

MINUTES

of the

Gaines Creek Association

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1960



**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
49th ANNUAL SESSION**



**Held at the New Camp Ground
1 ½ Miles West of Tanniehill School**

MINUTES
OF THE
FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
OF
GAINES CREEK ASSOCIATION

Free Will Baptists

Held at the new Camp Ground
1 1/2 Miles West of Tanniehill School

AUGUST 19-20, 1960

OFFICERS

MODERATOR	Rev. Jimmy Nichols Eufaula, Oklahoma, P. O. Box 381
ASSISTANT MODERATOR	Rev. Clyde Cain 336 West Grand, McAlester, Okla.
CLERK AND TREASURER	Lela White Crowder, Oklahoma
ASSISTANT CLERK	Patsy Huff Eufaula, Oklahoma

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator or whoever he may request.
2. That all ministers and their wives, Deacons and their wives, church clerk and association clerk and Treasurer be as standing delegates.
3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.
4. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.
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 as 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 any subject without special leave of the Moderator.
9. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the 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. In the future meetings of the Association, arrangement shall be made to insure two or more sermons each day or other equivalent devotional exercises.
13. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.
14. Alteration may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. House called to order.
2. Letters called for and adopted.
3. Right hand of fellowship.
4. Election of officers.
5. Reading of Rules of Order.
6. Petitionary letters.
7. Invite visiting brethren to seat in council.
8. Appointment of committees.
9. New business.
10. Report of committees.
11. Miscellaneous business.

* PROCEEDINGS *

The Forty-ninth Annual Session of the Gaines Creek Association met at the new Camp Ground located 1½ miles West of Tannehill School on Thursday Night before the 3rd Sunday in August, 1960. Due to the revival being held by Bro. Waldo Young, Bro. Leonard Crowder and Bro. Wade Jernigan, the Thursday Night service was turned to the Evangelists.

Thursday Night—

Opening song No. 101 "Will Work Till Jesus Comes. Prayer by Brother Jake Jernigen from Hillcrest Church of McAlester.

Rev. Omer Jones led a very inspirational testimony service.

Some special songs were sung by Bro. Waldo Young, Bro. Wade Jernigen, Bro. Leonard Crowder and Bro. Clyde Cain. "Every Hour and Every Day" and "My Lord Grows More Precious To Me." A Bass solo "When God Dips His Pen of Love In My Heart" was sung by Bro. Clyde Cain and accompanied at the piano by Sister Leta Cain.

Rev. Wade Jernigen read Psalms 102:1-2 as a scripture lesson. His text "A Sinner Like a Pelican Out of Place."

Invitation song, "Just As I Am."

A special United Prayer and dismissed by Bro. Bill Lee.

Friday Morning Session—

House called to order by the Moderator Bro. Harry Lee. Opening song No. 154 "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms." Rev. J. M. Snowden read the 8th Chapter of Romans for the Devotional. Prayer by Rev. Jimmy Nichols. Congregational song No. 160 "Love Lifted Me." Letters called for and read. Motion made and carried that we accept the letters as read and seat the delegates. No 110 "How Firm a Foundation" was sung and the delegates were given the right hand of Fellowship and seated.

Motion made and carried that the Moderator be given the authority to elect the Devotional Committee. Sis. Botts, Sis. Opal Hickman and Sis. Helen Kirk.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS—

Moderator Nominations—Bro. Clyde Cain, Bro. Cliff Myers and Bro. Jimmy Nicholes. Motion made and carried nominations cease. Rev. Jimmy Nichols elected as Moderator. Motion made and carried that second highest be Assistant Moderator. Bro. Clyde Cain, Asst. Moderator. Motion made and carried that we retain Lela White as Clerk. Motion made and carried that we retain Sis. Patsy Huff as Assistant Clerk. Rules of Order were read by Rev. Harry Lee.

Letters called for as follows:

Eufaula—Sis. Patsy Huff, Sis. Eulene Davis, Sis. Bessie Taylor.

