

MINUTES

Georgia State Convention

—OF—

Free Will Baptists

CONVENED WITH PLEASANT HILL CHURCH IN
DOOLY COUNTY, GA. ON DEC. 7, 8, 9, 1918.

NEXT SESSION

WILL CONVENE WITH NEW PROSPECT CHURCH
TURNER COUNTY, GA., ON THURSDAY NIGHT
BEFORE THE SECOND SUNDAY IN NOV, 1919

OFFICERS

Moderator, Eld. Neal H. Parish, Postoffice, Hahira, Ga.

Secretary, T. J. Fort, Postoffice, Jakin, Ga.

Treasurer, T. G. Harvey, Postoffice, Jakin, Ga.

Corresponding Secretary, Eld. H. L. Lumpkin, Mauk, Ga.

MINUTES

The Georgia State Convention of Free Will Baptists, met with Pleasant Hill Church of the Georgia Union Association, in Dooly County, Georgia, on Friday night before the second Sunday in December, 1918.

A very interesting sermon was preached from the subject of "A Growth in Christ," by Rev. A. D. Emanuel of the Ogeechee Association.

The hour of nine o'clock was designated as the time of meeting Saturday morning. The delegates were then assigned to homes, and dismissed by benediction.

Saturday Morning

The body met as per adjournment. The Moderator, Rev. Neal H. Parish, was present and called the body to order, reading as a lesson the 2nd chapter of Nehemiah, and giving an impressive talk on the subject of "Building the Kingdom of God;" followed by prayer.

The Moderator then called for the Delegates and Ministers representing the various Associations and Churches, calling in alphabetical order;

Chattahoochee Association:—

Revs. W. H. Emerson, J. J. Jones, and Bro. G. D. Perry, Little Bethel Church.

Rev. H. L. Lumpkin, Spring Hill Church, and Rev. S. N. Little, New Prospect Church.

Georgia Union Association:—

Rev. W. H. Holmes, Double Branches Church; Revs. Neal H. Parish, E. W. Wright and Bro. A. L. Davidson, Pleasant Hill Church.

Little River Association:—

Rev. J. D. Little, Pine Level Church; Rev. Neal H. Parish represented by proxy the following churches of the Little River Association, Corrinth, Neals Chapel, Orange Grove, Shady Grove and Staunton; also the church of LaGrange, Ga.

Midway Association:—

Rev. S. Ealy, Brethren T. G. Harvey, T. J. Fort, and R. A. Hudson, Open Pond Church; and F. M. Mosely, Cedar Springs Church.

Ogeechee Association:—

Rev. A. D. Emanuel, Martin Grove Church and Bro. H. A. Drake Deep Creek Church.

South Georgia Association:—

Rev. J. A. Blanton, Satilla Church, Brethren W. H. DeLoach, Glennville Church, and E. L. Parker, Pine Level Church.

The foregoing being all the ministers and delegates present we proceeded to organize by electing the following officers:

Rev. Neal H. Parish was re-elected Moderator.

Brother T. J. Fort, Secretary.

Brother T. G. Harvey, Treasurer.

Rev. H. L. Lumpkin, Corresponding Secretary.

The Moderator at this point declared the body regularly organized and ready for the regular order of business.

It was voted that owing to the absence of Rev. W. W. Wiley, who was to have preached the introductory sermon, Rev. S. Ealy act as his alternate.

Moderator appointed the devotional committee, then adjourned for preaching.

The pulpit was occupied by Rev. S. Ealy, who preached a very able sermon from the first four verses of the 14th chapter of St. John, followed by benediction and adjournment for refreshments, which were served on tables provided in the grove.

Saturday Afternoon

The body was called to order by singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name," and prayer by Rev. W. H. Holmes.

First order of business was the appointment of the several committees in the following order:

Committee on Devotions—Brethren A. L. Davidson, H. A. Drake, and F. M. Mosely.

Committee on Resolutions—Rev. W. H. Holmes, L. H. Lumpkin and Brother T. G. Harvey.

Committee on Missions—Revs. J. A. Blanton, W. H. Emerson, A. D. Emanuel and Brothers W. H. DeLoach and F. M. Mosely.

It was voted by the body that the Moderator appoint a special committee to draft a short convention covenant; which committee is as follows; Revs. S. N. Little, S. Ealy, J. D. Little, and Brothers R. A. Hudson and E. L. Parker.

All of the foregoing committees having been appointed, an intermission of one hour was taken in order that the various committees might make up reports.

Body reassembled as per intermission and the Moderator called for the reports of the committees.

Devotional Committee—We, your Devotional Committee, make this our report: Preaching at 7:30 o'clock tonight, by Rev. Neal

II. Parish, Sunday at 11:00 o'clock by Rev. J. A. Blanton and at 3:30 p. m. by Rev. S. N. Little.

F. M. MOSELY, Chairman.

Resolutions—We, your Committee on Resolutions, make this our report: Be it resolved that a collection be taken at this time for the purpose of having 2,000 copies of the minutes of this session of the State Convention printed and distributed proportionately among the churches of the various Associations of the State. Also that all pastors upon their return home, take collections at their respective churches for the Minute fund and send same to the Secretary of this body.

REV. W. H. HOLMES, Chairman.

Missions—We, your Committee on Missions beg to recommend that all our pastors take a collection at their respective churches twice yearly, for Home Missions and that these funds be forwarded to the State Convention while in session.

REV. J. A. BLANTON, Chairman.

All of the foregoing committee reports were received and adopted and said committees were relieved.

The Covenant Committee, submitted the Covenant as drafted by them, which was adopted by vote of this body. See the Covenant in this minute.

