

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-seventh Annual Session

OF THE

Jasper Association

OF

Free-will Baptists

CONVENED WITH

Union Hill Church
Marion County Alabama.

October 6, 1924. 3

OFFICERS:

Rev. W. D. Martin	Moderator
Bro. Wade M. Fowler	Clerk
Brs. W. J. Underwood	Treasurer.

The next session of this Association will be held with New Pleasant Hill Church, 6 miles west of Spruce Pines, on the N. A. R. R.; Saturday before the first Sunday in Oct. 1924, A. D.

THE NEW MORNING STAR PRINT,
TECUMSEH, OKLAHOMA.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. Bill Atkinson

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the thirty-seventh annual session of the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association.

The thirty seventh annual session of the Jasper Association of Free Will Baptist convened with Union Hill Church, Marion County, Alabama, Oct. 6, 1923. The Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. A. L. Warren, followed by Rev. John L. Connor. Text; Rom, 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is Eternal Life, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord."

After preaching an intermission of about one hour was taken for refreshment, after which the delegates and ministers were requested to meet in the house.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The house was called to order for business by the mederator, Rev. John L. Connor, at 1:30. Singing by the choir, and prayer by Rev. John L. Connor. After which the moderator announced the association ready for business, which was transacted as follows: The clerk being absent the moderator appointed Bro. Wade M. Fowler clerk protem., and appointed Rev. B. M. Atkins and I. F. Broodrick as reading clerks.

Letters from the different churches were read, and contents noted per statistical table. The names of the delegates, ministers, standing committees were enrolled, called for petitionary letters: and opened the door for the reception of new churches into the body. Received

the following new churches into the body; Ball Rock—this church was on our Articles of Faith, the church was unamiously received, and the right hand of fellowship was extended to the delegate, and welcomed to seats with us.

On motion it was agreed to permanently organize the body which was done by electing Rev. W. D. Martin as moderator; Wade M. Fowler as clerk; W. I. Underwood as Treasurer. for the ensuing associational term.

Called for corresponding delegates, from sister association, and received the following: from Morning Star, Bro. Dock; from Bear Creek, Rev. C. A. Curtis. These brethren were cordially received and weleomed to seats with us.

Called for visiting ministers of other denominations to seats with us. Rev. A. R. Fowler, of the M. E. Church, South, and Rev. C. P. Lunford, of the Congregational churches. These brethren were also cordially welcomed to seats with us.

Motion was made that Pleasant Hill church be dropped from the association.

On motion it was agreed that the moderator appoint all committees: and the following were appointed viz; On preaching; A. J. Ingle, J. T. Thorp and J. A. Keeton, with the deacons of this church; On Documents, and order of business, Rev. John L. Connor, A. L. Wartin, W. F. Freeman, W. C. Estes, C. L. Pawn-

less, Grover Smith, with moderator, and clerk: On Sabbath Schools, Rev J. J. Wesley, B. M. Atkins, John R. Franks, J. W. Roberson, G. W. Flippo, H. Howell; On Literature, Rev. P. T. Keeton, J. R. Ford, W. H. Gris ham, J. J. Groves, J. M. Underwood; On Deceased Ministers, and Members, W. J. Underwood, L. Manis Floy Franks, Grady May; On Finance, M. M. Wilson, F A Mays, R Gardner, M J Dupree, D C Nix, O F Long.

Committee on Preaching—We your committee beg to report that Rev. B M Atkins preach tonight at 7:30, J J Wesley preach tomorrow at 9:00 W D Martin, the moderator at 11:00 Rev. H Howell preach tomorrow night at 7:30, John L. Connor preach monday at 11:00, Oct. 8, 1924 Respectfully submitted, A J Ingle, chairman.

On motion the report was received, adopted and the committee discharged. On motion the association adjourned to meet monday morning at 8 o'clock. Song by the congregation. Prayer by Rev. G W Flippo. Benediction by Rev. W D Martin.

