

# **MINUTES**

**OF THE**

***Seventy-Fourth Annual Session***

**OF THE**

## **Cahaba River Free Will Baptist Association**

**CONVENED WITH**

***First Free Will Baptist Church***

**SYLACAUGA, ALABAMA**

***October 2-3-4, 1952***

### **OFFICERS**

Moderator ..... Jack Rollins  
Rt. 1, Adamsville, Alabama

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

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

The 75th Session of the Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptist  
Will meet with the Union Hill Church of Vandiver, Alabama on  
Thursday Night before the First Sunday in October 1953



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# MINISTERS

## REPORT

	Church Pastored	Sermons Preached	Baptized	Funerals	Marriages	Revivals	Miles Traveled	Offerings	Expenses	Churches Organized
Elder Geo. A. La Shum Empire, Route 1	2	110	0			4	1800	\$ 55.00	\$	0
Elder Dewey Isbell Leeds, Alabama	1	125	0	4	0	2	4000	1100.00		0
Elder J. J. Staab 2313 No. 33rd Ave., B'ham	1		2	0	1		1000	43.00	25.00	1
Elder W. O. McDonald 4224 No. 29th St., B'ham	0	12	0	0	0	1	360	15.90	30.90	0
Elder Jack Rollins Adamsville, Ala., Route 1	1	118	6	1	0	3	5000	391.73	156.00	1
Elder Earl Isbell Dunavant, Alabama	0	28		1	1					
Elder Lonnie M. Goodwin 2307 No. 1st Ave., Leeds, Ala.	0	34	0	0	1					
Elder Maxwell Harper Marvel, Alabama, Route 1	2	175	0	1	2	4	10000	750.00	150.00	
Elder James M. Pickett Sylacauga, Alabama	1	156	7	5	0	1	1000	1900.00	1900.00	
Elder Troy Engle Leeds, Alabama	1	99	0	2	0	3	3848	478.64		
Elder J. W. Marlow 700 W. 24th Ave., B'ham	1	136	9	1	0	2	5000	1546.00	500.00	
Elder E. L. Isbell Sterrett, Ala., Route 1	1	58	0	4	0	2	1700	146.91	65.95	
Elder R. H. Howard Sterrett, Ala., Route 1	1	39	0	1	0	2	170	30.36		

# OCTOBER 2, 1952—THURSDAY NIGHT

The 74th Annual Session of the Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptist convened with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Sylacauga, Alabama. Worship Service began by singing several good songs.

Welcome address by Elder James Pickett.

Devotional Service conducted by Elder M. D. Harper. Reading Genesis 17:1—"I am the Almighty God, walk before Me and be thou perfect."

Evening Message by Elder H. L. Mitchell. Scripture Reading Matthew 7:21.

Both devotion and message very timely and spiritual. Enjoyed by the congregation.

Prayer and dismissal.

# OCTOBER 3, 1952

The 74th Session of the Cahaba River Association of the Free Will Baptist Church assembled with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Sylacauga.

Opening song, "Just Over in the Glory Land."

Welcome address by Elder James Pickett, pastor.

Prayer by Brother Felix Smith.

Conference called to order by Clerk of the Association, H. A. McSpadden.

Regular elected Moderator, Elder Jack Rollins, not being present, Elder Dewey Isbell, Assistant Moderator, proceeded with business of conference.

Reading Ephesians 4:7.

At this time letters from the churches were called for and given to the Credential Committee.

Songs: "I'll Live On" and "There Shall be Showers of Blessing."

Response of delegates and testimonies were given with gladness of heart and praise to our Blessed Redeemer.

# REPORT OF CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

We find all letters to be in order and certified by churches.

Signed—H. L. Mitchell, W. N. Hodgins, and Robert Armstrong

A motion to accept report of Committee. Accepted.

Letters read by Elder H. L. Mitchell and accepted.

Delegates seated and visiting Brethren were invited to sit with us.

By motion of the delegated body the Woman's Auxiliary were seated in conference.

# CHURCH DELEGATES

Sylacauga Church Delegates. Sisters: Troy Kendrick, Lela Harmon, H. W. Grice, Margie Pickett, and Brother Jesse Pickett.

