

MINUTES
of the
THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
of the
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
of
Free Will Baptist

held with

White Rose Church, Ten Miles north of Okemah, Oklahoma, Beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in August, or Aug. 11, 1938.

OFFICERS

Moderator	-----	Eld. Arthur Reid
Ass't Moderator	-----	Elder J. T. Champion
Clerk	-----	<u>Sister Carrie Mayes</u>
Ass't Clerk	-----	Eld. Dewey C. Sharp

The next Annual Session of this Association will meet with Hickory Ridge Church, located about half way between Weleetka and Wetumka on old Gravel Road north of River. Beginning on Wednesday before the second Sunday in August of 1939.

PROCEEDINGS

Thursday Evening Session

Services opened by singing and prayer. Paden quartet sang. Eld. W. D. McCready preached introductory sermon as Eld. J. A. Beavens was absent because of illness. His text was St. John 1-29. Dismissed by Eld. Walter Brown.

Friday Morning Session

Opened by singing. Prayer by Grandma Waldon. Moderator read Psalms 23 for the scripture reading.

Letters called for and the following churches responded: Paden, East Liberty, Reddick Chapel, Allen, Vanzant, White Rose, Oak Hill and Trenton. Motion carried that we receive letters as read and seat delegates. Delegates were given right hand of fellowship.

Election of Officers

Moderator -----	Elder Arthur Reid
Ass't. Moderator -----	Elder J. T. Champion
Clerk -----	Sister Carrie Mayes
Ass't. Clerk -----	Elder Dewey C. Sharp

Rules of order were read. Petitionary letters were called for and the following churches responded: Spring Creek, Cross Roads, Hickory Ridge, and West Liberty. Motion carried that we accept letters as read and seat the delegates. Delegates were given right hand of fellowship. Visiting brethren were invited to seat in Council.

Appointment of Committees

Devotional Committee; Brother Jim Billings, Brother Tabors and Bro. John Yoden.

Resolution Committee; Brothers Charlie Green, W. P. Scott, S. W. Renfro.

Financial Committee; Sisters Ben Tabors, R. F. Jaggars, Mina Burden. Motion carried that Sister Mina Burden be seated as a delegate from the Allen church.

Obituary Committee; Brother Erbuy Burden, Brother Bill Duever, Brother Roy Van Zant.

Temerance Committee; Elder W. D. McCready, Brother Joe Westbrook, Jim Hames.

Sunday School Committee; Elder Walter Brown, Brother George Davidson, Charles Jones.

Arrangement Committee; Brothers I. J. Giller, J. M. Louis, C. J. Garret.

Ministerial Standing and Character Comm'ttee; Brother Jim Bently, Brother C. R. Green, Brother J. B. Westbrook, Brother Sam Millen.

Devotional committee reported that Elder Willie Beavens preach at 11 o'clock followed by Elder Walter Brown.

Motion carried that we adjourn until 2 p.m.

Dismissed by song "On Jordan's Stormy Banks" and prayer by Bro. O. P. Westbrook.

11 O'clock Services Friday Mornng

Opening by singing. Prayer by Elder K. D. Byers. Elder Willie Bevans brought the message using as a text Matt. 5-13 and Rev. 3-20

followed by Elder Walter Brown. Dismissed by Elder Dewey Sharp.

Friday Afternoon Session

Opened by singing and prayer by Elder W. D. McCready. Scripture Reading 1 John 1. by Moderator.

Body declared in conference and called for unfinished business. Minutes of quarterly meetings were read and accepted.

Motion carried that this association accept Elder K. D. Byers credentials.

Temporary Committee on Ministerial Standing of Elder J. A. Bevans requested more time. Motion carried that the report of this committee be accepted and committee discharged.

Motion carried to place the investigation of Elder J. A. Bevans in hands of standing committee on ministerial standing.

Temporary committee on ministerial standing of Elder Frankie Rice reported. Motion carried that report be accepted and committee be empowered to demand his credentials.

Devotional committee reported that Elder W. P. Scott and Elder O. P. Westbrook preach the memorial sermon at Friday night service.

Motion carried that Hickory Ridge be granted permission to ask by verbal statement for the association.

