

Nathan
Mrs. W. Sauls

1757 Wendover Rd - Bristol, Va.

Minutes

of the

JOHN THOMAS ASSOCIATION

of

Freewill Baptists

STATE OF VIRGINIA

THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

Held With

Rugby Church

Coeburn, Va., Rt. 2

September 12-14, 1958

**TREASURER'S REPORT OF JOHN THOMAS
ASSOCIATION—1958-1959**

Received into Treasury 9-13-58:

Hamilton County Conference (Cash)	\$11.50
Tri-State Conference (Cash)	20.00
New Durm Conference (Cash)	35.00
Letcher County Conference (Check)	100.00
Dickenson County Conference (Absent)	_____
Total	\$166.50
Balance Brought Forward	305.41
Total in Treasury, 9-13-58	471.91

MINUTES FOR THE YEAR 1958-1959

Dickenson County Conference	700
Letcher County Conference	625
New Durm Conference	325
Tri-State Conference	150
Hamilton County Conference	200
Total	2000

Minutes

of the

**JOHN THOMAS
ASSOCIATION**

of

Freewill Baptists

STATE OF VIRGINIA

THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION

Held With

Rugby Church

Coeburn, Va., Rt. 2

September 12-14, 1958

"It's You"

C. L. MILLER

If you want to work in the kind of church
Like the kind of church you like,
You needn't slip your clothes in a grip,
And start on a long, long hike.

You'll only find what you left behind,
For there's nothing that's really new;
It's a knock at yourself when you knock
your church,
It isn't your church—it's you.

Real churches aren't made by men afraid
Lest somebody else go ahead;
When everyone works and nobody shirks,
You can raise a church from the dead.

And if while you make your personal stake,
Your neighbor can make one, too,
Your church will be what you want to see—
It isn't your church—it's you.

GOD'S REVIVALIST

Officers

Officers of the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists who were elected for the year 1958-1959:

ALVA DINGUS, McClure, Va.	Moderator
ALBERT DINGUS, Jenkins, Ky.	Assistant Moderator
EVERETT JOHNSON, Clinchco, Va.	Clerk
LESTER ABLE, Jenkins, Ky.	Treasurer

Ordaining Councils

LETCHER COUNTY CONFERENCE

ALBERT DINGUS, <i>Chairman</i>	Jenkins, Ky.
C. W. ISOM	Burdine, Ky.
L. D. MAHAN	Payne Gap, Ky.

NEW DURM CONFERENCE

JAMES HUTCHISON, <i>Chairman</i>	Honaker, Va.
HARLEY DYE	Swords Creek, Va.
BENTON MILLER	Pilgrim's Knob, Va.

DICKENSON COUNTY CONFERENCE

E. C. (JACK) KISER, <i>Chairman</i>	Stratton, Va.
C. E. REEDY	Millard, Va.
ALVA DINGUS	McClure, Va.

HAMILTON COUNTY CONFERENCE, Cincinnati, Ohio

ROBERT MADDEN, <i>Chairman</i>	Cincinnati, Ohio
DALE RICTOR	Cincinnati, Ohio
FLOYD STEWART	Cincinnati, Ohio

TRI-STATE CONFERENCE

CLAUDE CONN, <i>Chairman</i>	Kelsa, Va.
WILLIE COMPTON	Grundy, Va.
HENRY ESTEP	Paw Paw, Ky.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

LETCHER COUNTY CONFERENCE

LUTHER DINGUS	Jenkins, Ky.
LESTER ABLE	Jenkins, Ky.
HERBERT WILLIAMS	Jenkins, Ky.

NEW DURM CONFERENCE

WALTER WHITED	Swords Creek, Va.
CLEVE DYE	Swords Creek, Va.
ELBERT RASNAKE	Swords Creek, Va.
FLOYD STEVENSON	Honaker, Va.
FRAZIER HALE	Drill, Va.

DICKENSON COUNTY CONFERENCE

EARET ROSE	Clintwood, Va.
N. B. LAMBERT	Nora, Va.
O. T. SMITH	Coeburn, Va.
WARREN SALYER	Clinchco, Va.
GEORGE BROWNING	Coeburn, Va.

HAMILTON COUNTY CONFERENCE

W. H. ELKINS.....Cincinnati, Ohio
JOE POE.....Cincinnati, Ohio

VISITING MINISTERS

HOMER WILLIS.....Nashville, Tenn.
B. R. POWERS.....Southwest Va. Association, Wise, Va.
RICHARD MEADE.....Chatahachee Association, Ga.
MONROE HUBBARD.....Fla.

Introduction

Service opened with congregational singing. Pastors, Bros. E. M. Rose and Rufus Keith having charge of service. Bro. Keith read for a lesson the 20th chapter of Revelations. Prayer by Aunt Mary Powers.

Bro. Keith called on Bro. Richard Meade to open the service. Bro. Rose concluded the service, using for a text, "Take heed unto thy self, and the Doctrine." This was a very impressive message and was enjoyed by all.

PROCEEDINGS

The thirty-sixth session of the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists convened with the Rugby Church, Coeburn, Va. September 12-13, 1958.

Clerk having charge read for a lesson the 1st. Psalm. Prayer by Bro. Warren Salyer.

The work was continued by calling for and enrolling delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

DELEGATES

Dickenson County—

Sisters:

Onalee Keith
Flora Keith
Clara Kiser
Ritter Lambert
Flora Reedy
Winnie Meade
Gerty Baker
Cleo Kiser
Vina Edwards
Genola Edwards
Chittril Robinson
Bill Dixon
Nellie Robinson
Rosa Meade
Chas. Taylor

Bro. & Sis. Gaines Vanover
Bro. & Sister Warren Salyer
Bro. & Sister Emory Dingus
Bro. & Sister Trigg Smith
Bro. & Sister Thurman Sprolles
Bro. & Sister Arnold Gouge
Bro. & Sister Monroe Hamilton
Bro. & Sister Roy Patrick
Bro. & Sister Charles Miles

Brothers:

Lee Hill
Stewart Amburgy
John Meade
Clinton Lambert
Wesley Edwards
H. B. Powers
Emory Taylor

Tri-State—

Bro. Ernest Stiltner

Letcher County—

Sisters:

Mollie Gray

Cora Able

(Aunt) Mary Powers

New Durm Conference—

Brothers:

Walter Whited

Brady Farmer

Frazier Hale

Bro. & Sister Paul Hess

Hamilton County Conference—

Bros. W. M. Elkins

Floyd Stewart

Eldon Hutson

Buell Salyer.

MINISTERS

Dickenson County—

Brothers:

James Hobbs

E. M. Rose

Rufus Keith

Quenton Keith

Clyde Reedy

Lonzo Edwards

C. W. Miles

Bill Dixon

E. C. (Jack) Kiser

Alva Dingus

Rit Large

Dave Kennedy

Everett Johnson

B. M. Moore

Cecil Ramey

Robert Salyer

New Durm Conference—

Brothers:

Benton Miller

Kyle Hubbard

Tri-State Conference—

Bro. Henry Estep

Letcher County—

Brothers:

Albert Dingus

L. D. Mahan

C. W. Isom

Lester Able

Hamilton County—

Floyd R. Stewart

Eldon Hutson

VISITING MINISTERS

BROTHER HOMER WILLIS, 3801 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

BROTHER RICHARD MEADE.....Chatahachee Association, Ga.

BROTHER MONROE HUBBARD.....Fla.

BROTHER BEN POWERS....Southwest Va. Association, Wise, Va.

CORRESPONDING MESSENGERS

Bro. E. J. Kilgore, Southwest Va. Association, Coeburn, Va.

Clerk declared the conference open for the business that might come before it. The electing of a moderator was the first item of business. By move and second Brother Alva Dingus was elected as moderator and he was given power to appoint such committees as needed to help in the work. By move and second of the conference, Everett Johnson was retained as clerk and Lester Able as Treasurer.

Moderator appointed Brother Albert Dingus as assistant moderator. The following committees were appointed by the moderator:

PULPIT COMMITTEE—

Brother Jesse Ring, Chairman
Sisters Cora Able and Nellie Dingus

AUDITING COMMITTEE—

Bros. L. D. Mahan, Chairman, Cleve Dye and Warren Salyer

A letter requesting membership in the John Thomas Association by the Hamilton County Conference of Ohio was taken care of at this time that the delegates may have a right to a vote in the conference work.

The letter is as follows:

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists when convened with the Rugby Church, Coeburn, Va. September 12-14, 1958. We send as delegates Brothers W. M. Elkins, Eldon Hutson and Buell Salyer.

Our standing is as follows:

State of Religion.....	Good
Membership	114
Members rec'd past 3 mo.....	9
Baptized	8
Condition of prayer meetings	Good
Average No. of Pupils.....	147
No. of Officers	9
No. of Teachers.....	9

By order of the Hamilton County Conference assembled in conference this 9th day of Aug. 1958.