Mt. Pleasant Delegates. Sister Dunkin, Peggy Jones, and Brother Roy Hodgins.

Bethel Church Delegates. Brothers Charlie Booth, Milford Dailey, and Sisters Myrtle Smitherman and Tommie Booth.

Tarrant City Church Delegate. Sister Esther Stamps.

Dillworth Church Delegates. Sisters: Nell Cooke, Savanah Haynes, Geneva Pugh, and Wash.

Davis Chapel Church Delegates. Sisters: Virgie Mae Oakes, Lenora Davis, and Brother Zimmer Brasher.

Pleasant Valley Church Delegates. Brother Leo Kendrick, Sisters Mary Shirley and Mary Kendrick.



Union Hill Church Delegates. Brothers Claud Howard, Ramond Champion, and Sister Lola Champion.

Oak Grove Church Delegates. Brothers Narvel Franklin and L. B. Hallmark.

Fairview Church Delegates. Sisters: Louise Webb, Alma Terrell, Beck Harris and Anita Day.

Mt. Olive Church Delegates. Sisters: Leacy Isbell, Elvie Mae Minor, and Betty Isbell.

North Birmingham Church Delegates. Sisters: Rumell Kimbrough, Mary McSpadden and Brother H. O. Walton.

Shady Grove Church. By letter.

Elder H. L. Mitchell appointed Assistant Moderator, Pro Tem.

### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Devotional Committee—Sister Myrtle Smitherman, Brothers Jesse Pickett and I. C. Howard.

Standing of the Ministry Committee—Elder James Pickett, Eugene Howard, and Sister Mary McSpadden.

Business Committee—Elders E. L. Isbell, H. L. Mitchell and Troy Ingle.

Ordaining Council Committee—Earl Isbell, R. H. Howard, W. N. Hodgens, H. L. Mitchell and Felix Smith.

Deceased Members Committee—Anita Day and Lola Davis.

Family Religion Committee—Sister Oakes and Sister Mary Shirley.

Sunday School Committee—Sisters: Billie Isbell and Mary Kendrick.

League Committee—Sisters: Louise Webb and Becky Harris.

Temperance Committee—Sisters: Alma Terrell, Maxwell Harper and Brother Brasher.

Song: "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand."

Prayer.

15 Minute Recess.

### 11:00 A. M. FRIDAY

Elder Harry L. Mitchell conducted devotional service.

Song.

Special: "That Will Be the Last Move for Me," sung by by Brother J. U. Keeton's daughter.

Prayer by Brother Harry L. Mitchell.

Reading Psalm 119:105 "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a Light unto my path." (Comment)

Testimony Service: Numerous testimonies glorifying our Blessed Redeemer, in Power and Fellowship of the Spirit.

Special: "He Whispers Sweet Peace to Me" by Brother and Sister H. A. McSpadden, as congregation rejoiced in Old Time Hand Shake.

Preaching Service. Sermon by Elder R. H. Howard. Scripture 2nd Peter 1:1-11.

Prayer.

Announcements by Pastor, Elder James Pickett.

12:00 Noon—Lunch.

1:30 P. M.—Song: "Love Lifted Me."

Prayer at altar (Unison).

### WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Sister Joe Brazzell, President, opened Auxiliary with an inspiring message to ladies and their local chapters.

Song: "When the Redeemed Are Gathered In."

Prayer: Elder Robert Armstrong.

Devotional Scripture Reading. Acts 16:13-15.

Auxiliary called to order for business.

Reading of Minutes.

Letters received and read. Delegates seated.

#### Sylacauga Collections

Dues	\$ 38.42
Tithes	21.05
Other	70.05
Total	\$129.52

#### Disbursements

Convention Dues	\$ 1.80
Children's Home	60.00
Literature	7.75
Building Fund	15.00
Other	52.09
Total	\$136.64

#### North B'ham Collections

Total Collected	\$119.16
Disbursements	73.04
	\$ 46.12

#### Disbursements

Food Donations	\$ 25.00
Children's Home	4.68
Foreign Mission	3.00
Dues	1.00
Gifts for Pastor's	
Wife (J. W. Marlow)	12.36
Literature	11.00
Flowers	16.00
	\$ 73.04

#### Fairview Church Income

Quilting	\$ 56.00
Offerings	101.42
Total	146.42
	119.22
Balance	\$ 27.20

#### Disbursements

Flowers	\$ 21.12
Lights for Church	14.45
Curtains	27.99
Doors	10.00
Fruit	11.00
Sheets	4.93
Lumber	9.46
Books	7.35
Misc. and Gifts	12.92
	\$119.22

Prayer by Sister H. L. Mitchell for guidance in election of officers.

