

MINUTES OF
The Twenty Seventh Annual Session
of the Jasper
Free-Will Baptist Association
Held With
Mt. Pleasant Church, Marion Co.,
Ala., Oct. 4, 5 and 6th 1913.

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Officers

Rev. Geo. W. Flippo, Moderator.

John W. Roberson, Clerk.

John A. Nelson, Treasurer.

The next session of this Association
will convene with Union Chapel
Church, 2 miles North of Glen Allen
on the Frisco Rail-road, Marion Co.
Ala., on Saturday before the first
Sunday in October 1914.

The Gazette Print, Red Bay, Alabama.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Wayne Martin

PROCEEDINGS

of 27th. Annual Session of the Jasper Freewill Baptist Association convened with Mt. Pleasant Church, Marion County, Ala., Oct. 4—6th. 1913.

After singing Hymns, Prayer was offered by Rev. J. L. Conner. Rev. E. C. Thomas preached the introductory sermon. Text John 15—5. Rev. J. L. Conner concluded after which Prayer was offered by Rev. J. W. Moore. 1-hour. intermission for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION

At 1:30 p. m. after singing and prayer by Rev. M. R. Martin, the former Moderator and Clerk being present, taken seats and the Association was called to order and announced ready for business which was transacted as follows.

1. The Moderator appointed Rev. E. C. Thomas and Rev. W. D. Martain reading Clerks.

2. Called for letters from the various Churches and they were read and contents noted as per statistical table.

3. Called for Petitionary letters and opened the door for the reception of new Churches into the body and received the following towit: New Bethlehem and Bethel, these churches being organized on our Articles of Faith, they were unanimously received and the right hand of fellowship extended to the Delegates and welcomed to seats with us.

4. On motion it was agreed to permanently organize the body which was done by electing Rev. G. W. Flippo Moderator, J. W. Roberson Clerk and J. A. Nelson Treasurer, for the ensuing Associational year.

5. The Moderator appointed Bros. A. J. Ingle, J. T. Tharp and J. J. Erwin with the Deacons of this Church as a committee on preaching.

6. Called for correspondence from sister Associations and received Rev. J. W. Moore from the Morning Star and Rev. J. W. Porter from the Vernon, and by a motion these brethren were seated with us.

COMMITTIES.

7. On Documents and order of business, Revs. W. D Martin, G. C. Elliott and J. R. Ford with the Moderator and Clerk.
8. On Sabbath Schools, Bro. W. A. Smith, Rev. J. E. Cochran and Bro. E. D. Flurry.
9. On Literature, Bros. H. T. Warren, T. A. Berryhill and Frank Aldrich.
10. On Deceased ministers and members, Rev. J. L. Conner, Bros. W. J. Underwood and Joseph Atkins.
11. On Associational funds Rev. M. R. Martin, Bros. W. C. Pierce and E. F. Franks.
12. On minute funds, Bros. J. M. Tidwell, J. A. Flippo and Robert Franks.
13. We your committee on preaching report as follows: Revs. W. D. Martin tonight, J. W. Porter Sunday at 9 a. m. J. W. Moore Sunday at 11 a. m.

Respectfully Submitted.
J. J. Erwin Chairman.

14. On motion the report is received and the committee retained.

15. On motion the Association adjourn to meet Monday morning at 8 o'clock. Song and prayer by Rev. J. R. Ford and benediction by the moderator.

SATURDAY NIGHT.

At 7 p. m. services was opened by song by the Choir and Rev. W. D. Martin preached a very interesting sermon to a large and well behaved audience. Text Luke 19—10.

SUNDAY PROCEEDINGS.

