

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

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**1948**

**Proceedings of The  
5th Annual Session**

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**Convened at  
Kerman Church**

## RULES OF ORDER

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

## **FIRST ANNUAL SESSION**

**OF THE**

## **FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

**OF**

## **CALIFORNIA**

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**Held With**  
**Kerman Church, Kerman, Calif.**

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### **OFFICERS**

Moderator, Rev. F. A. McCage, Orange Cove, Calif.  
Asst. Moderator, Rev. Geo. McLain, Box 423, Kerman, Calif.  
Clerk, Bertha Evans, 151 Sierra View Ave., Porterville, Calif.  
Asst. Clerk, Sister Goldie Jenson, 2369 W. Front St., Selma, Calif.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Rev. Earl Jenson, (5 years) 2369 W. Front St., Selma, Calif.  
Rev. E. E. Morris, (4 years) Box 91, Ceres, Calif.  
Rev. H. E. Dixon, (3 years) Arvin, Calif.  
Rev. George McLain, (2 years) 423 Kerman, Calif.  
Rev. J. R. Evans, (1 year) 151 Sierra View, Porterville, Calif.

## PROCEEDINGS

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The Fifth Annual Session of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kerman, Calif. April 28 to 30, 1948.

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### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Services opened with singing led by Arlie Miller. Prayer by Eld. T. R. Kampplain.

Rev. Bud Davis, pastor of Sanger Church brought the introductory message. His subject, "The Author and Finisher of Our Faith." Text Heb. 12-2. Services dismissed by Bro. Gene Russell.

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### THURSDAY MORNING

Services opened with singing led by Bro. Arlie Miller; Scripture reading by Ass't. Moderator Rev. E. E. Morris. Prayer by Rev. W. Dorey.

Letters were called for and read as follows: Kerman, Porterville, Orange Cove, Turlock, Farmersville, Selma, Winters, Arvin and Lindsay. Letters were received and the delegates seated. Moderator called for the election of officers. Moderator, Rev. F. A. McCage; Ass't. Moderator, Rev. Geo. McLain; clerk and treasurer, Sister Bertha Evans; ass't. clerk, Sister Goldie Jenson. Petitionary letters called for. Richmond Church and Sanger Church letters were read received and delegates seated.

Moderator announced the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. George Frees, to give the welcome address and Rev. E. E. Morris to give the response.

Moderator appointed the pulpit committee, as follows: Bro. George Davis, Bro. Russell, Bro. E. Jones, Bro. L. H. Adkins and Bro. Lee Ramsey. Letter from Firebaugh Church came in, read, and the delegates seated.

Home Mission officers were elected, as follows: President, Rev. J. L. Waltman; vice president, Rev. Noble Barlow; secretary and treasurer, Sister Sylvia Barlow. Moderator read the rules of order. Moderator extended the hand of fellowship to all visiting Brothers and Sisters.

Motion carried that all committees be appointed from the chair. They are as follows:

Business Committee — Rev. J. L. Waltman, Rev. E. E. Morris, Rev. H. E. Dixon, Rev. Norma Cathey, Bro. Bill Rush.

Resolution Committee — Bro. Pete Connor, Rev. C. D. Findley, Rev. Bud Davis, Bro. I. Moore, Rev. Truman Huddleston.

Temperance Committee — Rev. J. D. Rowlett, Bro. Gene Russell, Bro. Jim Gullett, Bro. John Hall, Rev. Noble Barlow.

Obituary Committee — Bro. E. Todd, Bro. J. W. Whittenburger, Bro. Doice McClister, Bro. E. W. Burges, Bro. W. Geogreary, Bro. H. H. Fry, Bro. J. A. Titsworth, Bro. Jasper



Gates, Sister Dorothy Miller, Sister Arline Perser, Bro. Dallas Overstreet, Sister Eunis Flannery, Sister Ruth Baker, Rev. W. L. Livingston.

Publication Committee — Rev. Dean Moore, Bro. J. P. Pierce, Bro. L. C. Fry, Bro. J. A. Roberts, Bro. H. G. Harris.

Finance Committee — Rev. Elzie Ownes, Rev. Bill Huddleston, Bro. D. T. Priest, Rev. Bill Johnston, Rev. Gradey Hendley.

Sunday School Committee — Rev. Emmit Clagg, Bro. Alvin Long, Bro. A. F. Nelms, Bro. Emmett Gray.

Home Mission Committee — Bro. Joy Freeman, Bro. Hosie Stout, Bro. Irvin Constant, Bro. Otis Keister, Sister Sylvia Barlow.

Hanford Church letter came in, read, accepted and the delegates seated.

Treasurer report was read and accepted. Motion carried that we adjourn until afternoon.

Dismissed by Rev. J. D. Rowlett.

