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MINUTES  
of the  
FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION  
of the  
FREEWILL BAPTIST ARKANSAS  
STATE ASSOCIATION

Held with Allen's Chapel Church, Independence County  
October 1 - 5, 1941

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The next annual session will be held at Moran Church,  
Lawrence County, beginning on Wednesday evening be-  
fore the first Sunday in October, 1942.

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... Officers ...

Eld. Ralph Staten, Pocahontas	Moderator
Eld. J. D. Doyle, Walnut Ridge	Moderator Emeritus
Eld. W. A. Hearron, Newhope	Moderator Emeritus
Eld. W. F. McGee, Russellville	Assistant Moderator
S. L. Woodard, Warren	Clerk
E. O. Wright, Atkins	Assistant Clerk
L. I. Shelton, Rye	Corresponding Clerk
Mrs. Edith Collins, Arkadelphia	Pres. of Ladies Auxiliary
Miss Eula North, Lamar	President of League Work

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... Executive Board ...

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



## PROCEEDINGS

### Of the Forty-fourth Annual Session of the Arkansas State Association and League of Freewill Baptist People

The Ministers, Deacons, Delegates, and Associational Clerks composing that part of the church of God or Christ, commonly known as Freewill Baptist, of the Arkansas State Association, met in annual conference with the Allen's Chapel Church, in Independence County, October 1-5, 1941.

A large representation from different parts of the state took part in the inception and the rest of the business and social session. A very spiritual and harmonious atmosphere prevailed throughout the session. Every one was interested in the work and did their duty with the greatest of pleasure.

The Allen's Chapel community and those of other communities had made arrangements to serve the noon and evening meals at the church grounds. These meals were served in cafeteria style, and plenty of food was served to every person in the most appetizing manner.

The Insignia: Friday at noon the badges of honor were pinned on the conventional messengers. These badges were very artistically designed.

Bro. J. W. Coffman, Eld. L. C. Doyle, Eld. D. C. Jones, Eld. Smith, Eld. Ralph Staten, Horace Doyle, Fay Watkins, Austin Mullins, and others were in charge of directing the singing that added to the spiritual edification of the associational convention. The pianists were Miss Elsie Lawless and Miss Eula North. The convention owes these two fine women a vote of congratulation for their never tiring service. Both are to be commended for their unquestionable ability.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING

Exordium: The house was called to order by the pastor of Allen's Chapel Church. The weather conditions were not very favorable so the regular program could not be rendered. The preaching hour was given to Eld. Jud of Cushing, Oklahoma. After the preaching hour, the delegation were assigned to different homes for a place to stay during this convention. Adjourned until 9 a. m. Thursday morning.

#### THURSDAY MORNING

Devotional. Class singing. Prayer. Scripture reading. The election of Eld. Ralph Staten as temporary president.

1. Address of Welcome—Eld. L. C. Doyle.
2. Response—Sister Gladys Smith.
3. Reading—Verdell Bowden
4. Poem—Mrs. Laverna Pennington.
5. Program—Allen's Chapel Church.

Eleven o'clock sermon—Eld. Lewis. Text: Faith.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Class singing. Prayer.

1. Reading—Freda Merle Wilson.
2. Talk—Service—Miss Eula North.
3. Talk—"Dependence of Church Work on Youth"—Eld. T. H. Dixon.

4. Talk—"Result of Our Labor for League Cause"—Eld. W. A. Hearron.

5. Topic—"Cooperation or Isolation"—Sister Elsie Lawless.

6. Topic—"Modernism"—Eld. Ralph Staten.

7. Topic—"Parents' Duty Toward League Work"—Round table discussion.

Election of officers: Miss Eula North, president, Lamar, Ark.; Miss Elsie Lawless, vice president, Glenwood, Ark.; Miss Laverna Pennington, secretary and treasurer; Program committee: Miss Eula North, chairman, Miss Verdell Bowden and Mrs. W. A. Hearron.