Saturday night at 7:30 Rev. B M Atkins preached an able discourse to a large crowd and attentive congregation of people: text used was I Cor. 15:34, "Awake to righteousness; and sin not for some have not the knowledge of God. I speak this their shame."

Sunday service Rev. J. J. Wesley preached to a large and well behav-

ed congregation at 9 o'clock; text used was Gen. 22 and latter part of the 4th verse, "and saw the place afar off."

At eleven o'clock, Rev W D Martin preached to a large and well behaved concourse of people; text used was Heb. 12:28, after which the elements of the Lord's Supper was administered to a host of communicants and some washed feet.

At 7:30 Rev H Howell preached to a large and well behaved audience; text used was Psa. 34:7, "The Angel of the Lord encampeth around about them that feareth him, and delivereth them." This closed sunday service.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION

The association met pursuant to adjournment, the congregation sang a hymn, after which prayer was offered by Rev J H Potts. Rev W D Martin, moderator called the body to order. The clerk called the roll, and the ministers and delegate answered to their names. The moderator announced that a quorum was present and the association was ready for business.

On motion that the names of the delegates that did not attend the association be left off. On motion any church not having a full amount of delegates, and anyone being there from same that is not a delegate; that they may be seated; until the church has a full amount of delegates.

Motion made to adjourn for preaching, to meet at 1 o'clock

Song by choir; prayer by Rev W D Martin. At 11 o'clock Rev John L. Connor preached an interesting sermon. Text used was St. John 4:1.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The association met pursuant adjournment. Song by the congregation; and prayer by Rev. C L Pounders. Rev. W D Martin called the house to order at 1 o'clock. Reports of committees were called for in regular order and presented as follows viz: On Documents and order of business, your committee on documents, and order of business; beg to report as follows: We find four petitionary letters asking for the next session of the Association, we recommend that the body decide it. We further recommend that the clerk superintend the printing of the Minutes, and recieve \$6.00 for his services from the minute fund. Also; that the Moderator, and Treasurer have \$5.00 each out of the Associations fund, for their services

We recommend the ordination of Bro's. J.H. Potts, and J.H. Flippo. Joe Frederick, and Jas. Gardsey.

We further recommend, that the ministers and deacons meeting be added to the minutes.

Respectfull submitted, Rev John L. Cornns, Chairman.

On motion report received, and committee discharged.

June 9th 1923. The ministers and deacons meeting of the Jasper Free Will Baptist met with the Brilliant Church according to prev-

ious arrangements. Preaching at 11 O'clock by Rev. W.D. Martin. Dismissed 2 hours for refreshments

EVENING SESSION

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Met at three O'clock, Song by congregation, prayer by J.A. Flippo, Rev. John L. Conner, the present moderator, was present, and appointed Rev. W.D. Martin secretary

The first thing to discuss was, the duty of the minister. Discussed by Rev. John L. Conner, Rev W.D. Martin, J.H. Flippo, A.L. Warren.

CHURCHES REPRESENTED.

Mt. Olive, John L. Conner, and J.H. Potts.
Mt. Pleasant; G.W. Moore.
Gum Springs; J.E. Cochren.
Liberty, W.D. Martin.
Bethlehem, J.H. Flippo.
Brilliant, A.L. Warren.

Adjourned for preaching at 7 30
Preaching by Rev. John L. Conner.

Motion carried to adjourn.
Rev. John L. Conner, Moderator
Rev. W.D. Martin' Secretary.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sabbath Schools—We your Committee on Sabbath Schools, report as follows: we find on investigation that a few churches have an ever green Sabbath School, we find that some churches have Sabbath School part of the time.

We recommend, that the Ministers and members assist by their

presence, in carrying the Sabbath School to a success in every church in this Association, as we believe that the Sabbath School is the greatest factor in the church, in bringing the young and rising generation to Christ.

Respectfully submitted.

Rev. H. Howell Chairman.

