

The
Dibble Association
of
Church of God Denominated
Free Will Baptists

1943

Proceedings of the
36th Annual Session

Convened at
Dibble Church
Dibble, Oklahoma

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

DIBBLE ASSOCIATION

OF

CHURCH OF GOD
Denominated

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH

Dibble Church, beginning on Thursday night
September 9, 1943.

OFFICERS

Moderator	Eld. Clay Richey	Blanchard, Okla.
Ass't. Mod.	Eld. L. E. Ward	Blanchard, Okla.
Clerk	Sister Maggie Roberts	Blanchard, Okla.
Ass't. Clerk	Eld. H. H. Parsons	Blanchard, Okla.

The next annual session of this Association will convene with Bridge Creek Church, beginning on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1944.

PROCEEDINGS

Dibble Association of Free Will Baptists met with the Dibble Church at Dibble, Oklahoma, on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1943.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The annual session of the Dibble Association was called together by congregational singing.

Prayer by Eld. E. A. O'Donnell.

Devotional services conducted by Eld. L. E. Ward.

Special number rendered by Eld. E. A. O'Donnell, Bro. Arthur Herrin, Bro. C. L. Hudson, and Bro. Dow Thompson. Song, "He Whispered Sweet Peace To Me."

A hearty welcome was given to all Brothers and Sisters by the moderator also the pastor of Dibble Church, Eld. H. H. Parsons.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Eld. H. H. Parsons. Lesson read, Isaiah 66:8. Subject, "Scriptural Christianity."

Dismissed by Eld. E. E. Morris.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing led by Bro. Dow Thompson, Song, "I'm Redeemed."

Lesson read by moderator Romans 12.

Prayer by Bro. C. L. Hudson.

Church letters were called for and those from the following churches were read: Bridge Creek, Dibble, Iron Chapel, Bryant, and Hawkins.

The right hand of fellowship was extended during singing.

Petitionary letters were called for. None received.

Election of Officers

Moderator	Eld. Clay Richey	Blanchard, Okla.
Ass't. Mod.	Eld. L. E. Ward	Blanchard, Okla.
Clerk	Sister Maggie Roberts	Blanchard, Okla.
Ass't. Clerk	Eld. H. H. Parsons	Blanchard, Okla.
Treasurer	Bro. Jack Hopkins	Blanchard, Okla.

Reading of Rules by moderator.

Appointment of committees by moderator as follows:

Divine Service — Eld. H. H. Parsons, Bro. Bill Devolt, Bro. Bill Parson, Bro. Dormie Mills, Bro. Richard Clagg.

Resolutions — Bro. Jack Hopkins, Bro. C. L. Hudson, Bro. Will Hudson, Bro. George Trout, Bro. Lee Hawkins.

Finance — Jr. Parsons, Russ Wells, Ervin Johnson.

Obituary — Marie Jackson, Inez Bagwell, Viola Johnson.

Home Missions — Sister Florence Roberts, Sister Joy, Sister Nettie Hudson, Sister Mattie Jones, Sister Viola Johnson.

Temperance — Bro. Jess Jay, Sister Alford Rutledge, Bro. Marvin Lee.

Sunday School — Sister Cestus Wells, Bro. Jess Clagg, Bro. Ervin Johnson, Sister Florence Roberts, Sister Bagwell.

Divine Service committee reported Eld. E. A. O'Donnell to bring the message at eleven o'clock and Eld. E. E. Morris the afternoon message.

Motion carried to adjourn the business session until one o'clock.

Dismissed by Eld. L. E. Ward.

FRIDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Came together by congregational singing led by Dow Thompson and Bro. C. L. Hudson. Songs, "When We All Get to Heaven," "I'll Fly Away," and "I Am So Glad."

Prayer by John Alsup.

Devotional services conducted by Eld. L. E. Ward, Sr.

Special music rendered by Eld. E. E. Morris, Bro. C. L. Hudson, Bro. Dow Thompson, and Sister Maggie Roberts. Song, "When He Comes Back Again."

A wonderful message was given by Eld. E. A. O'Donnell. Subject: The Lord hath created a new thing on earth.

The audience stood while a verse of "There Is A Fountain" was sung.

Special number rendered by Eld. A. E. O'Donnell, Bro. Dow Thompson, Bro. C. L. Hudson, Eld. E. E. Morris. Song, "I'll Meet You In The Morning."

