

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**Twenty-fourth Annual Session**  
OF THE  
**DIBBLE ASSOCIATION**  
OF THE  
**CHURCH OF GOD**  
Denominated  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST**

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**HELD WITH**

Shiloh Church, beginning on Thursday night before  
the second Sunday in September, 1931.

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**OFFICERS**

Elder E. E. Morris, .....Moderator  
Elder L. E. Ward, .....Assistant Moderator  
Jack Hopkins, .....Treasurer  
Birdie Drennan, .....Clerk  
Elder John Nunnally, .....Ass't Clerk

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The next Annual Session will be held with the  
Bridge Creek Church, beginning on Thursday night  
before the second Sunday in September, 1932.

Eld. E. E. Morris to preach the introductory sermon

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FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM PRINT, PURDY, MISSOURI

## Form of Church Conference

1. Call Church in Conference.
2. Call for peace of Church.
3. Call visiting brethren to seats in Council.
4. Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. New Business.
7. Are any sick or in distress?
8. What has been done for the support of the Ministry and other incidental expenses?
9. A call for confession.
10. Invitation for members.
11. Adjournment.

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## 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.
5. Election of Officers.
6. Petitionary Letters.
7. Reading Rules of Order (By-Laws).
8. Inviting Visiting Brethren to Seats in Council.
9. Appointment of Committees.
10. Unfinished Business.
11. New Business.
12. Report of Committees.
12. Report of Committees.
13. Miscellaneous Business.

## RULES OF ORDINATION

1. Do you believe in the Total Depravity of the Human Heart?  
Answer — I do not.

2. Do you believe that infants are saved while in a state of  
innocence? Answer — I do.

3. Do you believe in a Full and Free Salvation to all who  
accept it on the Gospel Terms? Answer — I do.

4. Do you believe in a Burial of a Believer with Christ in  
water after he has been baptized into Christ by the Holy Ghost,  
as the only Gospel Baptism? Answer — I do.

5. Do you believe any man has any right in the Gospel to  
repeat baptism to such a subject? Answer — No.

6. Do you believe that Communion, Feet Washing and Bap-  
tism are Gospel Ordinances, and are to be taught and practiced  
until He comes again? Answer — I do.

7. Will you solemnly pledge yourself to preach and practice  
the same, God being your helper? Answer — I will by the  
help of God.

8. Do you believe that none will be finally saved but those  
who persevere in holiness to the end? Answer — I do.

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### Letter of Dismissal

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

Done in Church Conference this .....day of.....19.....  
..... Pastor, .....Clerk.

## PROCEEDINGS

Dibble Association of Free Will Baptist met with the Shiloh Church, near Lindsay, Oklahoma, on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1931.

### THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by singing "He Keeps My Soul." Prayers by Bro. Luther Hudson and Elder E. E. Morris.

Introductory sermon by Eld. B. C. Munkus. Subject: "Baptism."

Visiting delegates were assigned homes.

Committee on Divine Service was appointed by Moderator.

Dismissed with prayer by Eld. W. A. Hearron to meet at 9:00 a. m. Friday.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by song: "Holy Manna." Prayer by Eld. Frank Lee. Scripture lesson 2nd chapter of Ephesians read by Moderator.

After reading letters from the different churches, motion carried to receive letters and seat delegates.

#### DELEGATES AS FOLLOWS:

Bridge Creek Church—Sisters John Claunch, May Vayles and Bro. Havron.

Dibble Church—Brothers Dale Macentosh, Haskell Perrin and Clay Campbell.

Hawkins Church—Brothers James Sparks, Cecil Light, Cecil Moore and Sister Birdie Drennan.

Iron Chapel Church—Brothers Russell Wells, Worn Michner, H. O. Nunley and Sister Steavens.

Plainview Church—Sisters Eula Stevens, Lou Sellers, Ellen Spain and Bro. Tom Spain.

Shiloh Church—Brothers Jim Hedrick, Wade Hinton, C. H. Manning, and Sister Amy Manning.

Simpson Church—Brothers Ora Myers, Mahurin, L. V. Proffer, E. Howeth.

While singing "The Promised Land," we extended the hand of Christian fellowship.

Elder Frank Lee was appointed by Committee on Divine Service to preach at eleven o'clock, followed by Elder E. E. Morris.

#### *Election of Officers:*

Moderator, Elder E. E. Morris, Blanchard, Okla.