### ELECTION FOR AUXILIARY

President, Sister Lena Brazzell; 1st Vice Pres., Sister A. L. Harmon; 2nd Vice Pres., Sister H. W. Grice; 3rd Vice Pres., Sister H. L. Mitchell; 4th Vice Pres., Sister Mary McSpadden; 5th Vice Pres., Sister Louise Webb; Secretary and Treasurer, Sister Norman Shirley.

Dillworth Church—Newly organized auxiliary with eight members.



Sister Mosely, President. Sister Easter, Secretary and Treasurer.

We request a field worker from you to visit us.—Mrs. Jewell Easter.  
Route 1, Empire, Alabama.

Special song by Elder James Pickett, "Enough for Me."

Prayer by Brother Eugene Howard.

Announcements.

Prayer by Elder J. W. Marlow.

Evening lunch served at church by ladies.

6:00 P. M.—Evening Worship.

Prayer by Elder Elige Isbell.

Song: "Praise Him, Praise Him."

Devotion by Elder Robert Ritch. St. John 14:1-6. Very Spiritual and enlightening.

Testimony Service.

A joyous time of rejoicing as children of God gave testimonies in the Fellowship of the Spirit.

Evening Message by Elder Dewey Isbell. Scripture Isaiah 51. Luke

4. Subject: "An Open Door and the Keys to the Kingdom."

Prayer by Brother Dewey Isbell. Song: "Wonderful Jesus." Congregation shook hands and praised our Dear Savior for hopes of eternal glory through faith in His name.

Talk on Children's Home by Elder Harry L. Mitchell and collection received for same.

Song: "I'll Fly Away."

Ministers conference called to order by clerk.

Moderator Elder J. W. Marlow proceeded with meeting. Reading I Peter 5:1-7.

Call for Peace of Fellowship.

Song: "In the Sweet By and By."

Minutes read and accepted.

By Laws read by Elder H. L. Mitchell, Assistant Moderator. A motion for Moderator to appoint someone to discuss Christian Sabbath. Passed.

Elder R. P. Ritch appointed.

Opportunity for Membership.

Presented: Elders Robert Armstrong, R. P. Ritch, E. A. Lokey, Deacons H. W. Grice, Grady Collins, Marshall Kendrick, Austin Parker, T. A. Armstrong, and A. L. Harmon.

Right Hand of Fellowship given. Song: "Heaven Holds All to Me."

### NEW BUSINESS

Two articles were offered to be placed in by-laws. No. 13 that all ministers belonging to this body be required to support all committees and boards elected or appointed by Association, (such as Home Mission Board, Building Committee, etc.). No. 14 that this body ordain no one until he has carried license for one year and proved himself worthy of ordination.

Vote cast after discussion by standing vote and count.

Vote for placing articles into by-laws—12.

Vote against same—9. Passed by majority.

Elder R. P. Ritch spoke on subject for discussion, "The Christian Sabbath."

We don't profess to keep the Sabbath, we keep the Lord's day.

My Holy Day, saith the Scriptures. John said, I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day. Another place, "The Day of our Lord." Christ is Lord of the Sabbath. And several other Scriptures bearing these facts.

Elder Dewey Isbell spoke on God's command for the Sabbath to be kept forever.

Elder James Pickett spoke of the law as types and shadows.

H. A. McSpadden spoke on The Sabbath for Man.

One day in seven for regeneration, to restore, replenish, rest.

Rest from labor to restore energy. Rest from cares of the world.

To worship and restore soul.

A motion to discuss next year "The Soul of Man." "The Spirit of Man." A motion to give moderator permission at beginning of next conference to appoint someone to discuss subject.

### AMENDMENT

Amendment to have moderator open and discuss this subject.

Amendment voted on and passed final motion as amended to read. Moderator to bring before body this subject, discuss and/or have someone discuss same.

