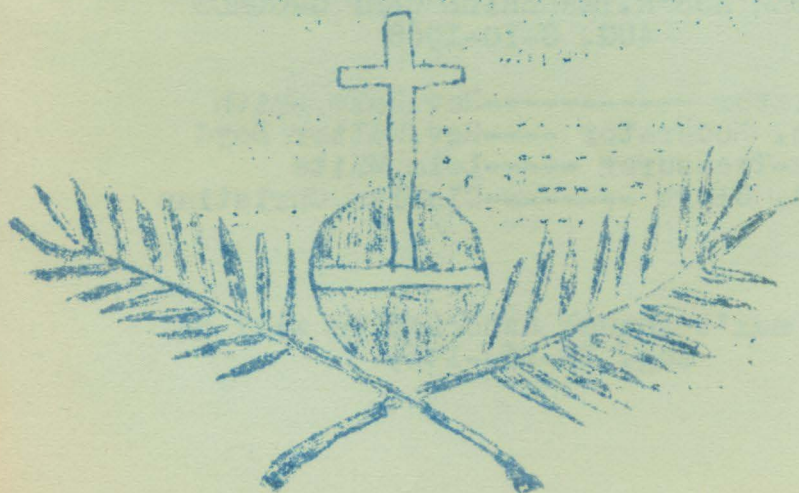


I will go before thee
and make the crooked
places straight

ISAIAH 40:3

1968
MINUTES
OF THE
GAINES CREEK ASSN.
OF
FREEWILL BAPTISTS



ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

PROCEEDINGS OF FIFTY SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF GAINES CREEK ASS'N. TANNEHILL CAMP GROUNDS AUG. 8-10-1968

Moderator -----Rev. Dale Smith
Ass't. Moderator ----Rev. Walter Boyd
Clerk-Treasurer -----Lela White
Ass't. Clerk -----Clarice Christian

The nex't Annual Association will be
Aug. 15-16--1969

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, ministers wives, deacons, deacons wives, clerks and ass't clerks be as standing delegates.

3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections 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 it's 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 Mod.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the delegates voting.

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

ASSOCIATION DELEGATES

McAlester First

Sis. Genell Christian
Sis. Gayla Christian
Sis. Pat Smith

North McAlester

Sis. Dorothy Crawley
Bro. Kenneth Crawley
Sis. Sharon Clagg

Stuart

Sis. Doris Cargile
Sis. Thelma Key
Sis. Arta Smalley

Lone Oak

Bro. Jerry Myers
Bro. Craig Myers
Sis. Sophia Lewis

Fellowship

Sis. Gale Bussey
Sis. Pam Bussey
Sis. Haley Cowell

Crowder

Sis. Myrtle Clark
Sis. Jennie McClellan
Sis. Lula Dazzler

Lone Grove

Sis. Edna Knight
Sis. Mary Crandell
Sis. Neoma Bowen

Tannehill

Sis. Diana Chambers
Sis. Dovie Sorrels
Sis. Oleta Sparks

New Hope

Sis. Jessie Cathey
Sis. M. L. Bogan
Sis. Lou Cathey

STATE DELEGATES

Sis. Stella Harrison
Sis. Arta Smalley
Sis. Nancy Butler

Thursday Night Services

The Executive Board met before service to appoint a speaker for tonight. They appointed Bro. Dale Smith, and Sis. Botts acting clerk. Proceedings called into order by moderator. Opening song #237.

Alter prayer led by Bro. Bill Chambers. Testimony service led by Bro. Eddie Prentice. 5 ordained ministers and 1 licensed minister present. 5 churches represented. Bro. Smith's text from Zechariah 8:23-9:11-12 Theme: We Will Go With You, For God Is With You.

Service dismissed with prayer by Bro. Leon Sparks.

Friday Morning

The 57th Annual session of the Gaines Creek Association called to order by Bro. Snowder. Opening song "O, I Want To See Him"

Prayer by Bro. Ernest Harrison.

Congregational song "More About Jesus"

Motion made and 2nd: That we enter into business session. Carried

Bro. Harrison elected moderator pro tem.

Sis. Judy Botts elected ass't. clerk pro tem.

Devotion by Bro. Harrison, Psalm III.

Prayer by Bro. Pete Butler.

