

**The  
Canadian  
Association  
of  
Free Will Baptist**

**CHURCH OF GOD**

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**1944**

**Proceedings of the  
39 th. Annual Session**

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**Convened with  
Hill Top  
Free Will Baptist Church  
August 1944**

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**THIRTY NINTH ANNUAL SESSION**  
**OF THE**  
**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION**  
**OF**  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**CHURCH OF GOD**

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**HELD WITH**

Hill Top Church, located three miles west and a half mile south of Wewoka, Oklahoma, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in August, 1944.

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**OFFICERS**

Moderator	Eld. Arthur Reid
Ass't. Moderator	Eld. W. P. Scott
Clerk	Sister Bonita Sharp
Ass't. Clerk	Eld. W. E. Wilson

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Eld. Arvis Dearmond	one year
Eld. J. T. Champion	two years
Eld. W. M. Stevenson	three years
Eld. D. C. Sharp	four years
Eld. W. E. Wilson	five years

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The next annual session of this Association will meet with Cross Roads Church, located seven miles south and one fourth east of Horn Town, Oklahoma, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in August, 1945.

Free Will Baptist Gem, 211 Bond St. Monett, Missouri

## PROCEEDINGS

### THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE

Moderator protem, Eld. D. C. Sharp, called house to order, services opened with song "Wonderful Words of Life" and prayer by Eld. W. E. Wilson. Congregation sang "I'm Going That Way". Devotional led by Eld. George Davidson. Prayer by Eld. Jack Arnold. Moderator protem introduced Eld. Arthur Reid who delivered the introductory sermon. Scripture reading St. John 1:1-14. Text First John 3:1. Closed by song and prayer.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Moderator, Eld. W. M. Stevenson in charge. Opened by song "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder". Prayer by Eld. George Davidson. Song "Precious Memories". Moderator read Scripture reading II Timothy 3rd chapter. Prayer by Eld. D. C. Sharp.

Moderator declared conference open for business. Letters called for and the following churches responded: Hill Top, Spring Creek, Jackson and Cross Roads.

Motion carried to receive the letters and seat the delegates.

Song "When We All Get To Heaven" and right hand of Christian fellowship was given.

#### Election of Officers

Moderator	Eld. Arthur Reid
Assistant Moderator	Eld. W. P. Scott
Clerk	Sister Bonita Sharp
Assistant Clerk	Eld. W. E. Wilson

Petitionary letters called for, no response.

Rules of order read and Moderator invited visiting brethren to seat in council.

The following committees were appointed:

Arrangement—Eld. D. C. Sharp, Brother Howard Gann and Brother George Campbell.

Devotional—Sister Jack Arnold, Brother George Campbell and Sister D. C. Sharp.

Resolution Committee—Elder George Davidson, Eld. W. P. Scott and Eld. W. M. Stevenson.

Devotional Committee reported Eld. George Davidson

to preach at the 11:00 o'clock service and Eld. W. M. Stevenson at the 8:00 o'clock service.

Motion carried to adjourn business until 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

Dismissed in song "Watching You". Prayer by Eld. W. E. Wilson.

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### FRIDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened with song "I'd Rather be an Old Time Christian". Prayer by Brother George Campbell. Song "A Soul Winner for Jesus". Moderator, Eld. Arthur Reid introduced Eld. George Davidson who delivered the sermon. Scripture reading Luke 10, text "Jesus a Crucified Saviour and a Redeemer".

Dismissed in prayer by Eld. N. N. Rainbolt.

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### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by songs "No Tears in Heaven" and "Empty Mansions."

Moderator, Eld. Arthur Reid read scripture reading, Psalms 15.

Prayer and song "Won't it be Wonderful There".

Motion carried to seat Sister Lena Neal as delegate from Spring Creek Church.

The following committees appointed:

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**—Sister Reatha McEuein, Eld. O. P. Westbrook and Sister Howard Gann.

**TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE**—Eld. George Davidson, Sister Ruth Phillips and Brother E. S. Roberts.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE**—Sister Lena Neal, Brother George Campbell, Eld. W. E. Wilson.

**OBITUARY COMMITTEE**—Eld. D. C. Sharp, Sister Reatha McEuein and Eld. O. P. Westbrook.

Eld. W. E. Wilson made report on his Evangelistic work for the year as follows: Two revivals one at Spring Creek and one at Cross Roads churches.

Motion carried to receive the report. Eld. W. E. Wilson elected as Association Evangelist for the ensuing year.

Minutes of the Quarterly Meetings read as follows: 1st Quarterly Meeting read and approved, 2nd Quarter-

ly meeting read and approved. Resolution No. 1 adopted and carried to the Association minute. Third Quarterly Meeting read and approved.

Motion carried to suspend the general rule and accept the ordination of Brother Earl Holcum as minister.

Motion carried to elect another member to take the place of Eld. Odis Robinson as member on executive board. Eld. W. E. Wilson elected.

Financial report read and approved.

Motion carried to set the place for the next annual session of the Canadian Association.

Motion carried to grant the Cross Roads Church the privilege of having the next annual association at their church.

Motion carried for the Quarterly Meetings to be held at the following places: Spring Creek Church, 1st Quarterly Meeting; Jackson Church, 2nd Quarterly Meeting; and Hill Top Church the 3rd Quarterly Meeting.

Motion carried for the pastors of each church to preach the introductory sermon at the Quarterly Meetings and Associations.

Motion carried to adjourn business until 9:30 Saturday morning.

Dismissed in song "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand". Prayer by Eld. W. M. Stevenson.

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### FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by congregation singing "O Yes I'll Live in Glory" and "Some Glad Day". Prayer by Brother Jim Bentley. Song "Anywhere is Home".

Moderator turned services over to Eld. W. D. McCready who lead the devotional service.

Two special songs, "Jesus Leads the Way" and "Walking the Sea" were sung by a quartet composed of Eld. W. E. Wilson, Sister M. L. Caton, Eld. M. L. Caton and Eld. George Davidson with Sister Bonita Sharp at the piano.

Moderator introduced Eld. W. M. Stevenson who delivered the message, scripture reading St. John 4th chapter.

Dismissed in prayer by Eld. W. D. McCready.

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### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing "When the Roll is Called Up Yon-

der". Scripture reading by Moderator, Eph. 5:1-21. Prayer by Eld. Marion Caton.

Brother Ancil Fairbank, Sister Ora Arnold and Sister D. C. Sharp elected as delegates to the State Association.

Motion carried to recess for 15 minutes.

House called to order by Moderator.

Devotional Committee reported Eld. O. P. Westbrook to preach at 11:00 o'clock Saturday morning, Eld. N. N. Rainbolt to preach Saturday evening at the 8:00 o'clock service, Eld. Arthur Reid to preach at 11:00 o'clock Sunday morning with Eld. Jack Arnold and Eld. Marion Caton Sunday afternoon, Eld. W. E. Wilson followed by Eld. D. C. Sharp Sunday evening.

Motion carried to list churches in association not represented in this session as absent churches.

Motion made for Moderator to appoint committees to visit churches and get their report and bring back report to the clerk.

Motion carried to leave reading of the minutes until the night service.

Motion carried to discharge all committees that were out.

Motion carried to adjourn business until Thursday night before the 2nd Sunday in August 1945, when convened with the Cross Roads Church.

Dismissed in prayer by Eld. George Davidson.

### ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened with song "When I Can Read My Title Clear". Prayer by Eld. N. N. Rainbolt.

Moderator introduced Eld. O. P. Westbrook who delivered the message, subject "Unity".

Song and old time hand shake. Dismissed in prayer by Eld. D. C. Sharp.

### SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened with song "No Tears in Heaven" and "Wonderful Words of Life". Prayer by Eld. George Davidson.

Minutes of the Association read and approved with necessary corrections.

Song "Hide You in the Blood".

Moderator turned services over to Eld. W. E. Wilson

who lead the devotional service.

Moderator introduced Eld. N. N. Rainbolt who delivered the message, subject "Faith and Prayer".

Dismissed in prayer by Eld. O. P. Westbrook.

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### SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened by singing "The Unclouded Day" and "Empty Mansions."

Prayer by Eld. George Davidson.

Song "Precious Memories".

Eld. D. C. Sharp introduced Eld. Arthur Reid who preached the Memorial Sermon. Scripture reading St. John 14:1-14.

Dismissed in prayer by Eld. O. P. Westbrook.

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### TWO O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened with singing "It Won't be Very Long".

Prayer by Brother Luther Ferguson.

Eld. George Davidson delivered the sermon, text Neh. 2:12 followed by Eld. M. L. Caton.

Dismissed in prayer.

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### SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Opened by singing several congregational songs.

Prayer by Sister Kiker.

Song "He Whispers Sweet Peace to Me".

Services turned to Eld. W. E. Wilson who brought the sermon, scripture reading 12th chapter of Exodus, text, "For even Christ our passover will sacrifice for us."

Dismissed in prayer.

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### Church Letters

SPRING CREEK CHURCH, Calvin, Oklahoma—Meet-  
is on the third Sunday of each month. Received by con-  
fession 3; by letter 3; withdrawn none; dismissed by  
letter none; excluded none; died 2; resident members  
26; non resident members 20; total in full fellowship 40;  
contribution for minutes \$4.10. Sister Ruth Phillips  
and Sister Rosie Grimes were chosen as delegates and  
Sister Reatha McEuin as alternate to the Annual Ses-  
sion when convened with the Hill Top Church.

Eld. W. P. Scott, moderator; Sister Reatha McEuin,

clerk.

CROSS ROADS Church, Calvin, Oklahoma—Meeting days are on the first and third Sundays of each month. Received by confession 8; withdrawn 2; died none; resident members 31; non-resident members 31; total in full fellowship 62; contribution for minutes \$4.00; for State Minutes \$1.00. Bro. Ancel Fairbanks, Bro. Alford House and Bro. Merriman were chosen as delegates and Sister Josie Blaylock, Violet Smith and Mittie Edwards as alternates to the Annual Session when convened with the Hill Top Church. Eld. W. E. Wilson was chosen pastor for the ensuing year.

Eld. W. E. Wilson, moderator; Sister Mittie Edwards, clerk.

HACKSON CHURCH, Holdenville, Oklahoma—Meeting days straight time. Received by confession none; by letter none; dismissed by letter one; excluded none; died none; resident members 65; non-resident members 67; total in full fellowship 132; contribution for minutes \$7.50; for State minutes \$1.00. Sister Lila Wilson, Bro. Ed Roberts and Sister Ora Arnold were chosen as delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the Hill Top Church. We have chosen Marion Caton for our pastor for the ensuing year.

Eld. Marion Caton, moderator; Brother Ed. Roberts, clerk.

HILL TOP CHURCH, Wewoka, Oklahoma—Meeting days are straight time. Received by confession none; letter 3; excluded 1; died none; resident members 21; non-resident members 30; total in full fellowship 51; contribution for minutes \$8.00; for State minutes \$2.00. We have chosen Sister G. W. Reich, Brother G. W. Reich and Sister D. C. Sharp as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with the Hill Top Church. Eld. Dewey C. Sharp was chosen as pastor for the ensuing year.

Eld. D. C. Sharp, moderator, Sister Howard Gann, clerk.

#### Churches Not Present

Paden Church, Paden, Oklahoma.

Allen Church, Weleetka, Oklahoma.



