

MINUTES

OF THE

Seventy-Third Annual Session

OF THE

Cahaba River Free Will Baptist Association

CONVENED WITH

North Birmingham Church

2808 NORTH 32ND AVENUE

October 4-5-6, 1951

OFFICERS

Moderator.....H. L. Mitchell
1429 North 20th Street

Assistant Moderator.....Dewey F. Isbell
Leeds, Alabama

Clerk.....H. A. McSpadden
Route 9, Box 231F, Birmingham, Alabama

The 74th Session of the Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptist
Will meet with the First Free Will Baptist Church in Sylacauga
Thursday Night before the First Sunday in October 1952

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	Elder R. H. Howard Sterrett, Alabama	Elder Maxwell Harper Route 1, Marvel, Alabama	Elder D. F. Isabell Leeds, Alabama	Elder W. O. McDonald 4224 No. 29th St., B'ham, Ala.	Elder Harry L. Mitchell 1429 No. 20th St., B'ham, Ala.	Elder Earl Isbell Dunavant, Alabama	Elder J. J. Staab 2313 No. 33rd Ave., B'ham, Ala.	Elder J. W. Marlow 700 West 24th Ave., B'ham, Ala.	Elder Jack L. Rollins Route 1, Adamsville, Alabama	Elder James M. Pickett 2710 Ave. D., Ensley, Alabama	Elder J. M. McCay Route 1, Sterrett, Alabama
Church Pastored.....	0	2	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
Sermons Preached.....	40	178	175	18	175	44	110	186	139	100	
Baptized.....	0	2	2	0	7	0	0	11	6	0	0
Funerals.....	1	0	1	0	12	0	0	5	1	0	3
Marriages.....	0	1	0	0	14	0	3	0	0	1	1
Revivals.....	2	2	6	1	2	1	1	4	5	4	2
Miles Traveled.....	217	10,000	10,000	500	9640	15,058	1,800	10,000	4,515	3,000	1,266
Offerings.....	28.05	900.00	949.00	15.00	700.00		1450.00	1800.00	594.25	250.00	
Expense.....		140.00	800.00			45.00	90.00	800.00	172.16	150.00	25.81

PROCEEDINGS

The seventy-third annual session of the Cahaba River Free Will Baptist Association met with North Birmingham Church at 2808 North 32nd Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, on October 4th, 1951, at 7:00 p. m.

The service began with congregational songs, No. 132 'I'm Going That Way,' and No. 133 "The Unseen Hand." A united prayer at the altar as the saints of God praised him for this gathering and asked his blessings on this conference.

Welcome address by the pastor, Elder J. W. Marlow.

A great blessing was had in song as Sister Ruth Brake from the Lindburgh sang two specials, "Since Jesus Came," and "I've Got the Old Time Religion."

THURSDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 4TH, 7:00 P. M.

The clerk called this the seventy-third session of the conference to order and turned service over to moderator, Elder H. L. Mitchell, who gave delegates and visitors hearty welcome and outlined principles of the conference. He asked each one present to read Ephesians 4 Chapter for motto.

Elder Dewey Isbell conducted devotional service. The subject: An overflow of the spirit and Growing in Grace. It was indeed a heart-lifting message after which a testimony service followed with a mighty spirit of praise and much rejoicing. Song No. 62 "Throw Out the Life Line" was sung and Elder J. J. Staab brought the evening message.

His subject, Freedom of the Will and some of the scriptures used were, Matt. 7:21, 14:18, Jas. 2:24, Jno. 6:40, Deut. 30:19, Luke 13:5, II Chron. 29:50, Isaiah 55, and Rev. 22:17. A very enlightening and inspiring message.

Song No. 63 "Heaven Holds All to Me" and prayer of consecration by the assembled body.

Pastor of the church placed delegates at this time.

Song No. 326 "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name."

Dismissed in prayer by Elder James Elmore pastor of East Thomas Free Will Baptist Church.

FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 5, 9:00 A. M.

Service began by singing several good congregational songs. All stood in a moment of silent prayer asking that each of us be led by the power of the spirit of our Lord through this day. Prayer concluded by Elder Dewey Isbell.

Conference called to order by the clerk. The moderator called for Letters of Churches represented.

Letters given to credential committee: Charles R. Dean, Chairman, Ed Goodwin and Elder Elige Isbell.

Devotional Service conducted by Elder Earl Isbell, reading Jno. 14.

Welcome address by Pastor, Elder J. W. Marlow.

Response of delegates given by Elder R. H. Howard.

Credential committee report all letters in proper form and order.

Letters read by Charles R. Dean and J. W. Marlow.

UNION HILL: Delegates, Bro. Austin Parker and Sister Onnia Parker.

OAK GROVE: Bro. Sam Franklin, Bro. Amos and Sister Sam Byrd.

SHADY GROVE: J. B. Goolsby, Hubert Petrillo and Earl Carroll.

NORTH BIRMINGHAM: A. M. Cagle, Rumell Kimbrough, Willie Ruth Nichols.

PLEASANT VALLEY: Sisters L. W. Kendrick and Carolyn Kendrick.

DAVIS CHAPEL: Sisters Ola Howard, Freda Stokes and Lenora Davis.

FAIRVIEW: Sisters Beckie Harris, Ora McCreless, Neita Day and Dorothy Goodwin.