Rev. Floyd R. Stewart, *Moderator*
Henry Hutson, *Clerk*

We recommend Brothers Robert Madden, Dale Rictor and Floyd Stewart as our ordaining council subject to the approval of the Association.

By move and second the letter was accepted and the right hand of fellowship given, they becoming a member of the John Thomas Association.

Conference adjourned until 9:30 A.M. Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING PREACHING SERVICE 3:30 P.M.

Committee appointed Bros. Floyd Stewart and Homer Willis for this hour. Bro. Stewart read 6 verses of the 6th chapter of Romans. Prayer was omitted.

This message was enjoyed by the people very much. It brought back many cherished memories of the past and made new memories that will last on and on, even though miles will separate us.

FRIDAY NIGHT PREACHING SERVICE 8:00 P.M.

Congregational singing was enjoyed very much. Bros. Benton Miller and Albert Dingus were chosen for this hour. Bro. Miller reading for a lesson 24 verses of the 7th chapter of Romans. Bro. Clyde Reedy was called on to lead in prayer. Bro. Dingus concluded the service.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION 9:30 A.M.

Moderator read for a lesson part of the 50th Psalm. Prayer by Bro. E. J. Kilgore.

Moderator declaring conference open for business that might legally come before it.

Called for letters from the respective conferences. Letters from the conferences were: New Durm, Dickenson and Tri-State. Letter from Letcher Co. not being present, clerk was given power to receive same and put it in the minutes. The letters are as follows:

GREETINGS!

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists which convenes with the Rugby Church, Rt. 1, Coeburn, Va. Sept. 12-14, 1958.

We the Dickenson County Conference met with the Union Light Church on July 26-27th, 1958.

We organized our Conference by electing Alva Dingus as Moderator, Quinton Kieth Asst. Moderator, Lloyd Hillman, Clinton Lambert as Clerks.

We received one new church into our conference this year, the Frying Pan Church.

Bros. Bill Dixon and Robert Sayler were ordained to preach the Gospel at this Conference.

The conference agreed to buy 700 minutes for this year.

The following were present at our Conference and are delegates to the association.

Clinchco—Mr. and Mrs. Warren Sayler, Nellie Robinson, Rosa Meade, Cleo Kiser.

Charlies Chapel—Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Mullins, Elzie Cantrell.

Counts Chapel—Alfred Green, Tina Green.

Davis Chapel—Curtis Large, Emory Taylor, J. C. Dotson.

Duncan Gap—Absent.

Dyers Chapel—Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Robinson, Maggie Rose, Nannie Sutherland.

Flemingtown—Tivis Mullins, Quinton Branham, Isom Fleming.

Ferbie Chapel—John Meade, Otis Sturgill.

Fremont—Mr. and Mrs. Chester Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Eggers.

Frying Pan—Rose Powers, Ralph Rasnick, Hobart Rice, Luke Bowman.

Georgesfork—Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Kennedy, Jess Browning.

Hillridge—Lee Hill, Alva Lee Fleming.

Honey Camp—Fallie Rose, Bessie Rose.

Hubbard Chapel—Absent.

Lick Fork—Mr. and Mrs. Brack Powers, Mr. and Mrs. Arvil Dotson, Margie Vanover.

Martins Chapel—Mr. and Mrs. Suart Amburgy.

Middle Branch—Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Taylor, Gaines Lambert, Ritter Lambert, Neva Sutherland.

McCoys Chapel—Absent.

Mill Creek—Wesley Edwards.

Mills Chapel—Mr. and Mrs. Roy Patrick, Mr. and Mrs. Theron Sproles, Mary Sayler, Opal Dixon.

Pine Creek—Elzie Mullins, Ersel Johnson.

Pinegrove—Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Gouge, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Kiser.

Pippins Chapel—Pat Rose, Nellie Rose, Lola Dotson, Jona Amburgy.

Peuther Chapel—Flora Reedy, Gertrude Carty, Ruby Puckett.

Pyles Memorial—Everett Mullins, Kate Mullins, James Short, Margaret Short.

Rachels Chapel—Dussie Kieth, Onalee Kieth, Janis Kieth.

Rugby—Mr. and Mrs. Emory Dingus, Mr. and Mrs. Trigg Smith.

St. Hollow—Alex Fields, Claria Fields, Jr. Cassell, Rosella Cassel, Bill Cassell.

Splashdam—Present by Letter.

Tarpon—Virgie Kiser, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Miles, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Barton.

Union Light—Ida Dotson, David Estep, Howard May.

Valley View—Bessie Large, Cora Orr, Maxie Sloan, Macie Damron.

Yates Chapel—Genola Edwards, Vina Edwards.

Our standing is as follows:

33 Churches, Membership	2160
24 Sunday Schools, Membership	1446
Ordained Ministers	49
Licentees	3

Done by order of the Dickenson County Conference while in regular session with the Paw Paw Church, July 26th and 27th, 1958 at Paw Paw, Ky.

Alvie Dingus, *Moderator*

Quinton Kieth, *Asst. Moderator*

Clinton Lambert, Lloyd Hillman, *Clerks*

The Letcher County Conference met with Eola F.W.B. Church August 23 & 25, 1958. The following were delegates:

Herbert Adams	Henry Thomas
Jean Adams	Mary Shelby
Bud Teur	Robert Humley
Bertha Teur	Minnie Osborne
Donald Cooper	Ella Davis
Amos Gray	Cletis Garrett
Mollie Gray	Burl Hogg
Earnest Baldrige	Sis. Lonnie Hale
Patsy Goodson	Donald Cooper
Alice England	Mr. & Mrs. Charles McKinley
Luther Baker	Ulyse Good
Mary Bell Whitaker	Jr. Baldrige
Troy Sturgill	Danny McPeaks
Linda Good	Cora Able
Daniel Collinger	Louise Sexton
Dave Hubbard	Pearl Baker
Jackie Seargant	Lawrence England
Wilma Wright	Grace Huff
Joyce Haynes	Nevalyn Williams
Mary Francie Haynes	Hubert Williams
Martin Green	Roscoe Brumett
Marie Thomas	Alberta Blevins

Our Standing is as follows:

Number of Churches.....	22
Number of Members.....	1000
Number of Sunday Schools.....	18
Average Attendance.....	1500

Bros. Eugene Glission and Ike Young handed their good standing cards in.

The Conference retained the same Ordaining Council, Albert Dingus, L. D. Mahan & C. W. Ison.

Eugene Adkins resigned as Clerk, Everett Potter was elected Clerk, Amos Gray, Asst. Clerk.

Ordaining Council Ordained Lawrence Shelby & Robert Bolling.

Bro. Noble Wright was dismissed by request so he could join the Dickenson County Conf.

The Conf. adjourned until the next appointed time at Happy, Ky.

Rev. Albert Dingus, *Moderator*

Rev. Clyde Kelly, *Asst. Moderator*

Rev. Eugene Adkins, *Clerk*

Rev. Everett Potter, *Asst. Clerk*

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists when convened with the Rugby Church on the 12th of Sept. 1958.

We the Russell County, New Durm Conference, met with the Drill's Chapel Church and organized by electing the following, Rev. Harley Dye, Moderator; Rev. Edward Perkins, Asst. Moderator; Faye Rasnake, Clerk.

The following delegates were from their respective churches and were delegates to the Association.

Drills Chapel Church—

Hue Coleman

B. E. Dye

Fraizer Hale

Ida Hale

Casey Blankenship

Hattie Blankenship

Grace Dye

Leonard Fuller, Nora Fuller.

Mt. View Church—

Mr. & Mrs. Luther Lester

Connie Johnson

Aubry Compton

Ruby Compton

Gracy Compton

Roxie Cook

Sourwood Mt. Church—

Mona Tiller

Ora Wilson

Grover Wilson

Flitchers Ridge Church—

Mr. & Mrs. Ellis Nuckles
Fannie Flitcher

Lula McGlothon
Harley Nuckles

Mt. Zion Church—

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Dye

Indian Creek Church—

James Breeding

Nellie Breeding

Guiding Light Church—

Arnold Smith

Fullers Chapel Church—

Walter Whited
Jimmie Whited
Ralph Rasnake

Laura Rasnake
Dana Dye

Ephesus Church—

Mr. & Mrs. W. D. Whited

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Robinet

Our standing is as follows:

Number of Churches.....	11
Number of Members.....	350
Number of Ministers.....	15
Number of Sunday Schools.....	5

Done by order of the New Durm Conference, while in regular session with Drill's Chapel Church, Aug. 9, 1958.

Rev. Harley Dye, *Moderator*

Rev. Edward Perkins, *Asst. Moderator*

Faye Rasnake, *Clerk*

Aug. 2, 1958

Greetings!

