

MINUTES
OF THE
FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
FREEWILL BAPTIST
ARKANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH
Walnut Grove Church, Pope County
BEGINNING OCTOBER 2, 1940

THE NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD AT
Allen's Chapel, Independence County
BEGINING ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT
BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, 1941

OFFICERS

ELD. RALPH STATEN, Pocahontas, Ark......**Moderator**
ELD. W. A. HEARRON.....**Moderator Emeritus**
W. F. McGEE, Russellville, Ark......**Assistant Moderator**
J. W. COFFMAN, Dover, Ark......**Clerk**
L. I. SHELTON, Rye, Ark......**Corresponding Clerk**

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. F. M. Hudson, Eld C. W. Million, Eld. L. C. Doyle

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Eld. W. A. Hearron, Moderator, called the house to order. Singing was in charge of Bro. J. W. Coffman and Bro. Roy Smith. League officers were introduced by the Moderator. Sermon by Eld Charles Staten, followed by Eld. Ira Gates.

THURSDAY MORNING

Devotional by Beatrice Smith. Prayer by Sister I. J. Brooks. Singing by Bro. J. W. Coffman. Special number by Sharum Quartet. Approved Stewardship by Abraham Sutton (a substitute). Rejected Stewardship by Eld. Isabell. Sermon by Eld. Scott of Missouri. Dismissed for noon.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Stewardship of Services by Elsie Lawless. Tithing by Eld. Hearron (a substitute). Defense of the Truth by Eld. Ralph Staten. Special number by Holdman Quartet. Stewardship of Possession by Eld. Roy Smith.

BUSINESS SESSION

1. Election of Officers: President, Eld. Charles Staten, Pocahontas; Vice-President, Clara Hearron, New Hope; Secretary, Elsie Lawless, Glenwood; Treasurer, Beulah Staten, Pocahontas.

2. Constitution Adopted.

3. The president was given power to nominate a program committee for the Annual State League Program. Sister W. A. Hearron, New Hope, is Chairman of the committee.

4. Each District Association is to send in a program to the program committee:

5. Treasurer's Report:

League and Association	Amount
Partle—Social Band	\$1.00
New Covenant—Social Band	1.00
Sharum—Social Band	1.00
Sugar Tree Grove—Social Band	1.00
Mt. Home—Antioch	1.00
Glenwood—Little Missouri River	1.00
New Hope—Little Missouri River	1.00
Total	<u>\$7.00</u>

6. Adjournment.

Preaching Wednesday night by Eld. Charles Staten. Text 1 Cor. 2:14. The Moderator appointed J. J. West, Charley Crouch, and H. W. Coffman on Divine Service. Dismissed by Eld. W. A. Crouch.

Thursday night service was called together by singing. Introductory sermon preached by Eld W. A. Hearron. Prayer by Eld. Ralph Staten.

Friday morning session was called to order by Moderator Eld. W. A. Hearron. Scripture lesson read by Eld. Rolph Staten, 12th chapter Romans. Prayer by Eld. Carl Davis. The roll of Associational callers called for. The following were presented and their delegates given the right hand of fellowship:

Antioch Delegates—J. J. West, Vandell Voss, Dewey Morris, W. D. Bird, Ollie Robertson.

Old Mt. Zion Delegates—Horace Knox, W. H. Knox, Sister W. H. Knox.

Big Spring Delegates—Sister Martha and Ocie Davis.

Social Band Delegates—Gene Davis, Sister Kate Sutton, Ham Sutton, Beulah Faye Hopper.

New Hope Delegates—Sister Ethel Wilson, T. B. Tucker, Eliza Hankins, Sister Ruth Tucker.

Little Missouri River Delegates—Sister I. J. Brooks, Sister W. A. Hearron, Sister Beatrice Smith, Elsie Lawless.

Polk Bayou Delegates—Horace Doyle, Carthright, G. E. Richardson, Josie Kin, Ethel Hoyle.

Salene Delegates—J. E. McMahon and Sister McMahon, L. J. Shelton.

The Committees appointed were:

Resolution Committee—J. E. McMahon, Wayne Tucker, W. S. Isbell.

Temperance Committee—John L. Reel, A. N. Best, Roy Smith.

Committee on Finance—Sis. C. E. Wilson, Sis. W. H. Knox, Bro. J. H. Meeks.