At 9 a. m. the congregation was called together by song and prayer by Rev. J. W. Porter who preached a most interesting and instructive sermon. Text 2nd. Cor. 5 & last. At the close of which prayer was offered by Rev. J. L. Conner and 10 minutes given for refreshment. At 11 a. m. the great concourse of people was called together by song by the Choir and prayer by Rev. M. R. Martin, after which Rev. J. W. Moore preached a very feeling and enthusiastic sermon, Text 1st. Cor. 15—49 at the close of which there was a great love feast and a harty Christian hand shake amid much tears and joy. Prayer by

Bro. Joseph Atkins and Benediction by Rev. J. W. Moore.

MONDAY MORNING Oct. 6 1913.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, the congregation sang a hymn after which prayer was offered by Bro. E. D. Flurry. The Moderator called the body to order, the Clerk called the roll and the Ministers and Delegates answered to their names and the Moderator announced a quorum present and the Association ready for business which was transacted as follows:

1. By a motion all ministers of this Association present hand in their names to the Clerk that they may be enrolled as present.
2. On motion Saturdays Proceeding were read and adopted.
3. On motion the names of the standing Delegates recorded as present as follows, A. J. Ingle, W. T. Keeton, G. W. Moore and J. A. Beasley.
4. Invited Ministers of other denominations to seats with us. Rev. A. C. Bowin of the Missionary Baptist order was present.
5. The Committee on preaching report Rev. J. W. Porter to preach at 11 a. m.
6. On motion we adjourn 1-hr. for preaching, song and benediction by Rev. J. W. Moore. Rev. J. W. Porter preached a most convincing sermon on Free communion, at the close of which the Lords Supper was administered, and Christians of different Denominations partook with us. The Association adjourned 1-hr. for dinner.

AFTERNOON.

The Association was called together by song and prayer by Bro. J. J. Erwin, after which the Moderator called for reports of the committies as follows:

1. On Documents and order of business.
We your committee beg to report as follows: We find four petitionary letters asking for the next session of the Association and recommend that the body of Delegates decide on the place of holding the same. We recommend that the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and have \$7.50 for his services

and that the Moderator have \$6.00 for his services out of the Associational funds.

We recommend that the Association discuss the wisdom of putting an Evangelist to work in the bounds of this Association for the next Associational year. We recommend that the Treasurer have \$5.00 for his service and that he loan the money at 8 per cent interest on notes with good security. We recommend the holding of 3 fifth Sunday meetings as follows: March 29 1914, Pocahontas, May 31 Pearces Chapel, August 30th. Pleasant Ridge, Miss.

Respectfully submitted.

W. D. Martin, Chairman.

OUR SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We your committee report as follows: We find only a few Sabbath Schools reported in our letters and we recommend that our people co-operate with the State Organization of Sabbath Schools and make report of work done, the amount collected and expended and the no. of pupils enrolled, also that our Ministers encourage the work in their churches and urge the careful study of the Bible. We recommend all churches that have Sabbath Schools report the fact to the Association. On motion the report is received and committee discharged.

Respectfully submitted.

W. A. Smith chairman.

ON LITERATURE.

We your committee report as follows: We recommend Free-will Baptist Literature in our Sabbath Schools and the prayer-study of the Holy Bible.

Respectfully submitted.

H. T. Warren chairman.

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

ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND MEMBERS.

We your committee beg to report as follows, whereas it has pleased almighty God to remove from the Church triumphant our beloved brethren and sisters to wit: from Gum Springs, sister N. J. Haulcomb age not given. From Union Chapel, Bro. R. D. Pratt, age 26 year 9 mo., from Liberty, Bro. R. L. Johnson age 24 years 7 mo. 18 days. From Pleasant Ridge, Bro. W. B. Dickinson, age 65 years 8 mo. 7 days, sister Grissom age 50 yrs. 9 mo. 16 days, sister Nomie Brewer, age 21 yrs.