To the John Thomas Association of Free Will Baptists, which convenes with the Rugsby Church at Coeburn, Va. We the Tri-State Conference met with Harmon Chapel Church Aug. 2, 1958 and elected Claud Conn as Moderator and Ernest Stiltner and Bobby Jackson, Clerks. We received one new church, The Colman Freewill Church, Colman, Ky. We have 4 churches and 8 ordained ministers, 1 licentiate. We have a membership of about 200. Delegates to the Association were Willie Compton, Claud Conn, Henry Estep, Tive Smith.

Done by order of the Tri-State Conference while in session with the Harmon Chapel Church at Maxie, Va., Aug. 2-3, 1958.

Claude Conn, *Moderator*

Ernest Stiltner, Bobby Jackson, *Clerks*

These letters were read and accepted by the Association to be put in the minutes. Bro. Albert Dingus gave an oral report for Letcher County Conference. His report was accepted.

The report of the auditing committee was: "We find the books of the treasurer and clerk in good order."

The executive committees of all the conferences met as scheduled. Their report is as follows:

"September 13th, 1958, We, the Executive Boards of the John Thomas Association have agreed to place the Association in the different Conferences according to the number of Churches in each Conference. At present the schedule will be one Association for each 4 Churches. The next Association to convene with the Burdine Church, Burdine, Ky. The schedule for the Associations and the year is as follows;

Letcher County Conference	1959
Dickenson County Conference	1960
New Durm Conference	1961
Dickenson County Conference	1962
Letcher County Conference	1963
Dickenson County Conference	1964
Letcher County Conference	1965
Dickenson County Conference	1966
Tri-State Conference	1967
Dickenson County Conference	1968
Letcher County Conference	1969
New Durm Conference	1970
Dickenson County Conference	1971
Letcher County Conference	1972
Dickenson County Conference	1973
Letcher County Conference	1974
New Durm Conference	1975
Dickenson County Conference	1976

We also agree to give Rugby Church \$100.00 from the Association Treasury to help on their Church building.

N. B. Lambert
Ernest Stiltner
Luther Dingus
Henry Estep
Walter Whited
Warren Salyer

Committee:

Reading of a letter from the Southwest Virginia Association was the next item of business. This letter was accepted, we were glad to get the letter and to have Bro. Kilgore with us along with others that were from other Conferences.

Messengers were appointed to attend the Southwest Va. Association when it will convene with the Dunganon Freewill Baptist Church, Dunganon, Va., on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in May, 1959. The delegates are: Bro. and Sister

Arthur Holbrook, Sister Mildred Holbrook, Bro. and Sister E. M. Rose, Bro. and Sister Thurman Sprolles and Bro. Cecil Ramey.

Bro. Willis was asked to give a report and talk as he felt led. He gave an interesting talk on the advancement of the Freewill Baptist movement both at home and abroad. Any one wishing supplies or literature for your home or church, write Bro. Willis for a catalogue. His address will be found elsewhere in the minutes.

Conference adjourned until 2:00 P.M. Saturday evening.

PREACHING SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

Committee appointed Bros. Jack Kiser and C. W. Isom for this hour. Bro. Kiser read for a lesson 53rd chapter of Isaiah. It was requested that Bro. Willis open the service with prayer. Bro. Isom concluded the service.

This too was a wonderful message and a great manifestation of the Holy Spirit abounded among the congregation.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION 2:00 P.M.

Congregational singing. Moderator read for a lesson 1st seven verses of the 4th chapter of 2nd Timothy. Prayer by Bro. Rufus Keith.

Moderator called for unfinished business. No other business, by move and second the Association adjourned until Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1959 when it will convene with the Burdine Church, Burdine, Ky. unless called together by the Moderator.

PREACHING SERVICE SATURDAY NIGHT 8:00 P.M.

Committee appointed Brothers Quinton Keith, Rice Bowman, Paul Fields and James Hobbs for the night service. Bro. Keith read for a lesson the 10th Chapter of Acts. Prayer by Bro. Trigg Smith.

Due to a memorial service at the Salyer Cemetery, Sunday Services at Rugby Church were discontinued.

MINISTERS CONFERENCE

Ministers conference was organized by retaining Everett Johnson as clerk and Bro. Alva Dingus as Moderator. It was organized by move and second.

Moderator called for letters. Dickenson County, New Durm and Tri-State presented their letters. These were read

and accepted by the Association. Clerk was given the right to accept the letter from Letcher County Conference and put same in the minutes. The letters are as follows:

GREETINGS to the John Thomas Association:

We the Dickenson County Ministers Conference met with the Paw Paw Church, Paw Paw, Ky. on Saturday July 27, 1958.

We organized our Conference by electing Bro. Alva Dingus as Moderator, Clinton Lambert, Lloyd Hillman as Clerks.

The names of the Ministers were called, all were in good standing. The following were dropped for violation of article 5 of Ministers Conference: Kermit Deel, Casper Lane, Cecil Ramey, D. F. Kennedy.

The following ministers were present: Alva Dingus, C. E. Reedy, Willard Kiser, James Short.

The following were absent: W. R. Bise, S. P. Davis, Ervin Hall, Emory Estep, Bill Harrison, Walter Hughes, Asa Hughes, Everett Johnson, E. C. Kiser, Quinton Kieth, Rit Large, George Mooney, Hie A. Mullins, Lee Mullins, Monroe Mullins, E. M. Rose, Maston Rose, Goble Rose, Josh Rose, Troy Robinson, Fred Taylor, Luther Taylor, Emory Vanover, James Wright, Ivan Reedy, Marion Belcher, Everett Smith, James Hobbs, Luke Wright, Joe Johnson, Rice Bowman, B. M. Moore, Rufus Kieth, Creed Fleming, Adam Stanley, Carmel Lane, Bertsie Stanley, Earl Slimp Jr., Creed Stanley, Charlie Miles, Henry Hammons, Ersel Johnson.

Bros. C. E. Reedy, E. C. Kiser, Alvia Dingus were reelected to the ordaining Council.

Done by order of the Dickenson County Ministers Conference while in regular session with the Paw Paw Church, Paw Paw, Ky., July 27th, 1958.

Alva Dingus, *Moderator*

Clinton Lambert, Lloyd Hillman, *Clerks*

We the New Durm Ministers, met with Drills Chapel Church, Aug. 9, 1958 and organized by electing Rev. Harley Dye, Moderator. Faye Rasnake, Clerk.

There were 8 ordained ministers present and 7 absent. Their names were called and each was voted on and their characters passed as good.

They were as follows: Lee Wilson, Cleveland, Va., R #2, Jim Lambert, Bee, Va., M. P. Ball, Lebanon, Va., R #2, Harley Dye, Swords Creek, Va., Edward Perkins, Oakwod, Va., Benton Miller, Pilgrim Knob, Va., Grover Lambert, Viena, Va.,

Elijah Tiller, Council, Va., Gonian Kelly, Cleveland, Va. R # 2, Everett Rasnake, Council Va., Charlie Keen, Swords Creek, Va., Henry Ball, James Hutchison, Honaker, Va., Johnnie Stevens, Glen Peck, Drill, Va.

Done by order of the New Durm Conference while in session with the Ephesus Church Aug. 9, 1958.

Aug. 2, 1958

GREETINGS!

To the John Thomas Association of Free Will Baptists.

We the Tri-State Conference met on Aug. 2, 1958 at Harmon Chapel Church, Maxie, Va. and organized the Ministers Conference by electing Bro. Claude Conn as Moderator, Ernest Stiltner and Bobby Jackson, Clerks.

The ministers that were present were: Willie Compton, Grundy, Va.; Claud Conn, Kelsa, Va.; Miles H. Hurley, Mohawk, W. Va.; Henry Estep, Paw Paw, Ky.; Dempsy Adkins, Elkhorn City, Ky.

All ministers were in good standing.

The ministers that were absent were: Troy Dotson, Mohawk, W. Va.; Clarence Stiltner, Grundy, Va.; Walter Hurley, Mohawk, W. Va.; Alfred Flanning, Iager, W. Va.

We have 8 ordained ministers, 1 licentiate.

Done by order of the Tri-State Conference while in session with the Harmon Chapel Church, Maxie, Va., Aug. 2, 1958.

Claud Conn, *Moderator*
Ernest Stiltner, *Clerk*

These Ministers were voted on by the Ministers Conference and characters were good.