Vanzant Church, Paden, Oklahoma.  
Oak Hill Church, Wanna, Oklahoma.  
East Liberty Church, Wanna, Oklahoma.  
West Liberty Church, Wanna, Oklahoma.  
Trenton Church, Wanna, Oklahoma.

### **Ordination Services**

Brother Howard Gann as deacon, Hill Top Church.  
Brother G. D. Campbell as deacon, Hill Top Church.  
Brother Earl Holcum as minister, Allen Church.

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### **MINISTERS ROLL**

Eld. W. M. Stevenson, Box 452, Henryetta, Okla.  
Eld. W. P. Scott, Holdenville, Oklahoma.  
Eld. W. E. Wilson, Box 103, Holdenville, Oklahoma.  
Eld. D. C. Sharp, Rt. 1, Box 41B, Wewoka, Oklahoma.  
Eld. George Davidson, Rt. 3, Checotah, Okla.  
Eld. O. P. Westbrook, Okemah, Oklahoma.  
Eld. W. D. McCready, Paden, Oklahoma.  
Eld. Arthur Reid, Weleetka, Oklahoma.  
Eld. Jack Arnold, Rt. 4, Holdenville, Okla.

### **Ministers Absent at Association**

Eld. J. T. Champion, Okemah, Okla.  
Eld. Arvis Dearmond, Rt. 1, Weleetka, Okla.  
Eld. Henry Pendley, Paden, Okla.  
Eld. Frank Dawson, Paden, Okla.  
Eld. Odis Robinson, Rt. 3, Okemah, Okla.  
Eld. Thomas J. Bradley, Rt. 4, Okemah, Okla.  
Eld. Emmett M. Gray, Rt. 1, Okemah, Okla.

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### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCIAL**—Cross Roads Church \$5.00; Jackson Church \$8.50; Spring Creek Church \$4.10; Hill Top Church \$11.00; Eld. Arthur Reid \$1.00; Eld. George Davidson \$2.00; Eld. W. E. Wilson \$1.00; Eld. W. P. Scott \$1.00; Eld. N. N. Rainbolt \$.50; Eld. O. P. Westbrook \$1.00; Total \$35.10.

**RESOLUTIONS**—(1944) Resolution No. 1: Resolved, that the Clerk write each pastor a card about 2 weeks before each Quarterly Meeting and Association to remind their churches when and where the meetings will be.

(1943) Resolution No. 1: Resolved, that we the Canadian Association send a letter with a corresponding delegate to sister associations to help to bring about a better spirit of Christian friendship and brotherly love.

Resolution No. 2: Resolved, that this association elect an evangelist and recommend him to the churches as such to help evangelize this association.

(1940) Second Quarterly Meeting. Resolution No. 1: Be it resolved, that this Association require it's licensed preachers to preach at least ten sermons on church government before they are ordained.

Thirty-fifth Annual Session. No. 1. Be it resolved, that the devotional committee select no preacher more than one time in any one Association or Quarterly Meeting.

No. 2. Be it resolved, that each church of this Association make an annual report on all deaths in their church to the Annual Association in their annual letter.

No. 3. Be it resolved, that each church of this Association send at least \$2.00 with their letter to be used by the Association for miscellaneous expenses.

No. 4. Be it resolved, that this Association furnish blanks to give to ministers to show their years work.

(1939) No. 1. Resolved, that this Association so order that all the churches in this Association prohibit the use of tobacco in any form inside of the church building and that the pastor and deacons see that this ruling be enforced.

No. 2. Resolved, that this Association demand that all ministers, pastoring in the Canadian Association and belonging to some other Association abide by the Canadian Association laws during their pastoral care in it, and that they be forbidden to organize a church in the boundry lines of the Canadian Association and then take it to some other Association.

(1938) No. 2. Resolved, that no church sell or dispose of church property without first bringing it before the Association.

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

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

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

(1925) No. 1. That each pastor preach as many as two doctrinal sermons during the year to his 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 for the deficit.