The association voted that the next annual session be held with Hickory Ridge church, 1-2 way between Weleetka and Wetumka on old road north of river.

The quarterly meetings were placed as follows: First Quarterly meeting at Reddick Chapel, 4 miles east of Weleetka and 1-2 mile north. Second quarterly meeting at Cross Roads, 4 miles north of Calvin on paving. Third quarterly meeting at Trenton, 3 miles west of Hanna.

Motion carried that conference adjourn until 9 A. M. Saturday. Dismissed by song. Prayer by Elder C. F. Jones.

Friday Night Service

Opened by song and prayer. The memorial sermon was preached by Elder W. P. Scott followed by Elder O. P. Westbrook.

Saturday Morning Session

Opened by moderator. Song "Rescue the Perishing". Scripture reading Psalms 15. Elder O. P. Westbrook was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the next association with Elder C. F. Jones as alternate. Elder Walter Brown was elected to preach the introductory sermon at first quarterly meeting with Elder Thomas Bradley as alternate.

Devotional committee reported that Elder C. F. Jones preach at the eleven o'clock service Saturday followed by Elder J. T. Champion. Committee was discharged.

Report of Temperance committee was accepted and committee discharged.

Elders Thomas Bradley, W. D. McCready, and W. P. Scott were elected as delegates to the state association with Elder O. P. Westbrook as an alternate. \$7.69 was given for their expenses to the state association.

Moderator called for preachers yearly report. Elder Walter Brown reported Motion carried that his report be accepted.

Resolution committee reported with resolutions No. 1-2-3. Committee was discharged.

Conference adjourned by song and prayer until 2 P. M.

11 O'Clock Service Saturday Morning .

Opened by song "When the Saints go Marching In" followed by prayer. Elder C. F. Jones used as his text Genesis 12-1. Followed by Elder J. T. Champion.

Saturday Afternoon Session

Opened by song "There's a Great Day Coming". Scripture reading Psalms 34. Prayer by Elder W. D. McCready.

Motion carried that association elect an evangelist and that he accept for pay just what the association can raise.

Motion carried that the association request the following churches to send to elected treasurer money as listed below for evangelistic work: Spring Creek \$3.00, Trenton \$2.00, Cross Road \$3.00, Paden \$3.00, East Liberty 60 cents, West Liberty 60 cents, Allen \$3.00, White Rose \$2.00, Vanzant \$3.00, Reddick Chapel \$2.00, Hickory Ridge \$1.00, Oak Hill \$1.00.

Elder O. P. Westbrook was elected as associational evangelist.

Motion carried that the association endue the moderator with power to appoint a committee to help the evangelist to find places to preach. Moderator appointed Brother J. L. Billings, Brother Edd Phillips, and Brother I. J. Geller. Motion carried that Brother J. L. Billings be clerk and treasurer of committee.

Brother S. E. Milam was elected to fill the vacancy of Brother Green Jones on committee of Ministerial Standing.

The association gave Elder Walter Brown and Elder George McLain a vote of thanks for evangelistic work done in the association.

Motion carried to adjourn until the next annual session to be held with Hickory Ridge church on Wednesday night before the second Sunday in August 1938. Dismissed by prayer by Brother W. E. Westbrook.

CHURCH LETTERS

Paden Church, Paden, Oklahoma:-

Meetings days, 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. We have received by confession 2. By letter, none. Dismissed by letter, none. Excluded, none. Withdrawn, none. Died, 2. Resident members 50. Non-resident members 16. Total in full fellowship 66. Value of church property \$2,000. Contribution for minutes \$5.00. State minute money 50 cents. We have chosen Brother Billings and Sister Jagges as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen Elder W. D. McCready for our pastor for the ensuing year.

Elder W. D. McCready ----- Moderator
Sister Dena Billings ----- Clerk

Allen Church, Weleetka, Oklahoma:-

Meeting days are 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. We have received by confession 21. By letter none. Dismissed by letter, 3. Excluded 32. Withdrawn none. Died, 1. Resident 80. Non-resident members 14. Total in full fellowship 94. We have chosen Brother Joe Reid and Brother Richard Burden as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have Chosen Elder Walter F. Brown for our pastor for the ensuing year.