Albert Dingus.....	Burdine, Ky.	Johnny Stoffer.....	Burdine, Ky.
D. D. Moore.....	Hylton, Ky.	Bill Smith.....	
J. P. Banks.....	McRoberts, Ky.	Ira Harvey.....	
C. W. Ison.....	Burdine, Ky.	Lonnie P. Hale.....	Elkton, Va.
L. D. Mahan.....	Payne Gap, Ky.	Leo Good.....	Stanley, Va.
Earsel McPeaks.....	Payne Gap, Ky.	Darwin Mullins.....	Jenkins, Ky.
Ezra Johnson.....	Jenkins, Ky.	Parkis Brewer.....	
Everett Potter.....	Payne Gap, Ky.	J. H. Miller.....	
Clyde Huff.....	McRoberts, Ky.	C. O. Caudell.....	Dunham, Ky.
Jimmy Seals.....	Jackhorn, Ky.	Dewey Griffith.....	
Edward H. Hall.....		Lloyd Pike.....	Mayking, Ky.
Geo. Lester Able.....	Jenkins, Ky.	Dempsey Akers.....	
W. A. Looney.....	Burdine, Ky.	Iassic Brahams.....	
John Vanover.....		Bill Harris.....	Pikeville, Ky.
John Akers.....	Scuddy, Ky.	Robert Prater.....	Pikeville, Ky.
Hilt Taylor.....	Jenkins, Ky.	Dallas Kelly.....	Jenkins, Ky.

Eugene Adkins	Jenkins, Ky.	Edmon Maggard	
Eddie Rose	Dorton, Ky.	Eugene Bowen	Whitesburg, Ky.
Langley Milton		Costa Ellis	
Williams McDuffie		Harold Miles	
James Rictor		Ray McDaniel	Grand Rapids, Mich.
Linville Proffitt		Eldan Hutson	
Clyde Kelly	Jenkins, Ky.	Alonza Fields	Eola, Ky.
Hubert Mason		Charles Gallion	Burdine, Ky.
James Wheeler		Jessie James	
Cletis Garrett		Lawrence Shelby	Jenkins, Ky.
Harold E. Harvey	Cincinnati, Ohio	Robert Bolling	
Arnold Kelly	Kent, Ohio		
Artmus Mullins	Burdine, Ky.		
Hermon Bates	Payne Gap, Ky.		

Rev. Albert Dingus, Moderator
Rev. Eugene Adkins, Clerk

This finishing the work of the Ministers Conference, by move and second same was adjourned until Saturday before the second Sunday in September when it will convene with the Burdine Church, Burdine, Ky. unless called together by the moderator.

(The Association takes this means of thanking the people in and around Caney Ridge for the kindness shown and extended to the people during this Association.)

Minister's Report

EUGENE ADKINS

Jenkins, Kentucky

Churches Pastored	2
No. Sermons	150
Revivals	3
Conversions Witnessed	25
No. Baptized Attended	20
Burials Attended	7
Memorials	1
Prayer Services	100
Couples Married	2
Miles Traveled	2,500

EDMON C. MAGGARD

Pikeville, Kentucky

Churches Pastored	1
No. Sermons	37
Revivals	Assisted in 2
Conversions Witnessed	8
No. Baptized	4
Burials Attended	5
Memorials	3
Prayer Services	35

LEO GOOD

Stanley, Va.

No. Sermons	30
Prayer Services	25
Churches Pastored	1 Assistant

LONNIE P. HALE

Elkton, Va.

No. Sermons	50
Revival	1
Prayer Services	25
Churches Pastored	1
Miles Traveled	5000
Funerals	1

CLAUDE CONN

Kelsa, Va.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons	75
Baptized	40
Memorials	2
Funerals	18
Miles Traveled	50

WILLIE COMPTON

Grundy, Va.

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons	150
Baptized	47
Funerals	5
Miles Traveled	1500
Money Rec.	\$45.00
Revivals	2
Memorials	2

Minister's Report

GEORGE LESTER ABLE

Jenkins, Kentucky

Churches Pastored.....	None
No. Sermons.....	55
Revivals.....	None
Conversions Witnessed.....	7
No. Baptized.....	None
Burials Attended.....	2
Memorials.....	1
Prayer Services.....	48

LOYD PIKE

Mayking, Kentucky

Revivals.....	12
Sermons.....	330
Conversions.....	205
Baptized.....	72
Burials Attended.....	12
Prayer Services.....	15
Couples Married.....	7
Miles Traveled.....	1,300
Churches Pastored.....	2

JAMES WHEELER

Pikeville, Kentucky

No. Sermons.....	52
Revivals.....	5
Conversions Witnessed.....	17
No. Baptized.....	5
Burials Attended.....	6
Prayer Services.....	45

CLYDE KELLEY

E. Jenkins, Kentucky

Churches Pastored.....	2
Revivals.....	3
Conversions Witnessed.....	30
No. Baptized.....	Assisted in 15
Prayer Services.....	80 approximately

CLETIS GARRETT

Lawrenceburg, Ind.

Churches Pastored.....	1
No. Sermons.....	48
Conversions Witnessed.....	12
No. Baptized.....	13
Memorials.....	2
Prayer Services.....	6
Members Received by letter.....	2
Money Received.....	\$111.98

CLIFFORD GREEN

Hellier, Ky.

Churches Pastored.....	1
Conversions Witnessed.....	5
Prayer Services.....	25

ALBERT DINGUS

Jenkins, Ky.

Churches Pastored.....	1, helped in 1
No. sermons.....	55
Revivals held.....	4
Conversions Witnessed.....	24
No. Baptized.....	3
Burials Attended.....	21
Memorials.....	2
Prayer Services.....	35
Amount Rec'd.....	\$3,000.00
Couples Married.....	1

HAROLD E. HARVEY

310 Bossett Road
Cinn. 5, Ohio

Churches Pastored.....	1
No. Sermons.....	100
Revivals.....	1
Conversions Witnessed.....	40
No. Baptized.....	20
Burials Attended.....	2
Memorials.....	1
Prayer Services.....	48
Churches Organized.....	1
S. S. Organized.....	1
Couples Married.....	2
Amount Received.....	\$10.00

EUGENE BOWEN

Whitesburg, Kentucky

Churches Pastored.....	1
No. Sermons.....	110
Revivals.....	1
Conversions Witnessed.....	28
No. Baptized.....	6
Burials Attended.....	1
Memorials.....	1
Prayer Services.....	43
Churches Organized.....	none
Couples Married.....	none
Amount Received.....	\$6.00

MILES HURLEY

Mohawk, W. Va.

Sermons.....	75
Memorials.....	2
Miles Traveled.....	100

DEMPSY ADKINS

Elkhorn City, Kentucky

Baptized.....	7
Sermons.....	173
Funerals.....	15
Prayer Services.....	20
Money Received.....	\$19.86
Memorials.....	3

HENRY ESTEP

Paw Paw, Kentucky

Churches Pastored.....	2
Sermons	65
Baptized	4
Funerals	10
Memorials	2
Miles Traveled	400

JAMES D. RICHTEH815 Vine St.
Dayton, Kentucky

Churches Pastored.....	1
No. Sermons	52
Conversions Witnessed.....	9
No. Baptized	5
Burials Attended.....	none
Prayer Services	52
Amount Received	\$24.00

ELDON C. HUTSON3203 Colerain Ave.
Cinn., Ohio

Churches Pastored.....	1
No. Sermons	40
Revivals	2
Conversions Witnessed.....	5
No. Baptized	4
Prayer Services	45

ROBERT MADDEN1165 Harrison Ave.
Cinn., Ohio

No. Sermons	80
Conversions	4
Prayer Services	50

FLOYD R. STEWART

RR # 1, Miland, Ind.

Churches Pastored.....	1
No. Sermons	75
Revivals	1
Conversions Witnessed.....	8
No. Baptized	6
Burials Attended.....	2
Prayer Services	52
Churches Organized	1
S. S. Organized	1
Couples Married	3

OSCAR O. SCALESRR #1 Sunman, Ind.
(Licentiate)

No. Sermons	30
Conversions Witnessed.....	6
Prayer Services	52

ELIJAH W. SCARBERMoores Hills, Ind.
(Licentiate)

No. Sermons	63
Revivals	1
Conversions Witnessed.....	6
Burials Attended	6
Churches Organized	1

OBITUARIES



Mary Ann Pressley Rasnake was born September 12, 1876 and died March 11, 1957 at the age of 80 years, 5 months, and 29 days. She was the daughter of Taze and Susie Pressley. She had one brother, Dr. J. W. Pressley of LaFayette, Tenn., and one sister, Sarah Thomas of St. Petersburg, Florida. She was married to Jonas Rasnake Jan. 7, 1892 at Duty, Va. and has spent all of her married life in Russell and Buchanan Counties. To this home was born 19 children as follows: Seven Girls: Emily, Susie, Rosa, Bertha, Gladys, Mary Elizabeth, and Eula; 12 boys: Everett, Taze, James, Tolby, Elbert, Guy, Ray, Ted, Howard, Walter, Ellis, and Syrus. She has been blessed with 69 grandchildren and 78 great-great grandchildren in her family.

