

MINUTES of the FIFTY SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

Gaines Creek Association

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1963

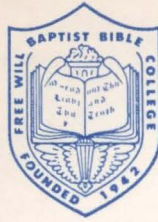
August 16, 17, 1963

Held at the Camp Ground one and one half miles West of Tannichill School.

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OFFICERS

MODERATOR	Bro. Ernest Harrison 336 West Grand, McAlester, Oklahoma
ASSISTANT MODERATOR	Bro. Clifford Myers Star Route, Haywood, Oklahoma
CLERK AND TREASURER	Lela White Crowder, Oklahoma
ASSISTANT CLERK	Sis. Arta Lee Smalley Haywood, Oklahoma



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Ernest Harrison

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, 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.

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.

ASSOCIATION DELEGATES

Stuart

Hazel Lee
Bessie Bean
Arta Opal Lee
Alternate
Glenda Blevins
Wanda Blasengame
Newell Lee

Tanniehill

Sis. Sharon Hance
Sis. Sue Calhoun
Bro. Ronnie Hance
Alternate
Sis. Clagg
Sis. Lenora Hance
Sis. Gertrude Baker

McAlester 1st Church

Sis. Sylvia Folsom
Bro. Sam Allen
Sis. Genell Christain
Alternate
Sis. Stella Harrison
Sis. Irma Wilson
Sis. Betty Wslion

New Hope

Sis. Lessie Nale
Sis. Bill Holman
Bro. Alf Rodden
Alternate
Sis. Jossie Cathey
Sis. Vera Masters
Sis. Edyth Young

Wilburton

Sis. Rhoda Funderburg
Sis. Ora Smith
Sis. Carrol Harber
Alternate
Sis. Vernie Bates
Sis. Minnie Bates

Lone Oak

Bro. Freddie Clifton
Cro. Carl Tilford
Alternate
Sis. Glenda Brown
Sis. Linda Griffith
Sis. Fannie McCracken

Lone Grove

Sis. Opal Hickman
Sis. Mary Crandell
Bro. Carol Culver

Fellowship

Sis. Oleta Lott
Sis. Mary Newton
Sis. Mary Zummer
Alternate
Sis. Betty Weeks
Sis. Betty McHugh

Crowder

Sis. Myrtle Clark
Sis. Irene Jarrett
Sis. Jossie Vaughn
Alternate
Sis. Bill Higgins
Bro. Eddie Jarrett

Firday Morning Session—

Opening song "There shall be Showers of Blessings". Bro. Sam Allen read from the 22 nd chapter of Genesis beginning with the ninth verse reading thru the 12th verse for the devotional, also he led our minds in prayer.

Sister Arta Lee Smalley was elected by acclamation to serve as assistant clerk through this session of the association.

Church letters called for and read.

Churches represented, Wilburton, McAlester First Church, Tannehill, Lone Oak, New Hope, Fellowship, Stuart, Lone Grove, and Crowder.

Motion made and met with a second that the letters be accepted as read and seat the delegates. Motion carried.

A song was rendered, and the right-hand of fellowship was given to the delegates.

Motion was made and met with a second that the moderator and assistant moderator be given the authority to appoint all committee's.

Divine Committee Appointed— Sister Opal Hickman, Bro. W. T. White, and Bro. Sam Allen.

Rules of order were read by the Assiatant Moderator.

Divine Committee Report— Bro. Harry Lee will be in charge of the devotional service, and Bro. Doyle Dipboye to deliver the 11:00 o'clock message.

Motion made and met with a second that we omit the reading of the 1962 minues. Motion caried.

Welcoming address given by the moderator and visiting brethern invited to seat in council.

All Committee Appointed—

Resolution Committee— Bro. J. R. Smith, Bro. J. M. Snowden, and Sister Rhoda Funderburg.

Sunday School Committee— Sister Mary Crandell, Bro. Alf Rodden, Sister Sue Calhoun, and Sister Bessie Bean.

League Committee— Sister Sharon Hance, Sister Genell Christian, and Sister Sylvia Folsum.

Mission Committee— Bro. Alf Rodden, Bro. Sam Allen, and Bro. Walter Boyd.

Obituary Committee— Bro. Leonard Bean, Bro. Boss Clark, Bro. Christian.