Alternates—Bro. Harmon Davis, Bro. G. W. Gauf and Sis. Ada Gauf. McAlester 1st Church—Sis. Glenda Blevins, Sis. Opal Duren and Sis. Helen Kirk. Alternates—Sis. Sandra Folsom, Sis. Nancy Odle and Bro. Ernest Collier. Lone Grove—Bro. Buster Stacy, Sis. Bessie Crandall and Sis. Mollie Myers. Tanniehill—Sis. Peggy Cosgrove, Sis. Elaine Cosgrove and Sis. Lela Cosgrove. Fellowship—Sis. Avis Newton, Sis. Mary Springer and Bro. Joe Zimmer. Lone Oak—Sis. Glenda Brown, Bro. and Sis. Harrison Botts. Alternates Bro. and Sis. Freddy Clifton and Sis. Mary Cox. Nale—Bro. Thomas Carmon, Bro. Alf Rodden and Sis. Jessie Cathey. Alternates—Bro. and Sis. Buddy Johnson. Crowder—Sis. Allie Mae Davidson, Sis. Mary Vaught and Sis. Julia Kirby.

Visiting Bretheren were recognized by Moderator. Those present were Rev. Leonard Crowder, Fort Smith; Rev. Waldo Young, Bristow, Okla.; Bro. and Sis. Rance Davidson, Talft, Calif.

Received from each church for Minutes	Minutes	State
McAlester First Church	\$10.00	\$5.00
Fellowship	10.00	5.00
Nale	10.00	5.00
Tanniehill	10.00	5.00
Lone Oak	10.00	5.00
Lone Grove	10.00	5.00
Eufaula	10.00	5.00
Crowder	10.00	5.00
	\$80.00	\$40.00

Devotional Committee reports that Rev. Cliff Myers take charge of the Testimony Service and Rev. Leonard Crowder of Ft. Smith, Ark. deliver the 11:00 o'clock message.

Motion made and carried that we dismiss the business session until 1:00 o'clock.

House called to order by Moderator. Congregational singing No. 122 "Tiss So Sweet to Trust in Jesus". Trio. Rev. Waldo Young, Rev. Clyde Cain, and Rev. Leonard Crowder sang "Maybe It's You and Maybe It's Me" with Rev. Waldo Young at the piano. Duet by Rev. Leonard Crowder and Rev. Waldo Young "Then I'll Settle Down." Rev. Cliff Myers led a very spiritual testimony service.

Rev. Myers requested that the noon hour be extended until 1:30 o'clock and request was granted.

Rev. J. M. Snowden led the congregation in singing "Amazing Grace."

Scripture reading Proverbs 29:18 and Acts: 9:11. Text—"The Same Jesus." Rev. Crowder delivered a wonderful message which was enjoyed by all. Song No. 115, "Oh How I Love Jesus", was sung with an old time had shake. Dismissed by Rev. Waldo Young for the noon hour. The noon hour was enjoyed by all. Song No. 69 "Take the Name of Jesus With You." Rev. Walter Boyd read the 15th Chapter of 1st Corinthians for Devotional. Prayer by Rev. Harry Lee.

Permission granted the Moderator and Asst. Moderator to

appoint the committees. They were as follows:

Resolution—Bro. Walter Boyd, Sis. Baker and Sis. Jones.
Sunday School—Sis. Imogene Lee, Sis. Opal Hickman and Bro. Stacy.
League—Sis. Patsy Huff, Sis. Lela Cosgrove and Sis. Helen Kirk.
Obituary—Sis. Mollie Myers, Bro. Thomas Carmon, Bro. Clarence Baker, Sis. Nancy Odle, Bro. Harrison Botts, Sis. Avis Newton, Sis. Allie Mae Davidson.

Nale Delegates arrived and were given the right hand of fellowship.

Temperance—Bro. Cliff Myers, Bro. J. M. Snowden and Bro. Bud Gray.

Examining—Bro. Clyde Cain, Bro. Billy White and Bro. Cliff Myers.

