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MINUTES
OF THE
Sixth Annual Session
OF THE
JASPER
Freewill Baptist Association

CONVENED WITH
Hopewell Church, Winston County, Alabama,
October 1st and 3rd, 1892.

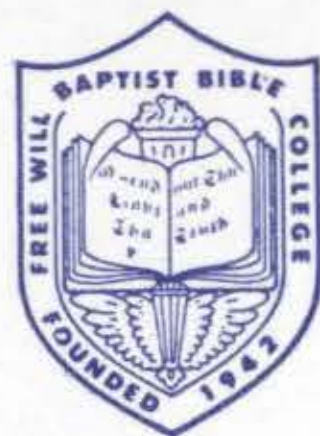


OFFICERS:

J. J. WESLEY,	- - - - -	MODERATOR.
W. T. BURLESON,	- - - - -	CLERK.

The next session of this Association will meet with Mount Olive Church,
Marion county, Alabama, and will convene Saturday
before the first Sunday in October, 1893.

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GOLDSBORO, N. C., 1892.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Wayne Martin

PROCEEDINGS.

The sixth annual session of the Jasper Freewill Baptist Association convened with Hopewell Church, Winston county, Ala., October the 1st and 3rd 1892. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. H. B. Fowler. The text used was 1st Corinthians, 15th chapter and 1st verse.

An intermission of one hour was taken for refreshments, after which the ministers and delegates were requested to meet in the house, organize and proceed to business.

The Association met pursuant to the request of the Moderator. Singing by the congregation, and prayer by Rev. W. A. Nelson, the Moderator. Brother Nelson called the body to order, and business was transacted as follows, viz:

1st Letters from the churches were called for, handed in and read, and their contents noted as per statistical table.

2nd. Called for petitionary letters, and opened the door for the reception of new churches into the body. Received the following: Union Hill, Blooming Grove, Gum Springs and Bethel.

3rd. Proceeded to elect a Moderator and Clerk; whereupon, Rev. J. J. Wesley was elected Moderator, and W. T. Burleson was elected Clerk.

4th. Called for correspondence from sister Associations, and received Rev. M. R. Martin and V. J. Westbrook, also a letter of correspondence from the Barnesville Association. The Cullman Association was represented by Rev. J. J. Jeffers; the Vernon Association by Rev. S. B. Gosey. These brethren were cordially invited and accepted seats with us.

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

ON PREACHING—Brethren T. P. Williams, P. C. Pike, W. E. Westbrook with the Deacons of Hopewell Church.

ON DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS—Rev. W. A. Nelson, G. C. Elliott, T. P. Swindle, T. C. Reese, J. J. Wesley, with brother R. Franks and W. T. Burleson.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS—Rev. T. C. Reese; J. I. Griffin and J. H. Usrey

ON LITERATURE—Brethren M. Dotson, S. V. Bell and J. W. Burleson.

ON MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS—Brethren H. C. Sides, R. M. Cantrell, J. R. Brown and W. A. Sides.

(2)

ON FINANCE—Brethren J. Gibbs, E. D. Warren and J. E. Cockran.

On motion, the Moderator appointed Rev. W. A. Nelson to read the rules of the Decorum.

Committee on preaching report that Rev. G. B. Haney preach to-night, Rev. J. J. Jeffers preach to-morrow at 9 o'clock a. m. Rev. W. A. Nelson preach at 11 o'clock and Rev. J. J. Wesley preach at 3 o'clock p. m. Rev. S. B. Gosey preach at night.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet Monday morning at 8 o'clock. Prayer by Rev. J. A. Grace.

At night Rev. G. B. Haney preached, followed by Rev. J. A. Grace. Text is not referred to.

Sunday morning at 9 o'clock Rev. J. J. Jeffers preached an able sermon from Acts 9th chapter, part of the 6th verse.

