

Minutes
of the
Fourth Annual Session
of the
Freewill Baptists
of the
Center Association
of
California



Held With the
Free Will Baptist Church, Kerman, California
May 17, 18 and 19, 1951

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OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. Orbin Doss Kerman, California
Assistant Moderator	Rev. H. E. Dixon Selma, California
Clerk	Mrs. Gladys M. Massengale Box 362 Fowler, California
Assisant Clerk	Mrs. Ramsey Pinedale, California
Treasurer	Rev. Lloyd Talley P. O. Box 171 Orange Cove, California

Motion made and carried that Moderator be given power to appoint all committees.
Committees appointed as follows:

Divine Service - Rev. O. H. Doss, Chairman
Sister Wilson, Hanford
Brother Fred Redfern, Parlier
Brother Lester Dry, Sanger
Brother Cy Ramsey, Kerman
Brother Roberts, Selma

Resolution and Business
Brother P. E. Lambert, Hanford
Brother Delbert Spane, Sanger
Brother C. Morris, Selma
Brother Henroy Scroggins, Parlier
Brother Kemp, Kerman

Obituary Committee
Brother Burgess, Hanford
Sister Margie Winter, Selma
Brother Gregg, Kerman
Sister Virginia Stevenson, Parlier
Sister Genice Crowe, Sanger

Publication Committee
Brother Buchanan, Parlier
Sister Cecil Morris, Selma
Sister Burgess, Hanford

Home Mission and Auxiliary
Sister Rush, Kerman
Sister Huddleston, Sanger
Sister Charlotte Groves, Selma

Sunday School
Sister Ilean Scroggins, Parlier
Brother Robert Groves, Selma
Brother Lambert, Hanford

Temperance
Brother Wilburn Redfearn, Parlier
Brother Andrew Winters, Selma
Sister Blanche Scroggins, Parlier

League
Sister Elsie Ianni, Kerman
Sister Patsy Baker, Sanger
Brother Kemp, Kerman

Finance

Sister Z. Ramsey, Kerman
Brother Henry Scroggins, Parlier
Sister Bridges, Orange Cove

Program

Brother P. E. Lambert, Hanford
Sister Ruth Baker, Sanger
Sister Gladys Massengale, Fowler

Reporter

Sister Elva Lambert, Hanford

Friday Eleven O'clock Service

Services opened with song service led by Sister Margie Winters. Prayer by Rev. O. Woolery of Firebaugh. Special music by Sister Margie Winters and Sister E. Lambert, dedicated to the ministers and deacons -- "The Blood That Stained the Old Rugged Cross."

Message brought by Brother Lee Ramsey with Hebrews 10-1:14 as scripture reading, using "A Complete Sacrifice" as the theme. It was a wonderful message and was very ably concluded by Brother John Montgomery.

Benediction by Brother Bridges of Orange Cove.

Friday Afternoon Session

Session opened with song service led by Brother Lloyd Talley of Sanger. Scripture reading by Rev. D. Spane using St. John 14-1:10. United prayer led by Brother Lester Davis.

Receiving of Orange Cove letter and its acceptance.
Treasury report read and accepted:

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. H. E. Dixon	5 years.
Rev. Lloyd Talley	4 years
Rev. Lester Davis	3 years
Rev. Delmar Scroggins	2 years
Rev. Orbin Doss	1 year

The next annual session will be held with the Selma church, Selma, California, on Thursday night before the third Sunday in May, 1952, with Rev. Orbin Doss to bring the introductory message, Rev. Cecil Morris as alternate.

PROCEEDINGS

The fourth annual session of the Center Association of the Free Will Baptists of California convened with the Kerman Church, Kerman, California, May 17, 18 and 19, 1951.

Thursday Night Services

Services opened with song service led by Brother Rush of Kerman. Prayer by Rev. John Montgomery. Welcome address by host-pastor, Rev. Orbin Doss. The introductory message was brought by Rev. Lloyd Talley of Orange Cove, with "A New Beginning" as the Subject. First John 5:4-5 were the scriptures used. "Even Our Faith."

It was a wonderful message, enjoyed by everyone. Visitors placed by host pastor.

Friday Morning Session

Services opened with song service led by Rev. Lester Davis of Selma. Devotional service conducted by Rev. P. E. Lambert of Hanford with "The Promise of Comfort and Assistance" as his theme. Psalms 24: 3-4.