Querry and request—Sis. Alta Jones, Sis. Addie Lea Jones and Sis. Glenda Brown.

Finance—Bro. Bud Gray, Sis. Cosgrove and Sis. Jesse Cathey.

Executive—Nom. Bro. Jimmy Nichols, Bro. Omer Jones and Bro. Springer.

Moton made and carried that nominations cease. Bro. Nichols elected.

Executive Committee—

Rev. Jimmy Nichols.....5 years.

Rev. Clyde Cain.....4 years.

Rev. R. A. Venable.....3 years.

Bro. Finis Hickman.....2 years.

Rev. Harry Lee.....1 year.

Election of General Board Member

Nominations—Bro. Harry Lee, Bro. Omer Jones and Bro. Clyde Cain. Bro. Clyde Cain elected as General Board Member.

Resolution part 3 tabled until later.

Voted to have preaching service this afternoon.

Motion made and carried that all committees be dismissed for a short time. Motion made and carried that we have 15-minute recess. Dismissed by Bro. Clyde Cain.

House called to order by Moderator. Prayer by Bro. Cliff Myers.

Motion made carried that we pay each evangelist \$10.00 a night whether one or more. Motion made and carried that we elect two Ministers to hold our association revival. Nominations were Rev. Leonard Crowder and Rev. Clay Richey. Motion made that nominations cease. Motion made and carried that we table the motion.

Report of Committees—

Motion made and carried that we take each part of the resolution report separately. Motion made and carried that we accept part one as read. Part one—Be it resolved that the Clerk read the minutes of the last meeting at the beginning of each quarteriy and yearly meetings.

Motion made and carried that we accept part no. 2 as read.

Part 2—Be it resolved that all quarterly meetings be placed at the yearly association so that they might be placed in the minutes.

Motion made and carried that Part 3 be accepted as read.

Part 3—Be it resolved that we discontinue election of officers at each setting and the ones elected at the annual association serve at each session throughout the year.

Part 4—Be it resolved that the office of the assistant Clerk and Treas. be combined.

Motion made and carried that part No. 5 be accepted as read. Part 5—Be it resolved that the treasurer be requested to present a full report to each setting of the association either in person or in a written report.

Motion made and carried that part of No. 6 be accepted as read. Part 6—Be it resolved that the election of officers be held at the close of the association instead of at the first.

Vote carried that we have lunch Saturday at noon.

Minutes of last quarterly meeting were read and approved.

Motion made and carried that we dismiss the business session until 10:00 o'clock Sat. morning. Dismissed by Rev. Walter Boyd.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION—

Congregational singing. Special singing by quartet—"I'd Like to Settle Down" and "I Could Not Find The Way Alone." Scripture reading—John 14. Invitation given and two came forward and accepted Christ. Which we are very thankful. Rev. Ernest Kennedy was introduced by Rev. Clyde Cain and made an interesting talk.

Saturday Morning Session—

House called to order by the Moderator. Opening song by the congregation led by Rev. J. M. Snowden with Rev. Waldo Young at the piano. Prayer by Bro. Alf Rodden. Rev. Omer Jones read the devotional 5th Chap. St. Matt. and conducted a very inspirational testimonial service.

Report of devotional committee—Rev. Omer Jones is to bring the 11:00 message.

Rev. Leonard Crowder and Rev. Clay Richey were selected to hold Association revival in 1961.

Sunday School—Motion made and carried that we accept the report as read and dismiss the committee. Report as follows. Each Church to have a training program for their teachers and officers. Suggestion—One meeting a month to discuss lessons during the month and make plans to increase membership and interest in Sunday School.

Report of League Committee—Motion made and carried that we accept the report as read and dismiss the committee. Report read—We your League Committee beg leave to report as follows—At present there are 5 Churches in our Association which have

active Leagues. We wish to urge all Churches to encourage League participation to all your Church members. Present League Officers are: Pres., Ernest Collier; Vice Pres., Paul Lee; Sec. and Treas., Nyta Lee.