Election of officers.

Motion to retain same officers. Passed.

Motion to adjourn.

Prayer.

### SATURDAY 9:00 A. M.

Song: "Love Lifted Me."

Prayer in Unison at altar.

Clerk called conference to order for business.

Elder Jack Rollins, Moderator welcomed all present and expressed his thanks to our Blessed Saviour for the privilege of being in conference and enjoying the Fellowship of the Children of God.

Conference opened for business.

Business committee and Ordaining council called for replacements in absence of committeemen not present.

Elders R. P. Ritch and Lonnie Goodwin appointed, respectfully.

A motion was offered to combine business and ordaining council.

Vote failed to pass, leaving committee to act on their own initiative.

### SATURDAY 10:30 A. M.

Elder Clark Townsend conducted devotional service.

Songs: "An Empty Mansion" and "I Am Bound for the Promised Land."

A very joyous time as Saints testified to the glory of Jesus in Fellowship of the Spirit.

Special Prayer asked for Sisters Townsend and Isbell.

11:00 A. M.—Message of the hour by Elder Jack Rollins, Moderator of the Association. Subject: II Kings 5.

Announcements by Elder James Pickett, Pastor of Church.

12:00 Noon—A bountiful supply served by ladies of the church. Enjoyed by all. The Fellowship was wonderful.

1:30 P. M.

Opening Song: "Where the Soul Never Dies."



Conference opened by Moderator.

Election of Officers—Elder Robert P. Ritch, Moderator; Elder Dewey Isbell, Assistant Moderator; H. A. McSpadden, Clerk; Elder James Pickett, Assistant Clerk.

Executive Committee—Chairman, Elder M. D. Harper, Elder Dewey Isbell, C. F. McCreless.

Delegate to State Association, Sister Ruth Strickland.

Home Mission Board: Chairman, Elder J. W. Marlow, H. W. Grice, Elder George LaShum.

A motion was passed to have Sacrament and feet washing on Friday night instead of Saturday night hereafter in Association Meetings.

Report of Committees called for and read. (See Reports of Committees.)

Union Hill Church chosen for next Session of Conference.

Note: On Friday P. M. partial report of ordaining council to reinstate Elders Robert P. Ritch and E. A. Lokey to full function of Ministry in Free Will Baptist and full fellowship with Cahaba River Association.

Recommended Robert Armstrong to be ordained as minister of the Gospel. Report accepted.

Council proceeded with ordination of Brother Armstrong. Elder R. P. Ritch gave charge to candidate, reading scripture from I Timothy. Prayer of Consecration by Elder James Pickett and laying on of hands by Council.

Saturday P. M.—Ordination of Brother L. B. Hallmark to the Ministry and Marshall Kendrick as deacon.

Elder R. P. Ritch gave charge to candidates, laying on of hands as prayer of consecration by Elder Elige Isbell, Elder Leonard Lively and W. W. Pugh, deacon, were given right hand of fellowship into this Association along with candidates.

Song: "When the Saints Go Marching In."

Congregation stood and sang "Ortonville," "How Sweet the Name of Jesus" in memory of Elder J. E. (Uncle June) Hodgens and his life's work in the Cahaba River Association.

Announcements.

Adjournment.

Prayer by Elder Jack Rollins.

Elder Jack Rollins, Moderator	H. A. McSpadden, Clerk
Rt. 1, Adamsville, Alabama	Rt. 9, Box 231-F, Birmingham, Ala.

## **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1952**

### **P. M. Service**

After a good song service, Elder W. O. McDonald conducted devotional in a good spiritual testimony service.

The testimonies were given to the praise and honor of our Blessed Redeemer Jesus the Christ.

Message by Elder Robert Armstrong.

Pastor, Elder James Pickett, conducted communion and feet washing service in remembrance of Him who communed with His disciples and washed their feet setting us an example to follow in His steps, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." I Corinthians 11:25.

A glorious time was had by all present.

Dismissed by prayers.

## ***By-Laws of Ministers and Deacons***

## ***Report of Committees and Treasurer***

## ***Constitution and Articles of Faith***



## 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.
- (13) All ministers belonging to this body are required to support all committees and boards elected or appointed by Association, (such as Home Mission Board, Building Committee, etc.).
- (14) This body ordains no one until he has carried license for one year and proved himself worthy of ordination.