Prayer by Rev. H. H. Lewis, pastor of the church at Santa Paula. Opening of annual session by Rev. O. Doss, Moderator. Letters were called for, read and accepted and delegates seated from the following:

Kerman, Selma, Hanford, Sanger, Parlier.
Reading of the rules of order by the Moderator.
Officers were elected as follows:
Moderator - Rev. Orbin Doss
Assistant Moderator - Rev. H. E. Dixon
Clerk - Mrs. Gladys M. Massengale
Assistant Clerk - Mrs. Ramsey
Treasurer - Rev. Lloyd Talley
Visiting brethren were invited to sit in council.

Selma tithes	\$271.00
Sanger tithes	49.00
Broadcast	55.00
Hanford - Broadcast	34.00
Parlier Broadcast	60.00
Kerman	67.35
Orange Cove	46.74

Executive Board report read and accepted regarding the Phoenix situation. License received from Brother Keating.

Rev. H. E. Dixon elected as five year member of the Executive Board.

The next annual setting of the Center Association is to be held with the Selma church, on Thursday night before the third Sunday in May, 1952. Rev. O. H. Doss of Kerman will bring the Introductory message with Rev. Cecil Morris as alternate..

The first quarterly meeting will convene with the Hanford church on August 16, 1951, at 7:30. Rev. H. E. Dixon will bring the message with Rev. L. Davis as alternate.

The second quarterly meeting will convene with the Parlier church on November 15, 1951, at 7:30. Rev. Lee Ramsey will bring the Introductory message with Rev. Huddleston as alternate.

The third quarterly meeting will convene with the Orange Cove church on Feb. 14, 1952. Rev. Delmar Scroggins will bring the message with Rev. L. Davis as alternate.

Moderator empowered to appoint delegates to State Association.

Brother H. Roberts, Selma - Sister M. Winters, alternate
Sister E. Ianni, Hanford - Brother Holt, alternate
Sister Alice Hylton, Orange Cove - Sister G. Crow, alter.
Brother L. Dry, Sanger - Sister V. Stevenson, alternate
Brother Fred Redfearn, Parlier - Sister A. Stiggins, alter.
Brother Gregg, Kerman - Sister E. Ramsey, alternate
Sister G. Massengale, Fowler

Pulpit Committee reported that Rev. Dixon is to bring the evening message followed by Rev. Lewis of Santa Paula.

Motion made and carried that Association send \$55.00 together with the letter to the State Association with the provision that the treasurer be authorized to pay our share of the deficit.

Motion made and carried that this setting of the Association draw up a Constitution with By-Laws to govern this Association.

Dismissed by prayer by Rev. Henry Scroggins.

The Executive Board reports they find the following to be worthy of ordination:

Brother Lonnie McAlister
Brother Doice McAlister
Brother Lee Ramsey
Brother Andrew Winters
Brother C. E. Wilkinson

The Executive Board reported that they find Brother Finney Beary worthy of license.

Friday Evening Services

Testimony service led by Brother Bridges.

Special music by Sister Barlow and Sister Winters.

Message brought by Rev. H. E. Dixon using II Thes. 2 as the scripture. "The Plan of Salvation" was the theme using Matthew 16-30 for further reading.

Brother Lewis concluded the message using the theme "Sirs, What Must I Do to Be Saved?" with Acts 16:30 as the scripture.

It was a wonderful message, enjoyed by all.

Delegates were placed for the night by host-pastor.

Saturday Morning Services

Opened with singing led by Brother McAlister.

Scripture reading by Rev. Lee Ramsey.

Memorial message brought by Rev. Bill Huddleston. It was a wonderful message.

Rev. O. H. Doss will bring the memorial message at the 1952 setting with Rev. Dixon as alternate.