Committee on Obituary—Sister Ocie Davis, Sister J. J. Brooks, Bro. J. B. Tucker.

Report of Committee on Divine Service for 11 o'clock service—Bro. Clarence Ussury, Bro. Horrace Knox.

Called together by singing. Song, "Victory in Jesus," led by Ralph Staten. Song by Bro. Johnny Teel. Scripture lesson read by Bro. Ussury, St. Luke, 23rd chapter from 1:14. Prayer by Bro. Knox.

Visiting Ministers—Bro. Clarence Ussery, Missouri; Bro. Geo. W. Scott, Missouri; Bro. O. L. Allen, Missouri; Bro. Claud Smith, Missouri; Bro. Oliver Litterman, Missouri; Eld. and Sister T. H. Dixon, Oklahoma; Bro. P. M. Voss, Oklahoma.

Motion made and carried to seat the delegates of the Union Association as Advisery members, also Bro. Kinslow of the C. P. Church.

Election of officers for the coming year—Rev. Rolph Staten was elected Moderator; Rev. W. F. McGee, Assistant Moderator; Bro. J. W. Coffman, Clerk; Bro. E. O. Wright, Assistant Clerk; Bro. I. J. Shelton, Corresponding Clerk and Treasurer by acclamation.

Saturday morning session opened with singing, leaders E. B. Teal and Glen Smith. Scripture lesson, St. John, 10th chapter, by Bro. H. A. Lewis. Prayer by Bro. Louis Davis.

Moderator called for report of committee on Non-Represented Associations. Motion to recess for committee work. Singing by the following leaders, Rev. Louis Doyle, Bro. I. L. Tackett, Bro. O. S. Saurie, Rev. John Reel.

Report of Non-Represented Associations received. Report of Sunday School Committee received. Report of Ministerial Committee received. Report of Statistical Committee received. Report of Finance Committee received.

Saturday, 11 o'clock service was called together with singing led by Sister Ora Hopson and Eld. John Reel. Prayer by Eld. J. H. Hartsel. Song by Bro. Bobby Teel. Preaching by Eld. Ralph Staten. Scripture reading, Psalms, 26th chapter, 6:7 Hebrews, Job 10:9, Deut. Text, Psalms 89:47, this being the memorial service.

The Obituary of our State was read. After a real good sermon call for song, "Farther Alone," and hand shake. Dismissed by Eld. R. D. Harrington.

Saturday afternoon service was called together by singing led by Bro. R. M. Smith. Prayer by Eld. Wayne Tucker. Report of Committees called for. Report on Publication received and accepted. Report on Doctrine and Harmony read and received. Report on Temperance received.

The Committee on Divine Service announced that: Eld. J. D. Coffman take the Devotional service and Eld. T. H. Dixon fill the stand at night. Motion and second to include the League work in the printing of the Minutes of the State. Moderator declared nomination in order for one to preach the Memorial and Eld. C. E. Wilson was chosen to preach the memorial sermon. Eld. L. C. Doyle elected to preach the introductory sermon.

Report of Auditing Committee received. Report of Finance Committee received. By request, Ministry badges be sent to our aged ministers of our Association. Report of Corresponding Clerk received and accepted. Quartet by Sharum church. Trio led by St. Joe church. The Committee on Divine Service announced that Sister C. E. Wilson conduct devotional service and Eld. L. C. Doyle to fill the stand at night. After the announcement a round table talk. Singing by Sharum quartet. Piano solo by Bro. Everett North. Motion to adjourn for recess to meet at 7:30 for service.

Friday night service was called together by singing song, "Take Me Along," by Eld. Ralph Staten. Song, "I Want To Go To Heaven," by Bro. T. L. Tackett. "We Shall Arise," by Bro. Teel, and "Let Jesus Lead," "Gona Rise Up and Shine," by Bro. Andrew Wright. Special number, "Jacob's Ladder," by Eld J. D. Coffman and wife. "Heaven Now In View," by Bro. O. S. Saurie. Duet by Sister Mamie and Sister Clitie Coffman. The songs "Tomorrow May Mean Good Bye," "I Know My Lord's Gonna Lead Me Out" by Bro. J. W. Coffman. "I Will Work With Jesus," by Eugene Smith. Prayer by Eld. L. C. Doyle. Devotional service conducted by Eld. J. D. Coffman. Scripture lesson, Psalms 23rd chapter, after a good testimonial service. Moderator called for song, "When I Can Read My Title Clear." After song, Moderator made a short talk. Eld. T. H. Dixon took the stand. Scripture lesson, Psalms 55th chapter. Subject, "Sinners Right to Pray," after a real good sermon Moderator took stand. Dismissed by Eld. Ira Gates.

