

# MINUTES

Of The

**Thirty-Fifth Annual Session**

Of The

**Jack's Creek Association**

— OF —

**FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

Held At

**Low Gap Church**

**September 4th, 5th and 6th, 1930**



REV. M. T. RAY,  
Moderator

DALE RAY,  
Secretary

The next session to be held at Terry's Fork Church, beginning on Thursday before the First Sunday in September, 1931, at 10:30, A. M. Introductory Sermon by Rev. A. P. Rick; Rev. T. E. Woody, Alternate.

September 4, 1930, met at 10:30 A. M., singing "There's A Land That is Fairer Than Day". Sermon by Rev. T. E. Woody; Text, Romans 8-12. Subject, "We Are Debtors". Delegates were assigned homes. Adjourned for dinner.

#### Thursday Evening Session

Scripture reading by Rev. Pretsell Blevins. Prayer by Rev. Moses Peterson. Appointed as Reading Clerks, John Ogle and Rev. Pretsell Blevins. Letters received as follows:

Bowditch Church—Delegates: Julia Boone, Mack Stevens.

Low Gap—Delegates: London Gaddy, Lizzie Ogle, Bonnie Wyatt.

North Bend—Delegates: Ida Peterson, Nellie Peterson.

Terry's Fork—Minnie Radford, J. P. Ray and Sue Ray.

Young's Chapel—Mrs. Fred Harris.

Pensacola—C. L. Wilson, Lillian Blankenship, Mrs. R. Mumpower.

Bald Mountain—Letter received; no delegates.

Proceeded to organize for ensuing year as follows:

M. T. Ray, Moderator, Dale Ray, Clerk. Committee on Credentials: Chairman, Rev. Pretsell Blevins, L. A. Atkins.

Newly constituted churches were called for. Altamont Free Will Baptist Church was received into the body. Arrangement Committee: Low Gap delegation with the Moderator. Committee on General Church work: Minnie Radford, Bill Duncan. Committee on Deeper Devotion: Rev. T. E. Woody, Rev. L. A. Atkins. Committee on Missions: Julia Boone, Rev. Pretsell Blevins. Committee on Education: John Ogle, Minnie Radford. Committee on Sabbath Schools: Sue Ray, Lillian Blankenship. Committee on Temperance: Rev. Pretsell Blevins, Bro. McNeil, Willard Garner. Committee on Finance: Park Atkins, Emory Edwards, J. L. Thompson. Committee on Obituaries: C. H. Honeycutt, John Ogle. Committee on Resolutions: Rev. T. E. Woody, Mrs. Ida Peterson, Mrs. Jettie Harriss. Committee on Sessions: Bros. Bascom Ray, J. L. Thompson, Harley Howell.

Bro. McNeil and Bro. Carroway were recognized and seated in the Association. Bro. Moses Peterson was welcomed into the Association. Rules of decorum were read. Letters received from Altamont Church—delegates: Mrs. May Vance, Bro. Charles Stamey, Bro. J. L. Thompson. Barnardsville Church—delegates: Frank Burleson, Sister Eliza Ballard. Report of Arrangement Committee:

"We, your Committee on Arrangements, submit the following that this Association shall meet at 9:30 A. M., also at 2:30 P. M.; preaching hour 11 A. M. and 8 P. M. Bro. M. T. Ray to preach tonight (Thurs.) 8:00 P. M.

A short talk was made by Rev. M. T. Ray to urge the Free Will Baptists to work and "press onward toward the goal." Dismissed by Rev. L. A. Atkins. Friday met at 9:30 A. M. Prayer, Rev. C. H. Honeycutt. Unfinished business. Bald Mountain delegates failed to appear. Suspended rule for this year concerning minute money and recognized Big Creek Church. Report—delegates: Bros. Harley Howell, James Deyton, Park Atkins and Ruedy Honeycutt.

Committee on Missions as follows:

"We, your committee on Missions, advise that our church help their pastors, look after the poor, the sick and the orphans and that a committee be appointed in each church to collect money for the Orphans' Home; that our preachers deliver at least one sermon each year on "Giving." This report was received and discussed by Bro. Pretsell Blevins and adopted.

Letter received from Prices Creek Church Delegates: W. R. Arrowood, Mrs. W. R. Arrowood. Committee on General Church Work report as follows:

"We find that our churches are not doing what they should for the support of the Gospel. We advise our church members to pay our Pastors more and recommend that each church organize a Ladies' Aid Society and ask that each church contribute to our Orphanage at Middlesex; that any church which does not give the sum of \$10.00 shall not be represented in our Association. We urge our Pastors to keep their churches in remembrance of the necessity of supporting our orphans and advise two yearly collections for them, one at Thanksgiving and another at such time as he thinks best." This report was received and discussed by Sister Minnie Radford, Rev. M. T. Ray and adopted.

Committee on Deeper Devotion reports as follows:

"We, the Committee on Deeper Devotion, submit the following: Devotion means consecration or yielding ourselves to God. Romans 12-1. The Bible teaches justification or the new birth, which is the result of repentance and faith, confessing Christ as a personal Saviour. Sanctification as a definite work of grace, which purifies the heart from carnality and anoints with power." This report was discussed by L. A. Atkins, T. E. Woody and adopted.