Committee Reports

Financial Report:

From Sanger received	\$104.00
From Selma	217.72
From Hanford	34.00
From Parlier	60.00
From Orange Cove	46.74
From Kerman	67.35
Total	\$584.81
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Paid Out	
Miscellaneous Expense (Minutes)	\$95.22
Printing of programs	3.00
Paid Moderator and Clerk	30.00
Rev. Doss trip to Arizona	50.00
Bank forms	3.85
Offering for quartet	54.45
Offering for quartet	5.64
Bulletin blanks	1.81
Printing of programs	3.00
Paid Out total	189.07
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Feeding fund	220.00
Paid to K.R.D.U.	315.00
Paid Out total	724.07
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Received from churches	278.00
Miscellaneous receipts	54.45
Sale of treatise and letter forms	3.65
Total received	\$336.10
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Balance in Treasury on May 17, 1951	\$329.11
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League Committee Report

We, the League Committee, report that there are now five leagues in the Center Association and may we strive to organize a League in Parlier in the next year. We ask that the minutes of the annual session of the League Rally which met April 15, 1951, be printed in the Association Minutes.

Auxiliary Committee

We, the Auxiliary Committee report 3 auxiliaries with a total membership of 52 and 1 Home Mission with a membership of 15. We wish to urge each church to organize an auxiliary in the coming year.

Sunday School Committee

We, the Sunday School Committee, recommend that all Sunday School Teachers use their Bibles along with Sunday School literature to teach Free Will Baptist doctrine and endeavor to teach and train children Bible teaching and behavior in our churches.

We recommend that we use nothing except Free Will Baptist literature in our Sunday Schools.

We recommend that the pastors of the churches help in courses for the benefit of training and qualifying more people for superintendent, teaching and secretarial work.

Obituary Committee

We, your Committee, report that God in His infinite wisdom has called Brother V. E. Singleton of Hanford and Brother J. D. Oldaker of Selma during the past year. Also, we would like to include Sister Lula Jane Branson who was a wonderful christian and loyal church worker in the Kerman church. Her membership was at Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Publication Committee

We, your Committee, recommend that more members of Free Will Baptist churches subscribe to the papers.

Resolution Committee

We, your Committee, recommend that all preachers give a written report of their work at each quarterly meeting. A form to be used in making these reports is to be set up before the next setting of the quarterly meeting.

Finance Committee

We, your Committee, report that we have received to date \$176.00. We paid \$100.00 for feeding expense, \$56.00 for minutes, including \$20.00 from the League. We recommend that each church send \$16.00 to the setting of each quarterly meeting, with \$10.00 for feeding expense and \$6.00 expense money. We recommend that each church send \$26.00 to each yearly setting of the Association, \$20.00 for feeding fund and \$6.00 for expenses. We recommend that this Association pay the Moderator \$10. and the clerk \$20.00. We recommend that the Association pay \$5.00 for the printing of programs.

Statistical Report

Total membership	644
Members received this year	161
Number dismissed	64
Number excluded	10
Number deceased	3
Number of prayer meetings	6
Number of Sunday Schools	6
Number of Leagues	4
League membership	60
Auxiliaries or Home Missions	4
Amount paid pastors	\$9,530.98
Amount for evangelists	797.06
Building and repairs	4,072.34
Incidentals	1,313.81
Value of church property	69,300.00
Foreign Missions	37.00
Home Missions	1,127.65
Education	85.25
Publication	471.92

Orange Cove, California
April 15, 1951

The Center Association League Rally was opened by singing "Jesus Hold My Hand", "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" and "Bring Them In" led by Sis. Wanda Eaton with Sis. June Rolen at the piano.

Prayer was led by Bro. Delmar Sharp.

The Scripture Lesson by Bro. Herman Hupp was taken from Jer. 31:31 and Heb. 8:6. followed by a prayer by Bro. O. H. Doss.

Letters from the following leagues were read and accepted:

Kerman Senior League
Kerman Intermediate League
Sanger Senior League
Selma Senior League
Hanford Senior League

Tithes of \$10.80 and Feeding Fund of \$20.00 were received.

The welcome was given by Sis. Margie Payne with a response by Brother Lonnie McAlister.

The Resolution Committee was appointed as follows.

Junior - Jourdan Orange Cove
Doyce McAlister - Kerman
Al Ianni - Hanford

Janice Crow - Sanger

Carl Young - Selma.

The letter from the Orange Cove Senior was read and accepted.

The annual election of officers was held with the following officers elected:

President — Lonnie Rolen, P. O. Box 138, Kerman

Vice-President — Al Ianni, Route 3, Box 709, Hanford

Rec. Sec'y — Jo Hupp, P. O. Box 65, Selma

Cor. Sec'y — Wanda Eaton, P. O. Box 385, Orange Cove

Treasurer — Junior Jourdan, P. O. Box 192, Orange Cove

Chorister — Troy Seely, Gen. Del., Selma

Pianist — Mary Sue Doss, P. O. Box 61, Kerman

Sponsor — Delmar Sharp, P. O. Box 51, Kerman

Minutes from the last Rally were read and accepted.

