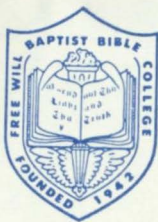


MINUTES
OF THE
Gaines Creek Association
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Pittsburg County

●
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
51st ANNUAL SESSION
AUGUST 17 - 18, 1962**

●
**Held at the New Camp Ground
1 1/2 Miles West Of Tanniehill School**



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Ernest Harrison

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1 HOUSE CALLED TO ORDER
- 2 Letters called for and adopted.
- 3 Petitionary letters.
- 4 Invite visiting brethren to sit in council.
- 5 Right hand of fellowship.
- 6 Reading of rules of order.
- 7 Reading of previous minutes.
- 8 Appointment of committees.
- 9 Old business.
- 10 New business.
- 11 Report of committees.
- 12 Miscellaneous business.
- 13 Election of officers.
- 14 Minutes of present session read and corrected,
and signed by moderator and clerk.
- 15 Adjournment.

LETTER OF DISMISSION

This is to certify that _____
is a member in good standing of the Free Will Baptist
Church at _____, and, as such, we
recommend him (her) to the fellowship of God's people,
and dismissed from us when united with another church.
Done in conference this ____ day of _____ 19____.
_____ County, Oklahoma
_____ Pastor; _____ Clerk

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator of whoever he may request.

2. That all ministers, deacons, church clerk and association clerk 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.

OFFICERS

Rev. Ernest Harrison Moderator
Rev. J. M. Snowden Asst. Moderator
Lela White Clerk and Treasurer
Judy Botts Asst. Clerk

MINISTER'S DIRECTORY

Rev. Jess Henson Rt. 6, McAlester, Okla.
Rev. R. A. Venable Canadian, Okla.
Rev. Cliff Myers Star Rt., Haywood, Okla.
Rev. Ernest Harrison 336 W. Grand, McAlester, Okla.
Rev. J. M. Snowden 220 W. Polk, McAlester, Okla.
Rev. W. L. Stanfield P.O. Box 7, Wilburton, Okla.
Rev. Jimmie Nichols Stuart, Okla.
Rev. S. J. Zummer Box 1181, N. McAlester, Okla.
Rev. Leonard Bean 617 E. Porter, Wetumka, Okla.
Rev. Omer Jones 1512 SE 64th St., Okla. City, Okla.
Rev. Walter Boyd 606 E. Tyler, McAlester, Okla.
Rev. Albert Jarrett Okla. City, Okla.
Rev. Clyde Cain Henderson, Texas
Harold Andrews (Licensed) Rt. 1, Indianola, Okla.
Don Conn ((Licensed) McAlester, Okla.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Body called to order by moderator, Bro. Ernest Harrison. Opening song, "Hand In Hand With Jesus." Prayer by Bro. R. A. Venable. Scripture reading by Bro. Jimmie Nichols, Luke 21:26-29. Prayer by Bro. Nichols.

Sis. Judy Botts appointed to act as assistant clerk.

Letters called for and read.

Following churches were represented and delegates seated:

Lone Oak—Bro. Harold Andrews, Bro. Freddie Clifton, Bro. Carl Tilford.

New Hope—Sis. Jessie Cathey, Bro. Alfred Roden, Bro. Dale Smith.

Wilburton—Sis. Funderburg, Sis. Bates, Sis. Fassio. Lone Grove—Sis. Bessie Crandell, Sis. Mary Crandell, Bro. Carrol Culver.

Tannehill—Sis. Gertrude Baker, Sis. Mable Miller, Bro. Don Conn.

McAlester, First—Sis. Jean Majors, Sis. Stella Harrison, Sis. Nell Christian.

Stuart—Bro. Sam Tipton, Sis. Arkie Tipton, Sis. Ella Hull.

Fellowship—Sis. Louise Springer, Sis. Betty Week, Sis. Oleta Lott.

Crowder—Sis. Billings, Sis. Clark, Sis. Kirby.

Song, "When We All Get To Heaven," and the right hand of fellowship given.

Authority given chair to appoint all committees.

Petitionary letters called for.

Welcome extended to all visitors by Moderator.

Report of Devotional committee; Bro. Jimmie Nichols to bring devotion, and Bro. Harry Lee the 11:00 message.

Business session adjourned till 1:15 p.m. Dismissed by Bro. Snowder.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK WORSHIP SERVICE

Opening song, "Are You Washed In The Blood." Prayer by Bro. Don Conn. Devotional reading, St. John 14, by Bro. Jimmie Nichols. Prayer by Bro. Sam Tipton. Testimony service by Bro. Nichols. Special song by Wanda Cathey, "His Name Is Jesus."

Message by Bro. Harry Lee. Text taken from Daniel, 5th chapter.