Ass't Mod., Elder L. E. Ward, Blanchard, Okla.

Clerk, Birdie Drennan, 2914 S. Agnew, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Ass't Clerk, Elder John Nunnally, Blanchard, Okla., R2.

Call was made for petitionary letters. None received.

Rules of Order were read from the chair.

Invitation was given to visiting brethren and sisters to seats in council.

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES:

**DIVINE SERVICE**—Brothers Luther Hudson, Bob Roland and Sister Eula Stephens.

**RESOLUTIONS**—Elders W. A. Hearron, J. H. Burr, Clay Campbell, Jack Hopkins, Mahurin and Sister John Claunch.

**FINANCE**—Brothers Manning, Bashaw, Nunnally, Wells and Sister Lou Sellers.

**OBITUARY**—Brothers Cecil Moore, James Sparks and Michner.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**—Brothers R. E. Clagg, J. Q. Moore, Wade Hinton, and Sisters Amy Manning and May Vayles.

**TEMPERANCE**—Elders B. C. Munkus, and Frank Lee, and Brothers Tiout, Tom Moore, Cecil Light, Mainard and J. Hedrick.

**HOME MISSION**—Sisters Amy Manning, John Claunch, Geo. Bashaw, E. E. Jones, W. A. Hearron.

Bro. Jack Hopkins was unanimously re-elected as Treasurer of the Association.

Given as amendment to Constitution: Motion made that all ministers' wives who are Free Will Baptist be allowed voting privileges of Associations and Quarterly Meetings. Motion carried to table the suggestion until more time is allowed.

Adjourned for committee work.

#### ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Called together by song, "Land Beyond." Prayer by Elder W. A. Hearron.

Preaching by Elders F. M. Lee and E. E. Morris. Subject: "Inbred Sin."

Assignment of homes for lunch.

Adjourned to meet again promptly at 2:00 p. m.

Prayer by Bro. John Nunnally.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Meeting was called to order by singing, "Blessed Assurance." Prayer by Bro. J. Q. Moore. Scripture lesson, Psalm 1.

Committee on Divine Service report Elder Moore to deliver the evening address, followed by Elder Arnold.

Resolution Committee was given leave of absence for committee work.

The report of the fifth Sunday meeting, which was held with Bridge Creek church was read and accepted.

The amendment, carried over from morning session was accepted by the body.

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Resolution No. 1 read and adopted. It reads thus:

"Be it Resolved, That this Association refuse hereafter to license or ordain any woman to the Gospel ministry (1 Cor. 14: 34-35; 1 Tim. 2:11-12), and that this resolution be kept in our minutes from year to year."

Committee	{	Bro. Jack Hopkins
		Sister Roxie Claunch
		Eld. W. A. Hearron
		Bro. H. C. Mahurin
		Bro. Clay Campbell.

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Committee on Home Mission report as follows:

We, your Committee on Home Mission work, recommend that each church in our Association should have a "Home Mission Society," as an aid to the spiritual growth of the ladies of our churches, also to take care of the poor in each community, and as an aid in raising money to carry on our work.

Report read and approved and committee retained.

Committee	{	Sister W. A. Hearron
		Sister G. A. Bashaw
		Sister J. M. Claunch
		Sister E. E. Jones

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Adjourned for committee work, at request of Moderator.

Committee on Sunday School report as follows:

We, your Committee on Sunday School, find that each church reports a good Sunday school, and we recommend that this work be carried on. Each member should attend and encourage others to do likewise. A church without a Sunday school is on the downward road and, sooner or later, is gone.

We further urge all churches to organize home prayer services for once a week, if possible.

We also urge the use of Free Will Baptist literature. Sunday school should be encouraged by all pastors and deacons.

Committee	{	Sister May Vayles
		Sister Amy Manning
		Bro. R. E. Clagg
		Bro. Wade Hinton

Motion carried that report be accepted and committee retained.

Committee on Resolutions report as follows:

Resolution No. 2. Be it Resolved, That this Association print the name and address of each church clerk and minister in the minutes. Resolution read and adopted.

Resolution No. 3. Be it Resolved, That this Association reduce the amount of the minute fund to \$5.00 instead of \$10.00, as resolved in 1929.

	Bro. Jack Hopkins
Committee	Bro. H. C. Mahurin
	Sister Roxie Claunch
	Elder J. H. Burr.

Motion carried to adopt resolution.

