

1988 MINUTES OF THE  
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF  
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists was held with Free Union Church, Pinetown, N. C. on June 27 and 28, 1988. The Rev. W. S. Burns was the host pastor.

Tuesday Afternoon Session 1:50 pm

The Conference President, W. S. Burns called the conference to order. Brother Burns petitioned for prayer on behalf of many sick and hospitalized brethren. Many people came and knelt at the altar. Rev. O. B. Taylor led in a prayer of intercession.

President Burns addressed the Conference expressing his concern for the commitment of our people. The congregation sang "Amazing Grace". Lew Ellen Parker sang a special, "His Eye Is On The Sparrow."

President Burns introduced the speaker, Rev. Bobby Brown. His text was the conference theme: Philippians 3:12-21, "Pressing Forward." The Conference recessed for a ten minute break and reassembled at 3:00 pm with the singing of a hymn, "Where He Leads I'll Follow."

President Burns introduced the singing group, The New Day Spirituals who sang "My Jesus Knows Just What I Need."

President Burns introduced Dr. Michael Pelt to bring the message "Where We've Come From." Dr. Pelt preached from Isaiah 51:1-3 and emphasized "The Rock From Which We Were Hewn." The session was dismissed with prayer led by Rev. J. B. Narron.

Tuesday Evening Session 6:00 pm

The business session was opened with the congregation singing "He Keeps Me Singing" followed by the receiving of an offering. The meeting was called to order. The minutes were read and approved. D. C. Hansley was appointed to be Parliamentarian. The Treasurer's report was given by Rev. Stanley Buck and was adopted.

President Burns addressed the Conference concerning recommended changes. A motion was presented to dissolve the General Conference and form an annual fellowship of Free Will Baptists and churches. The motion was seconded followed by discussion. The motion was withdrawn and a new motion was introduced which specified the name "Annual Free Will Baptist Fellowship." It was seconded and passed. Upon a motion and second the Conference business session was closed and the Conference entered it's time of worship.

President Burns introduced The New Day Spirituals who sang "All Because of God's Amazing Grace." President Burns then introduced Rev. David C. Hansley who addressed the theme: "Present, Where We Are." His text was taken from Philippians 3:10-14, followed by a short recess.

By request, Rev. D. C. Hansley sang "I'm A Child Of The King."

A motion was made to give a rising vote of thanks to Free Union Church for their hospitality in hosting the 1988 session of the General Conference. On motion, thanks was expressed to the Executive Committee for their service by rising and applause. The New Day Spirituals sang "He'll Roll You Over The Tide." President Burns then introduced Rev. Robert May who addressed the theme: "Where We Are Going."

The congregation then stood for the benediction and adjourned with the singing of "Learning To Lean."

#### MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BOARD

Monday, February 22, 1988, 11:35 am

President Burns called the meeting to order. Stanley Buck led in prayer. Members present were W. S. Burns, Foy Futrelle, David Kriger, Stanley Buck, James Rogerson, and Virginia Joyner. President Burns expressed his concern for our Conference as well as for the Free Will Baptist Denomination. After discussion it was decided that the 1988 Conference would focus on Free Will Baptist beliefs and doctrine. The date was set for June 27-28 at Free Union Church in Beaufort County. The meeting was dismissed for lunch and adjourned. Rev. James Joyner blessed the meal.

Tuesday, June 28, 1988, 4:15 pm

President Burns recommended the following:

- 1 - Drop the name of General Conference.
- 2 - Drop the Statement of Faith.
- 3 - Change the name to "Annual Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Ministers and Churches".
- 4 - Reaching out to other Arminian groups for annual fellowship.
- 5 - Change the Conference meeting time to May 19-20 - Friday night and Saturday.
- 6 - The next next Executive Committee meeting is to be held on August 15, 1988 at 11:00 am.

# General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

The 1988 session of the General Conference will be held June 27 and 28 at Free Union Church in Pinetown, North Carolina. All churches are invited to send their pastor and delegates for a time of worship and fellowship. The following is an order of service planned for the session:

## Monday

6:00 PM Registration - Youth Program  
6:30 PM Special Music  
7:00 PM Call to Order Rev. W. S. Burns, President  
Appointment of Committees  
Welcome  
Response  
Youth Program and Activities Mrs. Wallie Hargrove

## Tuesday

9:00 AM Registration (continued)  
9:15 AM Welcome  
Greetings from State Convention Rev. DeWayne Eakes  
Special Music  
9:20 AM Ladies Auxiliary Program Mrs. Virginia Joyner  
12:00 Lunch and Fellowship  
1:00 PM Registration (continued)  
2:00 PM Message (Theme: I Press Toward the Mark) Rev. James B. Hardee  
Fellowship  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music  
3:00 PM Message (Theme: Past - Where We've Come From) Dr. Michael Pelt  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music  
Recess  
5:30 PM Final Registration  
6:00 PM Business Session  
6:30 PM Message (Theme: Present - Where We Are) Rev. David C. Hansley  
Fellowship  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music  
7:00 PM Message (Theme: Future - Where We Are Going) Rev. Robert May  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music  
Adjournment

Rev. W. S. Burns, President  
Rev. Frank Thigpen, Vice-President  
Rev. James Rogerson, Secretary  
Rev. Joe Griffith, Treasurer