BETHEL: Bro. Charlie Boothe, Sister Henry Pickett and Deliska Pickett.

MT. PLEASANT: Bros. Roy L. Hodgens, Sidney Dunkin, Sisters Lula and Peggy Jones.

MT. OLIVE: Bro. Chester Isbell, Sisters Mirtie Spruell, Betty

Isbell and Esther Minor.

LINDBURGH: Sisters Gladys Reeves, Mae Powell and Mary Rollins.

SYLACAUGA: Sisters Troy Kendrick, Lela Harmon, Lena Brazzell, and Bro. Robert Armstrong.

After letters were read and accepted the delegates were seated and visiting districts and associations were invited to seats.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Devotional: Sisters L. W. Kendrick, Lela Harmon and Ora McCreless.

Credential and Standing of Ministry: Bro. A. L. Harmon, Chas. R. Dean, Charles Boothe and J. B. Goolsby.

Business Committee: Earl Isbell, R. H. Howard, H. T. Rogers, Ed. Goodwin.

Ordaining Council: J. W. Marlow, C. R. Dean, A. L. Harmon, James Pickett and W. R. Parker.

Resolutions: Sisters Mary McSpadden, Ora McCreless and Sis. Meeks.

Family Religion: Peggy Jones, Carolyn Kendrick and Dorothy Goodwin.

Sunday School: Sisters L. W. Kendrick, Neita Day, and Myrtie Spruell.

Deceased Members: Sister Rumell Kimbrough, Willie Ruth Nichols and Robert Armstrong.

Temperance: Sisters Lela Harmon, Armstrong and Harris.

Intermission for 10 minutes. Adjourn until 1:30 P. M.

11:00 A. M. SERVICE

Worship Service began by singing No. 33 "An Empty Mansion" and the entire body gathered around the altar for the healing of the body of Elder Roy Johnson, Pastor of Oak Grove Church.

Devotion conducted by Brother Robert Armstrong of Sylacauga. A very spiritual service and hearts were blessed as testimonies were overflowing with the love and praise of our Blessed Savior.

Song No. 132 "I'm Going That Way" and the 11:00 A. M. Message delivered by the Elder Elige Isbell reading from I John 1:7. As the speaker yielded himself to the power of the Holy Spirit our souls were fed from the word of God and all were blessed.

Songs No. 179 "I'll Fly Away" and No. 178 "Wonderful Jesus" were sung.

Service concluded by Bro. Robert Armstrong leading in prayer.

NOON: Lunch, a bountiful supply of nourishments were supplied by ladies of church and community under the trees at rear of church and greatly enjoyed as old friends met and talked of the blessings bestowed upon us by our Lord.

1:30 P. M.: Service began by singing Song No. 54 "There's An All Seeing Eye," prayer by Elder James Elmore, pastor of East Thomas Church.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Sister Joe Brazzell, President was not present so Sister H. L. Mitchell acted as President at this session. Song No. 141 "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand" was sung.

Letters called for and read by Sister Mary McSpadden.

A motion to receive letters and seat delegates was carried.

A special song by Sister Willie Ruth Nichols, "One Day."

Reading was from the book of Job, prayer by Sister H. L. Mitchell. Song No. 8 "Draw Me Nearer."

A good talk on works of the Auxiliary and blessings it brings by each of the following: Sister A. L. Harmon, J. W. Marlow, Rumell Kimbrough, Sister Meeks, Alberta Hughley, Eunice Dill, Sister Holt, Sisters Willie Ruth Nichols, Harris, Webb and Mary McSpadden.

A motion to retain same officers as last year. Seconded and approved. A collection of \$11.50 received for Children's Home as Song No. 6 "Love Lifted Me" was sung.

Song No. 128 "There'll Be Shouting On the Hills" as all stood and shook hands.

Dismissed by prayer by Sister L. W. Kendrick.

Announcement of following services, several good testimonies and song No. 22 "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart." Elder Troy Engle dismissed body by prayer.

FRIDAY NIGHT, 6:00 P. M.

Service began by singing several good congregational hymns.

Ministers and Deacons called to order by clerk, H. A. McSpadden, after which the moderator, Elder J. W. Marlow proceeded with meeting.

Minutes of last conference and by-laws read and adopted all Ministers and Deacons assembled in choir.

A test of fellowship and greetings of the brethren were had while congregation sang "An Uncloaked Day," prayer by Bro. Charles Boothe.

New Members joining conference were Elder W. R. Parker, H. H. Blanchard, E. L. Isbell, Troy Engle and Bro. Charles Boothe, deacon.

A motion to receive the Brethren in full fellowship into the conference was accepted and the right hand of fellowship were given as song No. 150 "Praise Him, Praise Him" was sung.

Talks on discussion of the Scripture and ways and means to better understand and present same.

Elder Dewey Isbell read scriptures I Timothy 1:14, I Peter 1:1-11, and gave a good talk on same which was discussed by several of the other Brethren present.

Elder W. H. Ryland, President of the Children's Home gave a good talk on the above scriptures and ways and means of improving fellowship among the Free Will Baptist Ministry.

Elder J. J. Stabb spoke of the National Radio Broadcast to be conducted by the National Association of the Free Will Baptist, beginning about January 1st, 1952, named the Free Will Hour and to be conducted the first 13 weeks by the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry of North Carolina and the good it would do the Free Will Baptist.