From Mt. Olive sister Elizabeth Huguley age 41 years, 1 mo. 5 days, from Pearce's Chapel sister Nannie M. Brown age not given, brother Dee Purser, age about 13 years, from Pocahontas sister Addie Holms, age 38 years, from Mt. Pleasant sister Mary Webb age 56 years, sister Docie Shaw age 33 years, sister Annie Bell, age 24 years and sister Minty Huguley, age 64 years 6 months. Whereas they have all died in the triumph of a living faith and have only gone on to await our home-coming therefore be it resolved that we most humbly thank our God and Father that it has been so few of our number and also that we thank him for their lives and influence among us inspiring a hope of Heaven in our own Souls while we meekly bow to his Divine Will who doeth all things well.

Respectfully Submitted.

J. L. Conner,

Committee

Joseph Atkins,

W. J. Underwood.

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

ON MINISTERIAL CHARACTER.

We your committee beg to report as follows:

We find all our ministers in good standing and urge that it is their duty to attend each session of this Association as much so as possible. We recommend that all churches that have no pastor call some one of our young ministers to attend them, as this will encourage them. We also urge that our pastors having churches in charge urge the great need of Sunday Schools and Prayer Meetings in their work, as we think this a great help in the work of the Association.

Respectfully Submitted.

A. J. Ingle,

G. W. Moore,

W. T. Keeton.

On motion the report is adopted and the committee retained.

ON MINUTE FUNDS.

We your committee report as follows:

We find paid in by the various Churches.....\$25.25
balance from last year..... 1.20

Total\$26.45

Respectfully Submitted,
J. M. Tidwell, Chairman.

On motion the report is received and the committee discharged.

ON ASSOCIATIONAL FUNDS.

We your committee beg to report as follows; We find paid in from the various churches \$19.25

Respectfully, W. C. Pearce ch'man.

On motion the report is received and committee discharged.

TREASURERS REPORT.

Amount on hand Oct. 7th 1912 was\$94.00

Interest 7.52

Amount received from the churches 19.25

Total\$120.77

Paid out to Rev. J. L. Conner\$6.00

" " " J. A. Nelson5.00

Paid out\$11.00 — 11.00

Balance on hand Oct. 6th 1913\$109.77

Respectfully, J. A. Nelson, Treas.

On motion the report is adopted.

MINISTERS REPORTS.

Since our last Association I have preached 50 sermons offered 55 public prayers, received into the church 11 persons, Baptised 21, married 3 couples, conducted 4 burials, visited the sick 9 times, traveled 1186 miles. Received for my services from Pleasant Ridge \$65.00, from Gum Spring \$25.30, Union Chapel \$5.10. Other contributions 9.40 for marriages 3.00. Total \$106.80.

Respectfully Submitted.

Rev. E. C. Thomas.

Since our last Association I have preached 63 sermons, offered 73 public prayers, delivered 4 exhortations, married 2 couples, visited sick room 16 times, conducted 2 burials, received into the church 6. Traveled 748 miles, received from

Friendship 2.60 from Poplar Log 1.60, for marriages 2.00.
Total 6.20.

Respectfully,
J. R. Ford.

Since the last session of the Association I have traveled 1160 miles, preached 61 sermons, given 12 exhortations prayed 200 public prayers, visited 260 homes, visited the sick 3 times, received into the church by baptism 2, by letter 6, received for my service from Pocahontas 40.00, for Evangelic work 5.00. My expenses has been 20.05, married 1 couple and attended 1 burial.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. D. Martin.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

1. Resolved. That any Minister of this Association who is found guilty of circulating false reports, by pen or other-wise, on a brother Minister which is liable to impair his usefulness and destroy his influence shall be deemed guilty of a disciplinary offence, and after discipline has been used if he does not show signs of penitence and reformation he shall be excommunicated from the Association and published in our denominational literature.

2. It is agreed to retain a financial system, as we see the great need of such, and we recommend that each member of this Association pay, annually, 50 cents in connection with the minute funds, and ask all our ministers to use their best efforts in collecting of these funds; and it is further understood that our Treasurer keep a true record of all funds paid in, and how the same are paid out: such funds to be disposed of through the Moderator and Clerk being authorized by the Association; said funds to be used for no other purpose than the upbuilding of the Jasper Free-Will Baptist Association, i. e., aiding distressed and disabled Ministers and poor widows and orphans.