Finance Committee— Bro. Thomas Carman, Sister Myrtle Clark, Bro. R. A. Venable.

Temperance Committee— Bro. W. T. White, Bro. Leonard Bean, Bro. J. R. Smith.

Motion made and met with a second that the business session be dismissed until 1:00 o'clock p. m. Motion carried.

Five minute recess:

Moderator in charge.

Opening song, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms". A special number was rendered by Carol McCann, "That Road that Leads Through Tomorrow."

Bro Harry Lee read for the devotional, Hebrew's 11-8.

A very inspiring message was delivered by Bro. Doyle Dipboye. Dismissed for the noon hour by Bro. Leonard Bean.

Friday Afternoon Session—

House called to order by the Moderator. Opening song "Where the Soul Never Dies."

Divine Committee Report— Bro. Alf Rodden to be in-charge of the devotion.

Bro. Leonard Bean to deliver the 2:00 o'clock message.

Motion made and met with a second, that we omit tuning the piano for the time being. Motion carried. Motion made and met with a second that the association buy Bro. T. B. O'Malley some flowers. Motion carried.

Motion made and met with a second that the money be allowed for the revival advertisement. Motion carried.

Motion made and met with a second that an offering be taken before the close of the association, for the paayment of the campground. Motion carried.

A very inspiring devotional service was conducted by Bro. Alf Rodden.

Bro. Leonard Bean read for the scripture text Galatians 2-11, and delivered a very wonderful message.

Dismissed by Bro. Clifford Myers.

Staunday Morning Session—

Services were opened with singing led by Bro. J. M. Snowden. Opening song "What a Friend We have in Jesus." Prayer led by Sister Duncan. Bro. Clifford Myers read for the devotional the 30th chapter of Proverbs.

Delegates were given the right-hand of fellowship by the Assistant Moderator. Bro. Ernest Harrison elected by acclamation as General board member. Motion made and met with a second that we omit the July quarterly meeting and have three quarterly meetings with the annual association in August.

Amendment to motion that the dates for the quarterly meetings be on Friday night before the third Sunday. Motion carried.

Bro. Leonard Bean elected for 5 years on the Executive Board. Motion made and met with a second that the Stuart Church check the health and welfare of Bro. Jimmy Nichols. Motion carried.

Motion made and met with a second that we have our minutes printed at the state office. Motion carried.

Amendment to motion, that the clerk get them printed the cheapest. Motion made and met with a second that we get the stage built wider for the piano. Motion carried.

Amendment to motion that the stage be extended out three blocks for the piano, using the same material, as built with. Motion carried.

Motion made and carried, that the piano be made mouse-proof.

Motion made and met with a second that the business session be dismissed until 1:00 o'clock. Dismissed by Bro. Walter Boyd.

11:00 o'clock Worship Hour—

Congregational singing "I'm In The Gloryland Way." Prayer by Sister Lillian Lott. Bro. Bill Lee read from the 4th Chapter of Second Timothy for the devotion, also a very spiritual testimony service was conducted by Bro. Lee.

Bro. Noah R. Smith Sr. took his text from the sixth Chapter of Isiah. He delivered a wonderful message.

Dismissed for the noon hour by Bro. W. T. White.

Saturday Afternoon session—

House called to order with prayer by Bro. George Christian. A song "A Soul Winner for Jesus." An offering taken for the indebtedness of our campground. Prayer by Bro. Leonard Bean.

Motion made and met with a second that an evangelist for the associational revival be elected. Motion carried.

Bro. De Author Yandell (L.D.) elected to hold our associational revival.

STATE DELEGATES

Sister Rhoda Funderburg	-----	Wilburton
Sister Stella Harrison	-----	McAlester, First Church
Sister Judy Botts	-----	Lone Oak
Sister Lula Cathey	-----	New Hope
Sister Bessie Bean	-----	Stuart
Sister Lillian Lott	-----	Lone Grove
Sister Irene Jarrett	-----	Crowder
		Tanniehill, Fellowship

Motion made and met with a second that we accept the state delegates to represent us at the state association. Motion carried.

