

Book 10 1/2

# MINUTES

—OF THE—

## FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

## JASPER

## Freewill Baptist Association,

CONVENED WITH

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH, MARION COUNTY, ALABAMA,

*October 4th, 1890.*



### OFFICERS:

G. C. ELLIOTT,	Moderator.
ROBERT FRANKS,	Clerk.

The next session of this Association, will meet with Blue Springs Church, Franklin county, Ala., five miles North-East of Spruce Pine station on the Sheffield and Birmingham Railroad, and it will convene on Saturday before the first Sunday in Oct., 1891.

GOLDSBORO, N. C.

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1890.





FREE WILL BAPTIST  
BIBLE COLLEGE

*Presented By*

Wayne Martin

## PROCEEDINGS.

The fourth annual session of the Jasper Freewill Baptist Association convened with Friendship Church, Marion county, Alabama, October 4th, 1890. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. William A. Nelson; text, Revelations 8th chapter, 3rd verse. At the close of the service an intermission of one hour was taken for refreshments; after which the ministers and delegates were requested to meet in the house to organize and proceed to business.

The Association met pursuant to dismissal. Singing by the congregation. The Moderator, Rev. W. A. Nelson, offered prayer, and called the body to order: And business was transacted in the following order:

1. Letters from the churches were called for, and read and the names of delegates enrolled as per statistical table.
2. Proceeded to elect a Moderator and Clerk; whereupon Rev. G. C. Elliott was elected Moderator, and brother Robert Faanks was elected Clerk.
3. Called for petitionary letters, and opened the door for the reception of new churches. None presented.

Called for correspondence from sister Associations, and the names of brethren were given in and enrolled as follows: From the Vernon Association Rev. J. M. Stacks, E. D. Flurey and M. R. Martin. The Tupelo Association was represented by Rev. J. P. Lewis. The delegates were cordially received by the body.

Invitation was extended to visiting ministers to take seats with us. None present.

On motion, it is agreed that the Moderator appoint all the committees. The following are appointed.

On preaching—Brethren D. Z. Griffin, J. T. Underwood



and. TP. Williams with the deacons of Friendship church.

On Finance—J. E. Kendrix, W. T. Keeton and E. D. Warren.

On Documents and order of Business—Rev. W. A. Nelson and J. J. Wesley, J. H. Birdeshaw with the Moderator and Clerk.

On Sabbath Schools—Rev. H. B. Fowler, W. J. Burleson and P. Duboys.

On Literature—Rev. J. J. Wesley, John W. Burleson, G. W. Moore and C. M. Pyron.

On Discipline—W. A. Nelson, J. J. Wesley and J. H. Birdeshaw.

On ministerial Credentials—Brethren W. T. Burleson, D. Z. Griffin and P. C. Pike.

Committee on preaching report that Rev. J. H. Birdeshaw preach to-night, followed by Rev. J. M. Stacks; Rev. J. P. Lewis preach tomorrow morning 9 o'clock, Rev. W. A. Nelson preach at 11 o'clock, and Rev. J. J. Wesley preach at 3 o'clock P. M.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet Monday morning at 8 o'clock. Prayer by the Moderator.

At night, Rev. J. H. Birdeshaw preached a soul stirring sermon followed by Rev. J. M. Stacks, of the Vernon Association, text, Thes. 5th chapter, 9th verse.

#### SERVICES ON SABBATH.

At 9 o'clock, Rev. J. P. Lewis preached an able sermon to a large and attentive congregation, text 5th chapter of Matthew, 14th and 15th verses. At 11 o'clock, Rev. W. A. Nelson preached to a large and attentive congregation, text Timothy 4th chapter, 16 verse. At the close of the last sermon the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered, and Christians members of different denominations united in partaking of the holy emblems, and all seemed to enjoy the presence of the Lord. At 3 o'clock, preaching was omitted and a prayer meeting was held

conducted by Bro. P. Duboys. Rev. L. M. Skelton, of the South-Eastern Association, preached to a large and attentive congregation, at night, text 133rd Psalm.