Letters received as follows: McKinney's Chapel—Delegate: D. S. McKinney. Prices Creek—Delegates seated and assigned homes.

Adjourned for preaching at 11:00 A. M. by Rev. Pretsell Blevins. Matthew 23-33. "And ye would not."

Friday evening met at 2:30. Prayer by Bro. Edwards. Committee on Education reports as follows:

"We advise all parents in our churches to investigate the character of teachers and protest against the employment of anyone who is not a Christian. We advise the employment of Free Will Baptist teachers when possible and urge our members to place good literature (especially our church paper, 'The Free Will Baptist') in your homes, and help our young ministers to secure an education by contributing to our College." This report was received and discussed by Bro. John Ogle and Sister Minnie Radford and adopted.

Committee on Sabbath Schools reports as follows:

"We, the Committee on Sabbath Schools, recommend that there be a Sunday School in every one of our churches every Sunday; and that we be loyal to our Sunday School; and that all officers and teachers should be our best Christians." This report was received and discussed by Rev. T. E. Woody, Rev. M. T. Ray and adopted.

Committee on Temperance reports as follows:

"We recommend that all the members of our churches do their best to stop the sin of strong drink through prayer and the enforcement of our State laws in a Christian way." This report was received and discussed by Rev. Pretsell Blevins, Rev. L. A. Atkins, Rev. M. T. Ray, Sister Minnie Radford and adopted.

Committee on Finance report \$36.36.

Adjourned.

Saturday morning, Sept. 6th, met at 9:30 A. M. Prayer by Rev. L. A. Atkins.

The following obituaries are handed in for printing:

Lucinda Anderson was born Oct. 10, 1862, died May 18, 1930, age 67 years 5 months and 8 days. Sister Anderson was a charter member of Terry's Fork Free Will Baptist Church where she remained a faithful member until death and said just before dying that she was ready to go.

Rev. W. R. Rice was born July 28, 1870, died June 10, 1930. Professed religion in 1903 and was a charter member of the Free Will Baptist church at Pensacola. Bro. Rice was patient during his last illness. He desired to get well, but he seemed to be perfectly willing to go in obedience to the call of our Heavenly Father.

Mrs. J. N. Wilson died July 4, 1929, age 55 years. She was a faithful member of the Pensacola Free Will Baptist Church.

Mrs. Thomas McKinney died June 2, 1930. She belonged to the North Bend Free Will Baptist Church. Mrs. McKinney was a great helper in her community.

Molisey Peterson, born February 3, 1861, died December 1, 1929,

Mrs. Sallie Duncan, born March 2, 1881, died June 19, 1930.

"She is gone but not forgotten;  
Never will her memory fade;  
Sweetest thoughts will ever linger,  
Around the grave where she is laid."

Committee on Resolutions report as follows:

"We, your Committee on Resolutions, submit the following:

RESOLVED—1. That each preacher make a report of his work at each session of our Association, and that each pastor appoint in his church or churches a committee to collect funds for our Orphanage, and that each church shall pay \$10.00 a year.

2. That it is the pleasure of this body to extend through our Moderator our sincere thanks to this church and community for the very kind and hospitable manner in which they have cared for this Association.

3. Whereas, we feel that certain members of the Joe River Conference are trying to lead away from us some of our churches in a manner that we consider unnecessary and unchristian; therefore, we protest against this conduct and advise our churches to elect as pastors, preachers of our own conference if practicable.

4. That we feel, in the death of our beloved Bro. W. R. Rice, we have lost one of our most efficient Christian workers; that it is the desire of this body to recognize, by a rising vote, the good works done by Deacon Rice whom we greatly miss in our Association, conference and church work. May the Lord bless his widow and children, and may others be inspired by his Christian example to live a more devoted Christian life.

Respectfully in His name,

M. T. Ray.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe that there is one and only one living and true God, who is in personality the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection. There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time. I. Tim. 2:5.

2. Holy Scriptures. We believe that God is the author of the Holy Bible and its teachings constitute the only infallible doctrine for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. II. Tim. 3:16.

3. Original Apostasy. We believe that Adam was created holy, but by voluntary transgression fell into depravity and consequently involved his posterity in sin. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was pleasant to the eye, and a tree to be desired to make one wise she took of the fruit thereof and did eat. Gen. 3:6.

4. Free Grace. We believe that the grace of God comprehends all spiritual blessings; that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation; that the Holy Spirit not only reproves the world of sin, but is the means whereby sinners are converted and made wise unto salvation. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek, for the same Lord is rich unto all that call upon Him. Rom. 10:12.

5. Christian Faith. We believe that Christian faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Redeemer of the world in the divinity of the Holy Scriptures, that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. He that believeth in the Son hath everlasting life, but he that believeth not in the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. John 4:36.

6. Repentance. We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin, and the kind of sorrow which produces Godly repentance must be preceded by effectual conviction of sin. Now I rejoice not that ye were made sorrow but that ye sorrowed to repentance, for ye were made sorrow after a Godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of, but the sorrow of the world worketh death. II. Cor. 7:9-10.