Mission Committee Report— We, your committee on home and foreign missions beg leave to report as follows—

Our churches have contributed \$357.84 for the foreign missions and 130.60 for the home missions. This doesn't seem like very much, but consider some of our churches are small, and not so well fixed financially. We really don't think this is so bad, we would suggest that every member be missionary minded at home and abroad, knowing that you can not out give God, because he will pay you in lost souls, health and otherwise because he is the great giver. Bro. Walter Boyd - Chairman

Motion made and met with a second that we accept the report as read and dismiss the committee.

League Committee Report—

We the league committee report as follows— We find only four leagues active in our association. We recommend that each church try to organize a league, and support our young people in our League Rallies, and the youth fellowship, which meets every fourth Saturday night in each month. We have a good spiritual meeting and fellowship for all. This group is doing a good work and have given financially to our Bible College and to the Missions. Let's all support this good work for the Lord. The League Committee

Motion made and met with a second that we accept the report as read and dismiss the committee. Motion carried.

Obituary Committee Report— We beg leave to report as follows—

We sorrowfully report two deaths, Bro. Homer Dobyns of the Lone Grove Church, and Bro. Robert Smith of the Fellowship Church.

—The Obituary Committee

A moment of silent prayer in memory of our brothers in Christ who have departed this life during the past year. Concluded by Bro. Ernest Harrison.

Motion made and second that we accept the report as read and dismiss the committee. Motion carried.

Sunday School Committee Report—

We the Sunday School Committee suggest that we display lights on Christmas light wire. The class with the largest numbers let the lights

shine during services. We suggest special songs or reading for each class. One number each. We suggest that each church that does not have a Christian flag and a U. S. flag on display to strive to purchase one for Sunday School and Church.

Motion made and met with a second that we accept the report as read and dismiss the committee. Motion carried.

Finance Committee Report— We the Finance Committee report as follows- Minutes and Revival—

Tanniehill— \$25.00	Lone Oak— \$25.00
New Hope— \$25.00	Fellowship— \$25.00
Crowder— \$25.00	Wilburton-- \$25.00
Lone Grove— \$25.00	Stuart— \$15.00
McAlester First Church— \$25.00	Eufaula— \$10.00

Rev. R. A. Venable, Bro. T. C. Carman, and Sister Myrtle Clark.

Motion made and second that we receive the report as read and dismiss the committee. Motion carried.

QUARTERLY MEETING PLACES— 1963 & 1964

First— Crowder----- Nov. 1963

Second— Lone Grove----- Feb. 1964

Third— McAlester First----- May 1964

Beginning on Friday night before the third Sunday in the month.

Bro. Albert Jarrett was elected to bring the message at the first quarterly meeting.

Finance of the Campground Committee Report—

Motion made and carried the report be accepted.

Motion made and met with a second that we pay the indebtedness on the tabernacle. Motion carried.

Motion made and second that we have a singing and mortgage burning the fourth Friday night in September. Motion carried.

Committee appointed to get the piano tuned. Bro. Ernest Harrison and Bro. Charlie Christian appointed.

Bro. George Christian elected by acclamation as moderator for the ensuing year. Bro. Leonard Bean elected as assistant moderator.

Clerk and Treasure— Lela White

Assistant Clerk— Sister Arta Lee Smalley

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. Leonard Bean-----	5 years
Bro. Ernest Harrison-----	4 years
Bro. J. R. Smith Sr.-----	3 years
Bro. Jimmy Nichols-----	2 years
Bro. Charlie Christian-----	1 year

Church & Pastor

CLERKS

Tannehill— Bro. Jess Henson	Clarence Baker— Rt. 6, McAlester, Okla.
Lone Oak— Bro. R. A. Venable	Judy Botts— Rt. 1, Indianola, Okla.
Lone Grove— Bro. Clifford Myers	Lillian Lott— Scipio, Okla.
Fellowship— Bro. Joe Zummer	Avis Newton— Rt. 4, McAlester, Okla.
McAlester First— Bro. Ernest Harrison	Neil Christian— 424 W. Tyler, McAlester.
New Hope— Bro. Walter Boyd	Lula Cathey— Indianola, Okla.
Stuart— Bro. Leonard Bean	Arta Lee Smalley— Haywood, Okla.
Crowder— Bro. Albert Jarrett	Lela White— Crowder, Okla.
Wilburton— Bro. Noah Smith Sr.	Sylvia Fassio— 803 W. Caddo, Wilburton
Enfaula—	