A motion and second that the body select a subject to be discussed next year in this meeting.

Subject: "The Christian Sabbath."

Letters of Ministry were called for and given to the clerk at this time.

The same officers were retained by motion of the body.

Elder J. W. Marlow—Moderator

Elder H. L. Mitchell—Assistant

Adjourn.

FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 5, 7:30 P. M.

Evening Worship started with a special by Bro. and Sister Sidney Partridge, "Riding the Range for Jesus."

Choir Songs No. 204 "I'd Rather be an Old Time Christian" and "No. 128 "Shouting on the Hills of Glory."

Elder W. H. Ryland, Supt. of Children's Home was introduced as the speaker of the hour.

Brother Ryland spoke on several subjects in connection with the Free Will Baptist and the things we are accomplishing by our united efforts. He also announced the State Association at Millport, Alabama, and also gave a good report of visit to the Nashville College, especially of Sister Willey's testimony of leaving the United States and all of its environments for a thatch hut infested with lizzards and scorpions to have the privilege to carry the gospel to the Cuban people. How she knelt down by a stump beside her hut and consecrated her life to God. He also told how the gospel has spread in Cuba. Many thousand have heard and accepted the gospel through their work. A college has been built and graduates have finished and are on the field preaching the gospel and several have enrolled in the Nashville College.

The good of our support of the Children's Home and the many blessings it is bringing to the children.

The good of the Coupons in supplying the needs of the home.

Talk on and for the support of the Free Will Baptist paper printed by the State Association of the Free Will Baptist, and a very interesting message on Home Missions in Alabama of organizing new churches and carrying the gospel to those that don't come to hear it.

Visiting the fatherless and widows and keeping ourselves unspotted from the world.

Several good songs were sung by the children from the home.

Our youth home is young and still growing and our responsibility is to maintain and grow with it.

Elder H. L. Mitchell at this time asked the congregation to contribute to this cause.

Collection received	\$105.17
North Birmingham Sunday School	25.00
Woman's Auxiliary of Annual Association	11.50
Woman's Auxiliary 1st District Meeting	12.50

Total \$154.17

Concluded by Song and Prayer.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 9:00 A. M.

Song No. 273 "In the Cross."

Conference asked to stand in moment of silent prayer for Elder J. E. (Uncle June) Hodgins whom we miss very much in our meeting and pray that our God will be very near to bless and strengthen him. Prayer concluded by Elder Jack Rollins.

Conference called to order by clerk, H. A. McSpadden. Moderator read Psalm 133 as devotion.

Devotional Report

Elder James Pickett to conduct devotion, Elder J. W. Marlow to bring 11:00 A. M. Message.

Election of Officers

Elder Jack Rollins elected as moderator, Elder Dewey Isbell elected assistant moderator.

H. A. McSpadden elected as clerk, James Pickett elected as assistant clerk.

Elder H. L. Mitchell elected trustee for Children's Home for Cahaba River Association.

Delegate to State Association—L. W. Kendrick.

Executive Committee, A. J. Smith, M. D. Harper and Dewey Isbell.

Home Mission board, Earl Carroll, J. W. Isbell, J. W. Marlow.

Report of Annual Conference Treasure (See Report).

A very spiritual special song sung by Elder J. J. Staab, "When I Make My Last Move."

A special request to write Uncle June Hodgins and tell him how we missed him in this session of the association.

Intermission for 10 minutes. Adjourn until 1:30 P. M.

11:00 A. M. SERVICE

Two congregational songs No. 63 "Heaven Holds All to Me" and No. 208 "I'll Meet You in the Morning," were sung.

A very spiritual devotional and testimony conducted by Elder James Pickett.

A short talk by Elder J. W. Marlow and announcements for the balance of the day.

Prayer.

NOON: Lunch, a fine lunch was served by ladies of the church and enjoyed by the delegated body as they greeted old friends.

1:30 P. M. Song No. 248 "I'll Be Satisfied," prayer by Dewey Isbell.

Devotion by moderator, H. L. Mitchell, reading I Cor. 15.

Report of Committees

FAMILY RELIGION, we recommend that each Christian should live a consecrated life for Christ. Also everyone have a family altar. Teach the children the way of Christ while they are young, because young children are easier taught than older people. For that reason every home should have an altar prayer. Chairman Sister Peggy Jones.

DECEASED MEMBERS, we your committee on deceased members wish to extend our sympathy and love to the family and friends of our beloved Sister Fanny Cox of Union Hill Church and Brother J. R. Weaver of Bethel Church. We pray God's blessings upon them. Chairman Sister Willie Ruth Nichols.

TEMPERANCE, we your committee on temperance, solemnly resolve to teach our children and young people of our church and communities against the evil of drink. As a land of Christians we should seek to educate our people to the horrors of liquor, beer and all strong drink. It not only destroys homes and lives here on earth but the Bible teaches that no drunkard shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Chairman Sister Leila Harmon.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, we your committee on Sunday School submit the following—We believe that the Sunday School is one of the greatest assets to the church. We recommend and urge that every church support the Sunday School. We know that the Christian teaching and training of our young people can best be done in the Sunday School. Let us awaken to this great opportunity to bring our young people to Christ by putting our very best into it. Chairman Sister L. W. Kendrick.

