jimmy Chronister dismissed us for a ten minute break.

Our moderator called the service to order by leading the congregation in singing "When We All Get To Heaven." Other congregation songs were led by: Bro. Clifford West, "Power In the Blood," Bro. Jimmy Williams, "He Whispers Sweet Peace to Me," Bro. Don Burris, "The Uncloudy Day," and Bro. Jerry Burris, "Amazing Grace."

Special singing included Bro. Jerry, Sis. Theresa and Bro. Jeffery Burris singing "John 3:16," Bro. Johnny and Sis. Mary McCoy singing "To Near the Crown," Bro. Darwin Kelton singing "I Am Gonna Go All the Way," Bro. Jimmy Williams and Sis. Rose Miller singing "Power in Prayer," Sis. Rhonda Reece singing "That Same Spirit" and "Beautiful Butterfly."

Altar prayer by preachers and deacons was led by Bro. Johnny McCoy. Moderator then turned the service over to Bro. Leon Hill for the message. The text was taken from Genesis 3:1-6, "Satan is Deceiving." Sis. Mary Ann Chronister led "Just As I Am" for invitation. Service was turned back to the moderator. Service was dismissed and blessing asked on the meal by Bro. Reece Webb.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON 1:00 p.m.

Moderator Bro. Jimmy Lee Chronister called the service to order by asking Bro. Jerry Burris to lead the congregation in singing "Heaven's Jubilee." Prayer was led by Bro. Kenneth Crow.

The Pulpit Committee gave it's report: Bro. Darwin Kelton would bring the evening message and Bro. Reece Webb would lead the devotional.

The Executive Board reported that they met with Bro. Freddy Goates and recommended him to be ordained when his year was up. Motion made and seconded to accept the boards recommendation.

Reported that a letter of recommendation was sent to Bro. Alvie Burris.

Reported a letter from Bro. Johnny McCoy requesting a letter of recommendation in to another association.

A Resolution was turned in and read suggesting that we have the Associational Revival at Atkins First Free Will Baptist Church, on an indefinite basis. Subject was open for discussion, then motion made and seconded to accept this motion.

A standing vote of thanks was given to Bro. Johnny and Sis. Mary McCoy for their support of the association.

The body voted to go to Atkins First Free Will Baptist Church for the 1991 Annual Session.

State delegates were then elected as follows:

Sis. Lois Robinson
Sis. Naomi Matchett
Sis. Betty Tilly
Sis. Helen Wells
Sis. Mary Ann Chronister

Bro. Jimmy Williams read the C.T.S. report. The next meeting will be September 15 at Slaty Crossing Free Will Baptist Church. He spoke of the youth day, which 60 people attended. He recommended that a new Youth Committee of six members, three older and three younger, be set up. He asked us to encourage our young people. Motion made and seconded to appoint a Youth Committee with two coming off each year. The Youth Committee was then elected as follows:

Bro. Robert Williams	3 Years
Bro. Jimmy Williams	3 Years
Bro. Jerry Burris	2 Years
Bro. Charles Harrell	2 Years
Sis. Amanda Helton	1 Year
Sis. Rhonda Reece	1 Year

Bro. Darwin Kelton was elected to the 5-Year position on the Executive Board. Bro. Jimmy Chronister was elected to fulfill Bro. Johnny McCoy's unexpired term on the Executive Board.

Bro. Robert Williams was elected to the 5-year position on the Home Missions Board. Bro. James Freeman was elected to fulfill Bro. Alvie Burris' unexpired term on the Home Missions Board.

Sis. Lila Webb reported on the Home Missions Fund.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Eugene Hayward until 7:30 Friday night.

FRIDAY NIGHT, 7:30 p.m.

The moderator called the service to order. He recognized Bro. Darwin Kelton's son, Mark Kelton, from Springdale. Bro. Jerry Burris led the congregation in singing "I Want to Know More About My Lord." Bro. Dewayne Helton led the congregation in prayer. Bro. Don Burris led the congregation in singing "Oh How I Love Jesus," Sis. Sharon Lusk led "King of King," and "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be."