Elder W. D. McCready ----- Moderator
Sister Susie Burden ----- Clerk

Aunt 4

Vanzant Church, Paden, Oklahoma:-

I Preached Here

Meeting day is the third Sunday of each month. We have received by confession 16. By letter 1. Dismissed by letter, none. Excluded none. Withdrawn none. Died 1. Resident members 37. Non-resident members 12. Total in full fellowship 49. Contribution for minutes \$3.25. State minute money 25 cents. We have chosen Elder Arthur Reed for our pastor for the ensuing year. We have chosen Brother Ray Vanzant, Brother Tillman Vanzant, Brother Marshall and Sister Lillie Vanzant as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church.

Elder Arthur Reed ----- Moderator
Brother Raymond Vanzant ----- Clerk

Oak Hill Church, Hanna, Oklahoma:-

I Preached Here

Meeting day 4th Sunday of each month. We have received by confession, none. By letter, none. Dismissed by letter, none. Excluded, none. Withdrawn, none. Died, none. Resident members 38. Non-resident members, none. Total in full fellowship 38. Contribution for minutes \$2.00. We have chosen Brother Ervin Pindley and Brother Clovis Bradford as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen for our pastor for the ensuing year Elder W. O. Manghan.

Elder Henry Pindley ----- Moderator
Clovis Bradford ----- Clerk

Reddick Chapel, Weleetka, Oklahoma:-

Meeting day is on the first Sunday of each month. We have received by confession, none. By letter, none. Dismissed by letter, none. Excluded, none. With drawn, none. Died, none. Resident members 24. Non-resident members 6. Total in full fellowship 30. Contribution for Minutes \$1.75. We have chosen Brother Payton Reddick and Sister Joice Dohrer as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have not called our pastor for the ensuing year.

Elder Willie Beavens ----- Moderator
Brother Payton Reddick ----- Clerk

Both Cousins

East Liberty Church, Hanna, Oklahoma:-

I Preached Here

Meeting day is on the 4th Sunday of each month. We have received by confession, none. By letter, none. Dismissed by letter, two. Excluded, none. Withdrawn, none. Died none. Residing members 26. Non-residing members 18. Total in full fellowship 44. Contribution for minutes \$3. State money 50c. We have chosen Bro. Jim Hames and Bro. Melvin Mouser as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen for our pastor for the ensuing year Elder Henry Pendly.

Elder Henry Pendly ----- Moderator
Brother Melvin Mouser ----- Clerk

Relatives Here

Trenton Church, Dustin, Oklahoma:-

Meeting day is on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We have received by confession, none. By letter, none. Dismissed by letter, none. Excluded, none. Withdrawn, none. Died, none. Resident members 25. Non-resident members 10. Total in full fellowship 35. Contribution for minutes \$2.15. State minutes 50c. We have chosen Brother Ralph Watson, Sister W. J. Bricker and Sister Lizzie Tabor as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session

*I preached there when I had to jump ditches with my car
men rode horses*

when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen for our pastor for the ensuing year Elder Lenard Bean.

Elder W. O. Manghan ----- Moderator
Brother Ralph Watson ----- Clerk

White Rose Church, Okemah, Oklahoma:-

I Pastored here

Meeting day is on the 2nd Sunday of each month. We have received by confession, none. By letter, two. Dismissed by letter, 4. Excluded, none. Withdrawn, none. Died, one. Resident members 40. Non-resident members 25. Total in full fellowship 65. We have chosen Sister Gorden, Sister Garrett and Sister Geller as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen for our pastor for the ensuing year Elder W. T. Walden. Contribution for minutes \$3.00. State minute money 50c.

Elder W. T. Walden ----- Moderator
Sister Macy Geller ----- Clerk

PETITIONARY LETTERS

Spring Creek Church, Calvin, Oklahoma:-

I Preached here

Meeting day is on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We have received by confession 10. By letter, none. Dismissed by letter, none. Excluded, none. Withdrawn, none. Died, one. Resident members, 40. Non-resident members, 2. Total in full fellowship 42. Contribution for minutes \$1.85. State minutes 30c. We have chosen Brother Jim Philips, Brother Calvin Cody and Brother J. J. Yarbrough to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen for our pastor for the ensuing year Elder W. P. Scott.