Dismissed for lunch by Eld. B. C. Munkus.

Lunch was served by the ladies of the church.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Came together by congregational singing led by Eld. E. A. O'Donnell and Bro. Dow Thompson.

Scripture lesson read by Eld. L. E. Ward, 1 John 3:1-4.

Prayer by Eld. Ralph Hampton.

Special number rendered by Bro. Junior Parsons. Song, "I Must Be Saved."

Five minute recess for committee work.

Special number by Eld. E. A. O'Donnell, Bro. Dow Thompson and Bro. and Sister C. L. Hudson. Song, "O Hear Ye The Voice."

Eld. E. E. Morris brought a wonderful message. Subject: "Wells of Living Water." Scripture, Gen. 29:1.

Report was given orally by Bro. C. L. Hudson, secretary of the executive board.

Motion carried to accept the report in writing so it could be put in the minutes.

Committee on Divine Service reported that Eld. B. C. Munkus would bring the message Friday evening.

Motion carried to adjourn until 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Came together by congregational singing.

Prayer by Eld. John Alsup.

Special numbers rendered by Eld. A. E. O'Donnell, Eld. E. E. Morris, and Bro. and Sister C. L. Hudson. Songs, "Old Daniel Prayed" and "We Are Waiting For The Boy To Come Home."

Devotional services were conducted by Eld. L. E. Ward.

Eld. B. C. Munkus brought the evening message. Subject: "Fellowship." Scripture, 2 Peter and 1 John 1:6.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Came together by congregational singing led by Eld. A. E. O'Donnell.

Scripture read by moderator, Phil. 2.

Motion carried the next annual association meet with the Bridge Creek church. Eld. L. E. Ward to preach the introductory sermon.

The first Quarterly Meeting to be with Iron Chapel church. Eld. H. H. Parsons to preach the introductory sermon.

The second Quarterly Meeting to be with Hawkins church. Eld. Clay Richey to preach the introductory sermon.

The third Quarterly Meeting to be with Dibble church. Eld. Frank Lee to preach the introductory sermon.

Motion carried Eld. Ralph Hampton preach the memorial sermon at the next association.

Divine Service committee reported Eld. Clay Richey to bring the eleven o'clock message.

Executive Board

Eld. Clay Richey

Eld. L. E. Ward

Eld. H. H. Parsons

Bro. C. L. Hudson

Bro. Jack Hopkins

Motion carried to dismiss business session for the eleven o'clock service.

SATURDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICES

Came together by congregational singing led by Eld. A. E. O'Donnell.

Prayer by Eld. W. M. Coggins.

Devotional services conducted by Eld. L. E. Ward.

Request special number rendered by Junior Parsons, "The Beautiful Garden Of Prayer."

Eld. Clay Richey brought a wonderful message. Subject: "What Prophet Found." Scripture, Job 21:15.

Song, "Talk It Over With Jesus."

Dismissed by Eld. Clay Richey.

Lunch served by ladies of the church.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Came together by congregational singing led by Eld. A. E. O'Donnell.

Prayer by Bro. Pike.

Scripture read by assistant moderator, Psalms 24:1-6.

Special number by the Dibble girls quartett, Sister Aalice Southard, Sister Patsy York, Sister Ollie Sharp, and Threasa Bridges. Song, "Let The Hallelujahs Ring."

Committee reports read and accepted.

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Ministers' reports read and accepted.

Motion carried to retain treasurer for the year 1944.

Motion carried that the Association buy a \$400.00 War Bond.

Motion carried for pledges for our Association treasury.

Motion carried that the moderator be empowered to appoint the delegates to the State Association.

Delegates appointed were: Bro. Junior Parsons, Bro. Lee Hawkins, and Bro. Jess Joy.

The following gave Home Mission reports: Bryant, Bridge Creek, and Dibble.

A short message on memorial was given by Eld. L. E. Ward.

Motion carried to send \$5.00 to State Association for Minutes.

Motion carried to accept the report of Resolutions Committee and discharge all committees.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet with the Bridge Creek church in 1944.

Dismissed by singing.

Moderator, Eld. Clay Richey

Clerk, Sister Maggie Roberts

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HOME MISSIONS — We, your Committee on Home Missions, report that three out of five churches have active Home Mission, we recommend it to all churches.

— Sister Florence Roberts, chairman.