MINISTER'S DIRECTORY

Rev. Jess Henson.....	Route 6, McAlester, Oklahoma
Rev. R. A. Venable.....	Eufaula, Oklahoma
Rev. Clifford Myers.....	Star Route, Haywood, Oklahoma
Rev. Ernest Harrison.....	336 West Grand, McAlester, Oklahoma
Rev. J. M. Snowden.....	220 West Polk, McAlester, Oklahoma
Rev. Jimmy Nichols.....	Stuart, Oklahoma
Rev. S. J. Zimmer.....	Box 1181, North McAlester, Oklahoma
Rev. Leonard Bean.....	617 East Porter, Wetumpka, Oklahoma
Rev. Walter Boyd.....	606 East Tyler, McAlester, Oklahoma
Rev. Albert Jarrett.....	603 West Taylor, McAlester, Oklahoma
Bro. Harold Andrews (Licensed)	
Bro. Don Conn (Licensed)	McAlester, Oklahoma

VISITING MINISTERS

Bro. Harry Lee.....	Haywood, Oklahoma
Bro. Doyle Dipboye.....	Tulsa, Oklahoma
Bro. N. R. Smith Jr.....	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Treasures Report Read—	
Motion made and met with a second that the report be accepted as read. Motion carried.	

TREASURE'S REPORT

Disbursements

First National Bank	\$480.00
Bro. Rupert Pixley Association Revival	125.00
Handbills for revival	14.00
State Delegates	30.00
General Board Members	25.00
Expense for bulliten	25.00
Sec. of State Fee	2.00
300 Minutes	84.00
Executive Board Expense	21.00
Mowing Campground	15.00
Oklahoma Bible College	500.00
Oklahoma Bible College	250.00
Farmers Union Ins. on Campground's	58.54
Tommy Adams	10.00
Coop	817.01
Missions	598.72
Oklahoma F. W. B. Book Supply	6.56
	<u>\$3,062.43</u>

OFFERINGS

Bro. Walter Mantooth	\$500.00
Offering at tabernacle	76.77
Minutes	135.00
Minister's Card	1.00
Treatise	.15
Bal. of Calendars	23.79
Revival	40.00
	<u>\$776.70</u>

COOP.

Eufaula	\$ 56.91
Lone Grove	128.69
Tanniehill	50.50
Lone Grove	68.05
New Hope	50.00
Fellowship	13.12
Wilburton	29.00
Stuart	153.86
McAlester	991.57
Crowder	42.18
	<u>\$1,583.88</u>

McAlester First Church

Missions

Lewis Perry Account	\$129.83
India Missions	101.31
Ernie Deeds Account	124.25
Lonnie Sparks Mission	145.16
Sanders Account, Hawaii	30.67
Foreign Mission Board	17.50
Sanders Account Hawaii, McAlester League	50.00
	<u>\$598.72</u>
Balance brought forward	\$ 315.76
Reciepts received	2,981.64
	<u>\$3,297.40</u>
Outstanding Checks	60.95
	<u>3,236.45</u>
Checks	\$ 174.02

Motion made and met with a second that \$100.00 be transferred from the campground treasure to the association treasure. Motion carried.

No further business to come before the body. Motion made and second that we adjourn. Motion carried.

Dismissed by Sister Jean Bernhardt.

Bro. Ernest Harrison—Moderator

Lela White—Clerk

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETINGS

October 13, 1962—

The First Quarterly meeting convened at the Stuart Church. Moderator in charge. Song, "I'm Going that Way." Prayer by Bro. Clifford Myers. Devotional by Bro. George Christian, sixth Chapter of Romans. Prayer by Bro. Stanfield.

Chair given authority, and appoints devotional committee.

Letters called for and read and accepted. Right-hand of fellowship given delegates.

Devotional Committee Report—

Bro. Clifford Myers to deliver the 11:00 o'clock message and Bro.

Venable the afternoon message. Chair given authority to appoint all committees. All committees appointed. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Bro. Myers delivered a wonderful message. Scripture, Luke Six. Dismissed for the noon hour by Bro. Harry Lee.

Resolution number six from the tale and adopted, Resoution Number Six- that we be incorporated as the Gaines Creek Association of Free Will Baptist. Resolution Number One accepted. A list of ministers be available who will be able to hold revivals for other churches in the association.