Elder W. P. Scott ----- Moderator
Sister Bulah Phillips ----- Clerk

Crossroad Church, Calvin, Oklahoma:-

I Preached here

Meeting days, straight time. We have received by confession 25. By letter 2. Dismissed by letter, none. Excluded, none. Withdrawn, none. Died, none. Resident members 21. Non-resident members 6. Total in full fellowship 27. Contribution for minutes \$3.00. State minutes \$1.00. We have chosen Sister Violet Thompson, Sister Dorothy Thompson and Sister Eudell Peters as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen for our pastor for the ensuing year Elder Dewey C. Sharp.

Elder Dewey C. Sharp ----- Moderator
Sister Violet Thompson ----- Clerk

Hickory Ridge Church, Wetumka, Oklahoma:-

Meeting day is on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Organized with 19 members. Received by letter none. Dismissed by letter none. Excluded none. Withdrawn none. Died none. Resident members 19. Non-resident members none. Total in full fellowship 19. Contribution for minutes \$1.25. We have chosen Sister Maryetta Burgess, Sister Grace Boyd and Sister M. E. Renfro as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen for our pastor Elder O. P. Westbrook for the ensuing year.

Elder O. P. Westbrook ----- Moderator
Sister Effie Fisher ----- Clerk

West Liberty Church, Hanna, Oklahoma:-

I Pastored here

Meeting day is on the 4th Sunday of each month. We have organized with eight charter members. By letter none. Dismissed by letter none. Excluded none. Withdrawn none. Died none. Resident members 6. Non-resident members 2. Total in full fellowship 8. Contribution for minutes \$2.00. State minutes 50c We have chosen Sister Georgie Rhynolds and Sister Blanch Davidson as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the White Rose Church. We have chosen for our pastor for the ensuing year Elder George Davidson.

Elder George Davidson ----- Moderator
Brother Bland Davidson ----- Clerk

MINISTERS ROLL

Elder O. P. Westbrook ----- Okemah, Okla., 222N. Sc. St.
Elder Dewey C. Sharp ----- Wewoka, Okla., R. R. 1 Box 294
Elder Arthur Reid ----- Weleetka, Okla., R. R. 1
Elder W. D. McCrady ----- Boley, Okla., R. R. 2
Elder Chas. F. Jones ----- Seminole, Okla.
Elder George Davidson ----- Hanna, Okla.,
Elder W. T. Walden ----- Okemah, Okla.
Elder W. P. Scott ----- Calvin, Okla., Star R. 1
Elder Walter F. Brown ----- Weleetka, Okla.
Elder Thomas G. Bradley ----- Okemah, Okla., R. R. 4
Elder J. T. Champion ----- Okemah, Okla., R. R. 2

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

White Rose \$3.00; Cross Road \$3.00; Hickory Ridge \$1.25; Redick Chapel \$1.75; Allen Church \$2.50; Vanzant \$3.25; Trenton \$2.15; Oakhill \$2.00; East Liberty \$3.00; West Liberty \$2.00 Paden \$5.00; Spring Creek \$1.85. Total \$30.75 for minute money.

Cross Road \$1.00; Paden 50c; West Liberty 50c; Spring Creek 60c; White Rose 50c; Vanzant 25c; East Liberty 50c; Trenton 50c; Collection 30c or total of \$4.65. \$30.75 plus \$4.65 equals \$35.40 or the amount that was turned over to the treasurer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTIONS—No. 1. Be it resolved that this Association meet on Wednesday night before the second Sunday in August.

No. 2. Resolved that no church sell or dispose of church property without first bringing it before the Association.

No. 3. Resolved that we extend our thanks and appreciation to this church and community for their love and hospitality shown us during our stay in this community.

Resolutions carried forward from 1925 to now.

(1925) No. 1. That each minister preach as many as two doctrinal sermons during the year to each church.