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Letter from the General Baptist Association was read and motion carried that the Dibble Association correspond with them by letter.

Elder W. A. Hearron called for letter of dismissal from Dibble Association on account of moving to another church and State. His request was granted by the body. After his dismissal, Eld. L. E. Ward was elected Assistant Moderator.

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Committee on Temperance report as follows:

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg to report that we cannot place too high an estimate on this subject. It is our duty to well being in this life. Intemperance is disloyal to the laws of nature as well as to God; it is an utter disregard to the laws of man and to God. It is harmful and can destroy the soul as well as the body. Therefore we ask that each member abstain from intemperance and that God's children should always lend a helping hand to their fellowman and try to help him to a higher plane. We ask our ministers to preach at least two sermons each year on this subject. We also ask each church, finding a member indulging in such to require a public statement from same or else withdraw from them.

We heartily endorse the "Prohibition Laws" and will do all in our power to enforce them.

	Elder W. F. Lee
	Elder B. C. Munkus
Committee	Elder T. N. Moore
	Bro. G. A. Trout
	Bro. C. S. Mainard

Report approved and committee retained.

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Motion entertained and carried to adjourn to meet again promptly at 9:00 a. m. Saturday.

## FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opening song, "My Home Above." After which our minds were led in prayer by Bro. R. N. Roland, followed by the evening message, which was delivered by Elder T. N. Moore, followed by Elder Arnold. Dismissed by a word of prayer.

## SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The meeting was opened by singing "Heaven Holds All To Me." Prayer by Elder B. C. Munkus. Scripture lesson read from Titus 1:9-16 by the Moderator.

Committee on Divine Service reported the appointment of Elder J. H. Burr to preach at 11:00 o'clock.

Adjourned for a few minutes' recess.

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Committee on Obituary submit the following: That death has taken from us the following members and members' children:

Bridge Creek Church—Mamie Thompson died August 1, 1931.

Dibble Church—Grandpa Ward, father of Elder L. E. Ward, died September 4, 1931. Bro. Dallas Hudson, brother of Bro. Luther Hudson, died October, 1930. Sister Nancy Johnson died April 4, 1931.

Hawkins Church—Bro. J. C. Pinrod died June 20, 1931. Infant son of Bro. and Sister Hazel Drennan died July 17, 1931. Infant son of Sister Jewell Bally died June 27, 1931.

Iron Chapel Church—Infant daughter of Bro. and Sister Russell Wells died April 8, 1931. Infant daughter of Bro. and Sister Leo Jackson died March, 1931. Infant son of Sister Verna Brewer died April, 1931.

Simpson Church—Infant daughter of Bro. and Sister Johnnie Shephard died October 24, 1930.

	Bro. James Sparks
Committee	Bro. Cecil Moore
	Bro. Art Michener.

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Report accepted and committee retained.

After Sister Hearron's suggestion the Association stood a moment in silent prayer in memory of Grandpa Ward, father of Elder L. E. Ward. He was a member of the body that organized the Dibble Association and we thank God for his life.

## ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

After singing "I Want To Know He'll Welcome Me," and prayer offered by Elder E. E. Morris, the eleven o'clock address was delivered by Elder J. H. Burr, after which we were served a wonderful dinner at the church.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by singing "Heaven Is Not Far Away." Scripture lesson found in Jude. Prayer by Bro. Luther Hudson.

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### TREASURER'S REPORT, September 1, 1931.

Collected in treasury for minute fund.....\$68.52

Balance carried over from Evangelist fund..... 33.90

Total Receipts .....\$102.42

Paid out for 1930 minutes.....\$30.00

Paid to our Association Clerk..... 5.00

Paid for Church and Association forms..... 1.50

Total amount paid out..... \$36.50

Balance in treasury at this date.....\$65.92

Jack Hopkins, Treasurer of the Association.

### MINISTERS' REPORTS FOR 1931

Reports read and approved from the following:

Elder J. H. Burr—Sermons preached 22; miles traveled 20; expense, none; received in cash \$1.00, other offerings unknown; conducted 3 funerals. This report is very small, but we pray God that this coming year may be better than this.

May the Lord bless this Association. Pray for me and mine.

Elder Emmett Clagg—Preached 33 sermons; helped conduct one meeting; received \$7.84. Pray for me.

Elder W. F. Lee—Pastored one church; preached 74 sermons; traveled 588 miles; received \$25.05; conversions none; baptized none.