### MINISTERS

Elder Lonnie M. Goodwin*	Leeds, Alabama
Elder Harry H. Blanchard	Alton, Alabama
Elder Roy Johnson*	Route 1, Adamsville, Alabama
Elder George LaShum*	2309 Ave. C., Ensley, Ala.
Elder L. B. Hallmark	Route 7, Birmingham, Alabama
Elder A. M. Cagle, Licensed	
Elder D. M. Calvert, Licensed	
Elder H. O. Walton, Licensed	
Elder Leonard Lively*	Route 1, Empire, Alabama
Elder E. D. Aycok	Jasper, Alabama
Elder W. O. Mitchell	
Elder R. H. Howard*	Route 1, Sterrett, Alabama
Elder Robert Armstrong*	Sylacauga, Alabama
Elder Clark Townsend*	
Elder James Pickett*	
Elder Maxwell Harper*	Route 1, Marvel, Alabama
Elder Bill Pickett	Route 1, Marvel, Alabama
Elder Dewey F. Isbell*	Leeds, Alabama
Elder J. J. Staab	2312 North 33rd Avenue, Birmingham, Ala.
Elder R. K. Franklin	2213 North 31st Avenue, Birmingham, Ala.
Elder H. L. Mitchell*	1429 North 20th Street, Birmingham, Ala.
Elder J. W. Marlow*	700 West 24th Avenue, Birmingham, Ala.
Elder Johnnie Britton	25 North 29th Avenue, Birmingham, Ala.
Elder Robert P. Ritch*	Fultondale, Alabama
Elder Ira C. Gow	
Elder H. M. Black	Adamsville, Alabama
Elder W. O. McDonald*	4224 North 29th Street, Birmingham, Ala.

Elder A. R. Barron	Ensley, Alabama
Elder W. R. Parker	38th Avenue, 28th Street, Birmingham, Ala.
Elder E. L. Isbell*	Vandiver, Alabama
Elder James M. McKay	Sterrett, Alabama
Elder T. J. Oakes	
Elder Troy Engle*	
Elder Earl Isbell*	Dunivant, Alabama
Elder E. A. Lokey	Dunivant, Alabama

Note: \*Those who registered at Conference.  
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### DEACONS

Elbert Pitts	J. L. Garner
V. R. Ewing	C. S. Kendrick
L. C. Abbott	W. N. Hodgins*
W. W. Pugh*	B. E. Martin
Johnnie Parker*	Frank Pickett
Austin Parker*	Henry Pickett*
J. W. Isbell	C. B. Boothe
O. J. Alexander*	John Boothe
Sam Franklin	James Kitchens
Calvin McCreless*	Ed Harkins
A. J. Smith	C. C. Stone*
Robert Harris	J. M. Nichols
Ed Goodwin*	H. T. Rogers*
Ellis Goodwin	T. A. Armstrong*
John Poe	A. L. Harmon*
Henry McLaughlin	Felix Smith*
D. N. Davis	S. J. Fowler*
Frank Minor*	Grady Collins*
Shellie Isbell	Roy Kuykendall
Percy Stokes*	Curtis Brake*
Eugene Howard*	Jimmie Rollins*
Billie Britton*	H. W. Grice*
Thurmond Kimbrough*	Joe Click, Jr.
W. T. Wolfe	William Click
H. A. McSpadden*	J. V. Keeton*

### REPORT OF COMMITTEES

#### Credential Committee

We your Credential Committee report all letters in order, properly signed and money accounted for. H. L. Mitchell, Chairman.  
Report accepted.

#### Devotional Committee

Friday	10:30 A. M.—Elder H. L. Mitchell	Devotional Service
	11:00 A. M.—Elder R. H. Howard	Message
	6:00 P. M.—Elder Robert Ritch	Devotional Service
	6:30 P. M.—Elder Dewey Isbell	Message
Saturday	10:30 A. M.—Elder Clark Townsend	Devotional Service
	11:00 A. M.—Elder Jack Rollins	Message
	7:00 P. M.—Elder H. W. Grice	Devotional Service
	8:00 P. M.—Elder Robert Armstrong	Message

Jesse Pickett, Myrtle Smitherman, and I. C. Howard.