TEMPERANCE — 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 cause and nature of God. It is harmful and destroys the soul as well as the body. Therefore, we urge that each member abstain from intemperance and God's children to always lend a helping hand to their fellow men, and try to help him to a higher place in life.

— Sister Annabelle Rutledge, chairman

OBITUARY — We are sad to report the deaths of our friends and loved ones from the various churches:

Hawkins — Bro. W. H. Fields.

Bryant — Sister Mattie Mullens.

— Sister Inez Bagwell, chairman

FINANCE — We, your Committee on Finance, wish to report as follows: Dibble, \$10.00; Bridge Creek, \$10.00; Hawkins, \$10.00; Bryant, \$10.00; Iron Chapel, \$10.00. Total, \$50.00.

— Junior Parsons, chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL — We, your Committee on Sunday School, are glad to report that six churches have active Sunday school. We pray that each church will continue with this work for God.

— Sister Inez Bagwell, chairman

EXECUTIVE — We advertised the Atkinson church building for sale and sold to highest bidder. Total \$175.00, and the same amount given to our Association treasurer, Bro. Jack Hopkins.

Chairman, Eld. Clay Richey

Clerk, Bro. C. L. Hudson

RESOLUTIONS —

1940. No. 1. — Be it Resolved, That we accept Resolutions No. 1 of Fourth Quarterly Meeting which reads: Be it Resolved, That associational and church clerks have the right to vote at the associational and quarterly meetings.

No. 2. — Be it Resolved, That the Association elect a minister to preach a memorial sermon on Saturday at eleven o'clock a.m. at each setting of the Association.

1939. No. 1 — Be it Resolved, That the title of our Minutes always be: Church of God denominated Free Will Baptists.

No. 2. — Be it Resolved, That this Association continue to pay Eld. W. M. Coggins \$3.00 per month for the rest of his life.

No. 3. — Be it Resolved, That this Association pay the clerk \$3.00 at each annual meeting.

1938. No. 4. — Be it Resolved, That this Association elect an Executive Committee of five members, with the moderator of our Association acting as chairman.

To this Board is delegated power to act in behalf of, and for, the Dibble Association from one meeting to another of the

said association, and shall have power and authority to elect such officers as might be deemed best for its own government and to carry out the plans and undertakings of Dibble Association. The Board shall have power to fill vacancies that may occur in its own body.

To this Executive Board is further delegated power to collect funds and employ and superintend such work for the field as may seem best, and the means on hand may warrant. They Shall not convey or mortgage any real estate or personal property unless authorized by the Dibble Association. This Executive Board shall keep a record of all work done, money raised, meetings held, and make a full and complete report to the next regular meeting of the Association, and shall further receive, hold, manage, use, control, and convey any property entrusted to said Association for any purpose in accordance with the purpose of the donor or donors and in no case to divert it from its original object.

The Chairman and Treasurer of said Executive Board shall sign all deeds and bonds, notes, etc., and any other papers by which Dibble Association is to become legally held. It shall be the duty of this Executive Board to meet at each regular or adjourned session of the Association and as often as may be necessary, and any member absenting himself from the meetings three times may be dropped from the Board and his successor elected. No meeting of the Executive Board shall be legal unless at least three members are present. All transactions must be favored by a majority of all members present, and a written record shall be made and kept of all transactions. No member of the Executive Board shall delegate authority to any other member of said board to cast his vote for him in any thing. The Board shall have the power to call the Association in conference by notifying each church ten days prior to conference and they shall have the authority to change quarterly meetings or association if the place where said quarterly meeting or association is to meet is not able to care for the meeting, and their decisions shall be final. This must be done in time to notify each church.

This resolution is to be printed in the minutes each year.

1942. No. 1.—Be it Resolved, That we allow the different church Home Missions the privilege to elect their officers and drop the Home Mission Rallies.

1943. No.1.—We, your Committee on Resolutions, wish to

express our thanks in behalf of this Association to the Dibble church and others for their hospitality during our stay among them.

— Bro. Jack Hopkins, chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report of treasurer for 1942-1943:

RECEIPTS:

Balance brought forward	\$103.32
Pledges collected	70.00

TOTAL	\$179.92
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DISBURSEMENTS:

Dibble Association Minutes	\$16.50
State Association Minutes	5.00
Eld. W. M. Coggins	36.00
Dibble Association Clerk	5.00

TOTAL	\$62.50
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Balance in treasury	\$117.42
Received at this thirty-sixth session	\$50.00
Total on hand	\$167.42
Received from sale of Atkinson church building	\$176.90
Grand total in treasury	\$343.42

— Bro. Jack Hopkins, treasurer.