#### MONDAY MORNING, 8 o'clock.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. J. J. Cook; after which the body was called to order by the Moderator. Roll is called and the delegates answer to their names. The minutes of Saturday were called for, read and adopted.

On motion, it was agreed to have the Constitution read, it was read and approved.

Invitation is given to ministers of other denominations and ministers of sister Associations to take seats with us. Rev. L. M. Skelton, of the South-Eastern Association, takes a seat.

Reports of committees are called for and presented as follows, viz:

#### ON DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS.

We find two petitions for the next Association to be held in 1891, and we leave it with the body to decide where the next session shall be held.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. NELSON, Chairman.

On motion, the report is received, adopted, and the committee discharged.

#### ON DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

In order to succeed all Christian denominations must have their own Literature and support the same. As yet we have no Sabbath School publications, but we have THE BAPTIST REVIEW our denominational organ, published semi-monthly at Goldsboro, N. C. It is an able advocate of our doctrine, and should be more liberally patronized and supported by all our churches. It should be a weekly instead of a semi-monthly paper. We recommend that a united effort be made on behalf of THE REVIEW. We, also, have The Baptist Harmony, which is of convenient size, and the best selection of hymns in use. It is neatly bound in morocco, and the retail price is 50 cents. For sale by Rev. B. W. Nash, Goldsboro, N. C.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. MOORE, Chairman.

On motion, the report is received, adopted and the committee discharged.

#### ON FINANCE.

We find the total amount of cash on hand to be twelve dollars and fifteen cents.

Respectfully submitted,

W. T. KEETON, Chairman.

On motion, the report is received, adopted, and the committee discharged.



#### ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We are glad to report that the Sabbath School interest in our churches is increasing, but it is not yet as good as we desire to see it. We, therefore, earnestly urge upon the pastors of our churches and our brethren generally to look after this important matter fully believing that it is an auxiliary to the church in bringing souls to Christ and expanding and developing the mind for God and his glory and our eternal good.

Respectfully submitted,

H. B. FOWLER, Chairman.

On motion, the report is received, adopted and the committee discharged.

#### ON DISCIPLINE.

We have not the manuscript of the Discipline before us, but have heard the statement of Rev. J. P. Lewis in regard to it, and recommend that this Association adopt and take stock in it.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. NELSON, Chairman.

On motion, the report is received, adopted, and the committee discharged.

#### ON MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS.

We find all our ministers in good standing, except T. P. Swindell, R. H. Tomlin and T. R. Hulsey. They have been excluded from the churches to which they belonged for immoral conduct, and we recommend that they be excluded from this Association, and their credentials demanded.

Respectfully submitted,

W. T. BURLESON, Chairman.

On motion, the report is received, adopted, and the committee discharged.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Whereas the Jasper Association is without proper representation with her sister Associations, and feeling the necessity of that spirit of union which is essential to the furtherance of the cause of God, resolved that we endorse the proceedings of the Southern Baptist Convention held at Columbus, Ga. in November, 1889. This was unanimously adopted.

On motion, it was agreed that the next session of this Association be held with Blue Springs church, Franklin county, five miles north East of Spruce Pine station on the Sheffield and Birmingham Railroad, and that it convene on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1891.

On motion, Rev. J. J. Wesley is elected to preach the introductory sermon; Rev. W. A. Nelson alternate.

On motion, it was agreed that Rev. J. J. Wesley write a circular letter to be appended to our next minutes, choosing his own subject.

On motion, it was agreed that Rev. J. J. Wesley, H. B. Fowler, and Bro. J. J. Cook be sent as corresponding delegates to the Vernon Association.

On motion, Rev. W. A. Nelson, J. H. Birdeshaw, and brother Robert Franks are elected corresponding delegates to the Tupelo Association.

On motion, Rev. W. A. Nelson, G. C. Elliott, J. J. Wesley and Bro. P. C. Pike are elected delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention.