3. Be it resolved. That members shall not hold their membership out of the Church over one year after date, and they are under the jurisdiction of the Church to which they belong.

4. Be it resolved. That any Minister of the Jasper Free-Will Baptist Association who desires to set forth the full functions of the Gospel the same shall be made known to the Annual Association by a recommendation from the Church or

Churches to which they belong, and if on examination, they shall be found worthy, the Association may ordain them; but all ordinations must be done at the Annual Association.

5. On motion, each Minister report annually the amount of money he has secured, the number of miles traveled, number of sermons preached, number of public prayers, number of marriages, number of visits to the sick, and number of burial services attended during the associational year.

6. On motion the Moderator appoint corresponding Delegates to sister Associations towit: To Bear Creek, A. H. Lay, R. S. Mullins and W. A. Smith. To Little Browns Creek, W. T. Keeton, J. T. Tharp and B. N. Roberts. To State Line, Rev. J. R. Ford, J. H. Federick and J. E. Kenedy. To Morning Star, Rev. W. D. Martin and A. J. Ingle. To Vernon, J. A. Nelson, E. R. Franks, and Rev. M. R. Martin.

7. On motion Rev. E. C. Thomas preach introductory sermon at 5th. Sunday meeting at Pocahontas, Rev. J. L. Conner alternate. Rev. M. R. Martin preach introductory sermon at Pearce's Chapel, Rev. G. W. Flippo alternate. Rev. J. L. Conner preach introductory sermon at Pleasant Ridge, Rev. G. W. Flippo, alternate.

8. On motion Rev. W. D. Martin, read his circular letter and same is adopted and ordered appended to our minutes.

9. By a majority vote the next session of this Association be held with Union Chapel 2 miles North of Glen Allen, on the Frisco Rail Road in Marion Co., Ala., the same to convene on Saturday before the 1st. Sunday in Oct. 1914.

10. On motion Rev. J. L. Conner preach the introductory sermon, Rev. W. D. Martin alternate.

11. On motion the Treasurer is authorized to loan the money in the Treas., at 8 per cent interest on note with good security. And the Treasurer be allowed 5.00 for his service.

12. On motion the Clerk is to superintend the printing of our minutes and that he have \$7.50 for his service.

13. On motion it is ordered that our Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum be appended to our Minutes.

14. On motion the following resolution was adopted as follows: Whereas since the organization of the Jasper Free-Will

Baptist Association in 1887, upto and including the 26th. Annual Session of the same, we are without a History of its acts and progress. Therefore be it Resolved that the Association have a complete History of all our work, setting fourth all of our work the same to be put in one book well bound, striking out the Rules of Decorum, Articles of Faith and Constitution except the 1st. and 26th. Annual Sessions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Franks,

15. On motion the resolution is adopted and Brother Robt. Franks is authorized to have said book printed.

16. On motion the Treasurer is authorized to retain the sum of \$10.00 for the payment of the publishing of the Book.

17. On motion the following resolution is adopted towit: Resolved that this the Jasper Free-Will Baptist Association at Mt Pleasant Church do hereby tender our sincerest love and respect to the Officers and Delegates of this August body and to the good sisters for their kindness and friendly assistance in every way within their power, and that their kindness will long cluster in our memory.

Respectfully,

J. J. Erwin.

18. On motion the Association adjourn to meet at the time and place above named. Prayer was offered and closing exercises by J. L. Conner with appropriate remarks, a hymn was sang and the parting hand taken amid much tears and great joy.

Rev. G. W. Flippo Moderator.

J. W. Roberson Clerk.

Ordained Ministers and Post Offices.

Rev. R. A. Nix, Rosco, Texas, r. 2.

" G. C. Elliot, Guin, Ala., r. 1.

" John L. Conner Guin, Ala., r. 3.

