

Old Liberty 1940

**The
Harmony
Association
of
Free Will Baptist**

1944

**Proceedings of the
5 th. Annual Session**

**Convened with
Old Liberty
Free Will Baptist Church
Sept. 7 th. 1944**



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. O. T. Allred

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

HARMONY ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

Old Liberty Church, beginning at 3 o'clock p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 7th. 1944

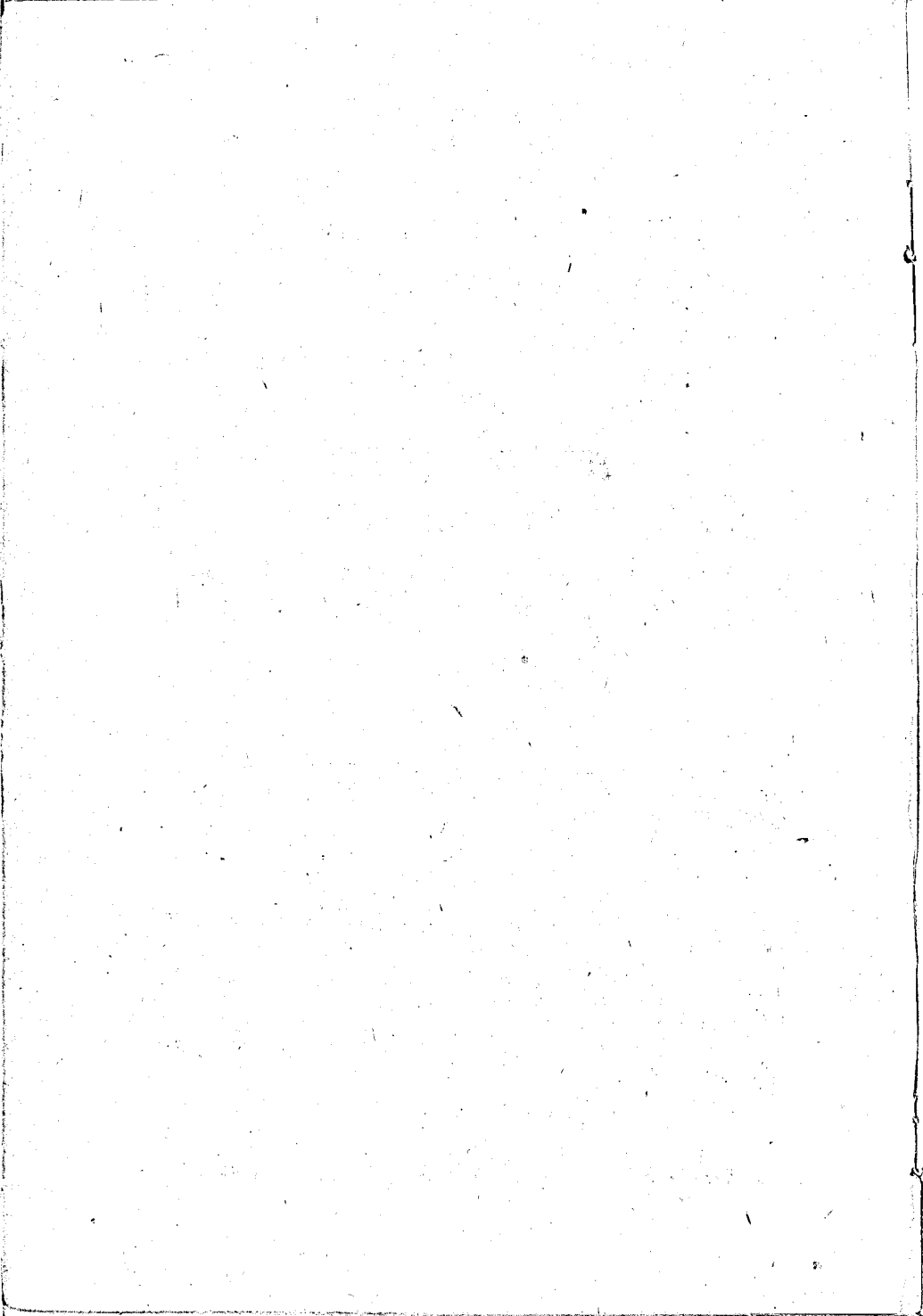
OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. A. M. Halford, Brushy Knob, Mo.
Ass't. Mod. Rev. Clark Lambert, Brushy Knob, Mo.
Clerk, Rev. Jno. W. Silvey, Rt. 4, B. 39, Ava, Mo.