### THURSDAY EVENING

The assembly was opened with class singing, after which the Moderator, Eld. Ralph Staten, took charge. Prayer—Eld. Joe Harris. Devotional service conducted by Eld. W. P. White. Prayer—Sister C. E. Wilson. Eld. L. C. Doyle preached the introductory sermon. Scripture Lesson—Timothy 4th chapter. Text: Take Heed Unto Thyself and Unto the Doctrine. Song and a handshake. The crowd was very large and attentive. Adjournment until 9 a. m. Friday morning by Eld. J. R. Hartley.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Association was called to order at 9:00 by Moderator, Eld. Ralph Staten. Scripture lesson—Second Timothy, second chapter. Prayer led by Eld. C. E. Wilson. Welcome address given by Eld. H. A. Lewis. Response—Eld. Geo. W. Scott and Eld. W. F. McGee. The roll call of associational letters was asked for. The following were presented and their delegates seated in conference by the right hand of fellowship:

1. Polk Bayou—Gilmore Adkisson, Allen Hanshaw, Sister Fay Watkins, Sister Lillian Martin, and Sister Zelma Roach.
2. Antioch—J. J. West, L. L. Tackett, Dewey Kinder, Vandella Voss, and Sister Verdell Bowden.
3. New Hope—Sister C. E. Wilson, Sister Arlie Fergeson, Sister Ollie Turner, Sister Myrtle Holeman, and Sister A. A. Hanna.
4. Saline—Sister Lorton Calbert, Sister Rastus McMahan, Havis Moore, J. E. Funderburg and J. L. Shelby.
5. Old Mt. Zion—Represented by letter.
6. Social Band—Sister Birdie Kirk, Sister Will S. White, Sister F. W. Tucker, and Sister D. W. McNutt.
7. Arkansas—Represented by letter.
8. Little Missouri River—Gladys Smith, Sister I. J. Brooks, Sister Essie Hearron, Virgie Yeargin, Sister Janie Moore.
9. Big Spring—Sister Oma Tandrum, Sister Nora Guthra, and Sister Ocie Davis.
10. Union Association delegates from Missouri were welcomed and seated as advisory members. These members were Eld. Geo. W. Scott, Jr., Eld. Oliver Letterman, Eld. Clarence Ussery, C. J. Smith, and Deacon Lewis Moody.
11. Mt. Grove—Not represented.
12. Rich Mountain—Not represented.
13. Tyronza—Not represented.
14. Union—Not represented.
15. Zion Hope—Not represented.

The visitors of other denominations were invited to take part in giving advice and also made welcome by the body. Only Ministers, Deacons, Associational Clerks and Delegates are allowed to vote. Motion and second, that all known elected delegates be



seated. Song—"In That Home of the Soul," directed by Eld. D. C. Jones. During this song a right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates and christian people.

Call for corresponding Associations:

From Missouri—Eld. Oliver Letterman, Geo. W. Scott, Clarence Ussery, and C. J. Smith.

From Oklahoma—Eld. T. H. Dixon and Eld. C. Judd.

Organization being perfected, the Moderator declared nominations in order of the election of permanent officers for the ensuing Associational year. The following were elected: Moderator, Eld. Ralph Staten; Assistant Moderator, Eld. W. F. McGee; State Clerk, S. L. Woodard; Corresponding Clerk, L. I. Shelton; Ladies' Auxiliary President for the State, Sister Edith Collins.

Intermission for eleven o'clock service.

Service was opened with singing, directed by J. W. Coffman. Eleven o'clock sermon, Eld. T. H. Dixon. First discussed The Ten Point Program. Prayer, T. H. Dixon. Songs directed by L. C. Doyle and J. W. Coffman. Text: Ephesians 3:21. Eld. W. F. McGee made a few closing remarks. Singing directed by J. W. Coffman. A short talk by Eld. Judd. Benediction by Eld. Clarence Ussery.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The assembly was called together by singing the song "Look For Me at the Gate," directed by Eld. Ralph Staten. The chairman of each committee was appointed Friday evening. Rules of Decorum were read by Moderator, Eld. Ralph Staten. The appointment of the following committees were made by the Moderator:

Pulpit Committee—J. W. Coffman, T. L. Tackett and J. H. Sides.

Finance—J. H. Meeks, Sister C. E. Wilson, and W. F. Lewis.

Resolution—W. A. Hearron, J. J. West and O. D. Presley.

Obituary—C. E. Wilson, Sister Fay Watkins and Lewis Barker.

Non-Represented Association—M. G. King, E. C. Adkin, and Sister I. J. Brooks.

Sunday School—Will S. White, C. J. Moore, and Oma Landrum.

Auditing—W. S. Isbell, Havis Moore and Herman Lewis.

Minister Roll—

Doctrine and Harmony—L. C. Doyle, W. A. Hearron, F. M. Hudson.

Temperance—F. W. Tucker, Dewey Kinder, Sister Ocie Davis.

Publication—Ira Gate, Millard Williams, Aude Fisher.

Executive Board—F. M. Hudson, G. W. Million, and L. C. Doyle.