Dismissed for noon hour by Bro. Cliff Myers.

AFTERNOON SERVICE

Moderator in charge. Opening song, "When We All Get To Heaven." Prayer by Arte Lee Smalley. Reading of Rules of Order by Bro. Snowder.

Committees appointed:

Examining Committee—Bro. W. T. White, Bro. P. A. Venable, Bro. Thomas Carmen, Bro. Cliff Myers, Bro. Jim Snowder.

Sunday School—Bro. Sam Tipton, Bro. Harrison, Botts, Sis. Rhoda Funderburke.

League—Sis. Gertrude Baker, Sis. Mable Miller, Bro. Alfred Roden.

Temperance—Bro. Clarence Baker, Sis. Lorene Staeey, Bro. Carrol Culver.

Obituary—Bro. Don Conn, Bro. Clarence Baker, Sis. Fannie McCracken, Sis. Louise Springer, Sis. Arkie Tipton.

Resolutions—Bro. —immie Nichols, Sis. Jean Majors, Bro. Billy White, Sis. Oleta Lott, Sis. Jessie Cathey.

Quarterly meetings placed. Bro. Ernest Harrison elected to bring the introductory sermon at the first quarterly meeting.

Ten minute recess.

Moderator in charge. Opening song, "When I See The Blood." Devotional reading by Bro. Leonard Bean, 4th

chapter of Hebrews, verses 1 and 2. Prayer by Bro. Bean.
Bro. Myers took for his text "Love" from 3rd chapter of James. Dismissed by Bro. Snowden.

House declared in session again.

Examining Committee report: Upon examination of Bro. Bill Lee, Bro. Dale Jones, Bro. Sam Tipton, we find them to be orthodox in faith and belief and worthy to be ordained as deacons. Upon examination of Bro. Leonard Bean we find him to be orthodox and recommend him to be accepted by Association in full fellowship. Report accepted.

Resolution Committee: Be It Resolved—

1. The order of business be rearranged. Carried.
2. We change No. 1 of our Constitution to conform with Natl. Treatise. Tabled overnight. Brought from table and carried.
3. We revise reading of A rt. 12 in Art. of Faith. Carried.
4. We hire man to work at campgrounds. Motion to abolish No. 4 and approach in newness. Tabled.
5. Lost.
6. We be incor porated. Tabled til next quarterly meeting.
7. We elect Examining Committee at each meeting as needed. Carried.
8. Lost.
9. We give Tommy Adams \$10.00 as gift. Carried.
10. Assn. to pay \$5.00 to State Assn. for representation to Natl. Assn. Carried.
11. Pastors to belong to church in Assn. Carried.
12. Ministers and Deacons complete questionnaire prior to examination by board. Carried.
13. We invite State Assn. to meet in McAlester in 1964. Carried.

Additional Committees Appointed.

In regards to Res. No. 6, Bro. W. L. Stanfield, Bro. Buster Stacey, Bro. Ernest Harrison. In regards to Res. No. 13, Bro. J. R. Smith, Bro. Cliff Meyers, Bro. Ernest Harrison.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Moderator in charge. Opening song, "Showers of Blessings." Devotional by Bro. Charlie Christian, 2nd Peter, 3rd chapter.

Devotion report; Bro. J. R. Smith, Devotion.

Bro. Rupert Pixley the 11:00 message. Bro. Jess Henson the afternoon devotion. Bro. Leonard Bean the afternoon message. Adjourned til 1:00. Dismissed by Bro. Bean.

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Opening song, "I Want To See Him." Devotional by Bro. Smith, 3rd chapter Colossians. Prayer by Sis. Lula Cathy.

Bro. Pixley took for his text Hebrews 3-4. Dismissed by Bro. Jimmie Nichols.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Moderator in charge. Song, "Amazing Grace." Prayer by Sis. Bessie Bean.

Ten days allowed for churches to name state delegates.

Bro. Harrison elected as General Board Member.

Temperance and Obituary report received and accepted. (See committee reports.)

Adjourned for one hour. Five minutes recess.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON WORSHIP SERVICE

Song, "Love Lifted Me." Prayer by Bro. Harry Lee.

Preaching by Bro. Leonard Bean. Text, 3rd chapter of Malachi, verse 1.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON (con't.)

House called to order.

Bro. Ernest Harrison elected to Executive Board.

League and Sunday School report received and accepted. (See Committee reports.)

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Clerk given authority to have 250 minutes printed.

Rev. Gilbert Pixley elected for 1963 Assn. Revival.

Bulletin report given by Sis. Judy Botts. Also elected as Bulletin reporter. Authority given clerk to pay expenses of Bulletin.

Election of officers for ensuing year.