Letters called for and read. 10 churches responding.

Motion made and 2nd: We receive the letters as read and seat the delegates. Carried

Song "Amazing Grace", The right hand of fellowship given and the delegates seated.

Motion made and 2nd: That the moderator have power to elect assistant moderator. Carried.

Bro. Pete Butler elected.

Motion made and 2nd: That the moderator and ass't. moderator have authority to appoint all committees. Carried.

Devotion committee appointed; Sis. Dazzler, Bro. Jerry Myers. Sis. Gail Bussey appointed. And dismissed for deliberations.

Rules of Order read by ass't. moderator.

No petitionary letters.

Committees appointed (See Standing Boards)

Report of Devotion committee: Bro. Leon Sparks to bring devotion and Bro. Pete Butler the 11:00 o'clock message.

Motion made and 2nd: That we dismiss the business session until 1:00 o'clock. Carried.

Dismissed by Bro. Pool.

11:00 O'clock Service

Opening song "I Am Thine O Lord"

Prayer by Bro. Jerry Myers.

Congregational singing "Love Lifted Me" and "Wonderful Words Of Life"

Devotion by Bro. Leon Sparks taken from Isaiah 42:18 and 23:1-10.

Theme: Seven looks and thoughts. Take a look around, look at ourselves.

Concluded by prayer.

Bro. Butler took his scripture reading from John 19:14.

Theme: Jesus bearing His cross.

Dismissed for noon hour by Bro. Odis Rorinson.

Friday Afternoon

Moderator being in charge.

Opening song "Tell It To Jesus".

Prayer by Bro. Pete Higgins.

Devotion committee report: Bro. Leon Sparks will be Friday evening speaker.

Motion made and 2nd: That we accept Bro. Lee's resignation. Carried.

Quarterly Meetings for church year 1968-1969 placed at this time. (See page 8)

Motion made and 2nd: That the 3 churches not having had a quarterly meeting in past two

years be given quarterly meetings for coming year. Carried.

Reading and accepting of Committees reports.
(See Committee reports)

Sunday School report read and accepted.

Mission	"	"	"	"
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Temperance	"	"	"	"
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C.T.S.	"	"	"	"
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Obituary	"	"	"	"
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Moment of silent prayer, concluded by Bro. Cliff Myers.

Financial report read and accepted.

State Executive Secretary introduced. Bro. N.R. Smith brought greetings from the college and report from the F.W.B. Book store.

Dr. O'Donnell from O.B.C. was introduced and made a report on the Bible College.

Meeting adjourned.

Dismissed by Bro. Snowder.

Friday Night

Services started by Moderator. Song #50.

Moderator asking audience what special blessing each had received from today's meeting.

Alter prayer led by Bro. Pete Butler.

7 ministers were present.

Bro. Leon Sparks as evening speaker took his text from 2nd Cor. 5:20-21.

Theme: "Christ is a Stranger".

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Bill Chambers.

Saturday Morning

House brought into session with singing of hymns "I'll Live On", "Power In The Blood" and "Jesus Saves".

Prayer by Bro. Lawson.

Ass't. moderator appointed by moderator. Bro. Pete Butler appointed.

Devotion committee report: Bro. Bill Chambers and Bro. Leonard Bean to bring 11:00 message.

each being allotted 30 minutes. Bro. Chambers speaking first, concluded by Bro. Bean. Bro. Harrison elected to be speaker at first quarterly meeting at Tannehill church on Nov. 15-16. 1968

Introductory speaker for Annual Ass'n. meeting is Bro. Jess Henson. Bro. Cliff Myers, Alt. Bro. Albert Jarrett elected to Executive board for five years.

Bro. Pete Butler elected to Executive board for one year, to replace Bro. Harry Lee.

Bro. Leon Sparks elected to replace Bro. Lee as General board member for 1968.

Bro. Pete Butler elected as General board member for 1969.

Partial report of Resolutions committee: Motion made and 2nd: That we receive report for discussion. Carried.

Resolution #1-Carried.

Resolution #2-Carried. (See Resolution Report)

Meeting adjourned until 1:00 o'clock.

Dismissed business session for noon hour, with benediction by Bro. Charlie Christian.

11:00 O'Clock Service

Body came together with united prayer.