She was converted to Christ and baptized, along with her husband about 64 years ago. She lived a devoted and faithful Christian life since her conversion. She has been a loving and humble mother to her family, a patient and helpful wife to her husband, a great help mate to him in his gospel ministry, ready to go with him when possible, or to stay at home to keep the family when necessary for him to go to serve the Lord and his people. She was always loved and highly appreciated by her neighbors and acquaintances far and near.

We the entire family, feel that a great and loving pillar is gone from our home. Yet, we know in our hearts that our sorrow of her passing will be her eternal gain. We hope to meet her soon where trouble will never come.

REV. J. C. RASNAKE

Jonas Cole Rasnake was born January 3, 1875, and died April 19, 1958 at the age of 83 yrs., 3 mo., 16 days. He was born in Cleveland, Virginia, the son of William and Leah Stephens Rasnake. He was married to Mary Ann Pressley on January 7, 1892. To this union was born 19 children as follows: seven girls; Emily, Susie, Rosa, Bertha, Gladys, Mary Elizabeth and Eula; 12 boys, Everette, Taze, James, Tolby, Elbert, Guy, Roy, Ted, Howard, Walter, Ellis, and Syrus. Taze, Guy, Syrus, Susie, Ted and Roy preceded their father in death. Also his wife who passed this life on March 11, 1957.

He has been blessed with 69 grandchildren and 89 great grandchildren. He has been a well respected and widely known citizen, spending all of his life in this area, part of the time in

Buchanan and most of the time in Russell County. He was a farmer and carpenter by trade. He was always a loving husband and father, willing to work hard with his hands to support his family. He was always anxious for them to have the necessities of life and for them to become worthy and upright citizens.

He was converted to Christ and baptized, along with his wife, about 65 years ago and has lived a faithful and devoted life to his Christian profession until the end. He was called into the ministry about 45 years ago and has been very diligent to his calling. He has pastored churches, held revival meetings, and buried the dead in Russell, Buchanan, Dickenson, Wise, and Tazewell counties as well as in several communities of West Virginia. The results of his gospel labors may be found in the hearts and lives of these mountain people for many years to come.

Besides his immediate family, he leaves many relatives and friends to mourn his loss. The family has lost a wonderful father and grandfather. The church has lost an influential leader. The community will miss a valuable citizen. The memory of his beautiful life and his Christian influence will live on in our hearts. We feel that our bitter loss will be his eternal gain.

The Family

IN MEMORY OF JULIA ANN TESTER

She was born March 27, 1867 and departed this life April 13, 1957 making her stay on earth 90 years and 17 days. She was married to Mahlon Tester, March 1, 1885. To this union was born seven children, 4 boys and 3 girls, two preceding her in death. She joined the Baptist Church when she was 19 years old. She lived a good devoted life and was loved by all who know her.

Surviving in addition to her husband are four son: Bill, McKinley, Hillman, and Ballard all of Kelsa; One daughter, Mrs. Joseph Cook of Kelsa; one sister, Cornelia Foister of Chehalis, Wash. One brother, George Michael of Big Rock, Va.; 34 grandchildren, 76 great grandchildren; 33 great-great grandchildren; and 1 great-great-great grandchild.

On a hilltop sad and lonely
Where the tall trees gently wave,
Lies the one we love so dearly
In the lone and silent grave.
Somewhere there is no parting,
Somewhere loved ones are waiting
To greet us once again.

Some may think we have forgotten
When they sometimes see us smile,
But they don't know the sorrow
That smile hides all the while.

Written by her daughter
MRS. JOSEPH COOK

In memory of Victoria Jackson, the wife of the late Ben Jackson who passed away Feb. 6, 1958. She was 82 years old. She leaves to mourn her loss 5 brothers & sisters, Mr. Brooker Justue, Bill Short and Mrs. Kate Belcher all of Lester Fork, Mrs. Rose Davis of Blackie. She was the mother of 10 children, 3 who preceded her in death. Seven are living, Estel, Charlie, Berlison Glen, Josie, Julie & Dora. She has 49 grandchildren, 74 great grandchildren and several great-great grandchildren. She was loved by everyone and we miss her so much down here, but we are hoping to meet her and our many friends and loved ones who are over there with Jesus. In the mansions God said that he would prepare for those that serve him.
O, how we miss you Mother since God called you away.
We know that you are happy with Jesus there today.
So take your rest Dear Mother until we meet on Heaven's shore,
Where we'll be reunited never to part no more.

Written By MRS. GLEN JACKSON
Her daughter-in-law

Mother darling you have left us.
To be with Jesus over there
No one knows how we miss you
But you have a mansion fair.
I know you are with the angels
Where the beautiful flowers bloom
I long to be there with you
And leave this world of gloom.
I'll meet you precious Mother
Daddy will be there too.
There we'll sing and shout forever
Won't that be a grand review.
The beautiful gate will open wide
Mother will welcome me there
We will be together forever.
In that bright city so fair.

In Memory of Mother
VICTORIA JACKSON
Written by her Daughter
JOSIE HURLEY

Obituary of Mrs. Cosby Ray. She was born Feb. 20, 1896, making her stay on earth 62 years, 1 month, and 8 days. She was the daughter of James and Martha Jane Blankenship. She was married to Alex Ray and to their union was born 13 children, 9 sons and 4 daughters. 5 has preceded her in death, 4 sons and 1 daughter. She is survived by her husband, Alex Ray and 5 sons, Lawrence, Alvie, Frand, Kilby, and Dexter. Three daughters, Ruth, Winnie, and Shirley. She leaves 17 grandchildren and a host of friends and relatives to mourn her loss. She professed a hope in Christ at an early age and lived a faithful Christian until death. She was a loving, faithful mother to her children and family and was well loved by all whom she came in contact with.

Mother's gone but not forgotten,
How we miss her no one knows,
But we know she's in Heaven,
Where God's love shall always flow.
But we know we can see her,
If to Heaven we can go.

Written by her Daughter,
WINNIE BOWMAN
Son and Daughter-in-Law
ALVA AND CLARA RAY

In loving memory of Edd Bostic the son of Ella and George Basie was born May 23, 1899 and departed this life April 30, 1956 making his stay on earth 56 years, 11 months, 7 days. He was married to Mary Osborne in the year of 1916 to this union was born 16 children all are still living. 9 boys & 7 girls: Mrs. Grace Ball, Henry Bostic, Ervin Bostic, Claude Bostic, Mrs. Claude Wilson, Dewey Bostic, Ellis Bostic, Jessie Bostic, Mrs. William Rasnake, Hermon Bostic, Angie Bostic, Curtis Bostic, Velva Bostic, Letha Bostic, all of Council, Va. He leaves to mourn his loss 16 children, wife, father, mother, 2 sisters, 40 grandchildren and a host of friends and relatives. But we know our loss is Heaven's eternal gain. He professed faith in Christ around 40 years ago and united with the Freewill Baptist Church where he remained a faithful member until God called him home. He was faithful to the church as long as he could go. Disease got him so he couldn't go to church. He wanted service in his home. We could hear him testify that he was ready to go home when the Lord called for him. He was so patient during his long illness. We did all we could to keep him with us, but God called him away in his last moments. He told us that his brother that was gone on had come after him and he had to go and told us goodbye. The Angels called and Dad went home from a world of pain to a Heavenly home.

IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH H. COOK

With much sorrow we write the obituary of our dear daddy, who taught us from our youth up to love and fear God.

He was born June 1, 1879 at Ira, Virginia. He departed this life on May 8, 1958 making his stay on earth 79 years, 11 months and 8 days. He was united in marriage to Naomi Tester, February 12, 1903. To this union was born 10 children, two preceding him in death.

Surviving in addition to his wife are two sons, Lonnie and Earl; Six girls: Gladys, Lula, Lucy, Alta, Ida and Ollie; 37 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

He took his membership with the Freewill Baptist Church in 1921, he was an outstanding citizen in our community. He always stood for the things that were honest and honorable. The thoughts are precious to us of the times he read the Bible and sang sacred songs with tears trickling down his cheeks. One of his favorite verses from the Bible was: "There the wicked cease from troubling and the weary be at rest". Job 3:17. We sorrow not as them that have no hope, we sorrow because we loved him and miss his presence in our family circle.

Oh, how hard we tried to save him
Prayers and tears were all in vain;
Happy angels came and took him
From this world of care and pain.
Every day brings back sweet memories,
Every memory brings a tear.
Deep within our hearts we cherish
Thoughts of him we loved so dear.

Written by the family

Helen Ruth Bostic, daughter of Henry and Ellen Bostic was born Jun 5, 1957, and departed this life January 27, 1958, making her stay on earth 7 months, 22 days. She leaves to mourn her loss father, mother; 3 brothers, Clyde, Billy & Perry. She has 7 sisters, Shirley, Hazel, Martha, Ollie, Dollie, Nola Gay and Betty Jean all at home. She was loved dearly by every member of her family and will be missed so much but she has gone to rest and to suffer no more.