" J. J. Wesley, Guin, Ala.

" J. R. Halladay, Cordova, Ala.

" G. W. Flippo, Guin, Ala., r. 3.

" Jas. E. Cochran, Winfield, Ala. r. 3.

" W. M. Busby, Naavoo, Ala., r. 1.

" E. C. Thomas, Windfield, Ala., r. 4.
 " W. B. Benson, Carbon Hill, Ala.
 " R. C. Flippo, Guin, Ala.
 " W. M. Cofield, Bear Creek, Ala.
 " A. H. Lay Hackleburg, Ala., r. 2.
 " J. R. Ford, Hackleburg, Ala. r. 2.
 " W. D. Martin, Guin, Ala. r. 3.
 " M. R. Martin, Brilliant, Ala., r. 1.
 (Licentiates) M. M. Vaughn Guin, Ala. r. 3.
 Jessie A. Underwood Brilliant Ala., r. 1.
 E. R. Franks, Guin, r. 3.
 D. B. Cunningham, Gatman, Miss., r. 1.
 P. T. Keeton, Dennis, Miss., r. 1.

Rules of Decorum.

Art. 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.

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

Art. 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.

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

Art. 5. A majority of delegates present shall rule in all cases except the reception of members, then it shall be unanimous.

Art. 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 also speak on any question after others have spoken, provided he appoint some one to the chair while he is speaking.

Art. 7. Only one person shall speak at the same time, and he shall arise and address the Moderator, and after recognition by the Moderator, proceed.

Art. 8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking, un-

less he depart from the subject under discussion, or use words of personal reflection.

Art. 9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association, nor more than fifteen minutes at a time.

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

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

Constitution

Art. 1. This Association shall be known as the Jasper Free-Will Baptist Association of Alabama, and being composed of ministers and delegates from the different churches forming the same, each church being entitled to three delegates.

Art. 2. This body shall be considered an advisory council.

Art. 3. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be decided by a two-third vote of the Association, and the decision shall be final.

Art. 4. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, which shall be chosen by a majority vote at each session of the Association.

Art. 5. The 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.

Art. 6. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.

Art. 7. 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, Sunday School, Missionary Work etc.

Art. 8. 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.

Art. 9. Any church of this Association failing to be represented for two years in succession, the same shall be dropped from our minutes.

Articles of Faith.

Of God—Art. 1. We believe there is one, and but one living and true God. Who is in personality, the Father, the 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 Grace—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 reproveth the world of sin, but is the means whereby sinners are converted, regenerated and saved.

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 we believe in the inspiration 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 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 can not 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 Savior 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 or 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 be cast into outer darkness. "The wicked are driven away in their wickedness, but the righteous have hope in their death."

Circular Letter.

Text Rev. 1-3. "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of the prophesy of this book, and keep the things which are written therein: for the time is near."

Some people say that the book of Revelation cannot be understood. The Lord did intend for this book to be understood, or he would not have revealed it to John, and it would not have been written. Some people have miserably handled it. Hence others are afraid to touch it, and while they desire to know all things else, reject only the knowledge of those which God hath shown. They inquire after anything rather than this; as if it were written, "Blessed is he that doth not read the prophesy of this book." But nay, "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that understandeth the words of the prophesy of this book, and they that keep the things that are written therein." In this book our Lord has comprised what