No. 2. That the churches of this Association that do not pay the amount promised the pastor, if he fills his part of the agreement, shall not have another pastor until they pay the deficit.

(1926) The same as 1925.

(1928-1929) No. 1. That each minister in this Association report full for the previous year's work, giving in detail the number of miles traveled, number of churches pastored, number converted, number received into churches, number baptised, total amount received in money or it's equivalent.

No. 2. Resolved, that we drop the names of non-resident members from our church roll, after they have been away and have not reported to the church for twelve months.

(1934) No. 1. Resolve, that a minister who does not reside in Canadian Association but pastors a church in said Association be demanded to show a letter of recommendation from the Association in which he lives.

(1936) No. 2. Be it resolved that each minister make a written report to the Annual Session of his years work.

No. 3. Be it resolved that only ordained ministers and deacons administer the ordinances of the church.

(1937) No. 2. Be it resolved that God's plan be carried out concerning Tything, Matt. 23-23.

No. 3. Be it resolved that all deacons and ministers go before the examining board on qualifications before Ordination.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

Whereas God in His supreme ruling has called loved ones from our midst the past year as follows:

Brother Green Jones of Allen Church; A deacon for 32 years; age 71.

Brother G. W. Dooly of Spring Creek Church; A member for 25 years. Age 73.

Brother G. W. Baker of Paden Church; A member for about 35 yrs. Age 77.

Brother Charley Good of Paden Church; A deacon for 12 years. Age 77.

Brother Ben Harwell of Vanzant Church; A deacon for 20 years. Age 72.

Sister Anna Gordon. A christian for 14 years. Age 62.

Sister Grandma Clayton of Oak Hill; A christian for 53 years. Age 70.

OUR LOSS IS THEIR GAIN

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the committee on Sunday school submit the following. Where as the Sunday school is the greatest means of reaching the youth of our land we beg to recommend that we use christian teachers and officers that will encourage our faith and doctrine. The feature of our churches and government depends upon the loyalty of it's subjects and we recommend that loyalty to God our Lord be taught and encouraged in our Sunday schools and if possible use Free Will Baptist Literature.

COMMITTEE REPORT ON TEMPERANCE

We, your committee on temperance submit the following. We believe that a majority of the crimes are caused by the sale and use of intoxicating drinks, whether lawful or unlawfully sold. We believe it is detrimental to the cause of christianity, morality, and decency. It clouds the mind and corrupts the morals of both young and old, and

Whereas, the officials of our government are encouraging the sale and use.

Be It Resolved that we, the Free Will Baptist, go on record as opposing

the sale and use of same, and that we do all in our power to prevent spread of this cause over our nation (Heb. 2:15) and

Whereas, the people of our nation are becoming careless and indecent in dress, we urge our women to dress as becometh godliness and urge the younger women to be sober, grave and temperate, and to discourage the wearing of scanty clothing and we urge our people to stay away from public swimming pools and nudist parties (1st Timothy 2:8-10) and that our ministers preach one or more subjects they pastor during the year on temperance.

Be It Resolved, that we place ourselves on record as a denomination that opposes anything that is detrimental to a growth in grace, and that we discourage the sale and use of cigarettes to our boys and girls.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one true and living God, and in the God Head or Divine Essence, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.—Gen. 17:1; 1st John 5:7.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—Eph. 5:1, 19.

4. That Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—Acts 4:12; Titus 3:5.

5. That he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 24:13; 2-10.

6. That the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Matt. 25:46.

7. That Baptism and the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are the ordinance of Jesus Christ appointed in the church, and none but true believers are proper subjects, and the only proper mode of Baptism is immersion.—Mark 1:4, 9, 10; Luke 23:30; John 13:14.

8. We believe in the Sanctity of the first of the week, or the Lord's day, and that it ought to be observed and spent in the public or private worship of God, and that on it we should abstain from our worldly concern, except in case of necessity or mercy.—Ex. 31:15; Deut. 5:12; Matthew 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both of the just and the unjust, but every one on his own order; those who have done evil to the resurrection of damnation, and that God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 15:34; John 5:28, 29; 1 Thes. 4:16.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor of God. John 13:35; Gal. 6:10.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ by the grace of God tasted death for every man; yet none can partake of His divine benefit only by his repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, infants and idiots excepted.—Acts 20:21; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6; John 3:14-16; 1 Cor. 15-20, 22; Romans 5:15.