Bro. Chambers brought a wonderful message, taking his text from 1st Peter 1:22.

His theme was "Christ our example".

Closing out the hour, Bro. Bean took his message from John 21:15. Theme of this message was "Do we love Him" (Jesus)

An inspirational message for these times.

Dismissed for noon hour by Bro. Loyd Higgins.

Saturday Afternoon Service

Body called into final session of Association meeting by the moderator.

Opening song "When Morning Comes".

Followed by "This World Is Not My Home".

Final Resolutions committee report:Moved to accept Resolution #3 for discussion.Accepted Amendment added to Resolution #3.

Resolution #3 passed.

Motion made and 2nd:That we table the Amendment to Resolution #3 until the nex't quarterly meeting.Carried.

Committee elected to act on Resolution #3

Bro.Butler, Bro. Sparks and Bro.Chambers.

Report of Credentials Committee.

That Bro.Leon Sparks be ordained as minister

Motion made and 2nd:Report be accepted.

Bro.Bill Chambers be licensed for one year.

Motion made and 2nd:Report be accepted.

Bro.Loroy Davenport be licensed for one year

Motion made and 2nd:Report be accepted.

Report accepted.

Election of Standing Boards(See page 13)

Motion made and 2nd:That the Examining Board be set up on the same principle as the Exec. board.Carried.(See Standing Boards)

Motion made and 2nd:That a committee be appointed to investigate the obtaining of Camp Hudgens for our District Youth Camp for 1969 Carried.Bro.Harrison appointed.

Motion made and 2nd:That we elect an evangelist for our Association revival.Carried.

Motion made and 2nd:That we pay our evangelist the sum of \$150.00 for a ten night revival.Carried.

Motion made and 2nd:That we take an offering during the revival,and it is to be put in our General Fund.Carried.

Bro.Bailey Thompson elected to be evangelist with Bro.Hickman a close 2nd.

Motion made and 2nd:That our Associational revival start on the fourth Monday night in July,which is the 28th.1969.Carried.

Motion made and 2nd:That Sis.Botts print 200 Minutes,and the association pay Sis.Botts \$20.00.Carried.

Nex't order of business elect officers.

Bro. Pete Butler, Moderator
Bro. Barney Pool, Ass't. Moderator
Sis. Judy Botts, Clerk-Treasurer
Sis. Arta Lee Smalley, Ass't. Clerk
Minutes read and approved.
Motion made and 2nd: That the Gaines Creek
Association send \$200.00 to O.B.C. Carried.
Detailed explanation of the Co-operative
Plan given by Bro. Butler.
All business being concluded, motion that
the Gaines Creek Association stand adjourned.
Dismissed by Bro. Pete Butler.

Quarterly Meetings Placed

1st. Nov. 15-16-1968---Tannehill Church
2nd. Feb. 14-15-1969---McAlester First Church
3rd. May. 16-17-1969---North McAlester Church

Visiting Ministers

Rev. Leonard Bean, Wetumka, Okla.
Rev. N. R. Smith, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Rev. J. D. O'Donnell, Oklahoma City, Okla.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR CHURCH YEAR

8/1/1967-----8/1/1968

Bal. in Bank -----	\$	179.57
Dep. -----		5,016.17

Total		5,195.74
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MINUTES-REVIVAL-NATIONAL-1967-1968

North McAlester -----	\$	40.00
Fellowship -----		40.00
Crowder -----		40.00
Stuart -----		40.00
Lone Oak -----		40.00
Lone Grove -----		40.00
New Hope -----		30.00
Tannehill -----		25.00
McAlester First -----		15.00
Eufaula -----		10.00
Total	\$	320.90

CO-OPERATIVE PLAN

McAlester First -----	\$	1,505.12
Stuart -----		281.12
Lone Grove -----		209.30
Crowder -----		66.22
New Hope -----		60.00
Lone Oak -----		51.73
Total	\$	2,173.49

MISSIONS

McAlester First		
McLain -----	\$	83.60
Gage -----		106.00
Bill Jones -----		62.10
Deeds -----		59.00
Haas -----		90.60

MISSIONS (con't)

McAlester First		
Hawaii Land -----	\$	55.60
Sparks -----		59.00
Combs -----		11.00
Calvarys -----		18.00