Bro. Jimmy Nichols elected as the speaker at our next quarterly meeting. Adjourned. Dismissed b Bro. Nichols.

January 5, 1963—

Second quarterly meeting convened at the Lone Oak Church. Moderator in charge. Opening song "Jesus Saves". Prayer by Bro. Henson. Devotional by Bro. George Christian, Hebrews, fourth chapter. Letters called for, read and accepted. Delegates were given the right-hand of fellowship. Prayer by Bro. Venable. Credential committee appointed.

Report of devotional committee. Bro. Bean brought the devotion, Bro. N. R. Smith Sr. the 11:00 o'clock message.

A very inspiring message was delivered by Bro. N. R. Smith Sr. Text Romans 14th chapter.

Chair given authority to appoint all committees. All committees appointed. Dismissed by Bro. Boyd.

Afternoon session—

Moderator in charge. Song. "When the Roll is Called up Yonder." Prayer by Bro. Thomas Carman.

Rules of order were read.

Report of the Executive board given by Bro. Nichols. Report accepted.

Motion made and met with a second that the Gaines Creek Association purchase ½ acre (\$250.00 Value) of land for the Bible College. Motion carried.

Bro. N. R. Smith Sr. elected the speaker for the next quarterly meeting.

Meeting adjourned. Dismissed by Bro. Bean.

April 6, 1963—

Quarterly meeting convened with New Hope. Moderator being in charge. Song, "I'm not Ashamed". Prayer by Bro. Leonard Bean. Devotional by Bro. Henson. Matthew, fifth chapter. Moderator now being in charge.

Church letters called for. Letters read and accepted. Delegates seated and given the right-hand of fellowship. Rules of order read by assistant moderator. Chair given authority to appoint all committees. Devotional committee report. Bro. Bean bringing the devotion and Bro. Harrison the 11:00 o'clock message. Bro. Harrison delivered a wonderful message, reading Judges 16-6, 21. Dismissed for the noon hour by Bro. Nichols.

Business session called to order by the assistant moderator. Song, "Jobs God is True." Devotion by Bro. Henson. Scripture, Matthew 24-3. Prayer by Bro Myers. Committee appointed to get evangelist to conduct association revival.

Gaines Creek Association is now Incorporated at a cost of \$2.00.

Clerk has incorporated papers. Bro. Snowder and Bro. Zummer to be the speakers at the next quarterly meeting.

Adjourned. Dismissed by Bro. Clifford Myers.

July 6, 1963—

Fourth quarterly meeting convened at Wilburton. Moderator being in charge. Song, "Just Over in the Gloryland." Prayer by Bro. Lee. Devotional by Bro. George Christian. Hebrews 13th chapter.

Chair given authority to appoint all committees. Devotion Committee Report—Bro. N. R. Smith Jr. bringing the devotion. Bro. Doyle Summerhill brought the 11:00 o'clock message. Letters were called for and read. Delegates seated. Rules of order were read. Minutes were read and approved. Business session dismissed by Bro. Noah Smith. Bro. Summerhill delivered a very inspiring message. Text Repent, scripture, Proverb's 30-24.

Dismissed for the noon hour by Sister Funderburg.

Saturday afternoon session—

Song, "We Shall Rise." Prayer by Bro. Bean.

Executive Board report on campground. Bro. & Sister O'Malley stated they chose to leave the deed to the campground as is. That reads if we ever cease to have services at the campground, that the property will divert back to the present owners or to the heir's of the property. The reason for this was, that they feared in time to come if we chose to sell the property, the property might eventually end up as a dance hall or beer dive, or some place of the devil. They said, "We could use the property as stated in the deed or we are free to move the building off if we chose.

They would not consider selling the property and giving a clear deed to it. Signed

Rev. Leonard Bean

Treasurer's report read and accepted. Adjourned

Moderator, Bro. Ernest Harrison

Clerk, Lela White

For the Free Will Baptist Bible College

Bro. & Sis. Walter Mantooth	\$500.00
Bro. & Sis. Harry Lee	500.00
Mr. & Mrs. Elmer White	500.00
Gaines Creek Association	250.00
	\$1,750.00

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 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, 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 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) 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 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 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 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 allmankind 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 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. 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 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." 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.