Specials included Sis. Becky Williams singing "Lord I Want to Be A Blessing," Bro. Jerry, Sis. Theresa and Bro. Jeffery Burris singing "Tell A Bible Story," Sis. Natalie Layman singing "Keep Walking," Bro. Darwin Kelton singing "Anybody Here Want to Live Forever," the Johnson Family singing "Lights of Home," Bro. Dewayne and Sis. Evelyn Helton and Bro. Earl and Sis. Sharon Lusk singing "Somebody Loves Me," Sis. Vickie Chronister and Sis. Rhonda Reece singing "I Got My Mind Made Up" and "He Broke the Chains." Altar prayer was led by Bro. Jim Martin.

The Devotional was led by Bro. Reece Webb. Service turned to moderator, who introduced Bro. Darwin Kelton for the message. Scriptures for the message were 2nd Peter 2:4-6, 9,10 and 21. Service was turned back to the moderator. Several revivals were announced. We were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Herb Tilly until 10 a.m.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4, 1990

Moderator called the service to order. Bro. Jimmy Williams led the congregation in singing "When the Roll is Called." Opening prayer was led by Bro. Earl Stapleton. Bro. Robert Williams led "Just Over In the Gloryland." Bro. Don Burris led "I'm Redeemed." Bro. Clifford West led "Heaven's Jubilee." Bro. Jim Martin led "Amazing Grace."

The moderator recognized Bro. Dolan Burris as a deacon of Mt. Vernon Free Will Baptist Church, for about 50 years.

Specials included Bro. Jeffery Burris singing "That Little Cabin," Sis. Becky Williams, "I Want to Be A Blessing," and the Johnson Family singing "God's Family."

The following is a list of members who passed away and the ministers who spoke in memory of them:

Bro. Bobby Joe Chronister spoke in memory of Sis. Jessie Garrigus and Bro. Joe Standridge.

Bro. Bob Alexander spoke in memory of Bro. Charlie Hubbard and Bro. Dolan Johnson.

Bro. Taft Standridge spoke in memory of Bro. Ike Brewer.

Bro. Jimmy Lee Chronister spoke in memory of Sis. Cynthia Carter and Sis. Gertie Chronister.

Bro. Leon Hill spoke in memory of Bro. Alfred Stracner.

Bro. Denver Robinson spoke in memory of Sis. Lucy Geurian.

Bro. Herb Tilly spoke in memory of Bro. Verter Taylor. Sis. Irene Daniels and Sis. Selma Voss.

Bro. Bill Williams spoke in memory of Bro. Roy Hallum and Bro. Chester Bowden.

Bro. Emery Crossland spoke in memory of Dellar Farnarn.

Service was given back to the moderator. Altar call was given by Bro. Jimmy Chronister.

Letter read from Phoenix Free Will Baptist Church requesting Bro. Jerry Tanner meet with the Executive Board.

Dismissed in prayer and blessing asked on the meal by Bro. Bob Alexander until 1:00 p.m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, 1:00 p.m.

Moderator called the service to order. Bro. Don Burris led the congregation in singing "What a Day That Will Be." Opening prayer was led by Bro. Bonner Tyler. Executive report was given recommending we accept Bro. Jerry Tanner pending a letter from the Arkansas Association. They recommended that Bro. Robert Williams be ordained pending the end of his year, in November.

Executive Board recommended meeting with George Hanna before making a decision about his letter.

The various committee reports were read and accepted. They are as follows:

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE: We, the committee on temperance had no report of any violation by members concerning temperance. Therefore; we wish to refer to II Peter 1:5-7 as our continued reminder of God's word concerning temperance. "And besides this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue: and to temperance, patience: and to patience godliness: and to godliness brotherly kindness: and to brotherly kindness charity."

SUNDAY SCHOOL: We, the Sunday School board encourages each church to push Sunday School and to make additional classes by narrowing the age differences. We have full participation in Sunday School by all churches in the Association. II Timothy 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

FINANCE COMMITTEE: We, the committee on finance find all

24 churches sent \$70.00 making a total of \$1,680.00. Previous balance of \$221.17 brought forward making a grand total of \$1,901.17.