Preaching Saturday night was opened with singing by different leaders. After singing Sister C. E. Wilson took the devotional service. After a real good testimony service Eld. L. C. Doyle took the stand quoting the scripture,

"We Are No More Strangers." Subject, "Free Will Baptist." This was a wonderful service with much rejoicing. Dismissed by Eld. W. F. McGee.

Sunday morning service was opened with singing. Leaders, J. W. Coffman, Hobart Voss, N. H. Jones, Lester Coffman, Joyce Marble, Chitz Coffman. After song service Eld. W. A. Crouch took the service in charge. Preaching by Eld. C. E. Wilson and Eld. Delbert Davis. Scripture lesson, 2nd chapter of Timothy. Prayer by Eld. Wilson. Text, 2 Timothy, 2nd chapter, 4th verse. After a real good sermon call for song and hand shake. Eld. T. H. Dixon made a talk of praise to ministers of our faith, also to the freedom of our church. Eld. Crouch also made a short talk. Bro. J. W. Coffman made the closing remarks. Dismissed by Eld. Carl Davis.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

We, the Committee on Non-Represented Associations not represented by letter or delegates. Arkansas only by ministers. Rich Mountain, Tyronza.

We do hereby recommend that those Associations which do not represent themselves by letter or delegate within two years time be dropped from our State Association list until they do report by letter or delegate.

M. G. King, chairman of committee.

Report of Committee on Obituary—We the Committee on Obituary, find thirty-two (32) of our Brothers and Sisters have departed this life since our last Association. We miss them in our gatherings, but our loss is Heaven's gain.

J. B. Tucker, chairman of committee.

We, the Publication Committee, recommend that we Free Will Baptists of Arkansas indorse and cooperation with the publication of one of our denominational papers, also we recommend that we put forth a greater effort to establish a paper in our state.

Sister, W. A. Hearron, Eld. John Riggs, Eld. Charles Staten,
Committee on Publications.

Report of Committee on Doctrine and Harmony—We, your Committee on Doctrine and Harmony, beg leave to submit the following as a request to our Brethren through this body. In order to preserve harmony among our Brethren, we request our brethren not to meet each other in open or joint discussion.

F. M. Hudson, W. A. Hearron, L. C. Doyle.

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report: firm for temperance in every way, putting on the whole armour of God, with the great evil of intoxicating drink, we urge every child of God to stand firm for temperance in every way, putting on the whole armor of God, with fear and trembling and put up a stronger fight against this great evil. Therefore, we urge our pastors, evangelists, teachers, and religious leaders to set by practice and example, temperance in all things. Christians stop and think, vote and elect God-fearing men to our various offices.

Eld. John Reel, chairman of committee.

Report of Sunday School Committee—We, the Sunday School Committee, give the following report: We find by investigation there are 84 Sunday schools with 76 using Free Will Baptist literature. We recommend that each pastor and all interested in Free Will Baptist cause demand and use his influence in getting Free Will Baptist Literature in all our Sunday schools.

Eugene Davis, chairman of committee.

Finance Committee—We, your Finance Committee, submit the following report. We received from the different Associations this amount:

Antioch	\$11.00
Old Mt. Zion	5.00
Polk Bayou	10.00
New Hope	12.00
Social Band	10.00
Total	<hr/> \$48.00

We received \$1.17 public collection for Minutes fund. \$48.50 which is \$24.25 goes to this church for the expense of this meeting. The other amount which is \$25.42, for the printing of Minutes.

Sister C. E. Wilson, chairman of committee.

Auditing Committee—We, your Committee on Auditing, find this 6th day of October, that there is \$32.30 in the treasury. \$2.25 is to be taken out of this amount to be paid into this local church for the support of this Association. \$30.05 is to go for minutes fund. For this report we, your committee wish to compliment the work of our Corresponding Clerk.