#### Standing of Ministry

We recommend all ministers and deacons certified by their churches as in good standing be granted a certificate of standing.  
Minnie Pickett, Eugene Howard, Mary McSpadden.

#### Family Religion

We recommend consecration of our homes and lives to Christ daily through reading of the Scripture and Prayer at family altar. The importance of teaching and training our children cannot be estimated as we show our Christian attitude more clearly in our homes than anywhere else. Guard against sin and be a living example of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by love and fellowship to others.  
Mrs. Norman Shirley, Virgie Mae Oakes.



### Deceased Members

We bow in silent meditation and memory of these our beloved deceased and extend our love and sympathy to the families and friends: Bro. Homer Brooks, James Harris, W. H. Owsley of Sylacauga Church. Bro. J. E. Brasher of Davis Chapel Church. Elder J. E. (Uncle June) Hodgens of Bethel Church.  
Signed Lenora Davis and Anita Day.

### League

We resolve to work faithfully with our leaguers to train them in all phases of the league and help them build on the foundation of the Bible to impress on every one the importance of the league and keep it working in the church.  
Signed Mrs. Louise Webb and Mrs. Becky Harris.

### Business Committees

1. We recommend that at the beginning of each session of this association that articles of faith be read. Accepted.
  2. We recommend Bro. Robert Ritch, E. A. Lokey and Robert Armstrong to the ordaining council.
  3. We recommend to this body that they sponsor the program of the Home Mission Board. Accepted.
  4. We recommend Elder W. R. Parker be issued a Gold Certificate of Standing. Accepted.
  5. We recommend request of Oak Grove Church in regards Bro. G. B. Beaty be given to executive committee.
  6. At request of Dillworth Church Elder W. O. Mitchell be issued New Papers.
  7. That Leonard Lively be referred to Ordaining Council.
  8. Bro. L. B. Hallmark and Bro. Franklin be referred to Ordaining Council for examination.
  9. That all committees appointed be in effect until end of Conference.
- Signed Harry L. Mitchell, Chairman.

### Ordaining Council

We recommend Elder Robert P. Ritch and Elder E. A. Lokey to full fellowship of this association and be issued a Certificate of Standing. Accepted.

We recommend Bro. Leonard Lively and Bro. W. W. Pugh be given Certificate of Standing.

We have examined the following and recommend them for ordination: Bro. Robert Armstrong and Bro. L. B. Hallmark to full function of the Ministry. Bro. Marshall Kendrick as deacon.

We have examined Bro. Franklin and have not found him qualified at present to be ordained to full function of the Ministry and refer him back to his church.

Elders H. L. Mitchell, Chairman, R. P. Ritch, R. H. Howard, E. L. Isbell, L. M. Goodwin, Earl Isbell, Troy Engle.

### MONEY RECEIVED FROM CHURCHES AND REGISTRATION OF MINISTERS AND DEACONS

Bethel .....	\$ 10.00
Oak Grove .....	5.00
Sylacauga .....	25.00
Mt. Olive .....	6.00
North Birmingham .....	87.71
Fairview .....	10.00
Pleasant Valley .....	10.00
Union Hill .....	8.00
Mt. Pleasant .....	20.00
Tarrant City .....	2.50
Davis Chapel .....	10.00
Dillworth .....	5.00
Shady Grove .....	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$204.21
Deacons and Ministers .....	42.00
	<hr/>
Received .....	\$246.21

### TREASURE REPORT AND ASSOCIATION EXPENSES

Balance Forwarded .....	\$ 38.20	
Total Amount Received .....	222.10	
	<hr/>	\$260.30
Moderator .....	\$ 25.00	
Clerk .....	25.00	
State Association .....	15.00	
National Association .....	5.00	
Clerk's Expenses .....	5.00	
Minutes and Postage .....	114.00	189.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$189.00	\$ 71.30
Total Balance on Hand .....		\$ 71.30

Harry L. Mitchell, Treasurer

### TREASURE REPORT OF FUNDS PLEASANT VALLEY CHURCH

Total Amount Received .....	\$ 89.00	
Total Association Expenses .....	\$ 26.00	
Orphanage .....	21.00	
Homes Mission .....	21.00	
College .....	15.25	
Superannuation .....	5.75	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 89.00	\$ 89.00
		<hr/>
		00.00