RESOLUTION, we your resolution committee resolve to keep fellowship in our churches by taking them to the Lord in prayer and having more love for each other, "For God is Love," I St. John 4:8, and if he loved us we ought also to love one another. John 13:34, 35. We resolve with our church as well as other churches to take the Bible way out, "If thy brother have a fault go to him alone, (God being with you) and if he hear you, you have gained thy brother." Matt. 18:15, 17. Chairman Sister Mary McSpadden.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE, we your business committee recommend Brother E. L. Isbell and Brother Troy Engle be examined and if found worthy exchange papers with him. We recommend the following be examined and if found worthy be ordained as deacons: J. L. Garner, Brother Alexander, Brother Sam Franklin and Brother Austin Parker. We recommend the following be examined and if found worthy be licensed to preach: Brother Robert Armstrong, Brother A. M. Cagle and Brother George La Shum. We recommend the next session go to the Sylacauga Free Will Baptist Church. Chairman Earl Isbell.

STANDING OF MINISTRY, We your committee on the Standing of the Ministry recommend that each minister and deacon that has been requested by their church for a certificate of standing receive the same. Chairman A. L. Harmon.

Ordaining Council

Ordaining council recommended:

1. Lindburgh Church and Oak Grove Church license Sisters Anna Farris and Kathryn Myrick respectively.

2. This conference license Brothers George LaShum, Robert Armstrong, and A. M. Cagle.

3. Renew Elder E. L. Isbell papers destroyed by fire and exchange papers with Elder Troy Engle.

4. That Brothers W. A. Parker, Sam Franklin, O. J. Alexander and J. L. Garner be ordained as deacons.

A motion to accept report as read and ordaining council to proceed with ordaining service.

All ministers and deacons with their wives were invited to altar as council was given by ordaining council and by prayer and the laying on of hands after which the right hand of fellowship was given by delegated body, as song "I'll Meet You in the Morning" was sung.

A poem by Sister Fredrick (The Faithful Few) was recited and enjoyed.

The seventy-third session adjourned October 6, 1951 to meet with Sylacauga First Free Will Baptist Church on Thursday night before the first in October, 1952.

H. A. McSpadden, clerk.

Adjourn.

THE FAITHFUL FEW

Come listen and I'll tell you about the faithful few
You will find them everywhere you go in every church and pew
What would we do without them, oh! my Lord what would we do?
I don't see how in all the world we would ever make it through.

They come out when the sun shines, they come out when it rains
The faithful few are always there they never do complain.
They don't say it's too hot or cold, I'm tired, I don't feel good
Oh! a lot of other things, you've heard the like I'm sure.

We have a lot of slackers too, the Lord knows everyone
They always have some poor excuse when there's something to be done
I never want to join the crowd, you better leave them, too
I'd rather be among the one's that are called the faithful few.

They come out when the pastor's there, and when he's gone away
Thy try to let their light shine out for Jesus everyday.
They don't just stay at home and pout, no not these faithful few
They are on the run to heaven and they want to make it there.

They come out on prayer meeting nights, as Christians ought to do,
Without them we would have a church just full of empty pews
I'm sure the pastor many times wouldn't know what to do
If it were not for those he calls his little faithful few.

And when we have revivals and they run a week or two
Some will come out just on Sunday, some another night or two
Then you will hear the lukewarm member say, this every night won't do,
And I wonder what would happen if there were no faithful few.

I cannot tell, I do not know how heaven's all laid out,
But I do believe with all my heart, I haven't any doubt,
But what God has a special place for all his Faithful few.
And he will surely reward them everyone for everything they do
A home in the beautiful place that's called heaven
Be thou faithful until death and I will give thee a crown of life.

Money Received for Conference in Church Letters

Bethel	\$ 10.00
Oak Grove	5.00
Sylacauga	20.00
Mt. Olive	6.75
North Birmingham	76.70
Pleasant Valley	26.00
Fairview	10.00
Davis Chapel	12.65
Shady Grove	3.00
Mt. Pleasant	2.00
Union Hill	8.00
Ministers and Deacons Enrolled	42.00
Total	\$222.10

MINISTERS ROLL

Elder Jack Rollins.....	Route 1, Adamsville, Alabama
Anna Farris	
Elder James M. McKay.....	Sterrett, Alabama
Elder E. L. Isbell	
Elder W. O. McDonald.....	4224 North 29th Street, Birmingham, Ala.
Elder H. L. Mitchell	1429 No. 20th Street, Birmingham, Ala.

Elder J. J. Staab	2313 No. 33rd Ave., Birmingham, Ala.
Elder R. H. Howard	Sterrett, Alabama
Elder W. R. Parker	
Elder H. H. Blanchard	
Elder Troy Engle	
Elder Earl Isbell.....	Dunnavant, Alabama
Elder M. D. Harper	Marvel, Alabama
Elder James Pickett	2710 Avenue D, Ensley, Alabama
Elder T. J. Oakes	
Elder J. W. Marlow.....	700 West 24th Ave., Birmingham, Ala.
Elder A. M. Cagle	