A precious one from us is gone,
A voice we love is still;
A place is vacant in our home,
Which never can be filled,
Safe in the arms of Jesus,
Safe on His gentle breast,
There by His love her soul shall rest.

Cynthia Elizabeth Presley, born Sept. 7, 1881, died Dec. 10, 1950, making her stay here on earth, 70 years and 1 month, 6 days. She left two daughters, two sons, 15 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, and one brother, and a host of relatives to mourn her loss. She was a member of the Freewill Baptist Church for several years, and she told her daughter she was ready to go and meet her Lord. She had two children who preceded her in death, one son and one daughter.

Love are the paths and sad the bowers, whence thy dear smile is gone; But Oh! a brighter home than ours, In Heaven is now thine own.

Willie Carl Rasnake, son of Ruby and Carl Rasnake was born July 27, 1951 making his stay on earth 4 years, 2 months, and 10 days. He has been afflicted for about 8 months and has suffered so much. On the 7th of October Jesus sent the Death Angels to carry him to be a flower in the garden of love. His parents did all they could for him, but God for some cause took its pain and it is just waiting over in Glory for all that wants to see him again. He leaves behind Daddy and Mother, 2 sisters, 2 brothers, 2 Grandmothers, 1 Grandfather and a host of friends and relatives.

Little Darling you have gone to live with Jesus
Over on the Golden Shore
You will be there to greet us
And will meet us at Heaven's door.

King Stevens the son of Paton and Mary Ann Stevens was born January 16, 1881. Making his stay here on this earth 77 years, 2 months and 1 day. King was married to Pearl Cook in 1904. To this union was born 16 children, 4 have preceded him in death. He leaves to mourn his loss 8 boys: Earl Stevens, Pikeville, Ky.; Dewey Stevens, Owsley, Ky.; Glen Stevens, Council, Va.; Clayton Stevens, Grundy, Va.; Curtis Stevens, Grundy, Va.; Barnes Stevens, Council, Va.; Andrew Stevens, Council, Va.; Raymond Stevens, Carrie, Va. Four Girls: Mrs. Verdie Cutter, Charleston, N. C.; Mrs. Cannie Weddington, Detroit, Mich.; Mrs. Magdalen Barton, Davenport, Va. He also leaves 53 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. 2 brothers, Mr. Robert Stevens, Cleveland, Va. and Mr. Floyd Stevens, Cleveland, Va.; and a host of friends and relatives. His testimony was given to some of his friends Sunday night before he departed this life Monday at 1:30 P.M. He said Jesus is soon coming after me and I will be allright then.

Sleep on dear daddy and take your rest.
We all loved you best.
He called you home to live in peace
Forever with the Saints to reign.

In sad but loving remembrance I write the Obituary of Trudi Kay Dotson. She was born Oct. 4, 1943; died April 9, 1958 making her stay here on earth 14 years, 6 months, 5 days. She was the daughter of Mr. Frank Dotson and Victoria Dotson. She leaves to mourn 1 brother, 6 sisters; father & mother and many friends. We believe that earthly loss is Heaven's gain.

Sleep on dear sister and take your rest,
God called you to be with the blest.
May we meet on the other shore;
Meet there to part no more.
For we lay our burdens down
And go home to wear a crown.
There I hope to shake your hand,
And live together in Glory Land.

Written by,
VICTORIA DOTSON

IN MEMORY OF DONALD DOTSON

In memory of Donald Clark Dotson.

With much sorrow I write the obituary of my dear husband, Donald C. Dotson. He was born November 2, 1911, died January 15, 1958. He was the son of Bud and Leona B. Dotson of Kelsa, Va. His father preceded him in death 26 years ago. He was married to Razella May, July 15, 1940. He was a Book-keeper and outstanding citizen. He is missed by neighbors and many friends, he leaves to mourn his loss a wife, mother, five brothers and four sisters. We pray our loss is Heaven's gain. Sad and sudden was the shock. I never dreamed your death so Dear to me. I pray you are with Jesus in eternity.

Our house is lonely Donald, I miss you each hour of the day. May God help me to understand why you were called away just when your life was brightest, jjust when your hopes was best. God called you from us to home of rest, I hope. No ones knows how I have missed you; no one knows the bitter pain we haave suffered since we lost you, home will never be the same.

Razella Dotson
His wife,

IN MEMORY OF ADDIE TESTER

It is with a sad heart that I write the obituary of my dear sister, Addie Conn Tester. She was born August 26, 1909 and died May 3, 1958, making her stay on earth 48 years, 8 months and 8 days. She was married to Hilman Tester on February 2, 1933 at Ira, Virginia. Tho this union was born six children; one daughter, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Krizon of Houston, Texas; five sons, Earl, Author, Cecil, Bill yand Jimmy all of Kelsa.

Surviving in addition to her husband and children are four grandchildren, her mother and father, six sisters and three brothers. She left many friends and relatives to mourn her loss.

She took her membership with the Freewill Baptist Church and lived a good Christian life. Addie had been ill for several years and we know her faith in the Lord kept her with us these last few years. She bore her suffering with patience until the Lord called her home. We miss her so much but while it is our loss it is her great Eternal gain.

Dear sister you are not forgotten
Though on earth you are no more;
Still in memory you are with us
As you always were before.
We watched you suffer day by day
It caused us bitter grief,
To see you slowly slip away
And we could not give you relief.
Your weary hours and days of pain
Your troubled nights have passed,
And in our aching hearts we know
You have sweet rest at last.
God in his wisdom has recalled
The life so truly given,
And though the body slumbers here
The soul is safe in Heaven.
Heaven now holds our treasure, and the
Grave the lonely casket keeps,
And I often love to linger
Where my darling sister sleeps.

Written by her sisters,
MRS. MARGIE REYNOLDS
MRS. LILY MAE ESTEP

IN MEMORY OF MAHLON TESTER

He was born June 23, 1863 and departed this life April 23, 1958, making his stay on earth 94 years and 10 months. He was married to Julia Michael March 1, 1885. To this union was born seven children. His wife and two children preceded him in death.

Surviving are 4 sons: Willie, McKinley, Hillman, and Ballard. One daughter: Mrs. Joseph Cook all of Kelsa, Va.; 34 grandchildren, 76 great-grandchildren, 36 great-grat-grandchildren and 1 great-great-great-grandchild.

He joined the Church when he was 17 years old and led a good Christian life for 77 years. We planted his body in the Cook cemetery expecting it to be in the first resurrection when the dead in Christ shall rise first. He will be no stranger to us when we get to Heaven for we shall know as we are known.

A precious one from us is gone,
A voice we loved is still;
A place is vacant in our home
Which never can be filled.
We watched you suffer day by day,
It caused us bitter grief;
To see you slowly slip away
And we could not give you relief.
God knows how much we miss you, Dad
Never shall your memory fade;
Loving thoughts shall ever wander
To the spot where you are laid.
Our aching hearts are longing
For your face we see no more;
But we hope some day to see you
On that bright and golden shore.

Written by his daughter,
MRS. JOSEPH COOK

IN MEMORY OF REV. MACK FISHER



Rev. Mack Fisher was born March 28, 1910 and departed this life January 2, 1957, leaving to mourn his loss the widow, Mrs. Myrtle Fisher; one daughter, Mrs. Margaret Collier, of Eolia, Kentucky; and one son, Joe Fisher, of Pound, Virginia. He also leaves four brothers, Quillen Fisher, Dungannon, Virginia, Elmer Fisher, Clinchport, Virginia, Charles Fisher, St. Charles, Virginia, and Jerry Fisher, Dayton, Ohio.

Rev. Fisher died of a heart attack. He was stricken fatally while preparing to enter a mine he operated at Pound, Virginia.

He was a devoted husband & father to his family, and a

servant for his people.

Entering the ministry at an early age, he was faithful, always taking charge of his duties, ready & willing to help those that were in need and bereaved.

His one great concern was to see his people & friends fall out with sin, & live for his God; the one he went to as an orphan boy & found comfort to his soul. He was widely known in Wise, Dickenson, and Lee Counties, and part of Ky. Thousands heard him weekly on the air by means of radio. Many were converted to Christ through his preaching over the air and many more did he witness a new birth in his friends. He isn't dead, just sleeping a sleep of rest, until God himself awakens him on that Great Awakening Day. As in our mind, surely it must be in others, we can hear him saying to the lost "You must be born again" begging and pleading that his friends would come to repentance & live. And to those that were on the way home, the encouraging words, it's better farther on, and one glad day we shall anchor on Heaven's shore. He labored for his family, with his hands, didn't want to be a burden to anyone. He fell on the battlefield of duty, toward his family and God. It was on a cold winter morning, as he was preparing for the days work, that God called him home. We think of God's love being so great, as he warmed around

the fire his fellow men had made. God spoke and said, "Mack, you have worked long enough. It's time you came home. "Come, and bask in the warmth of the Sunlight of God's eternal Love. The Love that never fadeth or groweth dim and rest from your labors."