Harry L. Mitchell, Treasurer

### TREASURE REPORT 1951-1952

Total Amount Balance 1950-1951 .....	\$390.95	
Amount Received North Birmingham 10-31 .....	\$ 10.16	
	11-31 .....	8.87
	12-31 .....	6.84
	1-31 .....	6.96
	2-30 .....	7.35
	3-30 .....	7.19
	4-30 .....	10.13
	5-30 .....	5.82
	6-30 .....	6.59
	7-30 .....	5.74
	8-30 .....	10.83
	9-30 .....	5.68
	<hr/>	
	\$102.16	
Lindburgh Church .....	2.34	104.50

Total Balance \$104.50 \$495.45  
Harry L. Mitchell, Treasurer Home Mission

### 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 sinful amusements and unholy confirmity 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 and 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 Superannuation.

## 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, Presever, 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	No. Members	New Members	No. Baptized	No. Dismissed	No. Deceased	Church Valuation	Improvements	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Unified Program	Children's Home	Home Mission	Conference Expenditure	Benevolence	Sick Visits	Trays to Sick	Sunday School Membership	League Membership	Other Expenses	Total Paid Out
Sylacauga	152	19	7	2	3	\$12000.00	\$2387.63	\$1845.00	140.00	\$16.60	\$ 127.00	\$ 11.10		\$460.22	453	33	101	45	\$370.16	\$5,213.79
Mt. Pleasant	23	0	0	0	0	750.00		400.00	70.00		205.00						25			
Bethel	86	2	0	1	1	7000.00		547.50	81.00		65.00						50		510.30	
Tarrant City	22	2	0	0	0			43.00			7.00	7.00					28			
Pleasant Valley	28	5	0	0	0	2500.00	46.00	482.00	176.00		120.00	21.00					35			
No. Birmingham	70	25	8	19	0	10000.00	470.60	1400.00	402.45		291.79	102.16	87.71	39.42			82	25	439.55	
Davis Chapel	45				1	2500.00		73.75	30.72								40			
Mt. Olive	47	5	4	3	0	1500.00	47.50	115.32	49.77		18.03						35			
Fairview	114	7	6	5	5	4500.00		501.47	100.05		106.00						60	45		
Oak Grove	45	7	2	3	0	2500.00		401.85	29.25								79			
Union Hill	70	7	7	0	0	2500.00		47.04	50.00		10.00									
Dillworth	60	7	0	0	0				7.00		11.26						69			
Graysville	20																			
Shady Grove	56	7	5	3	0	1000.00		371.20	50.18		135.00						55	35		
TOTAL	842	85				\$46750.00		\$6230.93	\$1186.42		\$1096.08									

NAME OF CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK	ADDRESS
SYLACAUGA	James Pickett	Earline Fowler	Gantts Quarry
MT. PLEASANT	Maxwell D. Harper	J. W. Barnett	Sprott, Alabama
BETHEL	Arthur Barker	Minnie Pickett	Route 1, Marvel, Alabama
TARRANT CITY	J. J. Staab	Esther R. Gamble	
PLEASANT VALLEY	Maxwell Harper	Mrs. Cecil Hodgins	Route 1, Chelsea, Alabama
NORTH BIRMINGHAM	J. W. Marlow	Mrs. Mary McSpadden	Rt. 9, Box 231-F, Birmingham, Ala.
DAVIS CHAPEL	E. L. Isbell	Mrs. Willie Caudle	Route 1, Sterrett, Alabama
MT. OLIVE	Melton Dutton	Lottie Isbell	Dunavant, Alabama
FAIRVIEW	Harry H. Blanchard	Ed. Goodwin	Route 2, Trussville, Alabama
OAK GROVE	Roy Johnson	George Lashum	
UNION HILL	Robert Armstrong	Halia Andrews	Vandiver, Alabama
DILLWORTH	George Lashum	Francis Lively	Empire, Alabama
GRAYSVILLE	Jack Rollins	Mrs. Jack Rollins	Graysville, Alabama
SHADY GROVE	Louie Bates	Mrs. Joe Click Jr.	Route 2, Adamsville, Alabama