was wanting in those prophecies touching the time which followed his assention and the end of the Jewish polity. Accordingly, it reaches from the old Jerusalem, to the new, reducing all things into one realm in the exact order, and with a near resemblance to ancient prophets, the introduction and conclusion agree with Daniel; the description of the man-child, with Isaiah, the Judgement of Babylon, Jeremiah again, the determination of times, with Daniel the Architecture of the holy city, with Ezekiel, the emblem of the horses, candle sticks: and the beast or four living creatures. Many things described by the prophets are repeated in this book; frequently in the same words. Who would dare before the Almighty, to say it is obscure, dark and beyond comprehension? Some people read a newspaper more than the word of God. That is one reason they do not understand the word of God as revealed in this book. It is the man that reads this book that is blessed: not he that spends all his time in reading something almost of no value. The first part of the book of Revelation is noticed first, John introduces after he has asked the blessing of the Lord on those that read, or hear the prophecies of this book, by saying, "John to the seven churches of Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before the throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever, Amen. Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." This is plain my brother. This chapter is asking the blessings of God to rest on them, and says Jesus will come again, and every eye shall see him. He is sure to visit this earth again, this was stated by the two men who stood by the disciples and people who saw Jesus ascend on high. These two men that were dressed in white apparel, said to the men of Galilee, "Why stand ye gazing up

into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." The great like in the world to day is that people do not acknowledge the right of Jesus of Nazareth to rule in all the nations of earth. John declared over eighteen hundred years ago, that Jesus was the prince of the kings of earth "The most high rules in the kingdoms of men, and gives them to whomsoever he will." Nebuchadnezzar in his own estimative thought he was the monarch of the whole earth: but while he had this in his heart, he was informed better when he heard the voice from heaven saying that his kingdom had departed from him, and he was driven from men, and placed with the beast of the field, to eat grass as the ox. There are people to day that have the heart of a beast, but when their understanding comes to them they will proclaim that Jesus is the rightful ruler. "Blessed is he that readeth," We should read more of God's holy truths, for we are commanded to "Search the Scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life and they are they that testify of me." We read in this Book the description of Jesus as John saw him while he was in the Isle of Patmos.

He said Jesus had in his right hand seven stars, the Angels of the seven churches, the Candle Sticks are the Seven Churches which are scattered over Asia. These are not Angels in heaven but messengers of the churches, the conscious men of the church: and the Candle-Sticks are the Seven Churches. We have it described by the Lord: Jesus walking in the midst of the Seven Churches of Asia, holding their conspicuous men in his hand. Not only these churches are included; but all of the churches or congregations that are true believers in Jesus.

Jesus then is walking in our midst my brother. A Revelation made by the Son of God himself, that he is in the midst of his people. It would spare a good many prayers if people would keep these words that John has recorded. When men say, "Lord Jesus, do come make one in our midst"

If they would but remember the revelation that Jesus made, it would save them all that kind of praying. He is here, writes, you have seen me walking in their midst. You have seen their illustrious men in my hand. Jesus is able to dash down the most haughty proclaimer that ever uttered a word, or to uphold and sustain the humble preacher. O that we could realize it. There is not a bright star in the kingdom of Christ on earth, but what is in his hand. That is a revelation worth treasuring up and remembering, and blessed is the man that remembers it. Jesus said for John to write to the Angels or messengers of the Seven Churches in Asia. To the church at Ephesus write, and tell them, I know their works, and labor, and patience, though cannot bear evil-men, they were wise in some things, they labored for the cause of Christ. He knows all we today are doing for him, he is in our midst as much so now, as he was with them. He knew that they had tried false pretenders. He knows whether we today try false pretenders to the apostleship or not. He approved of them and will approve of it now. I have heard some men say these were apostles, and some say they were ambassadors for the Lord. When a man says he is an ambassador for God; we want the Lord's signature to it. "God bears his ambassadors witness with signs and wonders and diverse miracles and gifts of the Holy Ghost according to his own will."

Help us to read and hear and keep the prophecies of this book that we may be happy.

Rev. W. D. Martin.

Name Of Church

Mt. Olive,
Mt. Pleasant,
Oak Grove,
Friendship,
Gum Springs,
Union Chapel
Union Hill,
Free Water,
Liberty,
Pleasant Ridge,
Shady Grove,
Pearces Chapel,
Pocahontas,
New Hope,
Pleasant Grove,
Mt. Home,
Poplar Log,
Bethlehem,
New "
Bethel,

clerk

[illegible]