PAID OUT:

Mt. Vernon	\$200.00
Executive Board	240.00
State	840.00
Clerk	150.00
Assistant Clerk	75.00
Minutes	410.80

Total \$1,915.80

Which leaves the Association lacking \$14.63.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE: This committee has found that fifteen (15) saints have departed from this walk of life. "Our Lost is Heaven's Gain."

NON REPRESENTED AND UNION OF CHURCHES: All churches in the Antioch Association were represented either by letter or delegates.

Finance committee reported about funds being short. Motion made and seconded to take up a love offering. The body voted and approved to do this. The love offering was \$138.01.

The committee for the Associational Revival is Bro. Emery Crossland, Bro. Jim Martin, Bro. Don Burris, Sis. Mary Ruth Wright, and Sis. Vivian Hill.

The body then elected Bro. Bobby Chronister to speak at Thursday night service of our 1991 session, with Bro. Herb Tilly as his alternate.

Bro. Jimmy Lee Chronister was elected for the 11:00 message on Friday, with Bro. Bill Williams as his alternate.

The moderator and assistant moderator were then selected as follows:

Moderator	Bro. Jimmy Williams
Assistant Moderator	Bro. Reece Webb

A standing vote of thanks was given to the host church and also to our moderator, Bro. Jimmy Lee Chronister.

Motion made and seconded that the Executive Board and their wives work on something special for the 100th Birthday of the Antioch Association. They will report at the next Quarterly Conference.

The delegates then heard the reading of the Minister's Diary and made corrections.

The body was dismissed in prayer by Bro. Robert Williams.

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 the Solemn Covenant.

1. We promise by His grace 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 Savior 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, to promote the success of the Church and of the Gospel.

5. We will everywhere hold Christian principles 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 toiling 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 School and evangelistic effort of 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 reunion and a communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence and 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 recommended others for said vacancies.

2. Letters from the different churches shall be prepared, read to and approved by each church conferences 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 Baptists, being composed of the churches of parts of Pope, Johnson, Yell, Logan, Conway, Perry, Searcy, Pulaski and Newton counties, the Association to have no power to lord it over God's heritage nor to have an 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 treasurer and assistant clerk to be chosen by the suffrage of members present. No elected officer may succeed himself with the exception of the clerk and treasurer and assistant clerk. No person may serve on more than one board of the Association and a committee or an office at the same time.

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

6. Every motion made and seconded shall become under the consideration of the Association at the same time; but he may, however, serve on a board and a committee or an office at the same time.

7. The Association shall have a fund for its support and obligations which shall be supplied by fees from the different churches. The money shall be deposited into the hands of the Associational Clerk-Treasurer and he shall be accountable to the Association for all money received by him until it is paid out as directed by the Association. The current fee to be sent with the church letter to the Association is \$70.00 which shall be broken down as follows:

A. \$25.00 of each church's fee is to go to the Antioch Association fund for minutes and expenses of the Association.

B. \$10.00 of each church's fee is to go the Executive Board for expenses which they incur as a board.

C. \$35.00 of each church's fee is to be sent to the State

Church	Moderator This Year	Moderator Last Year	Clerk and Address	MEMBERS RECEIVED	MEMBERS DISMISSED	MEMBERS DIED	ACTIVE MEMBERS	TOTAL MEMBERS	SUNDAY SCHOOL	MINUTE FUND	PAID PASTOR	DAYS OF MEETING
Antioch	Freddy Goates	Bob Rackley	Sue Moore, Rt. 1 Box 35, Russellville, AR 72801				34	40	25	70	2,290.00	FT
Atkins 1st	Darwin Kelton	Darwin Kelton	Mary Ruth Wright, Rt. 1 Box 30, Atkins, AR 72823		4		32	51	35	70	11,960.00	FT
Ben Hur	Leon Garrison	Leon Garrison	Carolyn Cooper, HCR 30, Box 130A Pelsor, AR 72856			1	23	47	22	70	1,800.00	FT
Centerville	Bob Chronister	Bob Chronister	Phyllis Welle, Rt. 1 Box 140, Dardanelle, AR 72834	1	2	1	16	28	27	70	3,160.00	FT
Cherry Hill	James Williams	James Williams	Shelby Bull, Rt. 1 Box 122, Perryville, AR 72126				56	156	25	70	4,007.45	FT
Clarksville	Joey Hanna	Joey Hanna	Gloria Mason, Rt. 2 Box 220, Lamar, AR 72846	2		2	17	44	23	70	3,155.00	FT
Dublin	Herbert Tilly	Gilbert Pixley	Ava Snow, Rt. 1 Box 294C, Scranton, AR 72863		2		25	55	35	70	300.00	FT
Faith	Emery Crossland	Emery Crossland	Jewel Crawford, 8319 Wooten Rd., N. Little Rock, AR 72117	11	10	1	36	72	38	70	6,400.00	FT
Hector	Reece Webb	Reece Webb	Pearl Gregory, Rt. 1 Box 43, Hector, AR 72843	2		1	40	100	50	70	7,800.00	FT
Holman		Owen Jones	Jeanette Wright, P.O. Box 353, Lamar, AR 72846		1	1	39	78	28	70	4,320.00	FT
Johnson	Jimmy Chronister	Johnny McCoy	Betty Stovall, Rt. 1 Box 251, Scranton, AR 72863	7	2			43	30	70	6,700.00	FT
Kilgore		Herb Tilly		2	2		12	29	30	70	4,290.00	FT
Maple Springs	Bill Williams	Gary Huett	Billie Evants, Rt. 2 Box 438, Russellville, AR 72801			1	18	42	25	70	6,118.00	FT
Moreland			Dana Hudson, Rt. 4 Box 571, Russellville, AR 72801				23	53	23	70	1,500.00	FT
Morrilton 1st	Robert Williams	James Freeman	Evelyn Singleton, 816 E. Burrow, Morrilton, AR 72110			1	30	67	33	70	2,600.00	FT
Mt. Vernon	Earl Stapleton	Earl Stapleton	Evelyn Helton, Rt. 4 Box 411, Russellville, AR 72801	8	2	1	55	113	53	70	8,200.00	FT
Phoenix	Jerry Tanner		Ollie English, Rt. 2 Box 208, Russellville, Ar 72801	3		1	24	51	28	70	4,499.00	FT
Pine Ridge	Glendon Garrison	Glendon Garrison	Hazel King, Rt. 1 Box 495, Atkins, AR 72823			1	23	96	23	70	3,530.00	FT
Slaty Crossing		Jimmy Chronister	Blenda Adaire, Rt. 1, Dardanelle, AR 72834	4	1	1	45	107	47	70	8,175.00	FT
Smith Springs	Leon Hill	Leon Hill	Margaret Sigler, P.O. Box 84, Plummerville, AR	5		1	55	94	45	70	5,200.00	FT
South Mtn.	Kenny McDaniel	Kenny McDaniel	Darlene Kelly, Rt. Box 335, Marshall, AR		1		19	40	25	70	1,215.00	FT
St. Joe	Bobby Wells	Bill Williams	Virginia Virden, 160 N. Church, Atkins, AR 72823		5		50	136	20	70	6,375.00	FT
Sweet Home		Healy Reeves		3			16	50	20	70	1,650.00	FT
Wayton	Tony Taylor	Tony Taylor	Lettie Taylor, HCR 31 Box 606, Deer, AR 72638	2	2	2	15	65	25	70		FT

Office to pay the Association's fees to the State Association and the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

8. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes, and that we pay our clerk \$150.00 for his services and urge that the minutes be printed and mailed within 60 days after the Association. Any church hosting the Association shall be paid by the clerk \$200.00 to help defray the cost of hosting the Annual Association.

9. The Association shall have a fund for its 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 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.

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

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

12. This Association shall have the right to discipline its ministers concerning the following.

A. Should a minister take his letter from a church in this Association and neglect or refuse to place it in some other church in this Association 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 minister after such time.

B. Any minister in good standing in the Association desiring to pastor a church outside of this Association will be granted upon request a letter of recommendation within a year from his leaving this association.