DEACONS ROLL

Fred Smith	Calvin McCreless
Ed Goodwin	Percy Stokes
Joe Click	Eugene Howard
William Click	C. C. Stone
A. L. Harmon	H. T. Rogers
H. W. Grice	Thurmond Kimbrough
Felix Smith	Billie Britton
S. J. Fowler	Charles Eooth
T. A. Armstrong	C. R. Dean
Roy Kuykendall	H. A. McSpadden
Curtis Brake	Henry Pickett
Jimmie Rollins	Frank Minor
	L. B. Hallmark

By-Laws of Ministers and Deacons Conference of Cahaba River Association

- (1) The clerk or assistant clerk, or the Senior Minister in years, may call the meeting to order and shall have charge until moderator assumes his place.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the clerk to enroll all ministers present who are in good standing. If there are questionable characters they shall be referred to an appointed credential committee for advice but not for trial. They may be seated if found worthy, if not they are referred to their church.
- (3) Each meeting shall be opened with scripture reading and prayer.
- (4) By a two-thirds vote any decision of the moderator may be overruled.
- (5) This meeting shall sit with open doors unless it goes into a committee as a whole.
- (6) Any person, not a member of the body shall be allowed to take part in discussion, with moderator's permission, but shall have no vote.
- (7) All members of the body are expected to be present throughout the session unless excused by moderator.
- (8) No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one officer or committeeman if his nomination is elected.
- (9) The moderator must not allow any discussion to be carried on in an unchristian spirit.
- (10) The person who desires to speak, must first arise and address the moderator and when recognized shall proceed.
- (11) The votes on any question must be counted upon request of one-fifth of members present.
- (12) No member shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes, nor twice on the same subject unless given permission by moderator.

TREASURER REPORT 1950-1951

Total amount received in monthly report	\$210.70
Moderator	\$ 25.00
Clerk	25.00
State Association	15.00
National Association (Cahaba River)	5.00
Postage (Minutes)	4.60
Stamps	.90
Postage (Clerk)	3.00
Plates and Printing	6.50
Minutes	87.50

\$172.50 \$172.50

To Balance on Hand \$ 38.20
Rev. Harry L. Mitchell, Treasurer

HOME MISSION TREASURER REPORT 1950-1951

Total amount balance	\$ 95.90
Total amount from 1st District	188.47
Total amount North Birmingham Church	96.70
Total amount Lindburgh Church	9.88

Total \$390.95

Rev. Harry L. Mitchell, Treasurer

GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES OF CHURCHES

Bethel	\$ 976.81
Lindburgh	562.50
Mt. Pleasant	868.00
Shady Grove	1,270.50
Fairview	1,206.02
Mt. Olive	196.41
Davis Chapel	304.36
Oak Grove	269.70
Sylacauga	5,749.56
Pleasant Valley	716.55
North Birmingham	2,340.79
Union Hill	248.00

\$14,709.20

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1951, 7:00 P. M.

Songs No. 68 "When We All Get to Heaven," and No. 214 "Some Glad Day" and had a special prayer for healing of the body of Brother Roy Johnson and that God would bless in this service.

Song No. 60 "The Old Gospel Ship" and a special song "Come and Dine" by Brother and Sister Sidney Partridge were sung and then the choir sang several good songs, No. 215 "Enough for Me," No. 273 "Near the Cross," No. 63 "Heaven Holds All to Me" and then Brother Bill McSpadden sang a special "When He Reached Down His Hand."

Brother Bates then led No. 206 "Master the Tempest Is Raging," and then the service was turned over to Brother Jack Rollins. His sermon was taken from Acts 3 and 5: "We ought to obey God rather than man," a real good foot washing sermon.

Pastor J. W. Marlow spoke of the most blessed event that ever happened to man.

The communion served a memorial of the sacrifice of our dear Lord and Savior who shed his precious blood that we might live.

Elder H. L. Mitchell conducted the communion service and read I Cor. 13 chapter assisted by Elder Louie Bates and J. W. Marlow.

Elder J. W. Marlow asked God to bless the broken body of our Lord to our souls.

Elder Louie Bates asked God to bless the emblem as the blood of

our Lord to our souls and life through his blood, as circle was made and served by deacons, hearts were blessed. Ordained men were reserved for the last.

He loved us unto the end, a good congregation and a good service.

A song was dedicated to Elder J. W. Marlow by Brother Mitchell, No. 208 "I'll Meet You in the Morning."

Song No. 337 "In the Sweet By and By," was sung and we had an old time hand shake, as we enjoyed the fellowship of the spirit of our Dear Lord and Savior.

Prayer.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by Faith in Christ, and adopting the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves one to another by the will of God, in this solemn Covenant.

We promise, by His Grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity of the world; from all sanction of use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship, and by self-denial, faith and good works, endeavor to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reprove with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the spirit" in the bond of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and, as far as we are able, promote the success of the church of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom may come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of education and denominational enterprises, the evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

CONSTITUTION

Article I

The Association shall be known as The Cahaba River Association of the Free Will Baptist.

Article II

The Association shall be composed of Ministers, Deacons and Delegates of different churches forming the same.

Article III

All ministers and churches wishing to become members of this body must willingly submit to the articles of constitution and all rules of same.

Article IV

Each church composing this Association shall be entitled to three (3) delegates of the first one hundred members and one (1) for each additional fifty (50) or fraction thereof.

Article V

This body shall have a standing Credentials Committee composed of three (3) members. Two ordained ministers or deacons and one (1) layman, whose duty shall be to examine all church letters and applications for membership of churches and ministers and make a report of the same to the body.