12. We believe that Jesus Christ is the door into the church, that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.—John 10:7-11; Peter 3:21.

13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, and therefore should be one at his table.—1 Cor. 1:1, 11, 27, 28; John 17:11.

A PRESBYTERIAN FOR ORDAINING MINISTERS AND DEACONS

1. The Presbyterian for ordaining an Elder shall consist of two ordained ministers and one ordained deacon.

2. A Presbyterian for ordaining a deacon must be composed of two ordained deacons and one ordained minister.

RULES FOR ORDAINING

1. To present the candidate.
2. To examine the candidate on doctrine and qualifications.
3. Praying and laying on of hands by Presbytery.
4. Presentation of Bible.
5. To deliver him the charge.
6. To extend him the right hand of fellowship.

THE LAW OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(By Rev. Wm. Mankin)

The Lord's Supper was instituted for God's people. They all have equal rights to the Supper, and the right is a birthright. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body" (1 Cor. 12-13). This is not water baptism, but spiritual baptism. Again, Christ says: "I am the door, by me if any if any man enter in he shall be saved" (John 10:9). "He that entereth not by the door into the sheep fold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber" (John 10:1). Christ is not water baptism, yet He is "the door." There is but one door, and Christ says He is that door, and he that cometh in at that door should have full fellowship and equal rights with all other Christians. "Let a man examine himself, and let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup; for he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself," not to the church, but to himself. It is a personal matter in judging and eating. The church that does judge and exclude any of God's people is not in keeping with the instructions given by the church at Corinth. To thus judge and exclude one of the children of God is to offend the child so judged and excluded. Now, listen to Christ: "He that offends one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matt. 18:6; 1 Cor. 10:30; 13:32). It is contended that they of the same faith and order should be entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper. I admit that Christ is the true faith, and His Church true order, and that faith is the means by which men belong to the true order. If this is meant by the same faith, we shall not object, we are agreed. But if sect is referred to, we object. As to order, if nothing but Gospel order is meant, very well; but we do not believe that one child of God should dictate just what another should believe or what church he should belong to in order that he may be in the right church, for the visible church is but an organic body of Christians, and placing your name on the church book of the best church on earth does not make you a Christian. The eunuch that believed and was baptized, what church did he join? Here is faith and here is order. Now we ask if the eunuch were to wish to commune with some of the churches; would he be allowed the right? No, he is not the same faith and order, yet he is admitted

in heaven, but could not be admitted to a sectarian table. At the Lord's table all His people have a perfect right, be he who he may, and when the supper is set, and all of God's people are not invited, it is not the Lord's but a sectarian supper. So we, being many, are one body in Christ and every one members one of another" (Rom. 12:5), and the way we become one body is by being baptized into that body, and, of course, this is spiritual baptism. He that gets in by water baptism, the same is a thief and a robber, and when any one gets into that body in a legal way he has a right to all the benefits and privileges of that body. "For we, being many, are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread" (1 Cor. 10:17). By partaking we exhibit a oneness of that body. Who is meant by "we." It certainly means all Christians of all ages. "When you come together, tarry one for another, be of one mind," but let the word of God control that mind. If it had ever been intended by the Savior that the supper should be guarded, as some attempt to guard it, God would have empowered the judges with power to discern the pure from the impure. But the standpoint from which to judge is water baptism, and a legal administration of the same. So, if baptism by immersion and a legal administration this settles the matter, and Christian character is left out, by which some make a woeful mistake; for, after all this precaution, some have been found unworthy of the least of the privileges of the church. To admit immersion to be the only mode of baptism, and a true believer receiving it, is this not all right, Some would answer, "If by a legal administrator; this is all that is wanting?" Is it not purely a personal matter?" So it is the duty of the preacher to baptize, and of the applicant to be baptized. When this is done, each has performed a personal duty. If I had never been baptized and had to wait until I found one whom I knew to be a legal administrator, I would never be baptized at all, as I cannot know the heart of man. Two acting in concert, one acting in good faith and the other not. Every Christian is responsible for his own acts, and not for another. Simon the sorcerer, "believed and was baptized," and that by a legal administrator, and yet it was discovered that he was not a Christian. So we see that baptism by legal administration does not confer any claim to Christian rights, as this proves to be a personal matter; for we clearly see that the apostle, inspired as he was, did not discover the evil of Simon's heart; neither can we know the heart of man. When we do our duty, it is ours; when an applicant, it is his. So we find that in repentance, faith, baptism and Christian duties, all are personally accountable to God and not to man. Various are the opinions of men, and the way we account for them is in the capacity of men; and if we use the capacity God has given us we do not think that we should be eternally condemned for what we cannot help. The church of Christ is divided into many members, but is one spiritual body and Christ the head; and they should have the same care for each other that the fleshly body has for its members. Should Christians commune together at the Lord's table? "What God hath joined together let no man put asunder." Christians do all feel alike if they do not think alike. They can preach together, sing and love together, and should they not commune together? Then a union and free communion is forced upon us. Christ said he would drink no more of the fruit of the vine until He should drink it anew in His kingdom. So as assembled at God's table in heaven, so should we be on earth.

CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better associational government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the churches or Q. M. of our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and upon producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats. All ordained ministers and deacons of said unions shall be regular members, when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME. The members thus chosen and assembled with the ministers and deacons, to be denominated the Canadian Association of Free Will Baptist, being composed of the several churches of our union, the Association having no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor having any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

Art. 3. LETTERS. Letters from the different churches representing are to express their number in fellowship, including the names and addresses of ordained and licensed ministers, the number of members received upon profession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration or denominational choice; the number dismissed by letter, excluded, and those having died since last Association. The churches in sending their letters, may send obituaries of any who have died during the year, that we may keep up the memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. OFFICERS. The Association shall have a Moderator, a Clerk, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual session by the suffrage of the members present.

Art. 5. NEW CURCHES. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination, they are found to be orthodox and orderly they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 6. QUESTIONS. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first discussed in its own church.

Art. 7. MOTIONS. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

Art. 8. MINUTES. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution to be at the discretion of the Association.

Art. 9. CLERK. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association in a book to be kept by the Association for that purpose.

Art. 10. SIGNATURES. The minutes of the Association shall be read

and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the close of the Association.

Art. 11. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to this Constitution may be made when necessary by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

Art. 12. ORDINANCES. The pastor of the church shall preach on the ordinances of the church once a year, and one discourse on the support of the ministry.

Art. 13. CHURCH FINANCES. Every church shall call their pastor, state what amount they can raise, and it shall be the duty of the deacons to solicit the amount of funds necessary for all the expenses of the church; act as treasurer, keeping account of all business and report all transactions to the church conference and, in case of more than one deacon in the church, the deacons shall select one of their number to act as treasurer, provided the church has no treasurer.

Art. 14. FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS. This Association shall hold three Fifth Sunday Meetings each year, and the ministers and deacons shall make a written report of their work, and it shall be the duty of each quarterly conference to look after the necessities of the widows and orphans, and the order of the ministry, and the quarterly conference shall make a written report to the Association annually.

Art. 15. TREASURY. Resolved, That each church have a treasurer, and come together and subscribe the amount they are willing to pay into the treasury during the year for the support of the ministry, widows, orphans, and incidental expenses, and that said amount be paid quarterly, and that said funds shall not be paid out except by order of the church.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. House called to order by the Moderator.
3. Letters called for, read and received.
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating of delegates.
5. Election of officers.
6. Petitionary letters called for.
7. Reading Rules of Order (By-Laws).
8. Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
9. Appointment of Committees.
10. Unfinished Business.
11. New Business.
12. Reports of Committees.
13. Miscellaneous Business.

LETTER TO ASSOCIATION

-----Church of Okla., County of-----
date ----- P. O. Address ----- Church
sends greetings to the ----- Annual Session of the
brethren and sisters composing the Canadian Association of Free Will Bap-