Report of Temperance Committee—Motion made and carried that the report be accepted and dismiss the committee. We your Temperance committee beg leave to report that we as an Assn., a Church or a member discourage the legal sale of all intoxicating drinks in our great state of Okla., also temperate in all things that are contrary to God's will.

Report of the Obituary Committee—Motion made and carried that we accept the report as read and dismiss the committee. We the Obituary Committee beg leave to report we sorrow the loss of our beloved Sister Elizabeth Duvall of the Nale Church. We miss our loved ones in our midst but our loss is Heavens gain. Congregation stood in a moment of silent prayer followed by prayer by Rev. Crowder.

Motion made and carried that we abolish part 3 in the 1959 resolution being—Be it resolved that we place each quarterly meeting at each setting. Motion made and carried that we accept the report as read. Motion made and carried that we place the 1st quarterly meeting at Lone Oak which will be in Oct. Nale—2nd quarterly meeting in Jan. Lone Grove—3rd quarterly meeting in April. McAlester 1st Church 4th quarterly meeting in July.

Nomination for Ministers to preach the introductory sermon at the 1st quarterly meeting. Rev. Jimmy Nickols and Rev. Jess Henson. Motion made and carried that nominations cease. Rev. Jimmy Nickols elected to bring the message with Rev. Hensen asst.

Motion made and carried that our Association Revival begin on the 2nd Monday night in August.

Motion made and carried that we adjourn the business session until 1:00. Dismissed by Rev. Venable.

Song service was opened by singing "Blessed Assurance" and "Heavenly Sunlight." Prayer by Sis. Stacy. Rev. Omer Jones read for the Scripture reading Ezekiel 3:17-19. Prayer by Rev. Jones. Rev. Jones took his text from Luke 4:1-4. He delivered a wonderful message. Dismissed for noon by Rev. Cliff Myers.

Saturday Afternoon—

Rev. J. M. Snowden led the congregation in "I'm in the Gloryland Way." Rev. Jess Hensen read 14th chapter St. John for devotional. Prayer by Rev. Snowden.

Motion made and carried that we accept the report on Query and Request. We your Query and Request Committee request the examining committee to examine each Minister's credentials in our Association and make a report at our next quarterly meeting and that each Minister hereafter before coming into our Assn. go before the Credentials Board for examination of credentials.

Finance report read and approved—

Report of Gaines Creek Assn. of F.W.B. from June, 1959 to June, 1960.

On Hand	\$ 162.18	Paid to Co-op Plan	\$532.57
Received	1500.47	Youth Camp	176.50
Total	\$1662.65	Other Expense	396.97
		Total	\$1106.04

Received

\$1162.65

Paid Out

1106.04

In Treasury

\$ 556.61

Nomination of Credential Board—

Bro. Eldred Moore—5 yrs.; Bro. O'Malley—4 yrs.; Bro. Boss Clark—3 yrs.; Bro. Omer Jones—2 yrs.; and Bro. Clyde Cain—1 yr.

Motion made and carried that nominations cease and we elect by acclamation.

Motion made and carried that these men serve the years as nominated.

Motion made and carried that we retain the present Youth Camp Comm. giving Eufaula the right to replace Bro. Owen Huff. Rev. Walter Boyd resigned and motion made and carried that Bro. Boss Clark replace Rev. Boyd.

Motion made and carried that the Clerk be granted the authority to have 225 Minutes printed.

Election of Officers for 1961—

Nomination for Moderator—Rev. Jimmy Nichols and Rev. Jess Hensen. Motion made and carried nominations cease. Rev. Jimmy Nichols elected. Motion made and carried that Rev. Jess Hensen be elected as Assistant Moderator. Nomination for Clerk—Lela White and Sis. Imogene Lee. Sis. Lela White elected. Nomination for Assistant Clerk, Sis. Imogene Lee. Nomination for Treas.—Sis. Lela White. Motion made and 2nd that Lela White be retained as Treas. Motion made and carried that we amend the motion and combine the office of Clerk and Treasurer.