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### THURSDAY — 11 o'CLOCK

Services opened with singing led by Bro. McGuire. Prayer by Rev. Bud Davis. Rev. Guy McGuire brought the message, scripture Isaiah 35 1-8, followed by Rev. C. D. Findley. Both messages were enjoyed by all. Song and a Christian handshake was given Rev. Bud Davis, Rev. Guy McGuire and Rev. C. D. Findley for their wonderful messages.

Rev. George McLain took charge and services were dismissed by Rev. T. R. Kampplain.

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### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Services opened with singing led by Bro. Miller; scripture reading by Rev. Norman Cathey; prayer by Rev. J. D. Rowlett.

Letters were called for and Tulare Church letters came in read and the delegates seated. Moderator called for the Evangelist report. Was read and accepted.

Motion carried that we take up the unfinished business of quarterly meeting. Motion carried that we divide the association into three associations.

Moderator turned the services to the League president: Delegates were given a hand of fellowship. Prayer by Bro. Dallas Overstreet.

Devotional services led by Bro. Randall Fry. Many good testimonies were given. Song and prayer by Arlie Miller. Moderator took charge and a testimony services from the older people, words of encouragement to the young folks..

Motion carried to adjourn until Friday morning. Dismissed by Moderator Rev. F. A. McCage.

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### THURSDAY EVENING

Services opened with singing. Special prayer for Rev. H.

E. Dixon boy and all those who held up their hand for prayer. Prayer led by Rev. E. E. Morris.

Moderator called for song and collection taken for expense of association. Special singing: "Lord Build Me a Cabin in Glory Land", by Porterville folks and "Way Down Deep in My Soul," "Hide Me O' Rock of Ages," by Kerman folks. Rev. J. P. Pierce took charge of devotional services.

Rev. W. M. Morris introduced the evening message, reading scriptures Exodus 4-2, Romans 12-1, Matt. 5-14. His subject Christian Consecration, followed by Rev. Dean Moore, scripture reading Isiah 6-8, Exodus 22-29. Continuing on Consecration. The messages were enjoyed by all. Song and an alter call made. Three souls were saved. Pastor of Kerman Church took charge and placed all folks in good homes. Service dismissed by Rev. J. R. Evans.

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### **FRIDAY MORNING**

Services opened with singing led by Bro. McGuire. Scripture reading, 2nd Cor. 11-23, by Rev. J. R. Evans.

Moderator took charge and called for letter of churches. Parlier letter came in, read, accepted and the delegates seated.

The next association will be held with the Porterville church. Rev. George McLain to preach the introductory message with Rev. E. E. Morris as alternate.

Motion carried that delegates to the National Association be elected and are as follows: Bro. Lee Ramsey, Bro. Jack Hupp, Bro. J. P. Pierce, Bro. Herbert Fry, Sister Pearl Davis. Alternates: Bro. Quincy Moore, Bro. Jasper Gates, Bro. Irvin Constant, Sister Cleo Oldaker, Bro. Jim Gullett.

Motion carried that the executive board sell the Tabernacle.

Motion carried that we adjourn until afternoon.

Dismissed by Rev. Emmit Clagg.

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### **FRIDAY 11 o'CLOCK**

Services opened with singing led by Bro. McGuire. Prayer by Bro. Henry Long. Rev. Randall Fry brought the message, using scripture St. John, 6-1-7, Matt. 14-15 followed by Rev. J. D. Rawlett. Scripture Isiah 11 and Genesis 3-26, Rev. 1. Messages were enjoyed. Alter call made. One soul was saved.

Dismissed by Bro. Harris.

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### **FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

Services opened with singing led by Sister Arline Perser. Scripture reading 1st Timothy 1-5-17-22. Prayer by Rev. George McLain. Moderator call for letters.

Petitionary letter from Wintersburg Church came in, read, received and the delegates seated.

Moderator turned the services over to the Ladies' Auxiliary.

They put on a business program which was enjoyed by all.

Home mission took charge and gave a report on Home Mission which is doing a very good work.

Executive board report read and accepted.

Business committee report read and accepted.

Resolution committee reports read and accepted.

Finance report read and accepted.

Motion carried that Bro. C. O. Stennitt case be turned over to the executive board.

Motion carried that we have ordaining services at this time with Rev. J. L. Waltman in charge. Rev Ray Morris as minister, Bro. Elmer Baker and Bro. Delbert Spain as deacons. Prayer by all ordained ministers and deacons, led by Rev. Earl Jenson, followed by Rev. J. R. Evans.

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resolution: No. 1—Be it resolved that these 3 yearly meetings be called Associations and our present association name be retained as the State Association.

No. 2—Be it resolved that each furnish the name of their association.

No. 3—Be it resolved that this association sell the tabernacle at this meeting.