The next annual session of this Association will be held with Lead Hill Church, beginning on Thursday at 3 o'clock p. m. before the second Sunday in Sept. 1945. Located 3 miles west of Mansfield, Mo., $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of highway No. 60.

Rev. Chaz. Chamberlain is to preach the introductory sermon; Rev. Clark Lambert, alternate.

Free Will Baptist Gem, 211 Bond St. Monett, Missouri



PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Association was called to order by the Clerk.
Song by the congregation.

Prayer by Rev. Elias Matney.

The Moderator being absent, the Ass't. Moderator was called to the chair, Rev. A. M. Halford, after making a short talk, called for the introductory sermon. Rev. Jno. W. Silvey filled the stand who was to preach the introductory sermon, his text was taken from St. John 7:38.

Enrollment of ministers and deacons was called for.

Committees on Credentials and Divine Service were appointed.

Adjourned until Friday morning.

Prayer by Rev. T. B. Marler.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

A good sermon was brought by Rev. A. M. Halford, text, Revelation 11:9. Rev. Elias Matney, alternate.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Song by congregation.

Scripture reading first Psalms by the Ass't. Moderator. Prayer by Bro. W. L. Changler.

Church letters called for.

Two church letters was read and delegates seated. The Ass't. Moderator declared the body was organized, and called for the election of a Moderator for the coming year. Rev. A. M. Halford was elected. Rev. Clark Lambert was appointed ass't. moderator. The Moderator called for corresponding letters, one received from Liberty Association, it was read and the delegates seated.

The Treasurer's Report was made and received by this body.

Rev. Clark Lambert was elected for a term of five years as one member of the Board of Trustees.

Adjourned until 1:30 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. Clark Lambert.

Eleven o'clock service by Rev. Clark Lambert and Rev. T. B. Marler, text 1 Samuel 17:45

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song by congregation.

Scripture reading St. John 1: by Moderator.

Prayer by Bro. Floyd Matney.

The reports of ministers was called for.

The Evangelist's report was made and received by this body.

Motion carried that we elect an evangelist and that he go without pay, but is to have all the collections that he gets. Rev. W. D. Hall was elected.

Rev. A. M. Halford, Rev. Clark Lambert and Rev. T. B. Marler was elected delegates to the Liberty Association to be held with Cuba Church at Grove Springs, Mo., begins on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in Aug., 1945. Said delegates are to confer with Liberty Association about the two associations consolidating into one association.

Motion carried to adjourn until Saturday morning.

Prayer by Bro. O. W. Marler.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

A message was brought by Sis. Vinita Broyles, Rev. J. A. Mace alternate; text, St. John 2:5, followed by communion and feet washing services.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Song by congregation.

Scripture reading, James 1 by the Moderator, prayer by Rev. Clark Lambert.

Moderator called for the report of the Committee on Obituary, the report was read and received.

Motion carried that we have 200 minutes printed.

Motion carried that Rev. T. B. Marler deliver the farewell address.

A standing vote of thanks was given to the Moderator, Ass't. Moderator and Clerk for their service in this session.

A standing vote of thanks was given to the church and community for taking care of this Association.

Voted that the next annual session be held with Lead Hill Church, located three miles west of Mansfield, Mo. one fourth mile south of highway No. 60.

Called for report of committee on Credentials. The committee reported that they had found Bro. Joel C.