The Treasury Report was read and accepted.

Motion carried that we ask to have our minutes printed with the Center Association minutes and send \$20.00 to help print the minutes.

Report from the Resolution Committee:

Resolutions No. 1 and No. 2 accepted.

Resolution No. 1 - We resolve that the President be given power to appoint the Resolution Committee at each Rally.

Resolution No. 2 - We resolve that the minister selected to bring the message at the next Rally need not necessarily be a Leaguer.

Resolution Committee dismissed.

Report of the League Evangelist, Bro. Lonnie McAlister, was received and accepted.

Bro. Lonnie McAlister was paid \$2.50 for gasoline expense during the last quarter.

Bro. Finney Berry was elected League Evangelist for the next quarter.

\$1.15 was received from the Sanger League and \$3.26 from the Selma League on league stickers.

Report was given by the Rules Committee that the judging the programs would be completed before the afternoon session convenes.

The next Rally will convene with the Hanford Church on July 15, 1951. Bro. Lonnie McAlister to bring the message with Bro. H. E. Dixon as alternate.

Motion carried that the League Rally Officers are to serve as a League Board.

An announcement was made that the State League Rally will convene with the Kerman Church on June 2-3, 1951.

A short talk on State League work was given by Bro. Lonnie McAlister.

Dismissed for intermission by prayer by Bro. Doyce McAlister.

11:00 A. M. Services

Meeting re-opened by singing "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" and "I Can Tell You the Time" led by Bro. Troy Seely, followed by a prayer by Bro. Lloyd Talley.

A mixed quartet sang "If I Could Hear My Mother Pray, Again."

Message by Bro. Sam Winters was taken from Matt. 5:28, Text: "Be ye Perfect."

Song "Pass Me Not" was sung by the congregation.

We were dismissed by prayer by Bro. Finney Berry.

Lunch was served by the host church.

P. M. Services

Songs "He keeps Me Singing" and "I Just Steal Away and Pray" were led by Bro. Lonnie McAlister, followed by prayer by Bro. Truman Huddleston.

The Rules Committee reported that the programs would be judged on the following basis:

Spirituality	50%
Clearness of Speech	20%
Amount of time spent and expense of preparation	15%
Length of play	15%
Plays must be Biblical	

Song "I Am Thine O Lord" was sung and an offering of \$18.95 was taken. \$10.00 of this to go to the Free Will Baptist Bible College at Nashville, Tenn., the balance to go to the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Ringling, Oklahoma.

Prayer was led by Bro. O. H. Doss.

Motion carried that the President have power to appoint the judges. Judges appointed as follows:

Bro. Truman Huddleston	Turlock
Sis. Elsie Ianni	Hanford
Bro. P. E. Lambert	Hanford

Song "Where The Soul Never Dies" was sung.

Programs were presented as follows:

Kerman Intermediate League - Solo "It Is No Secret"
by Darwin Kelton

Play "The Bible and Bible Class"

Duet "He'll Understand And Say 'Well Done'"
by Darwin and Norman Kelton.

Selma Senior League — Play "As Easter Dawns"

Sanger League — Play "The Other Cross" followed by
"Near The Cross"

Orange Cove League — Play "Margaret's Call"

The program banner was awarded to the Selma Senior League.

The attendance banner was awarded to the Kerman Intermediate League with a 100% attendance.

A standing vote of thanks was given the Orange Cove Church for their felowship.

Benediction — Bro. Junior Jourdan.

Respectfully submitted,

Josephine Hupp, Recording Secretary.

MINISTERS ROLL

Rev. H. E. Dixon, Selma, Calif.

Rev. Lloyd Talley, Orange Cove, California

Rev. O. H. Doss, Kerman, California

Rev. Delmar Scroggins, Parlier, California

Rev. J. R. Evans, Orange Cove, Calif.