I desire the prayers of the Association, that my ministry be always upbuilding to Christ's kingdom and the church of the living God.

Elder E. E. Morris—Pastored 4 churches, Iron Chapel, Dibble, Simpson and Spring Hill in First Oklahoma Association; preached 184 sermons; conversions witnessed 178; members taken in 93; baptized 66; money received \$293.34; funerals preached 6. Brethren, when you pray, ask God to bless the churches that I am pastoring, that they may grow like the trees that are planted by the river and that they may be a light that will shine out for Jesus.

Elder B. C. Munkus—Pastored one church; held one meeting; witnessed 66 conversions; had 14 additions to the church; baptized 14; preached 70 sermons; assisted in three meetings; received \$26.40.

Committee on Finance submits the following:

Dibble Church .....	\$5.00
Bridge Creek Church .....	5.00
Hawkins Church .....	5.00
Iron Chapel Church .....	5.00
Plainview Church .....	5.00
Shilo Church .....	5.00
Simpson Church .....	2.50

Total ..... \$32.50

Committee	Bro. G. A. Bashaw
	Bro. C. H. Manning
	Sister Lou Sellers
	Bro. Russell Wells
	Elder J. E. Nunnally.

Report received and committee discharged.

### CHURCH REPORTS

**BRIDGE CREEK**—Membership 80. Resident members 57. Members dismissed one. Amount included for minutes \$5.00. Good Sunday school. Pastor, Elder Ora Deskins. Clerk, Sister B. J. Peters.

**DIBBLE**—Membership, 139. Number received this year, 24. Number baptized, 21. Number dismissed, none. Number died, three. Amount included for minutes, \$5.00. Condition of Sunday school, good. Amount paid pastor, \$81.00. For evangelistic work, \$25.00. Pastor, Elder E. E. Morris. Clerk, Maggie Roberts.

**HAWKINS**—Membership, 118. Resident members, 60. Active members, 25. Appointments filled by pastor, ten. Money paid pastor, \$72.50. Evangelistic fund, \$75.95. Amount sent for minutes, \$5.00. Condition of Sunday school, good. Prayer meeting twice each week. Pastor, Elder I. W. Yandell. Clerk, Bro. N. C. Drennan.

**IRON CHAPEL**—Total membership, 147. Number received this year, 14. Number baptized, 10. Number dismissed, one. Number died, two. Amount paid pastor, \$24.50. Evangelistic funds, \$6.30. Amount for minutes, \$5.00. Sunday school, good, with an average attendance of 50. State of religion, good. Pastor, E. E. Morris. Clerk, Mollie Bingham.

PLAINVIEW—Members..ip, 32. Number received this year, 16. Number baptized, 14. Amount paid pastor, \$22.63. Am't included for minutes, \$5.00. State of religion good. Pastor, Elder B. C. Munkus. Clerk, Sister Ellen Spain.

SHILOH—Total membership, 55. Amount paid pastor, \$112.40. Amount included for minutes, \$5.00. Sunday school, very good. Average attendance, 40. Pastor, Elder W. A. Hearron. Clerk, Amy Manning.

SIMPSON—Membership, 20. Number received this year, 8. Number baptized, 2. Number dismissed, 1. Amount paid pastor, \$5.12. Sunday school, good. Average attendance, 25. State of religion good. Pastor, Elder E. E. Morris. Clerk, L. V. Proffer.

### CHURCH CLERKS

Bridge Creek—Mrs. B. J. Peters, Blanchard, Oklahoma, R1.

Dibble—Mrs. Maggie Roberts, Blanchard, Oklahoma, R4.

Fairview—

Hawkins—N. C. Drennan, Tabler, Oklahoma, R1.

Iron Chapel—Mrs. Mollie Bingham, Purcell, Oklahoma, R2.

Plainview—Mrs. Ellen Spain, Temple, Oklahoma.

Shiloh—Mrs. Amy Manning, Lindsay, Oklahoma, R4.

Simpson—L. V. Proffer, Blanchard, Oklahoma, R2.

