

MINUTES
OF THE
Seventh Annual Session
OF THE
Jasper FreeWill Baptist Association

CONVENED WITH
MOUNT OLIVE CHURCH, MARION COUNTY, ALABAMA,
September 30th, and October 2nd, 1893.



OFFICERS:

W. A. NELSON,	- - - - -	MODERATOR.
W. T. BURLESON,	- - - - -	CLERK.

The next session of this Association will meet with Oak Grove Church,
Walker county, Alabama, and will convene on Saturday
before the first Sunday in October, 1894.

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GOLDSBORO, N. C., 1893.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Wayne Martin

PROCEEDINGS

The seventh annual session of the Jasper Freewill Baptist Association convened with Mount Olive Church, Marion county, Ala., September 30th, 1893. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. G. C. Elliott. The text used was 2nd chapter Habakuk, 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 the Moderator Rev. J. J. Wesley. Brother Wesley 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 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 Chapel, Shady Grove and Salem.

3rd. Proceeded to elect a Moderator and Clerk; whereupon Rev. W. A. Nelson was elected Moderator, and Bro. W. T. Burleson was elected Clerk.

4th. Called for correspondence from sister Associations, and received Bro D. E. Flurry and Rev. M. R. Martin from the Barnesville Association. The Vernon Association was represented by letter and delegates to wit: Rev. S. B. Gosey, Rev. W. T. Butler, Rev. J. A. Brown and W. B. Taylor. These brethren were cordially invited, and the right hand of fellowship extended and accepted seats with us.

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

ON PREACHING—Brethren P. R. McCaig, W. A. Sides, J. Jackson, with the deacons of Mount Olive Church.

ON DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS—Rev. J. J. Wesley, Rev. S. M. Perkins, Rev. G. C. Elliott, Rev. G. B. Haney, with the Moderator and Clerk.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS—Brethren W. T. Keeton, J. Morris and P. C. Pike.

ON LITERATURE—Brethren J. M. Coen, A. J. Ingle and J. R. Dutton.

ON MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS—Brethren J. A. Keeton, G. W. Moore and J. W. Dose.

ON FINANCE—Brethren J. J. Gibbs, N. C. Williams and P. R. McCaig.

On motion, it was agreed that the Moderator read the rules of the Decorum.

Committee on preaching report that Rev. G. B. Haney preach to-night; Rev. J. A. Brown preach to-morrow at 9 o'clock; Rev. S. B. Gosey preach at 11 o'clock; Rev. W. T. Butler and W. B. Taylor preach at night; Rev. W. A. Nelson preach Monday at 11 o'clock.

W. A. SIDES, Chairman.

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

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet Monday morning 8 o'clock. Prayer by Rev. S. M. Perkins.

Saturday night Rev. G. B. Haney preached from 3rd John 1st chapter 2nd verse.

Sunday morning at 9 o'clock, Rev. J. A. Brown preached an interesting sermon from 1st Epistle of John, 5th chapter and 18th verse. At 11 o'clock, Rev. S. B. Gosey preached an able sermon to a large and attentive congregation. His text was Paul's 2nd letter to Timothy, 4th chapter, 6th, 7th and 8th verses. After the sermon the Lord's Supper was administered and many partook of the emblems.

Sunday night Rev. W. T. Butler preached, followed by Rev. W. B. Taylor. The text was John 6th chapter and 67th verse.

MONDAY MORNING, Oct. 2nd, 1893.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. J. A. Brown. The Moderator called the body to order. The Clerk called the roll, and the ministers and delegates answer to their names.

The proceedings of Saturday are read and adopted.

Invitation was given to visiting ministers to take seats with us. Rev. M. R. Martin of the Barnesville Association came forward and accepted a seat with us.

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

ON DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS.

We, your committee on Documents and Order of Business, beg leave to submit the following report: We recommend that the next session of this Association be held with Oak Grove Church, Walker county, Ala., and that it convene on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1894. We further recommend that our minute work be done in the office of the BAPTIST REVIEW, Goldsboro, N. C. Also, that our Clerks superintend the printing of the minutes, and that our members patronize and support the REVIEW as it is the only newspaper in the South that advocates and defends our doctrine.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. WESLEY, Chairman.

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

ON DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

We the committee on Denominational 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. For our Denominational Literature, we recommend the use of the BAPTIST REVIEW and the Baptist Harmony.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. COEN, 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 find that there is but little interest taken in the churches of our Association in the Sabbath School cause. We urge that the pastors of all our churches use their influence to build up Sabbath Schools in all our churches. We regret to say we find only four in the churches of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

W. T. KEETON, Chairman.

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

ON MINISTERIAL CHARACTER.

We your committee on ministerial character beg leave to report. We find all the ministers of this Association to be of good standing, and our prayer is that they may remain so.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. KEETON, Chairman.

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

ON FINANCE.

We your committee on Finance find in the hands of the Treasurer as minute funds \$15 80: Fifteen dollars and eighty cents.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. GIBBS.

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

On motion, the Association adjourns for preaching, and to meet at 2 o'clock. Rev. W. A. Nelson preached a sympathetic sermon from the 13th chapter of Numbers, and 30th verse. After services refreshments were taken.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Called to order by the Moderator. Roll was called and delegates answer to their names.

Miscellaneous business was called for and responded to as follows, viz:

Whereas the Jasper Association is without proper representation with her sister Associations, and feeling the need of that spirit of union which is essential to the furtherance of the cause of Christ;

Resolved 1st. That we favor the session of the Southern Baptist Association which is to meet with Mt. Olive Church, in Marion county, Ala., and that we elect delegates to represent this Association in that meeting.