We your committee on Literature submit the following—We recommend that our churches use the Free Will Baptist literature, in connection with the Holy Bible, and we recommend that each have their pastor adopt a bible quotational exercise.

Respectfully submitted.

Rev. P.T. Keeton, Chairman.

We your committee on deceased ministers, and members, submit the following report.

Death has entered the bounds of our Association, and removed from our midst our beloved brethren and sisters, to-wit: From the Mt. Olive church; Bro. D.M. Lang, age unknown. Sister Martha Jane Males, age about 54 years.

From Union Hill Church: Bro. D. Fielding, age 56 years, 5 months, & 13 days. Bro. Homer Lacy, age 28 years, 1 month, 18 days. Sister Vera Emerson, age 21 years, 4 months, 26 days.

From Pleasant Ridge Church.

Bro. W.C. White, age about 66 years. Bro. N.E. Keeton, age about 34 years. Sister M.H. White, age 40 years.

From Evening Shade Church.

Sister Mattie Thorp, age 64 years, 1 month, 11 days.

From New Pleasant Hill Church.

Sister Mina Hamilton, age unknown. From Bethlehem Church,

Sister Minnie M. Hamilton, age 24 years.

From Pearces Chapel Church.

Bro. Geo. H. Tidwell, age about 76 years.

Respectfully submitted.

W.J. Underwood Chairman.

We your committee on Finance,

submit the following report.

We find from the several churches, as Minute fund; \$37.70 we also find paid in from the various churches. Associational funds, \$35.37.

The committee instructed to pay the Minute fund to the Clerk.

And the Associational funds to the Treasurer, Bro. W.J. Underwood.

Respectfully submitted.

M.M. Wilson, Chairman.

We your committee on Ministerial character submit the following report—We find all of our ministers in good standing, so far as we can ascertain; except Bro. John I. Tucker, we know of him being engaged in conversation unbecoming for a preacher, and we recommend that some steps be taken in this matter; we refer this matter to the Body. Respectfully submitted.

J.H. Keeton Chairman.

Report adopted, and committee retained.

Treasurer's Report.

Amount left in my hands Oct. 6 1923. \$32.47
Received from churches; \$29.37
Private contribution; \$6.00
Total, \$67.74

Paid out as follows.
To Rev. John Conner, M.D. \$5.00
W.J. Underwood Treas. \$5.00
Paid for property, \$54.00
Total, \$64.00

Balance in my hands Oct. 8th 1923. \$3.74

Respectfully submitted.
W.J. Underwood, Treasurer.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Addresses

Rev. John L. Conner, Winfield Ala Route 3.

Rev. James J. Wisley, Gum Ala.

Rev. G.W. Flippo, Gum Ala. R 3

Rev. J.E. Cochren, Winfield Ala. R

Route 3.

Rev. J.R. Ford, Hackberry Ala, R 2

Rev. W.D. Martin, Gum Ala, R 3

Rev. M.R. Martin, Brilliant Ala.

Route 1.

Rev. J.L. Brassie, Winfield Ala.

Route 3

Rev. E.R. Franks, Gum Ala. R 1

Rev. C.L. Paunders, Philcampbell

Ala. Route 3

Rev. P.T. Keeton, Red Bay Ala.

Rev. B.M. Atkins, Townley Ala.

Rev. A.L. Warren, Brilliant Ala,

Rev. G.B. Ford Hamilton Ala, R 3

Rev. L.L. Nichols Hamilton Ala,

Rev. J.H. Flippo Brilliant Ala. R 1

Rev. J. H. Potts Gum Ala.

Rev. Fredrick Hockelburg Ala R 2
Rev James Godsey Hockelburg Ala

Miscellaneous Business

1st—Resolved that any minister of this Association who is found guilty of circulating false reports, by Pen, or otherwise, on a brother Minister, which is liable to injure 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, he shall be excommunicated from the Association, and published in our denominational literature.

