

**THE
FIRST FREE WILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
OF
CALIFORNIA**

1947

**Proceedings of The
4th Annual Session**

**Convened at
Turlock Church**

RULES OF ORDER

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator or in their absence the oldest minister present shall call the Association into conference.

2. Each session shall be opened and closed by prayer.

3. Five members from two or more churches shall constitute a quorum. A less number may adjourn until such quorum is present.

4. Visiting brethren are invited to seats as advisory members.

5. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.

7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.

9. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.

10. The ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds majority membership voting.

11. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed in its own church.

12. At each Association arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their equivalent devotional exercises each day.

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

OF

CALIFORNIA

Held With
Turlock Church, Turlock, Calif.

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. F. A. McCage, Orange Cove, Calif.
Ass't. Moderator, Rev. E. E. Morris, Box 91, Ceres, Calif.
Clerk, Bertha Evans, 151 Sierra View Ave., Porterville, Calif.
Ass't Clerk, Mae Graham, Route 1, Box 760, Turlock, Calif.
State Evangelist, Eld. Lester Davis, Box 21, Selma, Calif.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Eld. E. E. Morris, (five years) new member. Box 91, Ceres, Calif.
Eld. H. E. Dickson, (four years) Arvin, Calif.
Eld. George McLain, (three years) Box 423, Kerman, Calif.
Eld. J. R. Evans, (two years) 151 Sierra View Ave., Porterville, Calif.

Eld. Earl Jenson, (one year) Selma, Calif.

The next annual session will be held with the Kerman Church, Kerman, Calif. on Wednesday night before the first Sunday in May, 1948.

PROCEEDINGS

The fourth annual session of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Turlock, Calif. May 1-3, 1947.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

.....Service opened with singing led by Eld. Emmett Clagg. Prayer by Eld. George McLain. Eld. Earl Jinson led the devotional service. Eld. J. L. Waltman brought the introductory message. His subject was "A Challenge to the Free Will Baptist—Build a wall Around California." Scripture Neh. 6:3.

Dismissed by Bro. E. E. Norris.

FRIDAY MORNING SERVICES

Opened with singing led by Sister Mary Moore, prayer by Elder H. E. Dixon. Elder J. L. Waltman read Gal. 6 for scripture lesson. Prayer by Elder J. R. Evans. Moderator appointed pulpit committee as follows: Elder E. E. Morris, Bro. Jess Puett, Bro. McCowen, Bro. Roy Wade, Bro. Joe Whittenburger, Bro. McDow.

Letters from the following churches were read, excepted and the delegates seated as follows: Orange Cove, Arving, Lindsay, Kerman, Winters, Porterville, Turlock, Farmersville. —Pulpit Committee reported that Elder Norman Cathey followed by Elder Dean Moore would preach at the eleven o'clock services.

Hand of fellowship was given delegates.

Officers were elected as follows:

Moderator, Elder F. A. McGee, Orange Cove, Calif.

Ass't. Moderator, Elder E. E. Morris, Box 91, Ceres, Calif.

Clerk, Sister Bertha Evans, 151 Sierra View, Porterville, Calif.

Ass't Clerk, Sister Mae Graham, Rt. 1, Box 760, Turlock, Calif.

Treasure, Elder J. L. Waltman, Box 804, Turlock, Calif.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Elder E. E. Morris (5 years) New member, Box 91, Ceres, Calif.

Elder H. E. Dixon (4 years) Arvin, Calif.

Elder George McLain, (3 years) Box 423, Kerman, Calif.

Elder J. R. Evans (2 years) 151 Sierra View, Porterville, Calif.

Elder Earl Jenson (1 year) Selma, Calif.

Petitionary church letters were read and the delegates

seated as follows: Hanford, Tulare, Parlier. Excepted.

Rules of order read by moderator. Adjourned until afternoon session dismissed by Brother Pete Connor.

FRIDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICES

Services opened with singing led by Brother Miller of Kerman, Calif.

Prayer by Brother Tom Priest from Orange, Cove, Calif.

Moderator called for united prayer. Elder Norman Cathey brought the message. Scripture reading St. Johns 5-32, "Ye shall Know The Truth Shall Make You Free." Elder Dean Moore concluded on same scripture. The message was enjoyed by all.