Total	\$	546.90

Stuart		
Gen. Mission -----	\$	9.87
Home Mission -----		5.00
Foreign Mission -----		13.50

Total	\$	27.37

Crowder		
Home Mission -----	\$	66.23

OKLAHOMA BIBLE COLLEGE

Bro. and Sis. Harry Lee -----	\$	1,005.00
Bro. and Sis. Ralph Smalley -----		300.00
Gaines Creek Assn. -----		300.00
McAlester First -----		173.10
Stuart -----		156.00
Lone Grove -----		25.00
Bro. and Sis. Buster Stacey -----		10.00
Lone Oak(Gen. Fund) -----		10.00
Lone Oak(Library Fund) -----		3.50
Crowder -----		66.27

	\$	2,048.87

DISBURSEMENTS

O.B.C. -----	\$	2,078.63
Co-Op -----		1,099.61

DISBURSEMENTS (con't)

Missions -----	\$ 640.50
Jones-Tyson -----	295.00
Bond(Capitol Hill State Bank) --	354.00
Bulletin Minutes Supplies -----	82.35
Insurance on Tabernacle -----	65.00
Piano Tuning -----	43.50
Electric at Campgrounds -----	39.71
Letter Forms -----	2.70
Gen. Board -----	25.00
State Delegates -----	35.00

Total	\$ 4,761.01

Minutes of Quarterly Meetings

Nov.17-18-1967

Meeting convened at Crowder F.W.B. church.
 Bro. Ernest Harrison elected as moderator.
 Special singing by Crowder Trio.
 Thought in Bro. Butler's message "Let's see
 Jesus as a friend".
 Ten churches represented at Sat. morning
 business session.
 Investigation of Tannehill church to see if
 it is operating as organized church.
 Rules of Order #2 changed.
 Rules of Order #9 changed.
 Body voted for S.S. Institute.
 Greetings from O.B.C. from Bro. Danny Farmer.
 Bro. Charlie Christian spoke on Master's Men.
 \$100.00 sent to O.B.C.
 Committee to check on Wilburton church.
 Meeting adjourned.

Quarterly Meetings (con't)

Feb. 16-17-1968

Lone Grove meeting called to order with 9 churches responding to call for letters. Visiting ministers made welcome. Permission given Boy Scouts to use Bar-b-Que pit at campgrounds. Northtown church name changed to North Mc-Alester Free Will Baptist church. 14 ministers present for Sat. session. Adjournment.

May 17-18-1968

Meeting at the Fellowship church. Letters called for 10 churches answering. Bro. O'Donnell gave report on Bond sales, also greetings from O.B.C. Bros. Jackie Davidson and Gary Smith were recommended for ordination. District Youth camp to unite with State Camp to be held in June. Voted for Gaines Creek Assn. to send \$100.00 to O.B.C. on our allocation. Adjourned until Annual Assn. meeting in Aug.

Standing Boards

Obituary

Bro. Jerry Myers, Sis. Pat Smith, Sis. Clark

C.T.S.

Sis. Sophia Lewis, Sis. Lou Cathey, Sis. Arta Lee
Smalley, Sis. Diana Chambers, Sis. Oleta Sparks

Temperance

Sis. Edna Knight, Bro. Charlie Christian, Bro.
Harrison Botts

Sunday School

Bro. Jess Henson, Sis. Jennie McClellan, Sister
Genell Christian

Resolutions

Bro. Buster Stacey, Sis. Judy Botts, Bro.
Cliff Myers

Examining

Bro. Dale Smith	-----5	years
Bro. Cliff Myers	-----4	years
Bro. Loyd Higgins	-----3	years
Bro. Ernest Harrison	-----2	years
Bro. Milton Ford	-----1	year

Executive

Bro. Albert Jarrett	-----5	years
Bro. Charlie Christian	-----4	years
Bro. Loyd Higgins	-----3	years
Bro. Cliff Myers	-----2	years
Bro. Pete Butler	-----1	year

Committee Reports

Credentials

- #1. We the Credential board recommend that Bro. Leroy Davenport be licensed for 1 year.
- #2. We the Credential board recommend that Bro. Bill Chambers be licensed for 1 year.
- #3. We the Credential board recommend that Bro. Leon Sparks be ordained to preach the Gospel.