The family & a friend

IDA HALE

Mrs. Ida Hale was the daughter of Grat and Vinia Arms. She was born Sept. 3, 1900 and died Aug. 29, 1958, making her stay on earth 57 years, 11 months and 26 days.

She was united in holy matrimony to Miles Yates who preceded her in death in 1926. To this union was born 4 children. Carless Yates, Baltimore, Maryland; Donald Yates, Barberton, Ohio; Mrs. Gladys Cole, Cambridge City, Indiana; and Mrs. Eula Hess, Richlands, Va.

She was united in marriage to Frazier Hale January 18, 1929, and to this union was born one child: Miss Barber Hale, Honaker, Va. 2 stepsons: Virgil Hale, Rocky Gap, Va.; and Garsel Hale, North Canton, Ohio.

Surviving are 18 grandchildren; 3 brothers: Rufus Arms, Mavisdale, Va.; Claude Arms, Grundy, Va.; and Walter Arms, Conway, Va. 2 sisters: Mrs. Pearl Hagy, Harlan, Ky.; and Mrs. Lottie Peck, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

She leaves to mourn her loss, her husband, Frazier Hale, children, relatives and a host of friends.

She professed faith in Christ in 1949 and joined the Free-will Baptist Church with her membership at Drill Chapel.

She lived a consecrated Christian life until her death. Whatever her trials were she always requested her friends and loved ones to pray for her. She always had a sweet smile and a kind word toward everyone. Her earthly life of joy and weeping is over but her influence and wonderful Christian example will never be forgotten in circles where she lived.

A precious one from us is gone
A voice we love is still.
A place in our Church is vacant
That never can be filled
Sad and sudden was the shock
We never dreamed your death so near
You were a soldier for Jesus
And we know you're up there.

Her Husband
FRAZIER HALE

HESSIE HAYNES



It is with a sad heart that I will try to write the obituary of our dear loving mother. She was born October 31, 1892. She departed this life December 5, 1956. Making her stay on earth 64 years, 11 months, 14 days. She was the daughter of John and Rena Mullins. She was united in marriage to Russell Haynes March 9, 1910. To this union was born 18 children, two preceded her in death.

To mourn her death she leaves sixteen children, 43 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. She joined the Freewill Baptist Church in 1936 and lived a faithful Christian life until death. She always filled her seat at

church as long as she was able to go and was there a lot when she wasn't able to go, thanks to her kind and loving sons-in-law for bringing her to church and taking her back home. She was a kind loving mother and a true loving wife. She was kind to all her friends and neighbors. How her passing grieves us. Her passing was our loss but Heaven' gain. We know she is at rest with Jesus around the great white throne. A loving Mother from us has gone, by the grace of God I expect to meet her some sweet day where sad partings will come no more.

Sleep on dear mother and take your rest,
God called you to be with the blessed;
Till we meet on the bright shore,
Meet there to part no more.
Where we lay our burdens down
And go home to wear a starry crown
There I hope to shake your hand,
And live together in Glory Land.

Written by her Daughter

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by the divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Preserver, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant and agree, by God's help, to walk in brotherly love.

We, therefore, enter into covenant as members of this church and as Christians, that we will watch over each other in love, sharing together each other's joys and sorrows; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor quit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by divine assistance we will endeavor to bring to those under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice, to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in all our deportment; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; that we will sustain the worship, ordinance, discipline and doctrine of the church; that we will contribute cheerfully, according to our ability, to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and the general spread of the Gospel.

In keeping this solemn Covenant may we ever enjoy the blessings and presence of the great Head of the Church.

THE ORGANIZATION OF A CHURCH

1. When any number of believers desire to be organized into a Free-will Baptist Church, they are examined by one or more regular Freewill Baptist ministers in reference to their Christian character, doctrine and ability to sustain a church. If the examination is satisfactory the applicants are organized into the church as follows: The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice. The Church Covenant shall be adopted. A prayer of consecration offered. The hand of fellowship is given. Then officers are elected.

2. There shall be male members enough to fill the public offices in the church, in order that a regular discipline may be kept up.

3. After being thus constituted they shall be at liberty, out of the number of regularly ordained ministers, to choose a pastor who shall preside over them.

MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

The times of celebrating the Lord's Supper, washing feet, and of business meetings are arranged by each local church to suit its own convenience.

Each church is required to observe the ordinance. Foot washing follows the Lord's Supper.

Conference or business meetings are opened and closed with suitable devotional exercises. The pastor acts as moderator of the business meetings of the church. In the absence of the pastor the church may meet when necessary and attend to ordinary business; but no member is excluded in the absence of the pastor.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

Any person who gives evidence of a change of heart, professes faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and has been immersed by a proper administrator, church covenant read, explained and accepted, is received into membership by a vote of the church.

From other churches, immersed persons are received by letter. No one against whom any valid objection is made is received to membership. When any member objects to the reception of an applicant, the matter is deferred until the church can ascertain the nature of the objection. If,

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS (Continued)

in the opinion of the church, the objection is not a valid one, the applicant may be received. Excluded members are received again only when they confess their errors and give evidence of repentance. Persons excluded from other churches are not received, unless it be made evident that they were excluded upon unjustifiable grounds. The hand of fellowship is extended to all who are received into the membership of the church.

DISMISSION OF MEMBERS

Only members in good standing are dismissed from the church, and these for no other reason than to unite with some other church. Such members receive letters of honorable dismission and commendation, but are under the watch care of the same church until they are received into some other. A withdrawal without such letter of commendation is equivalent to excommunication, and treated as such by the church.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of a church are a Board of Trustees, Clerk, Treasurer, Deacons and Deaconesses, Finance Committee, and Pastor.

Board of Trustees—The duty of the trustees shall be to hold title to all property, either in fee or gift, and to maintain all rights to same, to convey said property in the discretion of a four-fifth majority of those present at a regular quarterly meeting being announced at said church three months prior to said meeting.

Clerk—It is the duty of the clerk to keep a church book and in it record the Church Covenant, the names of the members, and all the proceedings of the church, in the exercise of its doctrine and management of its temporal affairs. He also signs all the letters and other communications made by authority of the church.

Treasurer—The treasurer shall be entrusted with the funds of the church, and it shall be his duty to keep a regular account of all the money received, and from whom, and make a report of the same annually to the church or oftener if necessary, which funds shall be drawn on the treasury only by the order of the church.

Deacons—The deacons are elected for life or during good behavior. They should be men distinguished among their brethren for piety and benevolence. Before entering upon the duties of their office they are ordained by the pastor or other regular minister, ordination consisting of charge, laying on of hands and prayer. It is their duty to serve at the Lord's table, to distribute of the bounty of the church among its needy members, to visit the sick, to assist the pastor in promoting order in attendance upon the church, and to conduct religious meetings in the absence of the pastor.

Deaconesses—They assist the deacons and the finance committee, in visiting the sick, in collecting funds and distributing among the needy members, and enforcing proper discipline among female members.

Finance Committee—These have the general management of the finances of the church, subject to the church's control.

Pastor—Each church elects its own pastor out of the regular ordained ministers upon such terms as may be agreed upon between the parties themselves. It is the pastor's duty faithfully to preach the Word, to have the general superintendence of the church, to be himself an example to the flock, to visit the members, especially the sick, as he has the opportunity, and to do all within his power to promote the religious interest of the church which he serves, and to advance the cause of Christ among men.

THE MINISTRY

1. No member of our connection shall be at liberty to take upon himself the public ministry of the Word, unless he feels divinely called,

and make report of the same to the church to which he belongs, and if the church shall be satisfied with his qualifications, and call of such person, then she may grant said person the liberty to exercise his gifts by exhortation for twelve months.

2. If they prove satisfactory to the church, they shall be recommended to the Quarterly Meeting, if satisfactory to same, may license said applicants or recommend them to the Ordaining Council, and shall be ordained if proven satisfactory to the Council.

3. The Ordaining Council must be appointed by the Yearly Meeting. Three ordained ministers from each Quarterly Meeting shall serve for a period of twelve months. Any three may transact the business of examining the applicants for ordination.

4. When a minister of another denomination wishes to unite with the Freewill Baptist Church, he must first join this church. Then the proceedings are the same as with licentiates; which is as follows:

When he feels Divinely called he is given a license by Pastor of the Church to which he belongs. Then he is free to exercise his gift by exhortation for a period of twelve months. If proven satisfactory he is recommended to the Quarterly Meeting by said Church. Then from the Quarterly Meeting to the Ordaining Council. If proven satisfactory then he is ordained, otherwise he is granted a new license to exhort for twelve months more.