2nd. It is agreed to retain a financial system, as we see the need of such, and we recommend that each member of this Association pay annually; 50 Cts. in connection with the minute fund, and we 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, such funds to be used for no other purpose, than the upbuilding of the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association, in aiding distressed, and disabled Ministers, and poor widows and orphans.

3rd.—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.

4th.—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 through the annual Association, by a recommendation from the church 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.

5th.—Be it resolved: that we will not accept the baptism of any unordained minister.

6th.—By motion it is agreed that the Moderator appoint corresponding delegates to our sister Associations, which were appointed as follows. To Little Bron Creek; P.T. Keeton, J. A. Keeton, T.H. Sharp. Vernon Association; meets 3rd Sat in Oct 25 J.L. Conner, L.J. Wesley. W.J. Underwood.

State Line 3rd, Saturday in Sept 1924. H. Howell, J.R. Ford, and J.L. Frederick.

Bear Creek. A.J. Ingle, and Gus Eals, W.D. Martin, J.R. Ford, and J.J. Groves

Morning Star Association. B.M. Atkins, W.D. Martin, J.L. Conner, G.W. Flippo.

Congregational Churches, J.L. Conner, J.J. Wesley, G.W. Flippo.

State Convention to be held with Union Chapel Saturday before the third Sunday in Nov. 1923 Reverend P.M. Atkins, Will Weeks,

Motion that article 7. be left off the minutes' and that the ordination of the following Bros. be inserted in it's place. J.H. Flippo, James Godsey, J.H. Potts, Joe Frederick.

Motion that the examination of the Bros. be taken up.

Motion that the Clerk write Credentials for the ordained ministers.

Motion that this association pay off the balance of the note on Guin Church, being \$50.00 and interest.

The next session of this association will be held with New Pleasant Hill church, 6 Mi. West of Spruce Pines, on the N. A Railroad, Saturday before the first Sunday in Oct. 1924.

On motion Rev. J. J. Wesley to preach the Introductory Sermon.

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

On motion it was agreed that the Clerk superintend the printing of the minutes, and have the work done to the best advantage. And that the clerk be allowed \$6.00 for his services.

Be it resolved: that this the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association assembled with Union Hill Church Marion County Alabama: tender our thanks to the Church and surrounding Community; especially the

Good sisters, for their hospitality and the young folks for their good behaviour, and the officers are especially thanked for the faithful manner in which they discharged their duties.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet at the time and place above mentioned. Prayer by Rev. W. D. Martin, Moderator

Closing services were conducted by the Moderator, with feeling, and appropriate remarks. A song was sung, and the parting hand-shake taken, amid tears and joy.

W. D. Martin, Moderator.
Wade M. Fowler Clerk.
W. J. Underwood, Treasurer.

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

The State of Alabama, _____ County
_____ day of _____ 192____ After divine
service by Rev. _____, church met in Conference.
1. Call for peace and fellowship of the church.
2. Invited visiting brothers to seats with us.
3. Called for acknowledgments.
4. Reading minutes of last Conference.
5. Extending invitations for members.
6. Is the pastor faithful in the discharge of his ministerial duties?
7. Are the officers of the church faithful in the discharge of their duties?
8. Is there any brother or sister sick or in distress?
9. Call for general business.
Done by order of the church in Conference on the _____ day
of _____, 192____.
Rev. _____ Moderator.
_____ Church Clerk

FORM OF LETTER OF DISMISSAL

This is to certify that Bro. _____ is a member of the Free Will Baptist Church at _____ and as such we recommend him to the fellowship of all good people.
Done by order of the church in Conference on the _____ day of _____, 192____.
Rev. _____ Moderator.
_____ Church Clerk.

RULES OF DECORUM

Art. 1. This Association shall be called to order by the Moderator who presided at last session, the former Clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.

Art. 2. The association shall be opened and closed by 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 delegates present elects.

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

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

Art. 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 all questions after others have spoken, providing he appoints some one to the chair while he is speaking.

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

Art. 8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking unless 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 15 minutes at a time.