At 11 o'clock, Rev. W. A. Nelson preached an interesting sermon to a large and attentive congregation. Text 2nd chapter Titus, 7th verse. After the sermon, the Lord's Supper was administered, and many partook of the emblems.

At 3 o'clock, Rev. J. J. Wesley preached from Matthew 14th chapter, and 27th verse.

At night, Rev. S. B. Gosey, of the Vernon Association, preached a soul stirring sermon from Matthew 10th chapter, from 30 to the 35th verse inclusive.

MONDAY MORNING, October 3rd, 1892.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. Porter Dubois. The Moderator called the body to order. The Clerk called the roll, and the ministers and delegates answer to their names. The proceeding of Saturday were read and adopted.

Invitation was given to visiting ministers to take seats with us. Rev. K. M. Martin, of the Barnesville Association, and Rev. S. B. Gosey, of the Vernon Association, came forward and accepted seats with us.

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

ON DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS.

We the committee on Documents and Order of Business beg leave to submit the following report: We find three petitions for the next Association to be held in 1893. We recommend that our next session be held with Mount Olive Church, Marion county, Ala., on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1893. We further recommend that our minute work be done in the office of THE BAPTIST REVIEW, Goldsboro, N. C. And also that our ministers and members patronize and support The Review as it is the only newspaper in the South that advocates and defends our doctrine.

Respectfully submitted,
W. A. NELSON, Chairman.

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

(3)

On motion, the Association adjourned for preaching and to meet at 2 o'clock. Rev. G. C. Elliott preached from Joshua 2nd chapter, and 18th verse. After service, refreshments were taken.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order. Renewed the call for the reports of committees, which was responded to as follows, viz:

ON DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

We the committee on literature beg leave to submit the following report. We recommend the prayerful reading and study of the Bible, because it is the Book of Inspiration, and the only safe guide to the soul in search of eternal life. As our Denominational Literature, we recommend the Baptist Review as our denominational newspaper, and the Baptist Harmony as our denominational Hymn Book.

Respectfully submitted,
S. V. BELL, Chairman.

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

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We your committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to submit the following report. We are glad that we can report that this good work is on the increase in our churches. We therefore urge upon our pastors and brethren generally to look after this important matter believing that much good can be accomplished thereby to the rising generation.

Respectfully submitted,
T. C. REESE, Chairman.

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

ON MINISTERIAL CHARACTER.

We the committee on Ministerial Character, beg leave to report that we find all the ministers of the Jasper Association to be of good character and good standing in the Association.

Respectfully submitted,
W. A. SIDES, Chairman.

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

ON FINANCE.

We the committee on Finance find in the hands of the Treasurer as minute funds \$19 65.

Respectfully submitted,
J. C. GIBBS, Chairman.

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

(4)

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 Christ:

Resolved 1. That we indorse the proceedings of the Southern Baptist Association to be held with Antioch church, Fayette county, Ala., and that we send delegates to the same.

On motion, Rev. W. A. Nelson, J. A. Grace, G. B. Harney, T. C. Reese, and brethren S. V. Bell and Robert Franks are elected delegates to the Southern Baptist Association; and they are also elected delegates to the Vernon Association.

On motion, it is agreed that Rev. G. C. Elliott, T. C. Reese and H. B. Fowler be sent as delegates to the Barnesville Association.

On motion, it is agreed that Rev. T. P. Swindell, J. T. Griffin and J. A. Grace be sent as delegates to the Cullman Association.

On motion, it was agreed that our circular letter be appended to these minutes if it be ready in time.

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

On motion, it was agreed that Rev. W. A. Nelson write a corresponding letter to the Southern Baptist Association.

On motion, it was agreed that brother Robert Franks write a corresponding letter to the Vernon Association.

On motion, it was agreed that our 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. Also, that the Clerk be allowed \$3 00 for his services.

On motion, the Finance committee is ordered to pay to the Clerk the funds in their hands to pay for printing minutes.