The body then engaged in the miscellaneous business of this session.

The following Brethren, J. A. Blanton, M. A. Woodard, Neal H. Parish, and W. H. Holmes, having been appointed at the last session of the convention, as a committee to draft a code of rules for organizing each regular session of the convention, reported ready to present said rules for adoption, same was read and adopted by vote of this body. See rules in this minute.

It was voted that the Convention Covenant and the Code of Rules for organizing, be printed in the minutes of each regular session of the State Convention.

Voted by the body that the next session of the Convention convene with the New Prospect Church of Chattahoochee Association, in Turner County, Ga., on Thursday night before the Second Sunday in November, 1919. Delegates will be met at Sycamore, Ga., on the G. S. & F. railroad.

Voted by the body that the introductory sermon be preached by Rev. J. A. Blanton, Rev. H. L. Lumpkin his alternate.

A vote of thanks was given by this body, for the generous hospitality shown us by this Church and community.

Thus closed the 1918 session of the Convention, which was a

very pleasant and beneficial one to our cause throughout the State.

Voted adjournment.

Prayer by Rev. J. A. Blanton, song, "Blest Be the Tie," benediction by the Moderator.

ELDER NEAL H. PARISH, Moderator.

T. J. FORT, Secretary.

Code of Rules for Organizing Each Regular Session of Georgia State Convention of Free Will Baptists.

Each session of this Convention shall hereafter convene on Thursday night before the 2nd Sunday in November of each year.

We shall organize by first receiving reports from the Ministers and Delegates representing the various Churches and Associations of Free Will Baptists in the State of Georgia. After hearing reports and letters from said Churches and Associations, we shall elect the following officers.

A Moderator, a Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer.

The Moderator shall be elected from the list of ministers of the Association in which the body is in convention.

Any Church of an orderly Association shall be allowed one delegate.

Each Association shall have the right to inaugurate any system of Missions which may seem to them most proper, for the extension of Church work in the bounds of the Association.

All Churches and Associations shall be expected to assist in the cause of State Missions, by sending up to the Treasurer of this Convention, at each regular session such funds as may be collected by them in following the recommendations of the Convention.

The Convention shall enjoy the right to make such disposition of any and all funds sent up to the Treasurer, as they may deem to be of greatest good in the advancement of the Cause of the Free Will Baptist Denomination in the State of Georgia.

This Convention shall have the right to appoint Evangelists for the State at large. However each Association shall enjoy the right to appoint such Evangelists when they desire. Submitted by your committee.

REV. J. A. BLANTON,
REV. NEAL H. PARISH,

REV. W. H. HOLMES,
REV. M. A. WOODARD,

COVENANT

Convention Covenant of the Georgia State Convention of Free Will Baptists.

Be it resolved by all Ministers and their representatives composing the Annual Convention of Free Will Baptists of the State of Georgia, That we Covenant and agree together, and solemnly pledge that we shall each of us, hereafter strive, individually and together while in session and between sessions to promote a real spirit of progress in our Denomination. That we will encourage, admonish and in every christian way awake and promote an interest in the cause of Missions in our Churches and Associations. We Covenant to give liberally of our own means and to encourage others to follow our example.

We will encourage Ministerial and all other Church support as will tend to advance our Denomination more progressively.

REV. N. S. LITTLE,

BRO. R. A. HUDSON,

REV. S. EALY,

BRO. E. L. PARKER.

REV. J. D. LITTLE,

Committee.

AN EXPLANATION

Your Moderator begs to state that he is responsible for the delay in the minutes. Brother Fort, your clerk, gave the manuscript to me to copy on a typewriter, in order to better insure the printers against mistakes.

Immediately upon my return home from the convention I was taken sick, remaining so for some time; and too the Flu epidemic was so prevalent around my churches till my congregations were not sufficient to secure the required amount for the minute fund. I delayed the work of the manuscript, intending to send copy and funds together. After collecting the above funds, I was otherwise delayed in making copy, hence this extremely late minute. Your clerk is not in the least responsible.

I trust that this explanation will suffice, and feel sure that the Brethren feel so, and will bear with me in this matter.

Fraternally

YOUR MODERATOR.

14 shirts
10 drawers
4 slips
15 pr. socks
3 pillow case

A CIRCULAR LETTER

The Georgia State Convention of Free Will Baptists in Session
with Pleasant Hill Church of Georgia Union Association,
Sendeth Greeting:

To All Ministers, Churches, and Associations of like Precious
Faith throughout the State.

We are just closing our 1918 Session of the Convention. This
has proven to be a very valuable Session, for which we are grateful
to Him who would have all men to be saved.

Brethren: We had hoped to see a better attendance. However,
we are glad to note a wonderful improvement in attendance and
in many other ways.

We are sending minutes to you with the hope that you may be
pleased to note the work of the Convention.

We are sure that you, like ourselves, love the cause of our be-
loved Zion and that you are equally anxious to work for the improve-
ment of the cause of the Church.

Having this confidence in you, we beg to call your attention to
the following.

The Free Will Baptists

Other states have Evangelists, Orphans' Homes and are doing
wonderful things in making themselves a blessing to mankind, in
advancing the Denomination. They are organized and in love with
the work which God calls them to do. We are glad to say that we
now see the day star of progress rising and shining upon our beloved
people in Georgia, to us this is encouraging:

The crying need of the Free Will Baptists of Georgia, is Organ-
ization, a more systematic work, a getting together of our people, a
bringing about of unity, wherein is strength. Come Brethren, to the
next session and engage with us in the transaction of business of such
great interest to us all, if only we will awake to the Macedonian cry
of our denomination: "Come Over and Help Us."

THE CONVENTION.