O. D. Presley, H. M. Knox, Sister Elsie Lawless, committee.

BE IT RESOLVED: That this meeting has been so harmonious that the great Spirit of love has lead in all the business transactions, and seemed to have full control of all ministers in all their deliberations to the extent that it was overflowing. That the good songs rendered were so spirited that they were soul-stirring. That the homes of Walnut Grove and surrounding communities were so comfortable and entertaining that we have not words to express our gratitude for all those who helped in any way to make this meeting so business-like and enjoyable. We can only pray God that he may continue to bless these homes and these people for their kind hospitality during our stay with them. We also pray God's blessings on the visiting brethren from Missouri.—Committee.

MINISTERS IN STATE FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Little Missouri River—E. J. O'Neal, Moderator, New Hope; W. A. Hearron, New Hope; Roy Smith, New Hope; Roy Hughes, Glenwood; Ed Hill, Langley, Ark.; Will Porter, Langley, Ark.; J. A. Carr, DeQueen, Ark.; R. H. Powell, DeQueen, Ark.; A. L. Pate, Athens, Ark.

New Hope—R. E. Pruitt, Romance, Ark.; C. E. Wilson, Greenbrier, Ark.; S. C. Adkins, Greenbrier, Ark.; S. A. Morgan, Vilonia, Ark.; J. A. Stevens, Vilonia, Ark.; J. H. Hartsell, Rose Bud, Ark.; J. E. Pratt, Rose

Bud, Ark.; J. M. Holliman, Rose Bud, Ark.; J. W. Moore, Quitman, Ark.; W. B. Maddox, Searcy, Ark.; Jack Barnard, Vilonia, Ark.; Curtis Lybarger, Greenbrier, Ark.; Ob Presley, Quitman, Ark..

Antioch Association—W. A. Crouch, Hector, Ark.; F. M. Hudson, Moreland, Ark.; B. F. Duvall, Atkins, Ark.; Edgar Allison, Lutherville, Ark.; R. L. Taylor, Hector, Ark.; J. D. Coffman, Hector, Ark.; Clarence Tillman, New Blaine, Ark.; Frank Harris, Pottsville, Ark.; R. B. Venable, Atkins, Ark.; Tom Johnson, Russellville, Ark.; D. A. Thompson, Jerusalem, Ark.; Mart Crouch, England, Ark.; John L. Reel, Atkins, Ark.; H. J. Walker, Scranton, Ark.; A. J. Latham, Russellville, Ark.; J. A. Venable, Atkins, Ark.; E. Henderson, Russellville, Ark.; R. M. Johnson, Russellville, Ark.; M. A. Thompson, Jerusalem, Ark.; R. A. Johnson, Delaware, Ark.; J. L. Harris, Atkins, Ark.; A. F. Taylor, Dover, Ark.; E. L. Hill, Atkins, Ark.; R. L. Rainwater, Scranton, Ark.; W. S. Isbell, Russellville, Ark.; G. M. Condley, Hector, Ark.

Social Band—W. T. Shafer, Delphane, Ark.; C. M. Kinslow, Portia, Ark.; D. C. Jones, Portia, Ark.; Ira Gates, Peach Orchard, Ark.; George Meeks, Hoxie, Ark.; S. J. Birch, Oakland, Ark.; Wayne Tucker, Peach Orchard, Ark.; W. F. Vichery, Broken Arrow, Okla.; W. C. Faught, Hoxie, Ark.; R. S. Shelton, Okean, Ark.; Jesse Staten, Hoxie, Ark.; W. S. Tyler, Pocahontas, Ark.; W. C. Hudson, Jonesboro, Ark.; J. J. Colbert, Warm Springs, Ark.; C. E. Riggs, Pocahontas, Ark.; Ralph Staten, Pocahontas, Ark.; Archie Constant, Light, Ark.; Charles Staten, Pocahontas, Ark.; C. R. Riggs, Highland Park, Mich.; N. P. Gates, Royal Oak, Mich.; Harrold Etterbeck, Royal Oak, Mich.; B. S. Forrester, Walnut Ridge, Ark.; Willard Wilmer, Peach Orchard, Ark.; E. E. Winfree, Thayer, Mo.; Therman Johnson, Reno, Ark..