On motion, it was agreed that the Rules of Decorum, Constitution and Articles of Faith be appended to these minutes.

On motion, the Association adjourned for preaching and to meet at 2 o'clock P. M. Prayer by brother H. B. Fowler.

Rev. J. P. Lewis, of the Tupelo Association, preached a soul stirring sermon to a large and attentive congregation: Text Joshua 24th chapter, and 15th verse.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The body met pursuant to adjournment. Rev. L. M. Skelton offered prayer; after which, the Moderator called the body to order, and business was transacted as follows:

On motion, it was agreed that the Clerk superintend the printing of the minutes, and that he have as many copies printed as the funds in hand will pay for; and that the publisher be instructed to distribute them among the churches according to their contributions.

On motion, it was agreed to allow the Clerk three dollars for his services, to be paid out of the funds in hand.

On motion, the finance committee was instructed to pay over to the Clerk the funds in their hands to pay for the printing of the minutes.

On motion, a vote of thanks is due and is hereby given to Friendship church and the citizens of this community for kindness and hospitality shown to members and visitors of the Association, during this session.



On motion, a vote of thanks is given to the officers of this Association for the faithful manner in which they have discharged their duty during its session.

On motion, the Association adjourns to meet at the time and place above named. The Moderator makes some appropriate remarks, and then offers prayer. A hymn was sung, and the parting hand was taken amid tears of joy.

G. C. ELLIOTT, Moderator.  
ROBERT FRANKS, Clerk.

### MINISTERS REPORTS

Rev. G. C. Elliott reports as follows, viz: Preached 59 sermon, offered 61 prayers, made 22 exhortations, preached two funerals, administered 3 communion services, helped to ordain 2 ministers, ordained 1 deacon, traveled 596 miles. Respectfully submitted, G. C. Elliott.

Rev. H. B. Fowler reports as follows, viz: Preached 30 sermons, offered 63 prayers, received 22 members, made 2 visits to the sick, traveled 745 miles.

Respectfully submitted, H. B. Fowler.

### ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

- Rev. W. A. NELSON, Stinson, Marion county, Ala.
- " J. J. WESLEY, Guin, Marion county, Ala.
- " G. C. ELLIOTT, Stinson, Marion county, Ala.
- " J. JEFFERS, Eldridge, Walker county, Ala.
- " G. P. BAUGHN, Navoo, Walker county, Ala.
- " H. B. FOWLER, Stinson, Marion county, Ala.
- " J. H. BIRDESHAW, Navoo, Walker county, Ala.

## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known as the Jasper Freewill Baptist Association, of Ala., and being composed of delegates from the different churches forming the same, each church being entitled to three delegates.

2. This body shall be considered an advisory council, but having no authority over the affairs of the churches.

3. Each church in this Association shall be considered an advisory body, and shall control its own internal affairs in matters of discipline, &c., It may, however, in extreme cases, call aid from sister churches.

4. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be settled by a two-thirds vote of the Association and the decision shall be final.

5. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer: who shall be chosen at each session by a majority of votes.

6. This Association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon by a previous annual session, and shall not adjourn finally until all the business is transacted.

7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.

8. We agree as churches of this Association to use our best influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as the Temperance Cause, Sabbath Schools, Missionary work, &c.

9. No member of this Association shall be eligible to the office of Moderator more than two successive sessions, unless no other member be competent to act in that capacity.



# STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS AND POST OFFICES	Baptized	Recev'd by letter	Dism'd by letter	Restored	Died	Excluded	Days of Meeting	No. of Members	Paid for Minutes
Mount Olive, Marion co., Ala	S W Burleson, R Franks, L Williams	J J Wesley.....	Robert Franks, Stinson, Ala.	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	60	\$ 2 10
Beech Grove, Walker county	D Z Griffin, P C Pike, A L Lockhart....	W A Nelson....	J-re Files, Beech Grove, Ala..	4	3	2	..	..	7	4	142	2 95
Blue Springs, Franklin co....	P Duboys, W A Smith, N Shelnut.....	H B Fowler....	P Duboys, Eaton, Ala.....	21	..	10	..	..	..	2	40	1 00
Mt. Pleasant, Marion county	T P Williams, J W Moore, E D Warren.	G C Elliott.....	J H Powell, Stinson, Ala.....	..	..	5	..	1	1	4	50	1 50
Cedar Creek, Franklin county	Not Represented .....	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pleasant Hill, Walker county	Not Represented .....	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oak Grove, Walker county...	W T Keeton.....	W A Nelson....	V T Davis, Prospect, Ala.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	56	1 50
Mt. Joy, Walker county.....	J T Underwood, W Burleson, J Kendrie	W A Nelson....	S H Bowen, Pearce's Mill, Ala	7	1	..	..	2	..	1	82	2 10
Friendship, Marion county...	C M Pyron, F M Cantrel, W A Cantrel	G C Elliott.....	C M Pyron, Jr., Pikeville, Ala	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	26	1 00
Poplar Springs, Walker co.....	Not Represented.....	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.....	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.....	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.....	.....	.....	Total.....	33	5	18	..	3	9	..	457	\$12 15



## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

OF GOD.—ARTICLE 1. We believe there is one, and but one living and true God. Who is in personality the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Equal and harmonious in every Divine perfection.

OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES—ART. 2. We believe that God is the Author of the Holy Bible; and that its teachings constitute the only infallible doctrine for the government of His church.

OF ORIGINAL APOSTASY—ART. 3. We believe that Adam was created holy; but by voluntary transgression fell into depravity, and consequently involved his posterity in sin.

OF FREE AGENCY—ART. 4.—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.

OF CHRISTIAN FAITH—ART. 5.—We believe that Christian Faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Redeemer of the world, and the divinity of the Holy Scriptures. That "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

OF REPENTANCE—ART. 6. We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin; and the kind of sorrow which constitutes godly repentance, must be preceded by effectual conviction for sin.

OF FREE AGENCY—ART. 7. We believe that the human will is free. And that men have ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures.

OF PERSEVERANCE—ART. 8. We do not believe under the gospel dispensation, that 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 finally lost.

OF GOOD WORK—ART. 9. We believe that good work is the result of Faith and not of necessity. That those who have Faith will do works of righteousness; while those who have no Faith, cannot do anything pleasing or acceptable unto God.

OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM---ART. 10. We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in the names of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. That Baptism cannot be Scripturally administered without Faith in the subject who receives it.

OF THE LORD'S SUPPER---ART. 11. We believe 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 observing that sacred service, regardless of names of denominational distinctions.

OF THE SOUL---ART. 12. We believe that man is a living soul. That the body will die, but that the soul is immortal. That death is the separation of the mortal and immortal parts of human beings.

OF THE RESURRECTION---ART. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead. When the resurrection shall take place the soul and body will reunite and form an immortal being. That the righteous will be received into a state of everlasting happiness, to reign with God forever and ever. "But the wicked will be bound hand and foot, and cast into outer darkness. The wicked are driven away in their wickedness, but the righteous have hope in their dearth."



## RULES OF DECORUM.

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ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be called to order by the Moderator who presided at the last session. Former Clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.

2. The Association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.

3. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by ballot at each session of the Association. A majority of votes by the delegates present elects.

4. The names of delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called as often as necessary during the session.

5. A majority of delegates present shall rule in all cases, except in the reception of churches into our body, then it must be unanimous.

6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote, except in case of a tie; and then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on any question after others have spoken, providing he appoint some one to the chair while he is speaking.

7. Only one person shall speak at the same time, who shall arise and address the Moderator.

8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking; unless he depart from the subject under discussion or use words of personal reflection.

No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave from the Association nor more than fifteen minutes at a time.

10. No member shall laugh or talk during the time the debates are going on.

11. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.