Weaver's Chapel—

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

Eld. J. H. Burr.....R1, Tabler Oklahoma

Eld. Emmett Clagg.....R3, Lindsay, Oklahoma

Eld. E. E. Morris.....R2, Blanchard, Oklahoma

Eld. T. Maynard.....Comanche, Oklahoma

Eld. W. F. Lee.....R4, Lindsay, Oklahoma

Eld. B. C. Munkus.....R1, Baird, Oklahoma

Eld. Ora Deskins.....Blanchard, Oklahoma

Eld. ——— Buckner.....R2, Lindsay, Oklahoma

Eld. L. E. Ward.....R2, Blanchard, Oklahoma

Eld. John Nunnally.....R2, Blanchard, Oklahoma

Eld. W. A. Hearron.....R4, Lindsay, Oklahoma

Eld. E. G. Adkinson.....Blanchard, Oklahoma

Committee on Ministers' and Deacons' character submit the following: We find all in good standing.

Committee	{	Sister Amy Manning
		Bro. N. C. Drennan
		Bro. George Stevens.

Motion carried to receive report and discharge committee.

Motion carried to give Clerk \$5.00 for manuscript.

After obtaining power from the associational body, the Moderator appointed delegates to the State Association, which meets with the Summer's Chapel church near Stratford, Oklahoma. They are as follows:

Bro. Buck Roach, Dibble,      Bro. John Claunch, Bridge Creek,  
Bro. N. C. Drennan, Hawkins,      Bro. Malcolm Clagg, Shiloh.

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Motion carried that Elders E. E. Morris and John Nunnally represent the Dibble Association at the First Oklahoma Association.

Committee on Resolutions report as follows:

Resolved that we ask for a reconsideration of resolutions No. 1 and 2, that were passed at Bridge Creek Quarterly Meeting.

Jack Hopkins, Chairman.

Resolutions were discussed and abolished.

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Report of Divine Service Committee: Elder B. C. Munkus to preach at 7:30 p. m. Elder Emmett Clagg at 11:00 a. m. Sunday. Elder Frank Lee at 7:30 Sunday evening.

Motion carried to receive report and discharge all committees.

Moderator was elected by the body to preach the introductory sermon at next Association.

Short discussion on "Home Mission" by Sister E. E. Jones.

Suggested and approved that we have fifteen minutes discussion on "Sound Doctrine." Discussed by Elders B. C. Munkus and W. A. Hearron.

Motion carried that Bro. Emmett Clagg's license be renewed until next Association.

Resolution: We, your Committee on Resolutions, wish to thank the Shiloh Church for the kind hospitality shown us during our stay among them; also the School Board for dismissing school.

Jack Hopkins, Chairman.

After consent of the body, Bro. Edd Campbell was written a letter of consolation and an offering was taken in his behalf of \$7. 51. We were very glad of the opportunity to show our appreciation for his faithfulness to the cause of Christ and the Association.

Benediction by Elder W. A. Hearron.

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First Quarterly Meeting ..... Plainview.

Second Quarterly Meeting ..... Hawkins.

Third Quarterly Meeting ..... Simpson.

## 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 communion 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 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 union shall be regular members, when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME. The members thus chosen and convened in the.....Yearly Meeting or Association of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being composed of the sundry churches in the Dibble Association, the Association having no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor have 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 number received by experience, by letters of recommendation, or restored; the number dismissed or excluded, and those who have died since the 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.

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

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 the 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 majority vote of the members present, notice having been given in writing, and recorded at the last previous session.

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## FREE WILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **The Bible.** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **God.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe, and in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

3. **Christ.** Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. **The Holy Spirit.** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

5. **The Government of God.** God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. **The Sinfulness of man.** Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

**7. The Work of Christ.** The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

**8. The Terms of Salvation.** The conditions of salvation are. 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance of faith until death.

**9. Election.** God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

**10. Freedom of the Will.** The human will is free and self controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, or to resist them and perish.

**11. Salvation Free.** God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of Life freely.

**12. Perseverance.** All believers in Christ, who through grace, persevere in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.

**13. Gospel Ordinances.** BAPTISM, or the immersion of believers in water, and the LORD'S SUPPER, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; FEET WASHING, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

**14. The Christian Sabbath.** The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

**15. War.** War destroys the lives of the innocent, and is contrary to the New Testament, therefore, we are opposed to war.

**16. Resurrection, Judgment, and Final Retribution.** The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked shall "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## 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 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 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. 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.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **RULES OF ORDER**

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer, by the Moderator or whomsoever he may request.

2. Ministers present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.

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

4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.

5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall be dismissed.

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

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. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.

11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association, if necessary.

12. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.

13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