Bro. Cliff Myers, Chrmn.

Sunday School

We recommend to all Sunday School teachers to stress to the children of the spiritual birth and only one plan of Salvation, through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Also we do urge the continuation of attendance pins.

Bro. Harrison Botts, Chrmn.

Missions

We recommend that each delegate go back to his church and inform his people of the need of a Mission program. This is very important if we expect to get the Gospel spread to those who need it.

Sis. Arta Lee Smalley, Chrmn.

C.T.S.

We have noticed our C.T.S. has decreased. We feel that training our people is very important. We still encourage all churches to take part in the C.T.S. program.

Sis. Edith Young, Chrmn.

Obituary

We report as follows: We sorrow over the loss of our Bro. and Sis. in Christ. We feel our loss is heavens gain.

Sis. Tunie Brown, Lone Oak Church

Bro. Elmer West, Lone Grove Church

Sis. Gracie Bell, Fellowship Church

Sis. Mary Billings, Crowder Church

Sis. Jessie Martin, McAlester First Church

Bro. W.A. Bryant, McAlester First Church

Committee Reports (con't)

Temperance

We as Christians should discourage the use and sale of intoxicating beverages. As God's children temperate in dress and all things.

Sis. Margie Higgins, Chrmn.

Resolutions

Be it resolved that we change our Assn. from Thursday night until Friday night, and start business session Saturday morning at 9:00A.M. which will give us plenty of time to conduct our business.

#2. Recommended: That Article of Faith #10 be separated as follows; Into Three single separated Articles, with last Article having three parts. Also in Article #2: to delete repeat of word "ought".

#3. Recommended: Committee to investigate if feasible to organize church or mission in Haleyville-Hartshorne area, with revival or what ever is necessary to accomplish this end.

Amendment to #3: That any mission or church established in Haleyville-Hartshorne area be underwritten for expenses by Gaines Creek Assn. to keep it going until it is self sufficient.

Gaines Creek Assn. Revival
Rev. Bailey Thompson, evangelist
July 28-Aug. 6-1969
Tannehill Campgrounds

RESOLUTIONS

1. Be it resolved that no moderator shall succeed himself in office.
2. Be it resolved that all resolutions be recorded in minutes year after year.
3. Be it resolved that the delegate to the General Board be paid the sum of \$25.00 for expenses.
4. Be it resolved that resolutions that are not recorded in the minutes be abolished.
5. Be it resolved that all churches of the Association pay 10% to the Co-Op.
6. That each church in the Association send in last(May)letter to Quarterly meeting, \$10.00 for Association revival.
7. Moderator to have charge of the revival.
8. That we put in the minutes as a rule that each church send \$15.00 for State Minutes and Delegate fees.
9. That we take the qualifications given in the Holy Bible(1st.Tim.3rd.Chapter)into serious consideration before ordaining men into the ministry or deaconship.
10. Be it resolved that we give our evangelist the money that was voted by our Assn.
11. Be it resolved that we adopt the Lord's Supper, Baptism, and Feetwashing as set forth in National Treatise for our Association Minutes.
12. Be it resolved that we change our Association from Thursday night until Friday night, and start business session Saturday morning at 9:00A.M, which will give us plenty of time to conduct our business.

CHURCH & PASTOR

CLERKS

McAlester First-Rev. Ernest Harrison-Nell Christian, 2001 N. B, McAlester	
Fellowship-Rev. J. M. Snowden	Oleta Lott, 2606 N 4th, McAlester, Ok.
Lone Oak-Rev. Cliff Myers	Judy Botts, Rt. 1, Indianola, Okla.
New Hope	Edith Young, Rt. 1, Crowder, Okla.
Stuart	Glenda Blevins, Rt. 6, McAlester, Okla.
Wilburton-Rev. C. R. Fassio	
Crowder-Rev. Curtis Butler	Lela White, Box 171, Crowder, Okla.
Lone Grove-Rev. Odie Robinson	Betty Haws, Star Rt., Haywood, Okla.
N. McAlester-Rev. Albert Jarrett	Gertrude Baker, Rt. 6, McAlester, Okla.
Eufaula-Rev. T. H. Dixon	Eulene Davis, Rt. 1, Eufaula, Okla.
Pannehill-Rev. Leon Sparks	Lillian Slover, Rt. 1, McAlester, Okla.