State Delegates—

Sis. Lela Cain, McAlester First Church; Sis. Addie Lee Jones, Lone Oak; Sis. Alta Jones, Eufaula; Sis. Lela White, Crowder; Bro. Thomas Carman, Nale; Bro. Buster Stacy, Lone Grove; Bro. O'Malley, Tannihill; Sis. Mary Zummer, Fellowship.

Ministers Names and Addresses—

Rev. Omer Jones

Eufaula, Oklahoma

Rev. Jess Henson

Star Route, Haywood, Okla.

Rev. Cliff Myers

Scipio, Oklahoma

Rev. Clyde Cain

336 West. Grand, McAlester, Oklahoma

Rev. Harry Lee

Star Rt., Haywood, Oklahoma

Rev. R. A. Venable Canadian, Oklahoma
 Rev. L. P. King 226 W. Kiowa, McAlester, Oklahoma
 Rev. J. M. Snowden 302 W. Polk, McAlester, Oklahoma
 Rev. Walter Boyd Russell Apt., McAlester, Oklahoma
 Rev. Jimmy Nichols Box 381, Eufaula, Oklahoma
 Rev. S. J. Zummer Box 1181, No. McAlester, Oklahoma

Visiting Ministers—

Rev. Leonard Crowder Ft. Smith, Arkansas
 Rev. Waldo Young Bristow, Oklahoma
 Rev. Wade Jernigen Norman, Oklahoma

Motion made and carried that we adjourn until 1961. Dismissed by Rev. Omer Jones.

Remarks—

We the Executive Board met Aug. 19th and voted to have the next session of the Association at the Camp Grounds. The Board met and licensed Bro. Albert Jerrett to preach for 1 year. We sorrow the loss of Sister Myrtle Smith. May God Bless the Bereaved.

Rev. Jimmy Nichols, Moderator
 Lela White, Clerk

CONSTITUTION

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

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches in our union not exceeding one delegate out of ten from each church and on producing letters shall be entitled to seats.

2. Letters from different churches are to express the number in fellowship, the manner received by experience, letters of recommendation, the number dismissed, excluded, restored and those who have died since the Association

3. The members thus chosen and convened to be denominated the Gaines Creek Association of Free Will Baptists being composed of sundry churches in the Gaines Creek Association—the ass'n. having no power to lord it over God's heritage nor to have any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

4. The Association to have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who are to be chosen by suffrage of the members present.

5. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the As-

sociation who 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.

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

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

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

9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association on a book to be kept by the Association for this purpose..

10. 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.

11. Amendments to the Constitution may be made when necessary by a majority of the members present.

Resolved; that we earnestly request all of our ministers and deacons and churches composing this Association to co-operate with each other and to assist in every way they can to help further the gospel and that each church should help their pastor and if an evangelist should visit any destitute place and organize churches that we urge upon the people to assist the Evangelist so he can go and preach the word.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by divine grace to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and having thus obtained justification by Faith in His names, we, as members of the several churches that constitute Gaines Creek Association of Free Will Baptists, adopt the following as our Church Covenant:

1. To watch over each other in love, to pray for each other as members of a common faith ever striving to keep the unity of spirit in the bonds of peace.

2. We will not speak evil of each other nor will we persecute or expose the faults of the weak members of our church; but will endeavor to be governed by Paul's instruction to Timothy, "That we will reprove, rebuke and exhort" each other as members of a common brotherhood. 2 Timothy 4:12.

3. We are commanded to do good unto all men, especially to those who are of the household of faith. But we should remember that our relations to each other are closer and the obligations more binding than that of a common bond of Christian Charity.

In adopting this Covenant, we became as a family and assume in a Christian sense the care and responsibility that the members of a family should feel for each other.