Moderator, Rev. Ernest Harrison, 336 W. Grand, McAlester; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Cliff Myers, Star Route, Haywood; Clerk and Treasurer, Lela White, Crowder; Assistant clerk, Judy Botts, Route 1, Indianola.

Minutes were read and accepted.

Meeting stands adjourned.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

LEAGUE

We would recommend to the district league officers to send in a condensed report of the year's work, and that this Association accept such report to be recorded in the Association Minutes. We furthermore would like to recommend each church to have league and participate in the district league rallies and Youth Fellowship meetings on the fourth Saturday night of each month, both young and adults.

—Signed, The Committee.

OBITUARY

We beg leave to report as follows: We sorrowfully report two deaths: Bro. Melton of the Wilburton church, and Bro. Martin of the McAlester First church.

—Signed, The Committee.

TEMPERANCE

We as an Association, a church, or a member, discourage the sale and use of intoxicating drinks in our great state of Oklahoma. That we be temperate in all things that are contrary to God's will.

—Signed, The Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Church	Superintendent	Avg. Att.
Crowder—	Fred Buck	23
Stuart—	Sam Blasengame	30
Wilburton—	W. L. Stanfield	52
Tannehill—	Jack Hance	45
New Hope—	J. R. Smith	60
McAlester First—	George Christian	130
Lone Oak—	Freddie Clifton	35
Lone Grove—	Finis Hickman	40
Fellowship—	Bro. Smith	37
Total		452

—Signed, The Committee.

MINUTES OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS

OCTOBER 7, 1961

The First Quarterly meeting convened with Fellowship church. Assistant Moderator in charge. Song, "Home Of The Soul." Prayer by Bro. Cain, devotional by Bro. Charlie Christian.

Chair appints Devotional Committee. Letters called for and read. Accepted, and delegates seated. Rules of Order read. Chair given authority to appoint all committees. Adjournment until 1:00 o'clock.

Devotion and testimony service by Bro. Cain.

11:00 preaching by Bro. Nichols.

Meeting called to order. Bro. Stanfield to bring introductory sermon at next quarterly meeting. Bro. Jones is alternate.

Minutes and financial report read and accepted. Committee report given by Bro. Cain concerning state of Eu-faula church. Business adjourned. Dismissed by Bro. J. R. Smith.

JANUARY 6, 1962

Second Quarterly Meeting convened with New Hope. Asst. Moderator in charge. Song, "Victory In Jesus." Prayer by Bro. George Christian. Letters called for. Letters accepted and delegates seated. Chair to appoint all committees. Business session adjourned until 1:00.

Devotion by Bro. Jimmie Nichols. 11:00 preaching by Bro. Cliff Myers.

House called to order. Preaching this afternoon. New church club be organized for Gaines Creek Assn. be organized. Clerk to keep records of club. The fee to be \$10.00 for club. Executive board be on mission board.

Bro. Jess Henson to speak at next quarterly meeting. Business session adjourned. 2:00 preaching by Bro. Clyde Cain.

APRIL 7, 1962

Third Quarterly Meeting convened with Lone Grove. House called to order by acting moderator. Election of moderator and asst. for this sitting. Bro. Jimmie Nichols, Moderator; Bro. Cliff Myers, asst. Sis. Smalley as acting asst. clerk. Rules of Order read. Letters called for and read. Letters accepted and delegates seated. Chair to appoint all committees. Minutes and Treasurer's report given. Business adjourned until 1:00. Song by Tannehill Quartette. Also, songs by Mary Smith and Randy Springer. 11:00 sermon by Bro. Ernest Harrison.

House recalled to order.

Res. No. 1—A list of all ministers able to hold revivals for churches in Assn. be made available.

Res. No. 2—We invite a night of missionary conference to our Anns. Bro. Nichols to make arrangements. Bro. Henson to speak at next Quarterly Meeting. Report given on bulletin. Singing to be held at camp grounds to raise funds for camp grounds. Adjournment. Dismissed by Bro. George Christian.

JULY 7, 1962

Fourth Quarterly meeting convened with the Wilburton church. Asst. Moderator in charge. Song, "There's Power In Thek Blood." Devotion by Bro. Ernest Harrison. Chair appointed all committees. Sis. Judy Botts appointed asst. clerk. Letters called for and read. Rules of Order read. Petitionary letters called for. Lone Oak asked that Bro. Harold Andrews be granted license. McAlester First Church asked that Bro. Ernest Harrison be examined. Business adjourned until 1:00. Song, "Blessed Assurance." Testimony service by Bro. Cliff Myers. 11:00 preaching by Bro. Harold Andrews, concluded by Bro. Ernest Harrison.

House called to order by Moderator. Minutes and financial reports approved. Discussion of barbecue at camp grounds. Examining committee approved both petitionary letters. Committee appointed to handle tabernacle revival. Camp ground committee in charge of sign at tabernacle. Talks on Youth Fellowship. Meeting adjourned.