Statistics—W. F. McGee, H. G. Adkisson, G. W. McNutt.

Credential—Dee Smith, Sister Nora Guthra, Sister C. J. Moore.

Class singing directed by Eld. Dee Smith, "Camping in Canaan's Land." Special number directed by J. W. Coffman, "My Mother is in Heaven."

The report on Temperance was read and accepted. Committees discharged.

The report on Publication and Literature was read and accepted. Committee discharged.

The report on Sunday School was read and accepted. Committee discharged.

The Corresponding Clerk made his report and it was accepted.

The report on Non-Represented Associations was read and accepted. Committee discharged.

The report on Doctrine and Harmony was read and accepted. A motion and second that their report be added to the Constitution. Committee discharged.

Resolution No. 1 was adopted as read. (See resolution)

Resolution No. 2 was adopted as read. (See resolution)

Eld. Ralph Staten is to preach the annual introductory sermon. Eld. W. A. Hearron, alternate.

Eld. W. P. White is to preach the annual memorial sermon. Eld. W. A. Hearron, alternate.

A short talk in general by Eld. W. F. McGee.

Motion and second to adjourn until 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning.

Benediction by Eld. W. H. Parker.

Class singing, a short session before supper time.

### FRIDAY EVENING

Class singing spiced with special numbers. Short talks by old ministers over fifty years. Those who took part were Eld. J. L. Harris, Eld. J. R. Hartley, and Eld. W. P. White. W. P. White has been preaching for fifty three years. Prayer, O. D. Presley. Devotional service, Eld. Sherman Isbell in charge. Prayer, Eld. W. H. Parker. Song, "Where Could I Go," directed by J. W. Coffman. Evening sermon, Eld. G. W. Scott. Scripture reading, St. Luke 4:8. Text, Get thee behind me Satan. Eld. Clarence Ussery concluded the service by telling a part of his experience in becoming a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Song—and during this song an invitation was given to christian people to come and shake hands with Eld. Clarence Ussery.

Benediction by Eld. C. E. Wilson.

### SATURDAY MORNING

The resumption of business was begun at the stipulated time. The congregation was called together by singing, directed by T. L. Tackett. Prayer, Eld. J. R. Hartley. Singing, directed by Eld. Ralph Staten, "Draw Me Near," "Send the Light."

Resolution No. 3 was adopted as read. (See resolution)

Motion and second for Eld. L. C. Doyle and Eld. W. A. Hearron to discuss the ten point program presented by Eld. T. H. Dixon and bring in a decision as what to do with the program. Their decision was accepted by a vote of 75 to 10 against the program.

Intermission of eight minutes before eleven o'clock.

The Memorial service was opened with singing and prayer by Eld. J. H. Hartsell. Eld. C. E. Wilson preached the Memorial sermon. Scripture Lesson, Rev. 21st chapter, and St. John 20:3-21. Prayer, Eld. C. E. Wilson. Song: Hand shake with all those that hope to live and meet those in Glory.

Dismissed by Eld. J. L. Harris.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The congregation was called together by class singing, directed by Austin Mulfins. Prayer, Eld. W. P. White. A prayer in silence by every one in behalf of Eld. D. C. Jones, who is sick, concluded by Eld. Wayne Tucker.

The next annual session of the State Association will be held at Moran Church in Lawrence county. Those from the south go



up highway 67 to Walnut Ridge, 4½ miles north of Walnut Ridge on highway 67 turn to the right and go two miles on WPA, you will be at the church. Those coming to Pocahontas, turn south on highway 67, eight miles and turn on the same WPA.

Resolution No. 4 was adopted as read. (See resolution)

Resolution No. 5 was adopted as read. (See resolution)

Resolution No. 6 was adopted as read. (See resolution)

Resolution No. 7 was adopted as read. (See resolution)

J. J. West was made chairman of the Tent fund. He is to buy the material and supervise the making of the tent.

The moderator of each district association is asked to collect the ten dollars from each church in their district and send the money to Bro. J. J. West.

Motion and second to adjourn the business session, was carried.

Dismissed by Eld. J. R. Hartley.

### SATURDAY EVENING

The congregation was opened with singing, directed by L. C. Doyle and Austin Mullin. Prayer, Eld. Howard. Devotional service was conducted by Eld. W. P. White.

The evening sermon was delivered by Eld. Ralph Staten. Scripture lesson, Text: The New Birth. Concluded by Eld. M. G. King.

Song: An opportunity of prayer to the unsaved.