Hand of appreciation for their good messages was given Elder J. L. Waltman, Elder Norman Cathey, and Elder Dean Moore.

Dismissed by Elder Peevyhouse.

Friday afternoon services opened with singing led by Elder Noble Barlow. Scripture: Phil. 1-11 read by moderator, prayer by Elder Lester Davis.

Letters from the following churches were read and the delegates seated. Fowler and Firebaugh were excepted. Visiting Brethren were seated in council.

Motion carried that the moderator be given power to appoint the committees. The committees are as follows:

Resolution Committee: Elder W. A. Huddleston, Elder J. L. Waltman, Elder Emmitt Clagg, Elder Alva Downs, and Elder Earl Jenson.

Temperance: Elder N. H. Cathey, Elder D. J. Rowett, Brother Floyd Smith, Brother Alton Todd, and Elder Lester Davis.

Home Mission: Sister J. L. Waltman, Sister Opal Puitt, Sister Evelyn Smith, Sister Moore, and Brother Warren Sears.

Obituary: Elder W. L. Livingston, Brother Tom Priest, Brother J. M. Whittenburger, Sister Dorothy Miller, and Sister Trueman Huddleston.

Publication: Elder H. E. Dixon, Sister Winnie McLain, Sister Lucile Cross, Elder C. O. Stinnet, and Elder Nobel Barlow.

Finance: Brother H. G. Harris, Sister Ella Mae Gray, Sister Ruby Brewer, Brother Kelly Adkins, and Brother Walter

Wood.

Sunday School: Brother Ted Potter, Sister Mary Moore, Brother Bob Smith, Sister Opal Gates, and Brother Andrew Willard.

Evangelist report read and excepted. Motion carried that the books be audited. Clerks report read and excepted. A standing vote of appreciation was given Sister Winnie McLain for her good services for the past two years as clerk of the Association.

Home Mission report read and excepted.

Home Mission Finance report read and excepted.

Elder George McLain announced the dedication of the new church at Kerman, Calif. and invited everyone to come.

Executive Board reports that the letters of the Winters and Madison Churches be held until after meeting of the State Board.

Motion carried that The Letter from the National Association be read and the clerk send a reply.

Motion carried that we send delegates to national Association and this Association pay delegates expense.

Delegates as follows:

Brother Tom Priest, Brother Quency Moore, and Brother Lee Ramsey.

Adjourned until Saturday morning, dismissed by Brother Earl Jenson.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Opened with singing. All Deacons called into the alter for prayer, led by Brother Quency Moore. Devotional Services led by Bro. Pete Connor.

Elder F. A. McCage brought the message. Scripture reading—Eph. 1-9 and 10. Followed by Brother E. E. Morris, Scripture, Romans, 13-1-2. Then a collection was taken up for the expense of the Association.

Dismissed by Brother John Montgomery.

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Services opened with singing led by Brother Miller, of Kerman. Scripture Gal. 5-1-14. Read by Elder Clearance San-

ders, of McAlester, Okla. Prayer by Elder C. O. Stinnett. Moderator requested special prayer for Brother Mart Davis, of Brentwood, who is very ill.

Pulpit Committee reports: that Elder Clarence Sanders bring the one o'clock message. Followed by Elder Earl Jenson.

Clerks Report read and excepted.

Executive Board Reports: That we have examined and found these Brethern worthy of Ordination as follows: Ministers, Elder Lonnie Brewer, Elder Robert Groves, Elder Nobel Barlow, and Elder Lester Davis. Deacon: Brother Joe Whittenburger.

Adjourned until next session.

SATURDAY 11 O'CLOCK SERVICE

Services opened with singing, led by Elder Emmet Clagg.

Prayer led by Elder J. R. Evans.

Special singing: Quartet from Richmond, Calif. Solo, by Elder John Montgomery, Trio by Brother Pete Connor, wife, and Elder E. E. Morris.

Elder Clarence Sanders brought the message. Scripture reading, Rev. 17-8. St. John, 5-1. Daniel, 2-44. Followed by Brother Earl Jenson. Both brought a very good message.

Solo, by Sister Mary Moore.

Dismissed by Brother Tom Priest.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Services opened with singing led by Brother Miller, of Kerman. Scripture reading, Psalms 23 chapter, and prayer by Elder Dean Moore.

Motion carried that Elder Dean Moore serve as editor of the state paper for the coming year.