CHURCH and PASTOR	CLERK and ADDRESS	MEMBERSHIP	VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY
Tannehill—Jess Henson	Clarence Baker, Rt. 6, McAlester	47	\$11,000.00
Lone Oak—R. A. Venable	Judy Botts, Rt. 1, Indianola	28	6,500.00
Lone Grove—Cliff Myers	Mrs. J. S. Lott, Scipio	44	8,000.00
Fellowship—Joe Zumner	Avis Newton, 413 So. A, McAlester	36	15,000.00
McAlester First—Ernest Harrison	Earl Folsom, 2017 N. 14th, McAlester	212	75,000.00
New Hope—J. M. Snowder	Lula Cathey, Rt. 1, Indianola	23	3,000.00
Stuart—Leonard Bean	Arta Lee Smalley, Haywood	21	8,500.00
Crowder—	Lela White, Crowder	22	5,000.00
Wilburton—W. L. Stanfield	Sylvia Fassio, 803 W. Caddo, Wilburton	52	15,000.00
Eufaula—	Mrs. R. Hart, 203 Bilt. Ave., Eufaula	15	7,000.00
TOTALS—Ten Churches		500	154,000.00

MINUTE MONEY

Wilburton	\$15.00
McAlester First	\$15.00
Stuart	\$15.00
Fellowship	\$15.00
Crowder	\$15.00
Lone Oak	\$15.00
Tannehill	\$15.00
New Hope	\$15.00
Lone Grove	\$15.00
I Ministers Card	\$ 2.00
I Treatise	.15
Offering for Assn. Revival	\$76.76

QUARTERLY MEETINGS 62-63

First—Stuart	October, 1962
Second—Lone Oak	January, 1963
Third—New Hope	April, 1963
Fourth—Wilburton	July, 1963

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. Ernest Harrison	5 years
Bro. W. L. Stanfield	4 years
Bro. Jimmie Ray Nichols	3 years
Bro. Clyde Cain	2 years
Bro. Leonard Bean	1 year

STATE DELEGATES

Tannehill	
Fellowship	
McAlester First	Sis. Stella Harrison
Crowder	Sis. Lela White
Stuart	Bro. Bill Lee
Wilburton	
Lone Oak	Sis. Judy Botts
New Hope	Bro. Dale Smith
Lone Grove	Sis. Lillian Lott

DISBURSEMENTS

Oklahoma State Coop	\$819.20
First National Bank (Loan)	480.00
State Delegates	50.00
Minutes	90.00
Acme Paints	46.77
Typewriter	35.00
Insurance	58.54
Sign for camp ground	20.00
Oklahoma State Assn. (Earmarked Lonnie Sparks Mission)	28.00
Bulletin	30.00
Home Mission (Stuart Church)	150.00
Bro. Cain (telephone calls)	21.74
Bro. Stanfield (expense)	6.90
Bro. Nichols (telephone calls)	.90
Bro. Cain (Gen. Board)	25.00
Bro. Leonard Crowder (Assn. Revival)	112.00
	\$1,974.05
Receipts	\$2,228.86
Disbursements	1,974.05
Balance in Treasurers	254.81

—Moderator, Bro. Ernest Harrison

—Clerk, Lela White

TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts	
Cooperative Plan	
Wilburton	\$186.87
Stuart	169.13
McAlester First Church	914.63
Eufaula	90.65
Tanniehill	89.20
New Hope	20.00
Lone Grove	109.66
Lone Oak	70.38
Crowder	60.35
	\$1,710.87
Minute Money	100.00
State Minutes	50.00
Return on Minutes	10.00
Foreign Missions (Earmarked	
Lonnie Sparks Mission)	28.00
Minister Crads	2.00
Offerings	66.75
	\$1,967.62
Balance on hand	261.24
	\$2,228.86

CONSTITUTION

From the long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptist Church of God, being regularly baptised 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, and that each church be equally represented by 3 delegates and 3 alternates.

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 for 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.

Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association 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 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 Baptist, 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 we will occupy the 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, 1 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 we object as to order. If nothing but Gospel order is meant, shall not object, we are agreed. But, if sect is referred to, 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) 1 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 one 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 it 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 applicant's duty is to be a Christian before he is baptized, we find that repentance, faith, baptism and Christian duties are all 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 every 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 is 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. 1 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 24:22-23, John 13:4-14, Matt. 28:19-20, 1 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, 11 Cor. 6:6.

12. We believe it is the duty of each church to assemble themselves together each Lord's Day, and all other dated meetings of the church, unless providentially hindered. We also believe 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." 1 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 it 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, 1 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, 1 Cor. 15:42-45, Thess. 1:10, Rev. 20:12-13.