OBITUARY—We your committee wish to report that God in his infinite wisdom has called from our midst the following: Sister Audrey Pruitt of Vanzant Church, Sister Lillie Parks and Sister Eunice Kay of Spring Creek Church. We express our deepest sympathy to the bereaved for we believe our loss is Heaven's gain.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—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 future 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.

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 Baptists, go on record as opposing the sale and use of same, and that we do all in our power to prevent spread of this curse over the 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 sermons on temperance to churches they pastor during the year.

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.

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## ARTICLES OF FAITH

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1. We believe the Scriptures 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; 1 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 Saviour Jesus Christ —Acts 4:12; Titus 3:5.

5. That he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 22:13; Rev. 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 saint's feet are the ordinances 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 day 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 concerns except in cases of necessity and mercy.—Ex. 31:15; Deut. 5:12; Matt. 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both of the just and unjust, but every one in 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; 1 Thess. 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 the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, that Baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.—John 10:7; 1 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.

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### RULES OF ORDER

1. The Association when met shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator.

3. Any person shall not be interrupted by anyone except the Moderator, until he is through speaking; nor shall the Moderator unless he breaks order.

4. Any person speaking shall adhere to the subject in question and shall not cast any reflections on him who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on any one subject without leave of the Association.

6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speaking.

7. The members shall be addressed by the appellation of brothers or sisters.

8. No members shall absent himself from the Association while in session without leave.

9. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled and called over as the Association deems it necessary.

10. No member shall speak more than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the Association.

11. Any person who knowingly breaks any of these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator according to direction of the Association.

## LETTER OF DISMISSION

This is to certify that ..... is a member in good standing of the Free Will Baptist Church at ..... and as such we recommend him (or her) to the fellowship of God's people, and is dismissed from us when united with another church.

Done in Church Conference this ..... day of ..... 19.....

....., Pastor  
....., Clerk

## LETTER TO ASSOCIATION

The Free Will Baptist Church of God, worshipping at ..... county of ..... this (date) ..... P. O. address ..... Sends greetings to the ..... Annual Session of the brethren and sisters composing the Canadian Association of Free Will Baptists, to let you know of our love and fellowship and our zeal for the cause of Christ.

Pastor's salary for the coming year \$..... Meeting day is on the ..... Sundays of each month. We have received by Confession .....; Letter .....; Excluded .....; Died .....; Resident Members .....; Non-resident Members .....; Total in full Fellowship ..... We have in our membership, Ministers ..... names ..... Ordained Deacons ..... names ..... We have paid out for Evangelistic Work \$.....; Missions \$.....; Support of the Association \$..... Total Amount Paid out by the Church \$..... We (have or have not) a F. W. B. Sunday School. We (have or have not) F. W. B. League. Value of Church Property \$..... Contribution for Minutes \$.....; State Minutes \$..... We have chosen (brothers or sisters) ..... as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with ..... church. We have chosen Elder ..... for our pastor for the ensuing year. (Here ask for the next Association or Quarterly of wanted). Pray for us. Done in conference this ..... day of ..... 19.....

....., Moderator  
..... Address  
..... Clerk  
..... Address

## CONSTITUTION

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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 Church government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches 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 union 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 Baptists, 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. Churches, in sending their letters, may send obituaries of any who died during the year, that we may keep up the memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. OFFICERS. The Association to have a Moderator, a clerk, and a Credential Committee of three ordained elected by the suffrage of the members of the Association at each annual association. The Credentials Committee shall be elected as follows: One for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. Then one each year following to succeed the outgoing members.

Art. 5. NEW CHURCHES. 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 considered 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 amount paid by 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. **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. 12. **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. 13. **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.

Art. 14. **AMENDMENTS.** Amendments to this Constitution may be made, when necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session.



## FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

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Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God 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 the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

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 bonds 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 and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle 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 of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

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 conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances 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.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and 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 unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