4. We will attend the stated meetings of our church unless we are providentially hindered, or uncontrollable circumstances prevent us. And we will contribute of our means as the Lord has prospered us for the support of our pastor and other necessary expenses of our church. And we will prefer the service of our own church to that of any other and will pray for our pastor while he is preaching the word of God to us

5. We will not injure our influence in the house of the Lord by occupying seats among the ungodly and sinners; but will occupy seats near the pulpit and use the natural powers which the Lord has given us to praise His holy name. We will sing with those who sing and pray with those who pray.

6. We will not be guilty of the sin of Sabbath breaking by making visits to our neighbors, which is a double sin against the law of God for in so doing we fail to attend the house of the Lord and hinder that who might wish to do so. Let us remember the law of Moses which condemns Sabbath breaking, and the words of the inspired apostle which says, "Forsake not the assembling of yourself together as in the manner of some is."

7. We will not neglect secret and public prayers and those of us who are heads of families will strive to dedicate our household to the service of God by teaching our children the great necessity of the Christian religion as the only hope of happiness after death. We will adopt the covenant of Joshua, the servant of the Lord, and say, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

THE LAW OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AND BAPTISM

The Lord's supper was instituted for God's People.

All Children have the equal right to the supper that have been born of the spirit. For by one spirit we are all baptized into one body, I Cor. 12-13, (This is not water baptism) "Again" Christ says I am the door, John 10:9, Jesus is not water baptism by THE door, there is not but one door. Now every one that has come in at this door, has the right to the Lord's Supper and is a child of God. So let any one examine himself and so let him eat of the bread, and drink of the sup, for he that eateth and drinketh unworthy eateth and drinketh damnation to himself" (not the church).

It is a personal matter of judging and eating.

The church that does judge and exclude any of God's people is not acting in keeping with the instructions given by the church of Corinth.

Any Church that does exclude one of God's Children of taking the Lord's Supper, is offense to the Christian, (NOTE) Matt. 18:6. But whosoever shall offend one of these little ones which believe in Me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

It is contended that they of the same faith and order should be entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper. I admit that Christ is the true faith, and His church true order, and that faith is the means by which men belong to the true order. Now if this is what is meant by the same faith, we shall not object, we are agreed. But, if sect is referred to, we object as to order. If nothing but Gospel order is meant, we still agree; but we do not believe that one child of God should dictate just what another believes or what church he should belong in order that he may be in the right church, for the visible church is but an organic body of Christians, and placing your name on the church book of the best church on earth does not give you the new birth.

The eunuch believed and was baptized, what church did he join? Here is faith and here is order. Now we ask if the eunuch were allowed to commune with some other organic body or Church?

No, he is not of the same faith and order, yet he is admitted to heaven but could not be admitted to a sectarian table. So when the table is set, all of God's Children should have the right to partake of the Lord's Supper. If not it is not the Lord's table. It is a sectarian table. At the Lord's table all of the Children have the right to partake of the Supper, which has been born of the Spirit of God.

(NOTE) Rom. 12:5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

(NOTE) John 6:35. And Jesus said unto them I am the bread of life, he that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst.

(NOTE) I Cor. 10:17, for we being many are one bread, and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread.

So it is by a Spiritual baptism that we come into the body and not be water at all. Then we are as one body, and should have the right at the same table.

If it had ever been intended by the Saviour that the Supper should be guarded as some attempt to guard it God would have endowed the judges with power to discern the water baptism, and a legal administration, this settles the matter, and Christian character is left entirely out, by which some make a woeful mistake for after all this precaution, some have been found unworthy of the least of the privileges of any church.

To admit immersion to the only scriptural baptism and a true believer receiving it, is this not right? Some would say, "If by a legal administrator this all that is wanting." It is not purely a personal matter? So it is the duty of the preacher to baptize, and of this applicant to be baptized?

When this is done, each has performed a personal duty. If I have ever been baptized and had to wait until I found one whom I knew to be a legal administrator, I would never be baptized as I cannot know man's heart. Two acting in consort, one acting in good faith and the other not. Every Christian is strictly responsible for his own act, and not for another.