Polk Bayou Association—Obie Eagon, Strawberry, Ark.; J. D. Doyle, Walnut Ridge, Ark.; L. C. Doyle, Newport, Ark.; M. G. King, Powhatan, Ark.; W. B. Hardin, Strawberry, Ark.; Austin Mullen, Shelbyville, Ark.; M. A. Wolf, Batesville, Ark.; H. A. Lewis, Sage, Ark.; John Riggs, Eaton, Ark.; W. M. Padgett, Cord, Ark.; B. Woodruff, Newport, Ark.; W. A. Sneed, Jonesboro, Ark.; Henry Oborts, Hoxie, Ark.; R. G. Sim, Oxford, Ark.; J. H. Tinkle, Gid, Ark.; G. M. Phillips, Guion, Ark.; Henry Ashlock, Sedwick, Ark.; Owen Howell, Limenbug, Ark.

Arkansas Association—J. S. Lovett, Magazine, Ark.; Ben F. Black, Hackett, Ark.; Elmer Turner, Branch, Ark.; C. G. Askins, Mansfield, Ark.; A. R. Brooks, Branch, Ark.; C. G. Forest, Ola, Ark.; A. N. Best, Magazine, Ark.; B. O. Stahl, Ola, Ark.; I. J. Wilson, Charleston, Ark.; W. M. Guinn, Booneville, Ark.; C. C. Kitchens, Gravelly, Ark.; Robert Hiddy, Gravelly, Ark.

Big Springs Association—Delbert Davis, Salem, Ark.; J. E. Phillips, Rt. 1, Leslie, Ark.; Noah Miller, Bakersfield, Mo.; Carl Davis, Elizabeth, Ark.; R. W. Partee, Amos, Ark.; B. W. Roberts, Mountain Home, Ark.; Isaac Hunt, Holcomb, Mo..

Saline Association—J. R. Hartley, Rison, Ark.; J. M. Estell, Eudora, Ark.; O. A. Ashcraft, Herbine, Ark.; W. P. White, Warren, Ark.; G. S. Jenkins, Hamburg, Ark.; J. C. Moring, England, Ark.; J. E. White, Rye, Ark.; R. M. Moore, Star City, Ark.; W. H. Golden, Kingsland, Ark.; Horace McClelland, New Edinburg, Ark.; _____ Bryan, New Edinburg, Ark.; J. D. White, Warren, Ark.; Standley White, Warren, Ark.

Old Mt. Zion Association—J. W. Allred, Rogers, Ark.; J. M. Watson, Marable, Ark.; R. A. Smith, Marable, Ark.; C. Knox, Larue, Ark.; Geo. Been, Springdale, Ark.; Elmer Lawson, Best, Ark.; Claud Lynch, Clifty, Ark.; W. E. Bland, Larue, Ark.; Jack Hobbs, Marable, Ark.; Clark Baker, Larue, Ark.; Bruce Phillips, Spring Valley, Ark.; Willie Capps, Rogers, Ark.; Bill Oxford, Rogers, Ark.; Horace Knox, Larue, Ark.; Cecil Garrison, Clifty, Ark.; Sammie Lane, Clifty, Ark.; Tommie Engmire, Clifty, Ark.; J. D. Roberts, Best, Ark.

Arkansas State Association

ARTICLES OF FAITH

(Reported by Committee and Adopted by Convention)

(See Report of Committee)

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. 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 to 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 has visited true believers in all ages and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and its coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up its office work among all nations of people as a Divine Reprover, Comforter and Guide. Judges 6:34; 11-29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; 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; Math. 21:42.

5. THE FALL OF MAN—We believe that GOD created man good, gave him a just law by which should be governed, with promises of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of Souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell with all their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and was 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 CHRIST. Gen. 2:16-17; Rom. 11:11-35; Psalms 37:23-24; Rom. 5-18.

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; O: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 the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ. John 3rd chapter; Math. 19:13-22; Sec. 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. First Peter 1:9-13-25; 2:9-24-25; Rev. 22:17.

9. BAPTIST—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. Math. 3:14-15-16; A:5-6; First Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Math. 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 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 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; First Cor. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-18; Math. 26-27-28-29.

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; Exodus 31:12-18; Duet. 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 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; 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 able to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people. Ephes. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; First Peter 2:5; Ephes. 2:20-22; 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. Second Thes. 1:1; Acts 16:5; Third John 1:10; Math. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Rev. 1:4-11-20.