Art. 10. No members shall laugh or talk while debates are going on.

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

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Art. 1. We believe there is one and but one living true God, who is in personality the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection. "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."—I Timothy 2:5.

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. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."—II Tim. 3:16.

Art. 3. 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 pleasant to the eye, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took the fruit thereof and did eat and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat."—Gen. 3:6.

Art. 4. We believe that the grace of God comprehended 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 over all is rich unto all that call upon him."—Romans 10:12.

Art. 5. We believe that Christian faith is belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Redeemer of the world, and in the divinity

of the holy scriptures that faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not on the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."—John 6:36.

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. "For Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of, but the sorrow of the world worketh death."—II Cor. 7:10.

Art. 7. We believe that the human will is free, and that it has ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the holy scriptures. "He hath shown thee, oh man, what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God."—Micah 6:8.

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 shipwrecks of their faith, turn again to sin, and be finally lost. "And Jesus said unto him, no man having put his hand to the plow looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."—Luke 9:62.

Art. 9. We believe that good works is the result of faith and that those who have faith will do works of righteousness, while those who have no 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."—Matthew 7:19.

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. "Therefore we are buried with Him in baptism into death that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."—Romans 6:4.

Art. 11. We believe the Lord's 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 the sacred service, regardless of the names or denominational distinction. "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."—I Cor. 11:28-29.

We believe it is the duty of the disciples of Jesus Christ to wash each other's feet. "If I then, your Lord and Master have washed your feet ye ought also to wash one another's feet."—John 13:14.

Art. 12. We believe that man is a living soul, that the body will die, but the soul is immortal; that death is the separation of the mortal and immortal parts of human beings. "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils

the breath of life, and man became a living soul."—Gen. 2:7.

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. "Marvel not at this for the hour is coming in which all that are in the grave shall hear His voice, and shall come forth, they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation."—John 5:23-29.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This Association shall be known as the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, being composed of 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, but having no authority over the affairs of the churches.

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

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

Art. 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.

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

Art. 7. Churches wishing to become members of this association must adopt its Article of Faith and conform to its usage.

Art. 8. We agree as churches of this association to use our best influences to promote the interests of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as the temperance cause, Sabbath Schools, missionary work, etc.

Art. 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.

Art. 10. Any church failing to send representatives for two years in succession its name shall be dropped from our minutes.

STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches.	Pastors	Clerks	Postoffices	Value	Day of meeting
✓ Mt. Olive	Rev. Frank Lee	W, S. Flippo		\$1,000	3rd Sunday.
✓ Popular Log	" W C Jones	E A Ederick	Hacklesburg		2nd Sunday
✓ Bethlehem	" J R Franks	John R Franks		500	3rd Sunday
✓ Evening Shade	" J H Thorp	H R Mink	Red Bay		
✓ Guins Chapel	" M J Dupree	W I Underwood	Guin	1,000	
✓ Haley Springs	" C L Pounders	J H Burgett	Hodges		
✓ Brilliant Chapel	" A L Warren	John Pugh	Brilliant		
✓ Mt. Hope	" C L Pounders	F A May	Hodges		
Ball Rock	" "	G W Steward	Philcampbell		3rd Sunday
✓ Mt. Pleasant		Rufus Bolth		800	4th Sunday
✓ Gum Springs	Rev. Connor	J. A. Beasley	Glinallen	500	2nd Sunday
✓ Union Chapel	" Atkins	C. L. Eads	"	500	3rd Sunday
✓ Union Hill	" C L Pounders	W H Kenidy	Hackleburg	1,000	2nd Sunday
✓ Free Watts	" W D Martin	W C Estes	Ginn	1,000	
✓ Liberty	" "	Luther Atkins	"	800	
✓ Pleasant Ridge	" P T Keeton	J S Keeton			4th Sunday
✓ Shady Grove	" W D Martin	W F Freeman		1800	3rd Sunday
✓ Pearces Chapel	" Connor	J W Robison			