HOME MISSION REPORTS

DIBBLE—Membership 15; paid pastor \$3.00 per month; 2 church suppers; 4 sales dinners; made a linen chest, also a quilt; sent 90 sick and sympathy cards; received \$122.94; expenses \$66.59; balance in treasury \$56.35.

President, Sister Maggie Roberts

Secretary-treasurer, Sister Vicie Hopkins

BRYANT—Served 1 sale dinner; expenses \$6.50; amount in treasury \$6.74.

— Secretary, Mrs. Beulah Clagg.

BRIDGE CREEK—Membership 10; paid pastor \$1.00 per

month; quilted several quilts; 2 sale dinners; amount for expenses unknown; amount in treasury \$75.00.

— Sister Ed Nichols, sec.-treas.

MINISTERS' REPORTS

CLAY RICHEY—Pastored 2 churches; preached 161 sermons; funerals preached 12; marriages performed 11; baptized 8; witnessed 31 conversions; received \$354.25; called to pastor Eryant church one-half time.

H. H. PARSONS—Pastored Dibble church one-half time; preached 75 sermons; conducted 2 funerals; marriages performed 2; assisted in 2 revivals; witnessed 22 conversions; baptized 5; received \$147.00; have been called to pastor Dibble and Bridge Creek churches one-half time each the coming year.

L. E. WARD—Sermons preached 30; funerals preached 3; marriages performed 4; money received \$95.00; witnessed 23 conversions.

RALPH HAMPTON—Preached 60 sermons; miles traveled unknown; money received \$100.00; helped in 1 revival; witnessed 3; conversions; baptized 1; preached 1 funeral; performed 1 marriage; pastored 1 church.

W. F. LEE—Sermons preached 60; miles traveled about 600; filled 2 regular appointments; witnessed 1 conversion; money received \$29.85.

CHURCH REPORTS

BRYANT—State of religion, good; members received 5; number dismissed by letter 2; number deceased 1; resident members 26; total membership 73; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils 40; number of officers 5; amount paid pastor \$166.50; amount for evangelistic work \$80.00; value of church property \$750.00; amount included \$10.00.

Eld. Clay Richey, pastor

Bro. T. O. Dunn, clerk

DIBBLE—State of religion, good; members received 7;

number baptized 5; total membership about 250; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils 50; number of officers 6; condition of Home Mission, good; number of members 15; amount paid pastor about \$120.00; amount paid for evangelistic work \$70.00; value of church property \$2500; amount included for Minutes \$10.00.

Eld. H. H. Parsons, pastor
Sister Maggie Roberts, clerk

BRIDGE CREEK — State of religion, good; members received 2; number baptized 2; number dismissed by letter 2; resident members 86; non-resident members 55; total membership 141; condition of prayer meeting, fair; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils 35; officers 6; condition of Home Mission, good; membership 10; amount paid pastor \$65.75; amount for evangelistic work \$25.00; amount for incidentals \$12.00; amount of church property \$1000; amount for publications, Sunday school literature, etc., \$29.25; amount included for Minutes \$10.00.

Pastor, Eld. H. H. Parsons
Clerk, Sister Mary Vogles

IRON CHAPEL — State of religion, good; members received 2; number baptized 2; total membership 80; condition of Sunday school, good; number of pupils 70; officers 6; amount paid pastor \$85.00; amount for evangelistic work \$40.00; value of church property \$750.00; amount included for Minutes \$10.00.

Eld. Ralph Hampton, pastor
Sister Nettie Hudson, Clerk

HAWKINS — State of religion, good; members received 6; number baptized 2; number deceased 1; resident members 39; non-resident members 122; total membership 161; condition of Sunday school, good; average number of pupils 28; number of officers 6; condition of League, good, membership 40; amount paid pastor \$120.70; amount for evangelistic work \$59.00; amount for incidentals \$11.09; amount of budget paid \$190.79; amount included for Minutes \$10.00.