Rev. Lester Davis, Selma, California

Rev. J. E. Bridges, Orange Cove, California

Rev. I. W. Cook, Laton, California

Rev. Emmett Gray, Selma, California

Rev. R. V. Hollins. Fresno, California

BISITING MINISTERS

Rev. J. L. Waltman, Turlock, California

Rev. Truman Huddleston, Turlock, California

Rev. Winston Lawless, Pixley, California

Rev. L. C. Florence, Delano, California

Rev. Lewis, Santa Paula, California

DEACONS ROLL

Bro. J. W. Hall, Kerman, California

Bro. J. M. Whittenburg, Selma, California

Bro. Andrew Winters, Parlier, California

Bro. Elmer Baker, Sanger, California

Bro. Lee Ramsey, Kerman, California

CHURCH COVENANT

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 all appearances 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 faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the scripture, secret prayer, family devotion, 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. 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 to seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and as far as we are able, to 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 Christian Society.

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

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article I THE BIBLE

We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

Matt. 22:29; Mark 15:28; John 2:22; John 5:39; John 7:38; Acts 1:16; Acts 8:28; Romans 15:40; Gal 1:8; Second Timothy 3:16-17; Second Peter 1:12, 20,21.

Article II GOD

We believe that there are three persons in the God head, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that all things were created by them.

First John 5:7; Gen. 1st and 2nd chapters; Exo. 20:9-11; Psalms 33:6; Jer. 51:15; John 1:1-3; Acts 14:14-17; First Cor. 8:5,6; Eph. 3:8-10; Col. 1:9-17; Rev. 4:9-11.

Article III MAN

We believe that God created Man innocent, but by disobedience he fell into a state of sin and death. His posterity therefore inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to the years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.

Gen. 2:15-17; Gen. 3: 14-19; Isa. 53:6; Romans 3:9-26; Romans 5:12-15; First Cor. 15:21; Gal. 3:22; First John 1:10.

Article IV CHILDREN SAVED

We believe that children are born in a saved state and we must become like unto them if we enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Matt. 18: 2-3; Luke 18: 16-17.

Article V GENERAL ATONEMENT

We believe that Christ died for all and whosoever will may be saved.

Matt. 28: 19-20; Luke 24:45-47; John 3:16; First Tim. 2:1-6; Titus 2:11; Hebrews 2:9; Second Peter 3:9; First John 2:1-2; Rev. 22:17.

Article VI

DIVINE CALL TO THE MINISTRY

We believe that God in His wisdom and goodness displays His power of Grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying his servants by the teaching of the Holy Spirit to go forth and proclaim life and salvation. Yet those who are called are commanded to study to show themselves approved unto God, etc.

Article VII

THE CHURCH

We believe that the Church of God, or Christ is the whole body of Christians throughout the world.

Matt. 16:18; Acts 2: 46; First Cor 12:13-20; Eph. 1:22-23; Eph. 4:4-6; Col. 1:18-24; First Timothy 3:14-15; Heb. 3:6.

Article VIII

A CHURCH OF GOD

We believe that a church of God is an organized body of believers in Christ who statedly assemble to worship God and keep the Ordinances of the Gospel according to the Scriptures.

Matt 18: 15-17; Matt. 28: 18-20; Acts 8:1; Acts 13:1-3; Acts 14:23; Romans 16:1-5; First Cor 11:12; First Cor 11: 23-28; First Cor 16:19; Col. 4:15-16; Titus 1:5; First Peter 5:13; Rev. 1:11.

Article IX

ORDINANCES

We believe that Baptism, Communion and feet washing are Gospel Ordinances and should be observed by the people of God.

Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:18-20; John 13:4-17; Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 2:41; Acts 8:12; Acts 8:35-38; Acts 9:18; Acts 10:47-48; Acts 16:33; First Cor. 11:23-26; First-Tim. 5:9-19.

Article X

BAPTISM

We believe that immersion is the scriptural mode of baptism. Matt. 3:5; Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:5-11; John 3:22-23; Acts 3:36-39; Rom. 6:3-4.

Article XI

OPEN COMMUNION

We believe that the Lord's people are one in him; therefore should be one at His Table.

John 15:5; John 17:11-21; First Cor. 11:23-29; First Cor. 12:13-21; Gal. 3:26-29.

Article XII

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH

We believe that the Divine Law requires that one day in seven be set apart for the worship of God and that no work of wordly nature should be done on that day, work of piety, mercy and necessity excepted.

Mark 16:1-2; John 20: 1,19,26; Acts 13-27; Acts 16:13; Acts 20:7; First Cor. 16: 1-2; Rev. 1: 10-11.