5. Any minister leaving the Freewill Baptist Church and desiring to be reinstated shall be dealt with as though they had never belonged to the church.

6. If a minister becomes disorderly, or preaches a doctrine contrary to the Freewill Baptist faith, the minister may at once be called to question by the church offended. They must be given a fair and impartial trial, by evidence mainly by the Freewill Baptist members; if the charges shall be sustained, they shall be dealt with as follows:

The churches have the exclusive right to deal with the ministers under their care.

If the charges are against a licentiate, it must be reported to the Quarterly Meeting, and their decision shall be final.

7. Any ordained minister of the Freewill Baptists may serve the church in the absence of the pastor, in every Gospel order required of him by the church.

BY-LAWS OF MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

1. There shall be a Ministers' Conference held annually in connection with the Yearly Meeting.

2. The object of the Ministerial Conference is to discuss points of doctrine and examine the Christian character of the ministers.

3. All ministers in the John Thomas Yearly Meetings are requested to attach themselves to the Ministers' Conference and must be governed by the rules and regulations of the Ministers' Conference.

4. All ministers belonging to the Conference are required to report themselves to the Conference annually, either in person or by letter or both.

5. Any ministers failing to report for a period of two years, either in person or by letter, or both, shall automatically exclude himself from the Conference.

6. All ministers moving to another Yearly Meeting shall take a letter of dismission and commendation so that they may properly unite themselves to the Yearly Meetings where they move.

ORGANIZATION OF QUARTERLY MEETING

Two or more churches wishing to organize a Quarterly Meeting shall appoint three delegates for that purpose and request of an adjoining Quarterly Meeting a council of not less than five members and one ordained minister which will meet with the delegates and proceed

1. To examine the delegates respecting the Christian character and doctrines of their respective churches, and the reason for such an organization as desired.

2. The right hand of fellowship and consecrating prayer.

3. The election of a moderator, clerk, and treasurer, and then proceed with such business as may come before it.

4. Delegates are elected to some Yearly Meeting or Association of the Freewill Baptists, and instructed for membership in one body.

BY-LAWS

1. No conference shall be held with less than three ordained ministers and four delegates belonging to the Yearly Meeting.

2. At the opening of each conference, the clerk's books shall be presented and the proceedings of last conference read.

3. This conference may at each regular meeting elect as many boards or standing committees as may be necessary in carrying out its benevolent purposes. These shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report at each quarterly meeting of the conference.

4. The conference may extend to visiting brethren all the privileges of the body, save that of voting.

5. If any member, in the judgment of the conference, shall show anger in his discussion on any subject, he shall forfeit his seat in that conference.

6. No member of the general conference shall be at liberty to withdraw without leave of the moderator.

7. The conference shall always adjourn by vote.

8. There shall annually be a committee of finance chosen to settle with the treasurer and report to conference.

9. Conference shall always open and adjourn by prayer and praise of God.

10. Any motion must be made by one member, seconded by another and afterwards stated by the moderator, before it is debated. A motion shall be reduced to writing by the mover or at the demand of any one member.

11. All resolutions shall be submitted in writing.

12. A motion or resolution may be withdrawn at any time before a decision or amendment by the conference.

13. Any motion or resolution containing more than one distinct proposition shall be divided, provided the call for a division be sustained by the majority.

14. When a member speaks or offers a motion he should rise and respectfully address the moderator, confine himself to the question under consideration, avoid all personalities or unkind or disrespectful language.

15. When two or more members rise to speak at the same time the moderator shall decide who is entitled to the floor.

16. When a member is speaking no one shall interrupt him except to call him to order, ask leave to explain or to make explanation. The one allowed to explain shall confine himself strictly to an actual misunderstanding or language which may need explanation.

17. No member shall speak more than twice, or longer than five minutes at each time on any question without leave of the moderator, which leave shall be granted without debate.

18. All committees may be named by the moderator, by request of the conference.

19. The member first named on a committee shall be its chairman to call the committees together, but after it is convened the committee may elect its own chairman and secretary.

20. Voting shall be done by standing up when a vote is close, or when it becomes necessary to count the affirmative and negative, and in special cases by ballot.

21. The moderator, in case of a tie, may cast the deciding vote.

22. All members should vote on one side or the other, unless excused by the moderator.

23. No motion, discussion or other business shall be admitted while the vote is being taken.

24. The minutes of the conference shall be signed by the moderator and the clerk.

25. Each Quarterly Meeting shall ask its respective churches to deal with its members when necessary, according to Matthew 18:15, 17.

26. After members accept the Bible as their rule of faith and practice, then the right hand of fellowship shall be given, which is the door into the church.

27. If the minority of a Quarterly Meeting be grieved over the ruling of the majority, they have the right to appeal to the Yearly Meeting, and its decision shall be final.

28. No minister shall have a vote in the conference unless he is a member in good standing with his church and conference.

E. A. REEDY

S. M. McFALL

D. L. SMITH

ARTHUR CASTEEL

J. C. RASNAKE

W. R. STALLARD

YEARLY MEETING CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

We, the members of the Freewill Baptist Church, in order to form a more perfect union and promote Christ's kingdom, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the John Thomas Yearly Meeting.

Article 1. This Yearly Meeting shall be called the John Thomas Yearly Meeting, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under the Constitution.

Article 2. The Conference of this Yearly Meeting shall be composed of ministers and delegates who are members of the Quarterly meetings, each Quarterly Meeting being entitled to three delegates from each church.

Article 3. The officers of this Yearly Meeting shall be a clerk, treasurer, and moderator, and shall be chosen at every session of the Yearly Meeting, with such assistant as may be found necessary.

Article 4. Any well organized and well regulated Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the usages and adopt the doctrines of the Freewill Baptist denominations, as published in the minutes of the John Thomas Yearly Meeting, and are in favor of the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may at any time, on application, by vote of this Yearly Meeting, become a member thereof.

Article 5. This Yearly Meeting shall have the power to discipline the Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly work if their labor proves unsuccessful.

Article 6. The session of this Yearly Meeting shall convene on Friday before the second Sunday in September, at which time it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meetings of which the Yearly Meeting is composed to represent themselves by delegates, and report their standing, prospects and statistics by letter; at which time the Yearly Meeting shall act on such questions and topics as may be referred to it by its respective Quarterly Meetings, and transact such other business not repugnant to this Constitution, nor the usages of the denomination, as in its judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the churches and Quarterly Meetings within the limits of the Yearly Meeting.

Article 7. The Yearly Meeting shall have power to adopt any regulation or by-laws, not inconsistent with the Constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulations of its sessions.

Article 8. This Conference shall not recognize any minister or delegate unless they comply with the constitution and by-laws thereof.

Article 9. Each Quarterly Meeting shall send to the Yearly Meeting, with their annual letters, funds equal to ten cents (10c) per member in said Quarterly Meeting; said funds to be used in meeting expenses of the Yearly Meeting.

Article 10. The Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of four-fifths of the ministers and delegates present at any session, notice of such intended alterations having been given and recorded at the next previous session.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God the Father, of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes. 1 Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven, from whence we look for him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to judge both the quick and dead.—1 Tim 2:5, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1:17; Acts 24:15, 1 John 2:2.

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father, through his dear Son, unto the World, who quickened and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7, 8; Acts 2:2; Eph. 2:1; Eph. 4:4-6.

4. We believe in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily, by transgression fell, and by means brought on himself a miserable and moral state subject to death.—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:27; John 3:15-17; 1 Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for Him, but as the Scripture has said for denying the Lord that brought them; because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and the righteous God of heaven will condemn the children of men, it follows against all argument that all men, at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; John 5:1, 10.

7. We believe that all people reaching the years of accountability

must be born again. Then by trusting His promise and keeping His commandments until the end of life, we shall be saved.—II Tim. 4:7.

8. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16, 17.

9. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe the gospel.—Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:19, 20; Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

10. We believe that sinners are drawn to God the Father of the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family; so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impress of His Spirit, shall, at a future day, own their condemnation just and change themselves with their own damnation, for willfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:17; St. John 6:45, 65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jer. 12:29.

11. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the grace of God into them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved, therefore, the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:14; II Peter 2:1; II Thesa. 2:11; Rom. 2:10-21.

12. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and that none of them dying in that state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for "of such is the kingdom of God."—I Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matt. 19:14.

13. We believe that good works are the fruits of saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men.—Rev. 22:14, 15; Isa. 1:19, 20; Matt. 7:8; Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34, 35.

14. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through his own works, power or ability, which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21.

15. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting life, out of respect of mere choice further that He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31; Matt. 25:31-46.

16. We believe as teaching Gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saints' feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing the praise of God, and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19, 20; John 13:5-7; Jas. 5:14.

17. We believe the Gospel made of baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38, 39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

18. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28; 29; II Cor. 5:10.

19. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.