Gray was worthy of ordination to preach the gospel and recommended that this body ordain him, the report was received and Bro. Joel C. Gray was ordained Sept. 9, 1944. Rev. T. B. Marler, Rev. L. M. Marler and Elias Matney ordaining council. Rev. A. M. Halford, moderator, Rev. Jno. W. Silvey, clerk.

Motion carried to adjourn until 1:30 o'clock.

Prayer by Bro. Carl Hatfield.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

A message was brought by Rev. L. M. Marler followed by Rev. Jno. W. Silvey, text, St. Luke 10:27.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song by congregation, scripture reading Matthew 5:17 by Moderator.

Prayer by Sis. Mable Phillips.

Moderator discharged all committees and called for the fare-well address, which was well delivered by Rev. T. B. Marler.

Motion carried to adjourn until our next annual session.

Prayer by Rev. Joel C. Gray.

Rev. A. M. Halford, moderator

Rev. Jno. W. Silvey, clerk

MINISTER'S REPORTS

Rev. Joel C. Gray: sermons 63, traveled 582 miles, money received \$31.95.

Rev. W. D. Hall: sermons 200, revivals 1, professions witnessed 17, miles traveled 189, money received \$27.75.

Rev. Clark Lambert: sermons 32, miles traveled 310, money received \$16.00.

Rev. L. M. Marler: churches pastored 1, worked as the evangelist the remaining time, helped in two revivals professions witnessed 15, miles traveled 740, funerals preached 8, money received \$98.05.

Rev. Elias Matney: sermons preached 31, revivals held 2, professions witnessed 5, funerals preached 3, miles traveled 491, money received \$18.56.

Rev. Jno. W. Silvey: sermons preached 29, funerals preached 2, miles traveled 210, money received \$14.85.

Rev. A. M. Halford: sermons preached 132, churches pastored 4, professions witnessed 24, baptized 15, additions to church 28, funerals preached 7, money received \$462.23.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. Clark Lambert, term expires, Sept. 1949.
Rev. A. M. Halford, term expires, Sept. 1948.
Rev. Chas. Chamberlain, term expires, Sept. 1947
Rev. Walter Cardwell, term expires, Sept. 1946.
Rev. Jno. W. Silvey, term expires, Sept. 1945.

Obituary Committee Report

We are so thankful to God, that we are able to report to this Association that there was no deaths among our churches the past year.

John Cantrell, Jasper McCormack, Mae McCormack

Treasurer's Report

Sept. 11, 1943.

Money in treasury	\$13.76
Received from churches	7.50
Received from Quarterly Meeting	23.75
Total	\$45.01
Expense:	
Printing minutes	\$21.50
Postage55
Clerk fee	10.00
Total expenses	\$32.05
Money in treasury Sept. 1944.....	\$12.96

Rev. Jno. W. Silvey, clerk and treasurer

Enrollment of Ministers

- ✓ Rev. A. M. Halford, Brushy Knob, Mo.
- Rev. L. M. Marler, Ava, Mo.
- ✓ Rev. T. B. Marler, Ava, Mo.
- Rev. Elias Matney, Squires, Mo.
- Rev. Jno. W. Silvey, Rt. 4, Box 39, Ava, Mo.
- Rev. Clark Lambert, Cold Springs, Mo.
- Rev. Joel C. Gray, Fordland, Mo.

Enrollment of Deacons

- Bro. P. F. Low, Rt. 3, Marshfield, Mo.
- Bro. Luther McAnally, Seymour, Mo.
- Bro. Chester Matney, Seymour, Mo.

Enrollment of Church Clerks

Sis. Rosey Harges, Seymour, Mo.

Sis. Willa Matney, Seymour, Mo.

Enrollment of Visiting Ministers

Rev. J. A. Mace, 866 N. Prospect, Springfield, Mo.

Sis. Rev. Vinita Broyles, 770 Prospect, Springfield, Mo.

Rev. M. Ellis, Marshfield, Mo.

Enrollment of Delegates

Bro. Jasper McCormack, Sis. Mae McCormack, Sis.