By-Laws

1. The clerk or assistant clerk, or in their absence the senior minister in years shall call the Association into conference, and if a quorum is present the Moderator, or in his absence the assistant Moderator shall take charge; and if neither of them is present, the senior minister in years shall act as Moderator.
2. It shall be the duty of the clerk to enroll the delegates to the Association, who shall present themselves with proper evidence of their rights to seats therein. In the case of questionable representation, however, the cases under question shall be referred to the Credentials Committee.
3. It shall be the duty of every church belonging to this Association to send a letter to every Annual session of this Association, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any church belonging to this Association, which shall fail to report itself for two successive sessions may be dismissed from the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.
4. Each meeting shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and with prayer, and it shall be closed with prayer.
5. By a two-thirds vote of all members present a ruling of the Moderator can be over-ruled.
6. This Association may correspond by delegate or otherwise with other religious bodies.
7. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into a committee of the whole.
8. Any person not a member of this Association may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission from the Mod.
9. It shall be the duty of all the members of the Association to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and anyone wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the Moderator.

10.No member shall absent himself from the Association during it's meetings without first obtaining permission from the Moderator.

11.No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee,provided the person nominated be elected.

12.The Moderator shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a christian spirit,or when he thinks it will cause discord or division.

13.Any one desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator by the appellation "Brother Moderator",but shall not speak further until recognized by the Moderator.

14.The "Yeas" and "Nays" may be counted on any question by request of one of the members present.

15.No member of this Association shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes on the same subject without permission of the Mod.

16.It shall be the duty of the Moderator to seat delegates in a body in a designated section of the assembly room at the beginning of each business session.

17.These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

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.Rom.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 infallable rule of faith and practice.

2nd Tim.3:16,Matt. 5:18

3.We believe that God created man good and gave him Holy Commandments whereby he should

live, 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 Christ by His death, suffering and resurrection purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon principals 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 adult persons must be regenerated and born of the spirit of God. Jonah 4:11, Mark 10-14, Deut. 1:39

6. We believe 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 thru the gates into the city, Rev. 22:14, Matt. 24:13

7. 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, Matt 28:19-20, Matt. 3:16

8. We believe 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. 1st Cor. 12:13, Eph. 3:7, Rev. 22:17

9. We believe that Baptism, the Lord's Supper and Washing the Saints Feet are divine ordinances and should be observed by all His children. Mark 24:22-23, John 13:4-14, Matt. 28:19-20
1st Tim. 5:10

10. We believe that none have a right to baptism, only those who have a living home 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.

11. Each church ought to have a pastor, deacons and clerks chosen by the church, to hold office during the good pleasure of same.

12. In dealing with disorderly members:

(a) Reference should be had to the 16th ch. of Matt. and other scriptures relative to deal with disorderly members.

(b) In all cases a majority shall rule.

(c) Except in receiving members, and then it must be unanimous. Titus 1:5, Acts 14:23, 2nd Cor 6:6.

13. 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 Saints Feet to let a man "examine himself and so let him eat" 1st. Cor. 11:28, John 13:14

14. We believe that the sanctification and holiness is a Bible doctrine, that immortality is God's dwelling in the light, so when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality the shall it be brought to pass the saying that is written "Death swallowed up in victor." 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. 5:10, 1st John, 2:9

15. 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, 1st Cor. 15:42-45, Thess. 1:10 Rev. 20:12-13

Gaines Creek Association Constitution

PREAMBLE: From experience, we the members of the churches of God and Christ, commonly known as Free Will Baptists, realize the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a group which desires to promote every phase of our state and national enterprise, do hereby ordain this constitution for our progress and to perpetuate better associational government.

ARTICLE I

NAME: This organization shall be known as the Gaines Creek Association of Free Will Baptists in Oklahoma.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Association shall be to bring into a union such churches in southeastern Oklahoma as desires to promote the enterprise of the State and National Assn.

Section 2: It shall not be the purpose of this Association to usurp authority over the churches but to recommend such measures as would promote unity of action among the churches to harmonize the efforts of individual churches among each other in their effort to accomplish good and make each other more proficient in their undertakings to advance the cause of Christ.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP: This Association shall be composed of churches commonly known as Free Will Baptists, who maintain gospel order and shall subscribe to the Constitution and By-Laws and Articles of Faith as adopted by this said Association.