Simon, the sorcerer, "believed and was baptized," and that by a legal administrator, and yet is was discovered that he was not a Christian. So we see baptism by a legal administrator does not confer any claim to Christian rights, as this proves to be a personal matter; for we clearly see that the apostle inspired as he was, did not discover the evil of Simon's heart. Neither can we know the heart of man. When we do our duty that God says we must do, the the applicant's duty is to be a Christian before he is baptized, we find that repentance, faith, baptism and Christian duties all are personally accountable to God and not to man.

There are various opinions of men; and if we use the capacity God has given, we do not think we should be entirely condemned for what we cannot help. The Church of Christ is divided into many members, but is one spiritual body and Christ is the head; and they should have the same care for each other that the fleshly body has for its members.

Should Christians commune together at the Lord's table: "What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder" Christians do not feel alike if they do not think alike. Should they not commune together? Then a union and free communion is forced upon us. Christ said He would drink no more of the fruit of the vine until He should drink it anew in His kingdom.

So if they assemble at God's table, in heaven, why not on earth?

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost and these three are one in divine essence, power and glory. Romans 1:20, John 1:17, 17:21.

2. We believe that the Scripture of the Old and New Testament is the word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. Second Timothy 3:16, Matt. 5:18.

3. We believe that God created man good and gave him Holy Commandments whereby he should live holy but man voluntarily disobeyed the Commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under just condemnation of the same, whereby all mankind are sinners, not by constraint but by choice, being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall, and that man is unable to save himself with his own power, but we see Jesus for the suffering of death crowned with glory, that He by the grace of God should taste death for very man. Gen. 3:17, Heb. 2:9.

4. We believe that Christ by His death, suffering and resurrection purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon principles of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent therefore, He sayeth, "Look unto me and be saved, all ends of the earth for I am God and there is none else." Matt. 4:17, Isa. 45:22, Acts 20:20-21.

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the spirit of God. Jonah 4:11, Mark 10:14, Deut. 1:39.

7. We believe that all Christians must persevere in Grace

and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life, for blessed are they that do His Commandments that they may have the right to the tree of life and enter through the gates into the city. Rev. 22:14, Matt. 24:13.

8. We believe that baptism by immersion is the apostolic mode; even the burial of a believer in water, and that Christ, who is our life, showed his humble example to His children and bids us walk therein. John 3:22, Romans 6:34-45, Matt. 28:19-20, Matt. 3:16.

9. We believe that God in His goodness displays His power of grace in great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost and by the instruction of His Word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price. He bids us freely come and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come. I Cor. 12:13, Eph. 3:7, Rev. 22:17.

10. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper and washing the Saint's feet are divine ordinances and should be observed by all His children. Mark 14:22-23, John 13:4-14, Matt. 28:19-20, I Tim. 5:10.

11. We believe that none have a right to baptism, only those who have a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none have the right to administer the same only those who have come under the hands of the presbytery of elders, and each church ought to have a pastor, deacons, and clerks chosen by the church ought to have office during the good pleasure of same in dealing with disorderly members, reference should be had to the 18th chapter of Matthew and other scriptures relative to dealing with disorderly members. In all cases a majority shall rule, except in receiving members, and then it must be unanimous. Titus 1:5, Acts 14:23, II Cor. 6:6.

12. We believe it is the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month and that it is the duty of the pastor of the church when setting forth the Lord's Supper and washing the Saint's feet to let a man "examine himself and so let him eat." I Cor. 11:28, John 13:14.

13. We believe that the sanctification and Holiness is a Bible doctrine, that immortality is God dwelling in the light, so when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written. "Death swallowed up in victory." That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another and to study the happiness of the people of God in general and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God. Gal. 6:10, I John 2:9.

14. We believe in the resurrection of the dead of both the just and the unjust; the resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God; the unjust to the everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God. Matt. 25:31, I Cor. 15:42-45, Thess. 1:10, Rev 20:12-13.