C. Any disciplined minister who wishes to be reinstated must be united with some church in this association; have an endorsement from that church; and receive an endorsement from the examining committee. At such time the clerk shall be authorized to restore said credentials.

D. This Association will not consider for ordination or accept into the Association any minister who is divorced and remarried or any minister who is married to a woman who is divorced and remarried. We believe this is in keeping with I Timothy 3:3-12 and Titus 1:6.

E. When the need arises for a minister to be disciplined, the church of which he is a member shall be responsible along with the Executive Board of the Association.

13. 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 —

A. Have preached at least one year in the bounds of the Association.

B. Must be set apart and have an endorsement for obligation by the church of which they are a member.

C. Must have the endorsement of the Ordaining Council, or majority of a legally called meeting of the Council.

D. Lack of endorsement by either of the above authorities will hold up an ordination.

E. No one can serve on the committee unless he fully believes in this plan of work.

F. 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 Association; the said party shall be dealt with accordingly.

G. Any minister coming into the Association to pastor a church of the Association is required to come before the Examining Committee. It shall be the duty of the churches to comply with this resolution. A church knowingly calling a man to pastor in the Association, that does not meet the qualifications, will be set aside until it gets its house in order.

14. 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; I Cor. 8:6; I John 5:7; St. John 10:30)

2. CHRIST — We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of the creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to his 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 and on 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. (Isalah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 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 His coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up His office work among all nations of people as a Divine Reprover, Comforter, and Guide. (Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isalah 63:10-12; Eph. 4:30; Acts 8:17-20)

4. THE BIBLE — We believe the Bible, King James version, 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 by law of God, fell with their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave 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. 5:15)

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 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 year 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 glory 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. (St. John 3; 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 invited all; the Holy Spirit strives with all and whosoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the gospel. (I Peter 1:13-25, 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, the Holy Spirit, in which is represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have been ordained are qualified to administer the same (Matt. 3:14-16; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt 28:19)

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING — We believe the Lord's Supper and the washing of feet are ordinances for the gospel of Christ, the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Savior to commemorate His broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world, and to show our redemption 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 22:19-29; I Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-13; Matt. 26:26-29)

11. THE LORD'S DAY — We believe that the Lord's Day (Sunday) should be observed as a day of rest for worship of God; 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 13:42-43; Mark 2:27; I Cor. 16:1-2; Rev. 1:10)

12. CALL TO MINISTRY — We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power and grace, impressed 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 scriptures with a full reliance upon Him. He accompanied 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. (Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; I Peter 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 10:18)

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 16:16; III John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Rev. 1:4-11, 20)

15. PERSERVERANCE — We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace and in knowledge of the truth and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in Hell (or in his eternal abode) aren't 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. 10:1-31; Heb. 12:15-17; I John 5:16; Heb. 6:16; I 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; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5)

17. SANCTIFICATION — Sanctification is the work of God's grace by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in the generation. 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; I Thes. 5:9-23; St. John 17:17-29; II Tim. 2:20-21)

18. THE SOUL — We believe that 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. JUDGEMENT — We believe that there will be a general universal judgement when all men shall be judged according to their works whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter the everlasting punishment and the righteous into eternal happiness. (II Thes. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:31; Acts 17:31; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 6:10; Matt 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 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 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.

Pastor — The pastor is to be elected by a majority vote of members present at a regular or stated meeting. He is to be moderator at 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 annually. 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. I Tim. 3:8-13 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 committee of three ordained, 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 their letter only when in good standing with the church; and they 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. Requests 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 severed in any other way of the church, it should be legal and just cause and done in church conference by a majority vote of members present at a regular meeting.

A 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 the 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.

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 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 of 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 in the minutes, unless so ordered at the time.
6. No one shall speak more than once on the same subject without 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 Associations, 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 clerk & assistant clerk.
8. Reading of rules of order by the chair or clerk.
9. Appointment of the following committees: (a) Resolution (b) Finance; (c) Pulpit; (d) Temperance; (e) Sunday School; (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
13. Election of Moderator & Assistant Moderator for next church year.
14. Adjournment.

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