The evening service closed with ministers, deacons, delegates and visitors engaged in a very emotional hand-greeting.

Benediction by Eld. H. A. Lewis.

### SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

The concluding service was opened with congregational singing, directed by J. W. Coffman and W. F. Lewis. Prayer, Eld. W. F. Gates. The sermon was preached by Eld. W. F. McGee. Concluded by Eld. Sherman Isbell. Scripture reading or text, Roman 12:1. Subject, Life After the New Birth. Singing. Closing remarks by Eld. H. A. Lewis, pastor of the church.

Last prayer of the meeting by Eld. W. F. Gates.

### RESOLUTIONS

No. 1—Be it Resolved, that each associational clerk mail money collected from their association to our corresponding clerk, when time will permit them to do so. If not possible, then send the money with the letter or messengers and immediately it will be turned over to our corresponding clerk. A finance committee should be appointed at each session to receive and collect public offerings.

No. 2—Resolve, that Article No. Nine of the rules of order be amended to read as follows:

Arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto in addition to the business session each day, and the moderator announce at the adjournment of business who is to have charge of said service.

No. 3—Be it Resolved, that association sending in money be given to first and where possible give other district associations a few.

No. 4—Be it Resolved, that the women in each district or-

ganize a woman's auxiliary in each church for the purpose of assisting in the advancement of our cause, both spiritually and financially.

No. 5—Resolve, that the State Association purchase a tent before the next state meeting. Each church is assessed ten dollars as a base, and each district associational moderator be given the authority to do his best to see that all churches in his district contribute their amount.

Whereas a foreman will be elected and receive all the money, and with the help of two other disinterested men will purchase the tent and store it for safe keeping.

The tent can be rented if sufficient charges are paid and proper care is assured the one in charge.

No. 6—Be it Resolved, that each church pay two dollars each year: one dollar for printing of state minutes, one dollar for helping take care of state meeting.

No. 7—Be it Resolved, that we extend to the good people of Allen's Chapel Church and community our thanks and appreciation for their never untiring kindness and open hearted hospitality shown to us all during our stay with them.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEES

We, your committee on Temperance, submit the following report: Since the repeal of the eighteenth amendment, the Devil is using every means possible to wreck all forms of Christianity. It is the duty of every Christian to take an active part in establishing temperance one hundred per cent and stand firm no matter how tempting it may seem, and denouncing intemperance everywhere at all times. Put God first and rely upon his service and influence. There is no reason why any one should be tempted with such evil. Christian people, better acquaint ourselves and watch our vote, unless we fall into the same ditch.

Eld. Wayne Tucker, Chairman

We, the Sunday School Committee, give the following report: We find in our investigation there are 74 Sunday Schools, with 63 using Freewill Baptist literature. We recommend that all pastors and church leaders put forth a greater effort toward the establishment of a Sunday School in all of our churches and use Freewill Baptist literature.

Will S. White, Chairman

We, the Committee on Non-Represented Churches, find nine were represented and the following were not represented: Mt. Grove, Union, and Tyronza.

M. G. King, Chairman

We, the Committee on Obituary, find that fifty-four of our members have departed this life since last association. They are missed in our gatherings, but we hope our loss is Heaven's gain.

Eld. C. E. Wilson, Chairman

We, the Committee on Doctrine and Harmony: First, that we as Freewill Baptists wish to restate our position on some of our church policy as follows: That in the absence of the pastor, the deacons of any Freewill Baptist church in this state are authorized to preside at any conference and any business transacted during the conference will be legal, if the majority of its active members are present and the church is in good standing in its association;



Second: That Baptism will not be accepted unless administered by an ordained individual.

Eld. L. C. Doyle, Chairman

We, your Auditing Committee, have audited the Corresponding Clerk's records, and find the books in good shape. All money accounted for. The books show a balance of \$80.37 to be used for minutes and clerk hire.

Eld. W. S. Isbell, Chairman

We, your Finance Committee, wish to submit the following report: We received a public donation of \$13.37, for which we thank each one who contributed to this worthy cause and also those who would have liked to, and could not. We pray God's richest blessings on every one.

J. H. Meeks, Chairman

We, your Committee on Doctrine and Church Policy beg leave to submit the following report: After carefully considering the ten point program, we your committee, believe it to be unnecessary and dangerous to our body. We ask you to stand by us in our refuting it.