Pansy Newcomb, Sis. Mary Corder, Bro Carl Hatfield,

Sis. Lottie Hatfield.

Churches that Reported

Lead Hill, New Sprospict, Lone Star, Brushy Knob
and Old Liberty.

Churches that did not Report

Harmony, Happy Home and Fair View.

Ministers not present

Rev. Floyd Mears, 4156 E. Cessna Drive, Wichita, Kans.

Rev. W. W. Robertson, Squires, Mo.

Rev. Fred Marler, address unkown.

Rev. Walter Cardwell, address unkown.

Rev. Harry Johns, Springfield, Mo.

Rev. Chas. Chamberlain, Ava, Mo.

Rev. W. D. Hall, Ava, Mo.

Rev. O. L. Claxton, Rt. 3, Seymour, Mo.

Rev. J. H. Claxton, Hartville, Mo.

Committees Appointed

BUSINESS: Bro. Floyd Matney, Bro. O. W. Marler
and Rev. J. A. Mace.

OBITUARY: Bro. Jasper McCormack, Sis. Mae McCormack and Bro. John Cantrell.

CREDENTIALS: Rev. T. B. Marler, Rev. L. M. Marler and Rev. Elias Matney.

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be called the Harmony Association of Free Will Baptists.

2. The object of this Association shall be for the bringing

together of the Free Will Baptists of the different churches of the Harmony Association in one great annual gathering so they can get better acquainted with each other, and for the upbuilding of the Free Will Baptist churches and for the salvation of souls.

3. This Association shall be composed of duly elected delegates, elected by the bodies holding membership in this body.

4. The officers of this Association shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator, a clerk who shall be treasurer and shall superintend the printing of the minutes, and shall hold their offices until their successors shall be elected; a Board of Trustees of five members whose term of office shall be as follows: One for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years, and at the expiration of these terms, one is to be elected for a term of five years, and who shall hold their office until their successors are elected; and further, if any vacancy occurs between sessions of the Association, the Board shall fill such vacancy or vacancies until the next session of the Association, who shall perform the following duties: First, shall be the legal corporation of the Association with the corporate name of the Board of Trustees of the Harmony Association of Free Will Baptists, to be a Board of Missions and Church Extension, to secure, hold, use and convey money, homes or lands for the propagation of the Gospel in connection with the Free Will Baptist denomination. Second, to receive, hold, manage, use, control or convey any property intrusted to the Association for and in accordance with the donor's purpose. Said Board of Trustees shall also compose the Home Mission Board. They may be chosen from ministers.

5. This Association shall not usurp any authority over the Quarterly Meetings, and churches that shall be under its supervision, but shall be an advisory body to help them.

6. Seven or more ordained ministers or deacons from two or more bodies belonging to this Association shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

7. The clerk, or assistant clerk, and in their absence, the senior minister in age, shall call the Association to order for business, and call the moderator or his assistant to the chair, and if neither the moderator nor his assistant are present, then the senior minister in age shall act as moderator. On taking his chair, the moderator shall call for the reading of the letters from the different bodies composing this Association, and after the letters are read he shall seat the delegates. After the delegates are seated, the election of officers shall be in order.

8. Any organized Quarterly Meeting or Free Will Baptist church may unite with this body at any regular session through a letter or delegates by a two-thirds vote of all members present.

9. Be it Resolved, That our ministers refrain from jealousy and self-opinionation.

10. This constitution may be added to, amended or changed at any regular session of this body by a two-thirds vote of all the members present, after written notice of the contemplated change has been published in the official paper three months previous to the session at which such change is to take place.

BY-LAWS

No. 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. If neither of them are present the senior minister in years shall act as moderator.

No. 2. All persons declared by a Committee on Credentials to be duly entitled to a seat in this Association are hereby made and constituted members of this body, and are authorized to act in all respects according to the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws under which this Association is organized.