Eld. L. E. Staggs, pastor
Sister Mary Joy, clerk

ENROLLMENT

Church Clerks

Dibble Sister Maggie Roberts, Blanchard, Okla.
Bridge Creek Sister Mary Voyles, Blanchard, Okla.
Hawkins Sister Mary Joy, Blanchard, Okla.
Bryant Bro. T. O. Dunn, Purcell, Okla.
Iron Chapel Sister Nettie Hudson, Blanchard, Okla.

Ordained Ministers

Eld. Clay Richey Route 4, Blanchard, Okla.
Eld. L. E. Ward Sr. Route 4, Blanchard, Okla.
Eld. W. F. Lee Lindsay, Okla.
Eld. H. H. Parsons Route 4, Blanchard, Okla.
Eld. Joe Pate Arizona
Eld. L. E. Ward, Jr. Oakland, Calif.
Eld. Denver Wynn Oklahoma City, Okla.
Eld. B. F. Stacey Blanchard, Okla.
Eld. John Nunnally
Eld. Ralph Hampton Oklahoma City, Okla.
Eld. L. E. Staggs Oklahoma City, Okla.

Visiting Ministers

Eld. E. E. Morris Purcell, Okla. ✓
Eld. W. M. Coggins Blanchard, Okla. ✓
Eld. E. A. O'Donnell McCloud, Okla. ✓

Delegates

IRON CHAPEL — Bro. Melvin Lee, Sister Bessie Wells, Sister Cestus Wells. ✓

Bridge Creek — Bro. Ervin Johnson, Bro. Cavlin Kelly, Sister Viola Johnson. ✓

Dibble — Bro. Junior Parsons, Sister Marie Jackson, Sister Florence Roberts. ✓

Bryant — Bro. Lee Hawkins, Bro. Jess Clagg, Sister Mattie Jones. ✓

Hawkins — Bro. Jess Joy, Sister Alford Rutledge, Sister Inez Bagwell. ✓

PLEDGES TO THE ASSOCIATION

Bro. Jack Hopkins \$10.00

Bro. and Sister L. E. Ward	5.00
Bro. and Sister Anderson	5.00
Bro. Lee Hawkins	5.00
Sister Ada Bell Moore	2.50
Sister Mandie McGrew	5.00
Bro. Sam Pybus	5.00
Eld. H. H. Parsons	5.00
Sister Hester Bowser	2.50
Sister George Riter	2.00
Sister Jinnie Clagg	5.00
Bro. Cash Roberts	5.00
Sister Dee Arthur Wilson	10.00
Sister Fred Campbell	5.00
Sister Jewell Richey	5.00
Eld. Frank Lee	5.00
Bro. John Claunch	5.00
Bro. Jay Claunch	5.00
Bro. Jess Joy	5.00
Bro. C. E. Howeth	5.00
Bryant Home Mission	2.50
Sister Frankenburg	5.00
Sister Rachael Wells	2.50
Sister Marie Horath	2.50
Sister John Alsup	2.50
Eld. John Alsup	2.50
Dibble Home Mission	2.50
Bridge Creek Home Mission	2.50
Bro. Pike	5.00
Iron Clad Home Mission	2.50
Bro. Ashley	1.00
Sister Maggie Smith	1.33
Sister Light	1.00
Sister Inez Bagwell	1.00
Sister Viola Johnson	1.00
Eld. E. A. O'Donnell	1.00
Sister Florence Roberts	2.50
Sister Bessie Wells	2.50
Sister Rutledge	1.00
Bro. Junior Parsons	1.00
Bro. Clenten	1.00
Bro. Jess Clagg	1.00
TOTAL	\$148.00

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 affected 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 in faith and obedience 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 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, JUDGEMENT, 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."

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 Church government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the churches or quarterly meetings 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 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 shall have a Moderator, a Clerk, a Treasurer and an Executive Board of three members who shall be elected at each annual session of the Association by the suffrage of the members present.

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

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 and deacons 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 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 if necessary before the close of the Association.

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

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

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

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 delegates.
5. Election of Officers.
6. Petitionary letters called for.
7. Reading Rules of Order.
8. Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
9. Appointment of Committees.
10. Unfinished Business.
11. New Business.
13. Miscellaneous Business.
12. Reports of Committees.

Form of Church Conference

1. Call Church in Conference.
2. Call for peace of the Church.
3. Call visiting brethren to seats in council.
4. Reading minutes of previous session.
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. **D**
10. Invitation for members.
11. Adjournment.

FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 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.