Article XIII

APOSTASY

We believe that only those Christians who through grace and patience endure unto the end have promise of Eternal Salvation.

Eze. 18: 24-26; Matt. 10:22; Matt. 24: 12-13; Matt. 24: 48-51; Matt. 25: 14-30; Mark 13:13; Luke 12:45-46; John 15:1-6; Rom. 11:21; First Cor. 10:11-12; First Cor. 15:12; First Thes. 3:4-5; Heb. 3:1-6; Heb. 6; Heb. 10:24-30; Second Peter 1:9-11; Second Peter 2: 12-16; Second Peter 2:20-22; Rev. 2:10; Rev. 3:5.

Article XIV

RESURRECTION

We believe in the resurrection of all men; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation.

John 5:28,29; Acts 4:1-2; Acts 17:18; Acts 23:6; Acts 24: 14-15; Acts 26: 6-8; First Cor. 15:12,22; First Thes. 4:15-17; Rev. 20:12-15.

Article XV GENERAL JUDGMENT

We believe that there will be a general or universal judgment when all nations will be gathered before the Judgment Seat of Christ, to be judged according to their works. The wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

Eccl. 11:9; Eccl. 12:14; Matt. 12:36-37; Matt. 13:37-43; Matt. 25:31-46; Mark 9:43-48; John 5:28-29; Acts 10:42; Acts 17:30-31; Rom. 14:10-12; Second Cor. 5:10; Heb. 9:27-28; Rev. 20:12-15; Rev. 21:7-8.

RULES OF ORDER

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator or in their absence the oldest minister present shall call the Association to 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 a time as a quorum is present.

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

5. Those who speak shall rise 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 at its own church.

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

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE:

From long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, being regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ and realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as an association of churches and to preserve and maintain correspondence and coordination among us, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better denominational government.

Article I

This organization shall be known as the Center Association of Free Will Baptists of the State of California.

Article II

The object and purpose of this organization shall be to unify the work of our churches and to devise and execute measures for expanding our work in the cause of Christ into broader fields.

Article III

This Center Association shall consist of three delegates duly appointed or elected by the church they represent and all ordained Free Will Baptist ministers, their wives, all ordained Free Will Baptist deacons and their wives, and church clerks.

Article IV

The Center Association shall have the right to settle any and all questions of discipline, doctrine or practice that may properly come before it from any of the churches composing this organization, or act upon an appeal that may be made by any member of a member church who feels he has been unjustly charged. Said appeal shall have been written and properly signed by the person or body making such appeal.

Article V

Officers — The officers of this Center Association shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Treasurer, each of whom shall be elected at the opening of each setting of the annual association.

Committees — Committees as necessary shall be appointed by the Moderator unless otherwise provided for and shall hold office until their work is completed or their successors are appointed.

Article VI

This Executive Board shall be composed of five members. Each member shall be an ordained minister in good standing in the Center Association and their terms of tenure shall be as follows:

- (1) One for one year
- (1) One for two years
- (1) One for three years
- (1) One for four years
- (1) One for five years

Succession to office thereafter shall be determined as order required.

Article VII

The Center Association shall hold its meetings annually, the date and place to be decided upon at each previous setting of said Association.

Article VIII

Should necessity arise which calls for and requires immediate action, the Executive Board of this Association shall convene upon call of its chairman and shall take whatever action it deems necessary in the best interest of the cause of Christ. The action, however, shall not conflict with the purpose and edicts of the Constitution as set forth in the preceding Articles.

Article IX

The Executive Board of this Center Association shall not license nor ordain any deacon or minister who does not believe and practice titheing, their titheing being a part of the record to be submitted to the board at the time of presentation for examination for credentials.

Article X

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular session of the Center Association by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting. All proposed alterations or amendments shall be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

BY—LAWS

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator or in their absence the oldest minister (in the work) present shall call the Association into conference.
2. Each session shall be opened and closed by prayer.
3. Representation from a majority of the member churches shall constitute a quorum. A less number may adjourn until such a quorum is present.
4. Visiting brethren are invited to seat as advisory members.
5. Those who shall speak, shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections 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. Motion made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special permission of the Moderator.
9. The Moderator shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit.
10. The ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-third majority of members 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.
13. The Center Association shall have power to fill vacancies in the delegation from any composite body.