Motion carried that Elder F. A. McCage, and Elder E. E. Morris be put on the incorporation committee.

Motion carried that the Association sponsor radio programs.

Motion carried that all Churches send funds in their church letters.

Motion carried that we elect officers for Home Mission.

Officers as follows:

President—Elder J. L. Waltman.

Vice President—Elder Dean Moore.

Secretary and Treasurer—Sister Goldie Jenson.

Motion made by Elder J. L. Waltman, and seconded by Elder D. J. Rowlett carried. That the moderator and clerk sign certificate authorizing the County Clerk to give the tax exemption receipt from each church.

Motion carried that the next Association be held with the Kerman Church, in Kerman, Calif. Elder J. R. Evans to preach the introductory message, Elder Earl Jenson as alternate.

Motion carried that the first quarterly meeting be held with the Porterville church, Porterville, Calif. Elder F. A. McCage to preach the introductory message.

All ordained ministers and deacons were called into the altar for ordination service. Elder J. L. Waltman gave the charge. United prayer led by Elder J. R. Evans.

Motion carried that Elder Lester Davis be elected as State Evangelist for the coming year.

Motion made that Elder Lester Davis be elected as State evangelist for the coming year.

Motion carried that the Eangelist work under the State Board.

Adjourned until next session. Dismissed by Elder F. A. McCage.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resolution No. 1—Be it resolved that the Home Mission, League and Auxiliary be given one hour each for their work, each annual session of Association.

No. 2—Be it resolved that a vote of thanks be given the Turlock Church for their kind hospitality during this Association.

No. 3—Be it resolved that our Association begin on Wednesday night before the First Sunday in May, 1948, instead of Thursday night, in order to have more time for business.

Temperance: We your committee report as follows: That

we recommend we be temperate in all things, and abstain from the uses and sale of intoxicating beverages, all worldly amusements and shun the appearance of evil, be temperate in all conversations, and be patient with all men. Scripture, 1st, Thes. 5-22, 1st. Peter 2-11, 2nd. Peter 1-6, 1st. Cor. 9-25, Gal. 5-23, Titus. 2-2, and Gal. 3-8.

Home Mission: We recommend that more Home Missions be organized in our churches. There are four of our churches that already have Home Missions.

Publication: We recommend that Five Hundred (500) Minutes be printed. We also recommend that each family buy a treaty and study it.

Sunday School: We recommend that our pastors and deacons together with the ministers who have no churches give more attention to our Sunday Schools, for in our youth there is hope for more peaceful cooperation among our church leaders. Therefore we urge that careful and prayerful consideration be given our youth. We recommend that all Sunday Schools use Free Will Baptist literature.

OBITUARY: We, your committee on Obituary, beg to leave to report we find that God seen fit to call home by death: Bro. Ernest Philips of Kerman Church, little Margurett Lapenskie, infant daughter of Bro. and Sister Lapenskie of Orange Cove and infant daughter of Bro. and Sister Frank Trip of Firebaugh church.

Education: Seeing the need of Education, we recommend that our young ministers whenever possible attend the Free Will Baptist Bible College. And that our Sunday School and League Teachers study more carefully, that they may be more able to teach our young people. We also recommend that more of our young people take piano and voice training that we may have better qualified musicians in our churches.

League: We recommend that all Leagues use Free Will Baptist Literature, and go by the League Manual in all League services, and all League members attend the rallies. We also recommend each church who have Junior Leagues to attend rallies, and the rally have a separate banner for the juniors.

Auditor: We are glad to find The Evangelist Report good. There is \$148.67 on deposit.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Money Received		Money Paid Out	
Money carried forward ..\$	34.74	Exp. collection	\$ 44.13
Money for minutes	66.85	Exp. fund	75.00
Gen. expense fund	75.00	Clerk	10.00
Exp. collection	44.13	Assistant Clerk	10.00
		Moderator	10.00
TOTAL	\$220.72	Clerk Exp. Stat.	2.00
		TOTAL	\$151.13
		Cash received	\$220.72
		Less Cash Paid Out ..	151.13
		Total Amt. in Treas.	\$69.59