No. 4—Be it resolved that this association discontinue the practice of sending deacons to the association to be examined and ordained, but be taken care of in the local churches.

No. 5—Be it resolved that our churches comply with treaties regarding Preacher's and Deacon's Conference and that the churches will not recognize any minister or deacon for service unless they are members of the Preacher's and Deacon's Conference after a period of three months has elapsed since entering the state.

Business Committee: No. 1—We, the Business Committee, recommend that all officers of this association, as elected in the setting of this conference, be retained as State officers, until the setting of the next State association. We also recommend the next setting of the State association convene at the Porterville Church on Wednesday night, after the 3rd Sunday in April, 1949.

No. 2—We, the Business Committee, recommend that each subordinate association send \$15.00 to the State association for printing of the Minutes. We also recommend that the State association pay moderator and clerk \$10.00 for each setting of the association.

No. 3—We, the Business Committee, recommend that the voting power of the State association be ordained ministers, deacons and their wives and seven elected delegates from each subordinate association. We also recommend that each subordinate association send \$25.00 to the State association for expense money.

Temperance Committee: We, your committee on temperance, beg leave to report as follows: That we should be free from all intoxicating drinks of any kind of drink and that

if any member of our churches being found guilty they must make acknowledgements to the church. Scriptures 2nd Cor. 6-17, 1st Thess. 5-22, 1st Peter 2-11, 2nd Peter 1-6, 1st Cor. 9-25, Gal. 5-23, Titus 2-2, Gal. 3-8. We also urge that our members abstain from breaking the Sabbath by doing such as hunting, fishing and indulging in ungodly conversation. We believe that we should be temperate in all things.

Obituary Committee: We report that the Lord has called home in death 6 — 3 from Turlock church, Sister Billie Joe Morris, Sister Norma Jean Ferguson and Bro. W. M. O'Neal. One from Parlier church, Linda Saller (infant daughter) of Sister Rosa Saller. One from Kerman church, Sister Allen Davenport. One from Arvin church, Bro. Walters.

Publication Committee: Rev. Dean Moore reports that he has been unable to publish the paper as a result of not having any writing material and not a lack of finance. We have \$43.03 in the treasury, which Rev. Dean Moore wishes to surrender to the association as he feels someone else should assume the responsibility.

Finance Committee: Money sent in for Minutes \$67.60. Money sent in for expense \$106.00. Collection \$43.64. We recommend that tithing or offering is the proper means of financing the church.

Sunday School Committee: We recommend that our Sunday school teachers and pastors encourage the Sunday school pupils to stay for the eleven o'clock services. And also encourage the older people to attend Sunday school. We also recommend that each church try to get a used bus to bring children to Sunday school. Also keep the Commandment where Christ said: "Bring in the blind, halt the crippled that never hears the word of God."

Home Mission Committee: We find that all home missions that are active are doing a splendid job for God. Homes have been reached, food has been sent, people have been encouraged in different ways. We recommend that all new churches organize home missions. We can reach people through this work that maybe the preacher can reach.

## TREASURY REPORT

### Money Received

Rev. J. L. Waltman, last year's balance .....	\$ 7.48
Minute Money .....	67.00
Expense Money .....	106.00
Collection .....	43.64
Sold Articles of Faith .....	12.45
Rev. Dean Moore .....	43.02
Porterville Church .....	5.00
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$284.59</b>



## Money Paid Out

Expense Money .....	\$106.00
Collection .....	43.60
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PAID TO KERMAN CHURCH .....	\$149.60
Moderator .....	\$ 10.00
Clerk .....	10.00
Assistant Clerk .....	10.00
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TOTAL .....	\$ 30.00
Leaving in Treasury Balance .....	\$104.99