No. 3. It shall be the duty of every body belonging to this Association, to send a letter to every tri-ennial session of this Association, reporting in the same its spiritual condition, benevolent work, and its statistics. Any body belonging to this Association which shall fail to report itself for three successive sessions, may be dismissed from the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.

No. 4. Each meeting shall be opened by reading a portion of the Bible and with prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

No. 5. By a two-thirds vote of all members present, a ruling of the Moderator can be over-ruled.

No. 6. This Association may correspond by messenger, or otherwise, with other religious bodies.

No. 7. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into a committee of the whole.

No. 8. It shall be the duty of all members of this Association to be present at the time appointed for each meeting, and any one wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the moderator.

No. 9. No member shall absent himself from the Association during its meetings without first obtaining permission from the moderator.

No. 10. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee; provided the person nominated be elected.

No. 11. The moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit, or when he thinks it will cause disorder or division.

No. 12. Anyone 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.

No. 13. No member of this Association shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes nor twice on the same subject without the permission of the moderator.

No. 14. It shall be the duty of the moderator to seat the delegates in a body in a designated section of the room at the beginning of each business session.

No. 15. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular or adjourned session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Convene on Thursday at three o'clock p.m. before the second Sunday in September.
2. Praise by congregation, prayer.
3. Clerk calls Association into conference.
4. Clerk calls Moderator to the chair.
5. Moderator calls for the introductory sermon.
6. Enrollment of ministers and deacons.
7. Appoint Committee on Credentials and Divine Service.
8. Call for letters from churches.
9. Call for letters from Quarterly Meetings.
10. Call for petitionary letters.
11. Call for report of Committee on Credentials.
12. Seat delegates and clerks and give right hand of fellowship.
13. Call the roll.
14. Elect a moderator and assistant.
15. Invite all Christians to seats in council.
16. Call for corresponding letters and delegates.
17. Seat the delegates.
18. Read the By-Laws.
19. Appointment of Committees.
20. Call for appeals from Quarterly Meetings.
21. Announce preaching each day at eleven o'clock and at night.
22. Announce that conference will open each day at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

23. Call for report of Executive Board.
24. Call for Treasurer's report.
25. Call for corresponding delegates.
26. Elect members of Executive Board.
27. Miscellaneous business.
28. Call for ordination of ministers.
29. Any pastorless churches.
30. Call for ministers' written reports.
31. Elect an evangelist.
32. Elect corresponding delegates.
33. Elect delegates to the State Association.
34. Report of Committee on Obituary.
35. Number of minutes to be printed.
36. Call for money for minutes.
37. Elect some one to deliver farewell address.
38. Call for vote of thanks for Moderator.
39. Call for vote of thanks for church and community.
40. Select place for next annual session.
41. Select some one to preach introductory sermon.
42. Final report of committees.
43. Discharge all committees.
44. Close Association on Saturday at 3:30 o'clock.
45. Adjourn with prayer.

FREE WILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE.**— The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2 Timothy 3:16.

2. **GOD.**— There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe, and in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

1 Cor. 8:6; Matt. 28:19.

3. **CHRIST.**— Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

St. John 1:1-12.

4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT.**— The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 4:46.

5. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD.**— God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by main-

taining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

Psalm 22:28; 97:2.

6. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN.**—Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST.**—The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection affected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

1 John 2:2.

8. **THE TERMS OF SALVATION.**—The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

2 Cor. 7:10; Pro. 28:13.

9. **ELECTION.**—God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

1 Tim. 2:4.

10. **FREEDOM OF WILL.**—The human will is free and self controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, or to resist them and perish.

Joshua 24:15.

11. **SALVATION FREE.**—God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of Life freely.

Rev. 22:17.

12. **PERSEVERANCE.**—All believers in Christ, who through grace, persevere in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.

St. John 15:6; 2 Peter 2:20-22.

13. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES.**—*Baptism*, or the immersion of believers in water, and the *Lord's Supper*, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel: *Feet Washing*, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

Mark 16:15; 2 Cor. 4:5; St. John 13:14.

14. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.** The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and