Eld. W. A. Hearron, Chairman

The retiring Clerk's report is as follows:

Received from Corresponding Clerk .....	\$40.00
Received after Association .....	\$ 5.00
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	\$45.00

Disbursement:

For printing of 1000 minutes .....	\$40.00
For badges .....	\$ 4.25
Total disbursement .....	\$44.25
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Total balance .....	\$ 0.75

J. W. Coffman, Clerk

#### MINISTERS PRESENT AND THEIR ADDRESS

Little Missouri River—Eld. W. A. Hearron.

Big Spring—Eld. Carl Davis, Elizabeth.

Polk Bayou—Eld. L. C. Doyle, New Port; Eld. M. G. King, Powhatan; Eld. M. A. Wolf, Batesville; Eld. H. A. Lewis, Batesville; Eld. John Riggs, Eaton; Eld. W. M. Padgett, Card, and Eld. Lyle Cartwright.

New Hope—Eld. C. E. Wilson, Greenbrier; Eld. E. C. Adkins, Vilonia; Eld. Dee Smith, Vilonia; Eld. Obe Presley, Quitman; Eld. J. H. Hartsell, Rosebud; Eld. J. E. Pratt, Rosebud, and Eld. J. M. Holliman, Rosebud.

Antioch—Eld. J. L. Harris, Atkins; Eld. W. F. McGee, Russellville; Eld. Sherman Isbell, Russellville; and Coy Dolfil, Russellville.

Social Band—Eld. D. C. Jones, Portia; Eld. Ira Gates, Peach Orchard; Eld. Wayne Tucker, Peach Orchard, and Ralph Staten, Pocahontos.

Saline—Eld. W. P. White, Warren; Eld. Lewis Barker, New Edinburg; Eld. J. R. Hartley, Rison; Eld. H. L. Myers, New Edinburg, and Eld. Lorton Calbert, Warren.

## 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 he should be governed, with promises of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of Souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell 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 CHRIST. Gen. 1:27; 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; 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 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. **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. Math. 3:14-15-16; 3:5-6; 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; Deut. 5; 12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Math. 28:1, Luke 23:56; Acts 13-42-48; Mark 2-27.

12. **CALL TO THE MINISTRY**—We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in his goodness and power of grace, impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise their native gifts according to the 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 congre-



gation 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 combine 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 wilfully 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 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 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 composed 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 Associations 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.

14. First—In the absence of the pastor, the deacons of any Freewill Baptist Church in the state of Arkansas are authorized to preside at any conference, any business transacted during the conference will be legal, if the majority of its active church members are present and the church is in good standing in its association.

Second: That Baptism will not be accepted unless administered by an ordained individual.

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#### Forty-fourth Annual Session

#### 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. Arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto in addition to the business session each day, and the Moderator announce at the adjournment of each business session who is to have charge of said service.

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 churches' loss in membership: dismissed by  
letter \_\_\_\_\_, excluded \_\_\_\_\_, died \_\_\_\_\_. Name and ad-  
dress 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 who \_\_\_\_\_  
Moderator \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

11/11/11

1947

### STATISTICAL TABLE

Associations	Moderator and Address	Clerk and Address	Received into Fellowship	Dismissed	Died	Ministers	Churches	Sunday Schools	League	Taking Church Paper	Members	Deacons	Active Churches
Antioch	W. F. McGee, Russellville	E. O. Wright, Atkins	64	15	10	27	25	12	5	50	1373		18
Arkansas	J. S. Lovett, Magazine	Dell Conley, Ratcliff	14	5	5	14	10	10	4		702	35	
Big Spring	Delbert Davis, Salem	Miss May Basham	30			6	14	7			607		
Little Mo. River	E. J. O'Neal, New Hope	R. D. Smith, New Hope	8	2	4	12	10	4	2	12	286	16	10
Mt. Grove	Not represented												
Newhope	J. W. Moore, Bee Branch	J. M. Holleman, Rosebud	21	10	10	12	13				755		10
Old Mt. Zion	By Letter	H. R. Neely, La Rue				16	12				700		
Polk Bayou	Obie Eagan, Saffell	M. B. Williams, Strawberry	41	1	7	16	12	8	2	19	775	27	12
Rich Mountain	Not represented												
Saline	J. E. White, Warren	Dallas Jones, Star City	53	14	10	17	10	10	9		868	35	
Tyronza	Not represented												
Social Band	Ralph Staten, Pocahontas	Charles Staten, Pocahontas	108	5	6	18	23	23	3	60	1089		
Union	Not represented												
Zion Hope	Not represented												
Grand Total 14	NOTE: Each Association be represented next year with a complete report.		339	52	52	138	129	74	25	141	7155	113	50