Article VI

The officers of the Association shall be composed of Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer. They shall be elected by body each year, at the end of each session. The Treasurer shall serve for a term of two (2) years. He shall handle all money of the Association and shall be bonded.

Article VII

The committees of this body shall be composed of standing members to alternate each session. They shall be composed of three to five members each. The committees are as follows: Credentials, Executive, Ordaining Council, Standing of Ministry, Business, Education, Sabbath School, Family Religion, Literature, Resolutions, Temperance, Deceased Members, Home Missions and Auditing. The Ordaining Council and Standing of Ministry to be composed of ordained men. Any committee-men absent for two (2) consecutive years to be filled by new members.

Article VIII

The General Board shall be composed of the officers of the Association and chairman of each committee. The Moderator to be chairman of this board. The duties of this board will be found in our Treatise, page 61, Section No. 3, 4, 5.

Article IX

This Association shall meet on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October of each year.

Article X

Each church shall pay tithes of their income thus: 25 per cent of tithes to Children's Home, 25 per cent of tithes to Annual Association, 25 per cent of tithes to Home Mission, 15 per cent of tithes to Foreign Mission, 10 per cent of tithes to Super Annuation.

Article XI

Each minister and deacon belonging to this body shall pay an annual fee of \$1.00

Article XII

The clerk shall be paid the sum of \$25.00 annually. The Moderator shall be paid the sum of \$25.00 annually. All other expenditures not specified herein shall be by decision of the body.

Article XIII

This Constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association by two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present, provided proposed amendment or alteration be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

Ministers' Report to Association

No. of Churches Pastored _____ No. of Sermons Preached _____
No. Baptized _____ No. of Funerals Conducted _____ No. of Marriages
Performed _____ No. of Revivals _____ No. of Miles Traveled _____
Amount of Offerings _____ Expense _____
Elder _____
Address _____

TREATISE ARTICLES OF FAITH

Chapter I—The Holy Scriptures

These are the Old and the New Testaments! They are written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed word to man. They are a sufficient and infallible rule and guide to Salvation and all Christian worship and service.

Chapter II—Being and Attributes of God

The Scriptures teach that there is only one true and living God, who is Spirit, self-existent, eternal, immutable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, independent, good, wise, holy, just, and merciful, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of the universe; the Redeemer, Savior, Sanctifier, and Judge of men; and the only proper object of worship.

The mode of His existence, however, is a subject far above the understanding of man—finite beings cannot comprehend Him. There is nothing in the universe that can justly represent Him, for there is none like him. He is the fountain of all perfection and happiness. He is glorified by the whole creation, and is worthy to be loved and served by all intelligence.

Chapter III—Divine Government and Providence

1. God exercises a providential care and superintendence over all his creatures, and governs the world in wisdom and mercy, according to the testimony of His Word.

2. God has endowed man with power of free choice, and governs him by moral laws and motives; and this power of free choice is the exact measure of man's responsibility.

3. All events are present with God from everlasting to everlasting; but His knowledge of them does not in any sense cause them, nor does He decree all events which He knows will occur.

Chapter IV—Creation, Primitive State of Man, and His Fall

Section I—Creation

1. OF THE WORLD. God created the world, and all things that it contains, for His own pleasure and glory and the enjoyment of His creatures.

2. OF THE ANGELS. The angels were created by God to glorify Him and obey His commandments. Those who have kept their first estate He employs in ministering blessings to the heirs of salvation and in executing His judgments upon the world.

3. OF MAN. God created man, consisting of a material body and a thinking, rational soul. He was made in the image of God, to glorify his Maker.

Section II—Primitive Man, and His Fall

Our first parents, in their original state, were upright. They naturally preferred and desired to obey their Creator, and had no preference or desire to transgress His will until they were influenced and inclined by the tempter to disobey God's commands. Previous to this, the only tendency of their nature was to do righteousness. In consequence of the first transgression, the state under which the posterity of Adam came into the world is so different from that of Adam that they have not that righteousness and purity which Adam had before the fall; they are not willing to obey God, but are inclined to evil. Hence none, by virtue of any natural goodness and mere work of their own, can become the children of God, but they are all dependent for salvation upon the redemption effected through the blood of Christ, and upon being created anew unto obedience through the operation of the Spirit, both of which are freely provided for every descendent of Adam.

Chapter V—Of Christ

Section I

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, possesses all divine perfections. As He and the Father are one, He in His divine nature, filled all the offices and performed the works of God to His creatures that have been the subjects of revelations to us. As man, he performed all the duties toward God that we are required to perform, repentance of sin excepted.

His divinity is proved from His titles, His attributes, and His works.

1. HIS TITLES. The Bible ascribes to Christ the titles of Savior, Jehovah, Lord of hosts, the first and the last, God, true God, great God, God over all, mighty God, and the everlasting Father.

2. HIS ATTRIBUTES. He is eternal, unchangeable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, holy, and is to be worshipped.

3. HIS WORKS. By Christ the world was created, He preserves, and governs it; He has provided redemption for all men and He will be their final Judge.