7. Free Agency. We believe that the human will is free, and that men have the ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures. He hath showed thee, O man, what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justice and love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? Micah 6:8.

8. Perseverance. We do not believe, under the Gospel dispensation, any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but that those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved; that it is possible for men, who have been converted, to make shipwreck of the faith, turn again to sin and be lost. And Jesus said unto him: No man having put his hands to the plow, and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God. Luke 9:62.

9. Good Works. We believe that good works is the result of faith, and not of necessity; that those who have faith will do works of righteousness, while those who have not faith cannot do anything pleasing or acceptable to God. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire; wherefore, by their fruits ye shall know them. Matthew 7:19-20.

10. Christian Baptism. We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; that baptism cannot be scripturally administered without faith in the subject who receives it. Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism unto death; that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so also we should walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4.

11. The Lord's Supper. We believe that the supper was instituted by our Saviour as a commemorative ordinance; that the bread and wine represent His body and blood; that it was instituted for Christians and that all Christians should unite in service regardless of name or denominational distinction. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself not discerning the Lord's body. I. Cor. 1:28-29.

12. Feet Washing. We believe that washing the saints' feet is a command of our Saviour, and that His followers ought to practice the same. If I, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye ought to wash one another's feet. John 13:14.

13. The Gospel. We believe it is the duty of all churches to support the Gospel. Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel. I. Cor. 9:14.

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## CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This Association shall be composed of delegates chosen and sent from each individual church.

2. The delegates chosen and sent shall be recommended in a letter from the church to which they belong and shall include the minister and some of the ablest members belonging to the church.

3. The Association shall elect annually a Moderator and Clerk.

4. The rules of decorum shall be read immediately after the body is organized.

5. The Association will encourage a second ministry; such as present Christ as an all-sufficient Saviour; having made salvation possible for every human being on the terms of the Gospel, which is freely offered to all.

6. Any minister in good standing, whether a delegate or not, may be invited to a seat and take part in the proceedings, and have his name enrolled in our minutes.

7. The Association may appoint such committees as may be necessary for the expedition of business, and every committee appointed to any particular business, shall report their proceedings in writing to the Association while in session, and all reports made by committees may be adopted or rejected by the body.

8. The Association shall have a book in which shall be kept an accurate account of all its proceedings.

9. Any church may become a member of the Association by making application by letter or by delegate and adopting our articles of faith and church covenant.

10. The Association may withdraw from any church that becomes disorderly or refuses to be represented.

11. There shall be an associational fund for defraying expenses and charges that may accrue, and for replenishing such; each church may contribute at pleasure.

12. There shall be a Treasurer appointed by the Association, whose duty it shall be to have care of and account for the money committed to his charge.

13. The Association shall use the Free Will Baptist Treatise in full.

14. Each church shall be allowed one vote for every ten members or fraction thereof.

15. The Association advises all its churches to commemorate the death and suffering of our Lord at least twice a year.

16. The Association shall pay its Clerk at least \$5.00 for his services per annum.

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## RULES OF DECORUM

Article 1. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. There shall be no conversation by the members, one with another, so as to interrupt business while in session.

3. Every member wishing to speak shall first rise to his feet and address the Moderator.

4. No member shall interrupt another while speaking.

5. We will admit no other title but that of "Brother" while in session.

6. Every member speaking shall attend to the subject under consideration.

7. No member shall speak more than three times on one subject.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended to, unless withdrawn by the person who made it.

9. No member shall absent himself from the body while in session without leave of the Moderator.

10. On all motions, where the vote of the body is taken, a majority shall prevail.

11. The Moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other member, provided the chair is filled.

12. Any member transgressing the above rules shall be admonished by the Moderator.

## CHURCH COVENANT

1. Having given ourselves to the Lord through Jesus Christ, we agree to adopt the Free Will Baptist faith, we now give ourselves to each other by the help of God.

2. We solemnly covenant before God that we will carefully observe the commandments implied by a confession of faith, and in the spirit of meekness rebuke and admonish those who have gone astray, and watch over each other, being careful of each other's reputation, and use our influence to the upbuilding of the church and for the advancement of the cause of Christ, endeavoring to seek the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, and to confess our faults one to another, and to strengthen those who are weak.

3. We promise that by the help of God we will faithfully practice family and secret prayer, and strive to cultivate the doctrine of God's revealed Word in the minds of those under our care.

4. We also agree to use our influence for the support of the Gospel and to contribute liberally to aid the ministry according to our several abilities. Also we agree to be liberal with those that are afflicted and needy, and especially those of the household of faith.

5. We also agree to attend the monthly meetings regularly, if not providentially hindered, and submit to all ordinances implied in a Profession of Faith.

6. We also agree to abstain from all sinful and vain amusements.

7. We also agree to abstain from all intoxicating liquors and not to use it as a beverage, nor to aid or assist in the manufacture of such nor furnish it to others.

8. We also agree to encourage home and foreign missions, education, Sabbath schools, good morals, and everything that is to the glory of God and to the welfare of men. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may be happily admitted into the kingdom of God, where we may ascribe honor unto the Lamb forever. Amen.