## MINISTER'S ROLL

Rev. W. A. Huddleston, Box 284, Firebaugh, Calif.  
 Rev. George McLain, Box 423, Kerman, Calif.  
 Rev. F. A. McCage, Box 265, Orange Cove, Calif.  
 Rev. J. R. Evans, 151 Sierra View, Porterville, Calif.  
 Rev. Earl Jenson, 2369 W. Front St., Selma, Calif.  
 Rev. Noble Barlow, Gen. Del., Fowler, Calif.  
 Rev. T. R. Kampplain, Farmersville, Calif.  
 Rev. N. H. Cathey, Box 966, Corcoran, Calif.  
 Rev. G. H. McGuire, Box 381, Arvin, Calif.  
 Rev. J. L. Waltman, Box 804, Turlock, Calif.  
 Rev. E. N. Owens, 439 N. Marward, Lindsay, Calif.  
 Rev. D. J. Rowlett, Box 12, Farmersville, Calif.  
 Rev. Lester Davis, Box 431, Sanger, Calif.  
 Rev. T. N. Huddleston, Box 1123, Merced, Calif.  
 Rev. G. H. Constant, Box 533, Winters, Calif.  
 Rev. H. E. McGuire, 1004 Lamson Road, Bakersfield, Calif.  
 Rev. Dean Moore, 251 Sierra View, Porterville, Calif.  
 Rev. W. N. Callison, Rt. 1, Box 14, Caray, Calif.  
 Rev. W. M. Johnson, Box 42, Firebaugh, Calif.  
 Rev. E. R. Clagg, 307 Chess Terrace, Porterville, Calif.  
 Rev. C. D. Findley, 1403 2nd St., Porterville, Calif.  
 Rev. W. L. Livingston, Rt. 1, Box 668, Lindsay, Calif.  
 Rev. Ray Marshall, 2105 Calif. St., Redding, Calif.  
 Rev. Emmitt Gray, Gen. Del., Selma, Calif.  
 Rev. C. T. McCown, Box 163, Orange Cove, Calif.  
 Rev. W. Dorey, 5343 Cypress Ave., Richmond, Calif.  
 Rev. E. E. Morris, Rt. 2, Box 127, Ceres, Calif.  
 Rev. H. C. Long, McCurtain, Okla. (Visitor).  
 Rev. Jay W. Freeman, Gen. Del., Kerman, Calif.  
 Rev. John Montgomery, Gen. Del., Easposto, Calif.

## DEACON'S ROLL

Bro. Lee Ramsey, Kerman, Calif.  
Bro. Joe Whittenburger, Rt. 2, Box 231, Selma, Calif.  
Bro. J. W. Hall, Box 355, Kerman, Calif.  
Bro. H. G. Harris, Box 981, Turlock, Calif.  
Bro. Jim Gullett, 321 S. G St., Porterville, Calif.  
Bro. George Davis, Box 1068, Arvin, Calif.  
Bro. A. F. Nelms, Box 671, Arvin, Calif.  
Bro. Grady Henley, 1230 Alma Ave., Modesto, Calif.  
Rev. L. R. Adkins, Rt. 2, Box 114, Ceres, Calif.  
Bro. J. H. Bentley, Rt. 1, Box 1380, Arvin, Calif.  
Bro. J. A. Roberts, Box 123, Ceres, Calif.  
Bro. E. A. Russell, 1925 Wilcox Ave., Richmond, Calif.  
Bro. Wm. J. Rush, Rt. 2, Box 331, Kerman, Calif.  
Bro. Hosie Stout, Box 833, Lindsay, Calif.  
Bro. Elmer Jones, Box 1266, Porterville, Calif.  
Bro. Jasper Gates, 424 Farmersville, Calif.  
Bro. Otis Keister, Box 73, Armonia, Calif.  
Bro. J. Q. Moore, 2050 Mariposa, Calif.  
Bro. J. P. Pierce, Rt. 2, Firebaugh, Calif.  
Bro. Alvin Long, 224 Calif St., Porterville, Calif.  
Bro. J. M. Rolen, Rt. 2, Box 336-B, Kerman, Calif.

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## 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.

CHUR- CHES	PASTORS	Member- ship	Rec'd	Bapt.	Dismissed	Deceased	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Building Expendi- ture	Value of Property
Arvin	H. E. Dixon .....	80	50		2	1	\$ 1,810.00	\$ 246.00	\$	\$ 15,000.00
Farmersville	D. J. Rowlett .....	60			3					5,000.00
Firebaugh ✓	W. M. Johnson .....	79	32	25	5		553.00	130.00	455.73	4,500.00
Hanford ✓	N. H. Cathey .....	24					660.43	83.70		
Kerman ✓	Geo. McLain .....	159	16	5		1	2,870.00	263.85	4,553.45	30,000.00
Lindsay		15	3							
Orange Cove ✓	F. A. McCage .....	116	50	24	7		1,567.91	102.57	3,073.21	5,000.00
Parlier ✓	Henry Pendley .....	26	1			1	157.92		290.00	
Porterville	Dean Moore .....	111	14	8		1	1,080.98	182.08	5,057.43	20,000.00
Richmond ✓		42								
Sanger ✓	Lester Davis .....	19	7						26.00	
Selma ✓	Earl Jenson .....	133	70	23	25		3,000.00	47.28		7,000.00
Tulare	L. R. Crumb .....	34					460.00	67.28	208.31	
Turlock ✓	E. E. Morris .....	178	80	85	11	3	2,500.00	340.25	4,728.58	15,000.00
Wintersburg	Loyd Talley .....	12								
Winters	W. H. Callison .....	29	17							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1117</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$14,645.24</b>	<b>\$1,463.61</b>	<b>\$18,392.71</b>	<b>\$101,500.00</b>