Section II—The Incarnation of Christ

The Word, which in the beginning was with God and which was God, by whom all things were made condescended to a state of humiliation in being united with human nature and becoming like us, pollution and sin excepted. In this state, as a subject of the law, He was liable to the infirmities of our nature, was tempted as we are, but lived our example, perfect obedience to the divine requirements. As Christ was made of the seed of David according to the flesh, He is "the Son of man," and as the divine existence is the fountain from which He proceeded, and was the only agency by which He was begotten, He is "the Son of God," being the only begotten of the Father, and the only incarnation of the Divine Being.

Chapter VI—The Atonement and Mediation of Christ

1. THE ATONEMENT. As sin cannot be pardoned without a sacrifice, and the blood of beasts could never wash away sin, Christ gave Himself a sacrifice for the sins of the world, and thus made salvation possible for all men. He died for us, suffering in our stead, to make known the righteousness, of God, that He might be just in justifying sinners who believe in His Son. Through the redemption effected by Christ, salvation is actually enjoyed in this world, and will be enjoyed in the next by all who do not in this life refuse obedience to the known requirements of God. The atonement for sin was necessary. For present and future obedience can no more blot out our past sins than past obedience can remove the guilt of present and future sins. If God pardoned the sins of men without satisfaction for the violation of His law it would follow that transgression might go on with impunity; government would be abrogated, and the obligation of obedience to God would be, in effect, removed.

2. MEDIATION OF CHRIST. Our Lord not only died for our sins, but He arose for our justification, and ascended up to heaven, where, as the only Mediator between God and man, he makes intercession for us, until He comes again.

3. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons are only subject to the first death, which was brought on by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any one of them dying in that state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin for of such is the Kingdom of God.

Chapter VII—The Holy Spirit

1. The Scriptures ascribe to the Holy Spirit the acts and attributes of an intelligent being. He guides, knows, moves, gives information, commands, forbids, sends forth, reproves, and can be sinned against.

2. The attributes of God are ascribed to the Holy Spirit.

3. The works of God are ascribed to the Holy Spirit; creation, inspiration, giving of life, and sanctification.

4. The apostles assert that the Holy Spirit is Lord and God.

From the foregoing the conclusion is that the Holy Spirit is in reality God, and one with the Father in all divine perfections. It has also been shown that Jesus Christ is God—one with the Father. Then these three: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are one God.

The truth of this doctrine is also proved from the fact that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are united in the authority by which believers are baptized; and in the benedictions pronounced by the apostles, which are acts of the highest religious worship.

Chapter VIII—The Gospel Call

The call of the Gospel is co-extensive with the atonement to all men, both by the word and strivings of the Spirit, so that salvation is rendered equally possible to all, and, if any fail of eternal life, the fault is wholly his own.

Chapter IX—Repentance

The repentance which the Gospel requires includes a deep conviction, a penitential sorrow, an open confession, a decided hatred and an entire forsaking of all sin. This repentance God has enjoined on all men; and without it in this life the sinner must perish eternally.

Chapter X—Faith

Saving faith is an assent of the mind to the fundamental truths of revelation, an acceptance of the Gospel, through the influence of the Holy Spirit, and a firm confidence and trust in Christ. The fruit of faith is obedience to the Gospel. The power to believe is the gift of God, but believing is an act of the creature, which is required as a condition of pardon, and without which the sinner cannot obtain salvation. All men are required to believe in Christ; and those who yield obedience to this requirement become the children of God by faith.

Chapter XI—Regeneration

As man is a fallen and sinful being, he must be regenerated in order to obtain salvation. This change is an instantaneous renewal of the heart by the Holy Spirit, whereby the penitent sinner receives new life, becomes a child of God, and is disposed to serve Him. This is called in Scripture being born again—born of the Spirit, being quickened, passing from death unto life, and a partaking of the divine nature.

Chapter XII—Justification and Sanctification

1. JUSTIFICATION. Personal justification implies that the person justified has been guilty before God, and in consideration of the atonement of Christ, accepted by faith, the sinner is pardoned and absolved from the guilt of sin and restored to the divine favor. Christ's atonement is the foundation of the sinner's redemption, yet, without repentance and faith, it can never give him justification and peace with God.

2. SANTIFICATION is the continuing of God's grace by which the Christian may constantly grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Chapter XIII—Perseverance of the Saints

There are strong grounds to hope that the truly regenerate will persevere unto the end, and be saved, through the power of divine

grace which is pledged for their support, but their future obedience and final salvation are neither determined nor certain, since through infirmity and manifold temptations they are in danger of falling; and they ought therefore to watch and pray, lest they make shipwreck of their faith and be lost.

Chapter XIV—The Sabbath

This is one day in seven, which from the creation of the world God has set apart for sacred rest and holy service. Under the former dispensation, the seventh day of the week as commemorative of the work of creation, was set apart for the Sabbath. Under the Gospel, the first day of the week, in commemoration of the resurrection of Christ, and by authority of Christ and the apostles, is observed as the Christian Sabbath. On this day all men are required to refrain from secular labor and devote themselves to the worship and service of God.

Chapter XV—The Church

A CHRISTIAN CHURCH is an organized body of believers in Christ, who statedly assemble to worship God, and who sustain the ordinances of the Gospel according to the Scriptures. Believers in Christ are admitted to this church on giving evidence of faith in Christ, obtaining consent of the body, being baptized, and receiving the right hand of fellowship.