Section 2: All duly constituted churches may be received in this Association by their presenting a petitionary letter from their respective churches if they shall be found orderly and orthodox. Such a reception shall be manifested by the Moderator or his assistant giving the right hand as a token of fellowship.

ARTICLE IV

REPRESENTATION: The members of this Association shall be the church clerks, ordained ministers and ministers wives, deacons and deacons wives in good standing belonging to any church of this Association; also three delegates from each local church, chosen during church conference and bearing credentials from said church to this body.

ARTICLE V

FINANCE: Each church shall send the sum of not less than \$15.00 annually. All expenses above the stated amount shall be at the direction of the body.

ARTICLE VI

DISCIPLINE: This Association shall have the right to settle any question of discipline, doctrine or practice that may properly come before it from any of the churches: or act upon any appeal that may be made at any of its meetings.

ARTICLE VII

PARLIMENTARY PROCEEDURE: The questions of det-

iberations shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VIII

OFFICERS: The officers of this Association shall be moderator, ass't. moderator, clerk-treasurer and ass't clerk, each of which will be elected at the close of the yearly meeting. Section 2. Committees or boards shall be appointed by the moderator unless otherwise provided for, and shall hold office until their work is completed or until their successors are elected.

Section 3. There shall be a Credential board elected by the Association, to inquire into, and examine each applicant for ordination of license to preach the gospel of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and make recommendations to the Association concerning the same. The council shall be composed of three ministers and two deacons.

Section 4. The duties of boards and committees shall be such as are common among Free Will Baptists when not in conflict with the State and National Associations.

ARTICLE IX

ALTERATIONS AND REMISSIONS: This Constitution may be amended at any yearly session by two-thirds vote of members present, provided the proposed amendment or alteration be presented to the body in writing to read one day in advance.

ARTICLE X

CHURCH COVENANT AND BY-LAWS: The church covenant and by-laws are prescribed by the Treatise of the Faith and Practices of National Association of the Free Will Baptists as adopted in 1950.

Ordinances of the Gospel

#1. CHRISTIAN BAPTISM: This is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, son and the Holy Spirit, (2) in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ, the death of Christians to the world, the washing of their souls from the pollution of sin, their rising to newness of life, their engagement to serve God, and their resurrection at the last day. (1)

(2) Matt. 28:19, Baptising (Greek, Immersing) them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Col. 2:12, Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him. Acts 8:36-39, Matt. 3:16, Mark 1:5, Gal. 3:27, 1st Cor. 15:29.

#2. THE LORD'S SUPPER: This is a commemoration of the death of Christ for our sins, in the use of bread which He made the emblem of His broken body, and the cup, the emblem of His shed blood, (2) and by it the believer expresses his love for Christ, his faith and hope in Him, and pledges to Him perpetual fidelity.

(3) It is the privilege and duty of all who have spiritual union with Christ to commemorate His death, and no man has a right to forbid these tokens to the least of His disciples. (1)

(2) 1st Cor. 11:23-26, For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you That the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said "Take, eat, this is my body, which is broken for you, this do in remembrance of me." After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying "This cup is the new Testament in my blood, this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. for as often as ye eat

this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. Matt. 26:26-28.

(1) Romans 6:4, Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death; like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Col. 3:3, 2:12, Titus 3:5, Gal. 3:27, 1st Cor. 15:29.

(3) 1st Cor. 10:16, The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? 1st Cor. 10:12, 11:27-29.

(1) 1st Cor. 10:17, For we being many are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread, Matt. 26-27. Drink ye all of it. Rom. 14:1-10, 1st Cor. 12, 12-27, Acts 2:42, 20-7.

#3 WASHING THE SAINTS FEET: This is a sacred ordinance, which teaches humility, and reminds the believer of the necessity of a daily cleansing from all sin. It was instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ, and called an "example" on the night of His betrayal, and in connection with the institution of the Lord's Supper. It is the duty and happy prerogative of every believer to observe this sacred ordinance.

(2) St. John 13:4-8, 1st Tim. 5:1-10