Delegates are elected as follows: Rev. W. A. Nelson, Rev. J. J. Wesley, Rev. G. B. Hauey, Rev. G. C. Elliott, Rev. S. M. Perkins and brethren P. C. Pike, W. T. Keeton, J. C. Gibbs and Robert Franks.

On motion, Rev. J. J. Wesley, Rev. S. M. Perkins, and brother J. W. Burleson are elected delegates to the Barnesville Association.

On motion, brother Robert Franks is elected corresponding Secretary for this Association.

On motion, Rev. G. C. Elliott, J. J. Wesley and brother Robert Franks were elected delegates to the Vernon Association.

On motion, brother W. T. Keeton and J. R. Dutton were elected delegates to the Cullman Association.

On motion, it was agreed that we elect a missionary to travel in the bounds of this Association and organize new churches; whereupon Rev. S. B. Gosey was elected and accepted the service.

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 requested to distribute them among the churches according to their contributions. Also, that the Clerk be allowed three dollars for his services.

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

On motion, it was agreed that the next session of this Association be held with Oak Grove Church, Walker county, Ala.; and that it convene on Saturday before the first Sunday in October 1894.

On motion, Rev. S. M. Perkins is elected to preach the introductory sermon; Rev. G. B. Hauey, alternate.

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

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

On motion, the Association adjourns to meet with Oak Grove Church, Walker county, Ala.; on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1894. The Moderator made some appropriate remarks, after which a hymn was sung and all took the parting hand in love and great joy.

W. A. NELSON, Moderator.

W. T. BURLESON, Clerk.

RULES OF 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 shall be unanimous.

6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote, except in cases 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.

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."

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

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

" J. J. WESLEY, Twin, Marion county, Ala.

" G. C. ELLIOTT, Twin, Marion county, Ala.

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

" P. DUBOIES, Eatonton, Franklin county, Ala.

" G. B. HANEY, Philcampbell, Franklin county, Ala.

" P. S. SWINDLE, Beech Grove, Walker county, Ala.

" J. A. GRACE, Gamblemines, Walker county, Ala.

" T. T. GRIFFIN, Gamblemines, Walker county, Ala.

" W. B. NEWMAN, Galoway, Walker county, Ala.

" G. P. BAUGHN, Navoo, Walker county, Ala.

" S. M. PERKINS, Winfield, Marion 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 this 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 FOR 1893.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	PASTORS.	Clerks and Post Offices.	Baptized	Received by letter	Dismiss'd by letter	Rec'd on Conf.	Restored	Died	Excluded	Days of Meeting	No. Members	Paid for Minutes
Mount Olive, Marion county.	J. W. Burleson, J. Maddox, E. Smith	G. C. Elliott.....	Robert Franks, Twin, Ala..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	66	\$ 1 55
Mount Joy, Marion county..	J. E. Kendrick, J. J. Gibbs, J. E. Cockan	W. A. Nelson....	W. A. Waters, Pearces Mill, Ala..	4	3	6	..	..	2	4	1	116	2 00
Beech Grove, Walker county	W. A. Sides, P. C. Pike.....	J. A. Grace.....	W. A. Sides, Beech Grove, Ala..	..	2	..	..	..	3	..	3	127	1 40
Blue Springs, Franklin co...	J. O. Wood, J. McCalister, J. M. Coen	H. B. Fowler....	J. M. Coen, Waco, Ala.....	..	3	..	..	1	..	3	2	67	1 00
Mount Pleasant, Marion co..	G. W. and G. M. Moore, E. D. Warren	J. J. Wesley.....	D. O. Warren, Twin, Ala.....	2	3	11	..	..	..	1	4	81	1 50
Oak Grove, Walker county...	J. A. Keeton, H. C. Sides, J. R. Dutton	G. C. Elliott.....	G. W. Sides, Prospect, Ala.....	4	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	46	60
Pleasant Hill, Walker county	J. R. Brown, J. H. Mason.....	G. B. Haney.....	W. J. Baughn, Eldridge, Ala....	7	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	24	1 00
Friendship, Marion county..	W. Cantrell, R. Banister, T. Terrell	S. M. Perkins...	L. B. Terrell, Pikeville, Ala....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	69	1 55
Hopewell, Winston county...	J. C. Thomas, J. Jackson, W. T. Keeton	W. A. Nelson...	J. M. Adison, Navoo, Ala.....	4	0	..	..	..	..	..	2	56	60
Pleasant Grove, Marion co...	A. Perkins, J. W. Doss, N. C. Williams	G. C. Elliott.....	W. Page, Winfield, Ala.....	..	7	0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Blooming Grove, Walker co..	Not Represented.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10
Bethel, Franklin county.....	B. F. Tidwell, W. P. Scott.....	..	B. F. Tidwell, Bear Creek, Ala..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	25	1 00
Gum Springs, Marion county.	W. T. Burleson, W. S. Berryhill, A. J. Ingle	W. A. Nelson....	W. T. Burleson, Goldmine, Ala..	2	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Union Hill, Walker county..	Not Represented.....	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	1 00
Union Chapel, Marion co.....	W. H. Warren, J. Eades, J. Maddocks	H. B. Fowler....	Jas. Eades, Glennallen, Ala....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	50
Shady Grove, Franklin co...	P. R. McCaig, T. P. Jackson.....	Porter Duboise..	T. J. Jackson, Philcampbell, Ala.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	21	1 00
Salem, Walker county.....	James Morris, Joe Edgil.....	T. P. Swindle...	Joe Morris, Edgil, Ala.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.....	.....	.....	Total	40	55	46	..	2	5	8	..	765	\$15 80