The Church of God, or members of the body of Christ, is the whole body of Christians throughout the whole world, and none but the regenerate are its members.

Chapter XVI—Tithing

Both the Old and New Scriptures teach Tithing as God's financial plan for the support of His work.

Chapter XVII—The Gospel Ministry

1. QUALIFICATION OF MINISTERS. They must possess good, natural and acquired abilities, deep and ardent piety, be especially called of God to the work, and ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands.

2. DUTIES OF MINISTERS. These are to preach the Word, administer the ordinances of the Gospel, visit their people, and otherwise perform the work of faithful ministers.

Chapter XVIII—Ordinances of the Gospel

1. CHRISTIAN BAPTISM. This is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ, the death of Christ, the death of Christians to the world, the washing of their souls from the pollution of sin, their rising to newness of life, their engagement to serve God, and their resurrection at the last day.

2. THE LORD'S SUPPER. This is a commemoration of the death of Christ for our sins, in the use of bread which He made the emblem of His broken body, and the cup, the emblem of His shed blood, and by it the believer expresses his love for Christ, his faith and hope in Him, and pledges to Him perpetual fidelity.

It is the privilege and duty of all who have spiritual union with Christ to commemorate His death; and no man has a right to forbid these tokens to the least of His disciples.

3. WASHING THE SAINTS FEET. This is a sacred ordinance, which teaches humility, and reminds the believer of the necessity of a daily cleansing from all sin. It was instituted by the Lord Jesus

Christ, and called an "example" on the night of His betrayal, and in connection with the institution of the Lord's Supper. It is the duty and happy prerogative of every believer to observe this sacred ordinance.

Chapter XIX—Death

1. DEATH—As a result of sin, all mankind, is subject to the death of the body. The soul does not die with the body; but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the character here possessed.

Chapter XX—Second Coming of Christ

The Lord Jesus, who ascended on high, and sits at the right hand of God, will come again, to close the Gospel dispensation, glorify His saints, and judge the world.

Chapter XXI—The Resurrection

The Scriptures teach the resurrection of the bodies of all men, each in its own order; they that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil to the resurrection of damnation.

Chapter XXII—The Final Judgment and Final Retribution

1. THE FINAL JUDGMENT. There will be a final judgment, when time and man's probation will close forever. Then all men will be judged according to their works.

2. FINAL RETRIBUTION. Immediately after the final judgment, the righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked will go into a state of endless punishment.

Name of Church	Clerks																	
	No. Members	No. Baptized	No. Ministers	Members Received	Deceased	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Paid Orphanage	Home Missions	Foreign Mission	Un.f.ed Program	Conference Expense	Improvements	Sunday School Av. Attendance	League	Auxiliary	Property	
Pleasant Valley	23	0	0	0	0	\$ 385.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 136.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 12.75	\$ 8.25	\$ 26.00	\$ 67.62	30	0	0	\$ 3000.00	Mrs. Cecil Hodgens, Chelsea, Alabama
No. Birmingham	102	1	5	28	0	1300.00	299.36	187.37	96.70	58.57	0	76.70	250.00	50	0	10	10000.00	Mr. Charles R. Dean, 1623 11th Ct., No., B'ham, Ala.
Union Hill	63	0	0	0	1	150.00	40.00	0	0	0	0	8.00	50.00	0	0	0	2500.00	Mrs. Halev Andrews, Vandiver, Alabama
Mt. Pleasant	22	1	0	1	0	400.00	58.00	210.00	200.00	0	0	0		9	0	0	2500.00	Mr. J. W. Barnett, Sprott, Alabama
Bethel	84	3	3	9	1	475.00	0	64.53	0	0	0	100.00	136.03	42	0	0	5000.00	Mrs. Henry Pickett, Route 1, Marvel, Alabama
Lindburgh	20	0		0	0	325.00	18.10	200.00	10.00	8.90	0	0		50	0	0		Mrs. Billie Rollins, Route 1, Adamsville, Alabama
Shady Grove	56	7	2	8	0	635.70	127.80	231.35	0	0	0	0	245.65	45	0	11	1000.00	Mrs. Joe Click, Jr., Route 2, Adamsville, Alabama
Fairview	114	28	1	42	0	524.74	72.29	80.57	85.97	0	0	24.88	416.54	65	50	50	4500.00	Mr. Ed Goodwin, Route 2, Trussville, Alabama
Mt. Olive	42	0	0	4	0	104.00	20.58	22.64	0	0	0	6.75	42.04	50	0	0	1500.00	Mrs. Lottie K. Isabell, Route 1, Dunavant, Alabama
Davis Chapel	45	0	0	4	0	227.94	47.77	16.00	0	2.65	0	10.00		30	0	0	2500.00	Mrs. Willie L. Caudle, Sterrett, Alabama
Oak Grove	35	4	0	11	0	249.12		20.58	0	0	0	0		86	0	0	2500.00	Mr. Narvel Franklin, Birmingham, Route 7
Sylacauga	127	3	0	5	0	1580.00	385.50	150.00	0	27.81	28.07	20.00	3320.85	82	42		10000.00	Mr. Grady Collins, Sylacauga, Alabama
TOTAL	733	47	11	112	2	\$6386.50	\$1129.40	\$1319.04	\$414.67	\$100.68	\$36.32	\$271.63	\$4528.85	291	92	71	\$45000.00	