On motion, it was agreed that the next session of this Association be held with Mount Olive Church, Marion county, Ala., five miles North of Guin Station on the Kansas City, Memphis and Birmingham Railroad.

On motion, Rev. Porter Duboys is elected to preach the introductory sermon; Rev. T. P. Swindell alternate.

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

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

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

On motion, the Association adjourns to meet with Mount Olive church Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1893. The Moderator made some appropriate remarks, after which, a hymn was sung and all took the parting hand in love and great joy.

J. J. WESLEY, Moderator.

W. T. BURLESON, Clerk.

(5)

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

Rev. W A NELSON, Stinson, Marion county, Ala.

“ J J WESLEY, Stinson, Marion county, Ala.

“ G C ELLIOTT, Stinson, Marion county, Ala.

“ H B FOWLER, Winfield, Marion county, Ala.

“ P DUBOYS, Eatonton, Franklin county, Ala.

“ T C REESE, Winfield, Marion county, Ala.

“ G B HARNEY, Goldmine, Marion county, Ala.

“ T P SWINDLE, Beech Grove, Walker co., Ala.

“ J A GRACE, Gamblemines, Walker Co., Ala.

“ T T GRIFFIN, Gamblemines, Walker Co., Ala.

“ J H USREY, Prospect, Walker county, Ala.

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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.

DECORUM.

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, 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 appoints 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.

9. 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.

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 death."

STATISTICAL TABLE FOR 1892.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS AND POST OFFICES.	Baptized	Rec'd on Conf.	Rec'd by Letter	Dis. by Letter	Restored	Died	Excluded	Days of Meeting	No. of Members	* Paid for Minutes
Mount Olive, Marion county.	R Franks, J W Burleson J Nelson.....	G C F liott.....	Robert Franks. Stinson, Ala.	26	4	1	2	1	8	48	\$ 2 00		
Mouut Joy, Marion county....	J C Gibbs, J E Cockran, J F Ashmore.	W A Nelson.....	W A Warter, Pearces Mill....	28	14	4	1	1	116	2 10			
Beech Grove, Walker county.	P C Pike J Atkins, W Sides.....		J A W Shaw, BeechGrove....	..	4	4	..	2	133	2 00			
Blue Springs, Franklin co....	W A Smith, W E Westbrook.....	H B Fowler.....	J M Coen, Waco	21	9	4	..	..	73	1 50			
Mt. Pleasant, Marion county.	E D Warren, G W Moore, J W Warren..	J J Wesley.....	J H Powell, Stinson.....	18	6	1	1	..	81	1 65			
Oak Grove, Walker county .	J Keeton, G W Robins, H C Sices....	James Usrey....	V T Davis, Prospect.....	..	..	..	..	..	43	1 45			
Pleasant Hill, Walker county	W J Baughn, J R Brown.....	G B Han y.....	W J Baughn, Eldridge.....	2	2	5	..	..	12	1 50			
Friendship, Marion county ..	F H Cantrell, R Cantuell	G C Elliott	M A Cantrell, Pikeville.....	6	..	..	..	1	32	75			
Hopewell, Winston county..	J M Addison, J Jackson, W T Keeton..	W A Nelson	B Jackson, Navoo.....	1	1	..	..	3	39	1 60			
Pleasant Grove, Marion co..	W W Nelson.....	G C Elliott.....	W N Shirey,. Winfield.....	9	10	6	..	1	57	1 00			
Blooming Grove, walker co..	S V Bell, W W Williams.....	f P Swindle....	S V Bell, Gamblemines.....	..	..	..	..	..	45	2 10			
Kethel, Franklin county.....	B F Tidwell, J J Pace.....	P Dubois	B F Tidwell, Bear Creek....	..	..	..	1	..	5				
Gum Springs, Marion county	T P Williams, W S Berryhill	W A Nelson.	W T Hawkins, Goldmine....	16	1 00			
Union Hill, Walker county..	M Dotson.....	T P Swindle.....	M Dotson, Coal City.....	10	1 00			
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