15. PERSEVERANCE—We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in Hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from his hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and willfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty they would backslide and if persistently continued would be eternally lost. Sec. 1:12; Second Cor. 9:10; Second Peter 1:4-8; First Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy: Second Peter 1:8-9; First Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; First John 5-16; Heb. 6:16; First Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Math. 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; Math. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Math. 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, and the christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly 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 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; Math. 10:28.

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

20. JUDGMENT—We believe that there will be a 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. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Math. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31.

Arkansas State Association

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experiences, we, the Association of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon the profession of faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of Associations to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, we therefore purpose to keep order and rules of our Association according to the following plan of government.

1. The State Association shall be of five Messengers chosen by each District Association of this union and all regularly ordained ministers, deacons, and the district associational clerks.

2. Letters from different Associations shall express their number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letter or recommendation, dismissed, restored, and that have died since our last Association; and the name of the clerk, moderator, county, postoffice, Sabbath of meeting, and the amount paid for Minute Fund.

3. The members thus chosen and convened, to be denominated the State Association of Freewill Baptists, being composed of the subordinate Association of the State of Arkansas, and the Association to have no power to Lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power of the Association, reserving the right of withdrawing from any Association becoming disorderly.

4. The Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk, and a Corresponding Clerk, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

5. New Associations may be admitted into the Association by letter and delegates, if found orthodox in the faith of the Freewill Baptists, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

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

7. This Association is to endeavor to furnish the subordinate Associations with the minutes of this Association, in proportion to the number of members in each Association, the distribution being at the discretion of the Association.

8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the Minutes.

9. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association closes.

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

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

13. Amendments to this plan of government may be made at any sitting of the annual State meeting of Freewill Baptists in Arkansas by a two-thirds vote of the members of said body.

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 reflections 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. Motions 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 this Association arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises which shall be equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and that the chair announce just before adjournments who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.

10. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.

A LETTER FORM TO BE USED AS A GUIDE FOR LOCAL
CHURCH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

To the _____ Association of Freewill Baptists:

We, the _____ Church of Freewill Baptists met on

_____, 19____, and selected _____

_____ to represent us in your
honorable body which convenes with _____

Church, on _____ 19____. Bidding you God's speed in
all your labor for the advancement of the cause of Christ and his Kingdom.

Our Church is composed of _____ Deacons, _____ Ministers,

Membership: males _____, females _____, total _____. Members

received during the year: baptism _____, recommendation _____,

by letter _____. The church's loss in membership: dismissed by

letter _____, excluded _____, died _____. Name and address

of ministers _____

Name of Deacons _____

Sunday School: yes _____ no _____, kind of literature used _____

_____, condition _____, average attendance _____,

total membership _____. League: yes _____ no _____.

President _____,

Secretary _____,

Total membership _____. Families taking church paper _____.

Pastor _____,

sermons preached _____, salary _____. Own church building _____,

value of church property _____, when organized _____,

by whom _____.

Moderator _____

Clerk _____

Association	Moderator and Address	Clerk and Address	Received into Fellowship	Dismissed	Died	Ministers	Churches	Sunday Schools	Leagues	Membership	Deacons	Taking Church Paper
Antioch	William Crouch Hector, Ark.	O. E. Atkins Hector, Ark.	84	11	14	27	25	20		1334	26	
Arkansas	C. C. Kitchens Gravette, Ark.	Elmer Clerk Branch, Ark.	89	10	5	15		12	4	723	34	10
Big Springs	Delbert Davis Salem, Ark.	May Busham	30		1		7	6		500		
Little Missouri River	Eld. E. O. O'Neal New Hope, Ark.	R. D. Smith New Hope, Ark.	12	3	2	12	6	4	3	240	9	10
New Hope	R. E. Pruitt Romance, Ark.	Jesse E. Pratt Rosebud, Ark.	63	13	2	15	13			818		
Old Mt. Zion	Eld. W. E. Bland LaRue, Ark.	H. R. Neely LaRue, Ark.	78	1	7	18	12			728		
Polk Bayou	Obie Eagan Strawberry, Ark.	M. B. Williams Strawberry, Ark.	17	3	5	18	13			580	26	
Rich Mountain	Not Represented											
Social Band	Ralph Staten Pocahontas, Ark.	Charles Staten Pocahontas, Ark.	183	13	3	24	22		7	1180	45	44
			556	54	39	129	98	22	14	6103	140	64