ENROLLMENT

MINISTERS

Elder Lester Davis, P. O. Box 21, Selma, Calif.
 Elder Dean Moore, 251 Sierra View, Porterville, Calif.
 Elder Clarence Sanders, Box 338, McAlester, Okla.
 Elder Willie Sanders, Lamont, Calif., Gen. Del.
 Elder Robert Groves, Modesto, Calif.
 Elder George McLain, Box 423, Kerman, Calif.
 Elder H. E. Dixon, Arvin, Calif.
 Elder H. H. Montgomery, Madison, Calif.
 Elder Noble K. Barlow, Selma, Calif., Gen. Del.
 Elder Emmett Clagg, 307 Chess Terrace, Porterville, Calif.
 Elder J. R. Evans, 151 Sierra View, Porterville, Calif.
 Elder Joel J. Hancock, Box 388, Reedley, Calif.
 Elder L. V. Wood, Route 3, Box 718, Tulare, Calif.
 Elder E. R. Montgomery, Madison, Calif.
 Elder C. O. Stinnett, Sanger, Calif.
 Elder Lonnie Brewer, Route 2, Box 1002, Lindsay, Calif.
 Elder W. L. Livingston, Route 1, Box 668, Lindsay, Calif.
 Elder J. Rowlett, P. O. Box 12, Farmersville, Calif.
 Elder J. L. Waltman, Box 804, Turlock, Calif.
 Elder F. A. McCage, Orange Cove, Calif., Gen. Del.
 Elder I. F. Morris, Box 91, Ceres, Calif.
 Elder Earl Jenson, Selma, Calif.
 Elder Norman Cather, Corcoran, Calif., Gen. Del.
 Elder Jim Maxwell, Lamont, Calif.

DEACONS

Bro. J. Q. Moore, P. O. Box 91, Ceres, Calif.
Bro. L. H. Adkins, Rt. 2, Box 108, Ceres, Calif.
Bro. Pete Connor, Waterman Park, Fairfield, Calif.
Bro. H. G. Harris, Box 981, Turlock, Calif.
Bro. Floyd V. Smith, 318 Empire Ave., Modesto, Calif.
Bro. Lee Heler, Box 1289, Modesto, Calif.
Bro. J. A. Roberts, Box 123, Ceres, Calif.
Bro. Ted Potter, Box 1289, Modesto, Calif.
Bro. E. A. Russell, Richmond, Calif.
Bro. A. T. McCown, Box 163, Orange Cove, Calif.
Bro. Walter Wood, Ceres, Calif., Gen. Del.
Bro. J. P. Pierce, Firebaugh, Calif.
Bro. W. A. Graham, Rt. 1, Box 740, Turlock, Calif.
Bro. O. R. Dallis, Brentwood, Calif.
Bro. J. M. Whittenburg, Rt. 2, Box 412, Selma, Calif.
Bro. T. A. Priest, Ceres, Calif., Gen. Del.
Bro. W. R. Cook, Tulare, Calif.
Bro. H. O. Dams, Brentwood, Calif.
Bro. Roy Wade, Tulare, Calif.

CHURCH CLERKS

Lois Miller, Kerman	Gasper Gates, Farmersville
Ruby Ayers, Hanford	Johnny Jenkins, Turlock
Amos Ryand, Porterville	Janette Cowan, Orange Cove
Hermalee Toby, Parlier	Natina Harklerood, Arvin
Viola Fry, Tulare	Euphia Muse, Firebaugh
Della Constant, Winters	Jessie Hollins, Fowler
Eva Indiana Livingston, Lindsay.	

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ and adopted the Word as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one 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 to the world, from all sanction of use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to 'provide all 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 the 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 ordinance of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work. We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof 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 to seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and 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.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world.

STATISTICIANS REPORT APRIL, 1946—APRIL, 1947

Churches	Member- ship	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Value of Ch. Prop.
Fowler	76	\$ 1,653.55	\$ 117.60	\$10,000.00
Turlock	107	2,075.00	200.00	2,500.00
Farmersville	48			2,500.00
Arvin	33			
Kerman	197	2,330.00	291.35	30,000.00
Tulare	25	210.00		
Hanford	23		35.00	
Porterville	102	1,042.89	250.00	9,500.00
Parlier	22			
Winters	13			385.75
Orange Cove	80	360.00	125.00	1,660.59
Firebaugh	45	37.50	110.00	4,000.00
Lindsay	12		15.00	
TOTAL 13	784	\$77,089.94	\$1,043.95	\$58,046.34