

1916?

PRECEDINGS

Thursday morning Oct. 19th 10 o'clock a m there was not a quorum present and the organization was deferred to 2 o'clock p m and the body engaged in singing and prayer led by Rev. A J Browning, after which Rev. C C Strength preached the Introductory sermon and we adjourned to 2 p m.

Afternoon session after singing and prayer the body was called to order by the former moderator, Rev. J J Thomley, and the former Clerk R M Chambless enrolled the names of the present, to-wit:

Rev. J J Thomley, Lottie, Ala., J A Slay, Perdido Station, Ala., C C Strength, Poarch, Ala., A J Browning, Flomaton, Ala., visitor.

From Liberty Association No. 2 of the United free will Baptist and the moderator appoints brethren T J Phillips and C C Hanks as Reading clerks, and we call for the church letters, and the state of the same is noted and the delegates enrolled.

The churches reporting and delegates present during the session is as follows to-wit:

Shiloh, Escambia County, Fla., Delegate, W B Godwin.

New Home, Baldwin County, Ala., T J Phillips, David E Dean.

Union Grove, Monroe County, Ala., W M Williams.

Good Will, Escambia County, Ala., Henry Cumbie and Emmie Cumbie.

Pine Grove, Baldwin County, Ala., Thomas Coleman.

Happy Home, J J McMillan and B F Smith.

Seamiars Springs, Monroe County, Ala., A O Allen.

Little River, Baldwin County, Alabama, C T Phillips.

CHURCHES NOT REPRESENTED

Taits Grove, Escambia County, Alabama, New Home, No. 2, Escambia County, Alabama, Friendship, Johnsons Chapel, Monroe, County, Alabama, Bethlehem, Escambia, County, Fla., Shady Grove, Escambia County, Alabama, Dry Springs, Childers Chapel gone down, Sardis, No. 1, Baldwin County, Ala., Sardis No 2, Baldwin County, Ala. Magnolia Springs, Escambia County, Fla. New churches come in to wit, Good Hope, Escambia County, Ala. and Mt. Carmel, Baldwin County, Ala.

The Body was then permanently organized by electing the officers as above named, and a test of fellowship is made and all is found in order.

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We call for petitionary letters and one is received from Mt. Carmel at Stapleton, Baldwin County, Alabama, and Rev. A J Browning and sister, S A Jeffers of liberty association No. 2 is seated with the body and Brethren T J Phillips, W B Godwin and C T Phillips is appointed as a Devotional Committee, and the body adjourns to 9 a m Friday

Friday morning session the body was called to order with singing and scripture read the 1st Chapter 1st Corinthians, and prayer by the Moderator and the Clerk called the roll and added the names of late arrivals and the moderator extends the right hand of fellowship to the same, and letters are read and noted, and the names of Rev. R T Coleman Perdido, Ala., and Rev. Warren, Renfroe Bluff Springs, Fla., are also added to list of ministers present.

And the call for new churches is renewed, and one from Good Hope in Escambia County, Ala. formerly known as Childers Chapel is read and received and the body makes up \$1.25 for minutes and same is credited to the church and the committees are appointed as follows to-wit.

Com. on the standing of the churches, B F Smith, W B Godwin and Henry Cumbie.

Com. on the standing of the Ministry, C A Dean, Thomas Coleman and J J McMillan.

Com. on Finance, R T Coleman, J A Slay and R M Chambless.

Com. on Sabbath Schools and Temperance W M Williams, Warren Renfroe and C T Phillips.

Com. on Suggestions, C C Hanks, D E Dean, and Warren Renfroe.

Com. on Home Mission, R T Coleman, C C Hanks and J A Slay.

Com. Obituaries, Rev. A J Browning, C T Phillips and sister S A Jeffers of Liberty association No. 2.

The committees all being appointed the body adjourns to 2:30 p m afternoon session, after singing by the congregation, prayer was led by C A Dean and the body is called to order and the call for church letters is renewed and two is read and the state of same noted and a motion prevails that Rev. J J Thomley preach a doctrinal sermon Saturday at 9 o'clock a m.

The regular order of business being suspended, and the church covenant as revised by R M Chambless is read and after some discussion is adopted except that clause relating to the incorporation of the churches said clause being rejected.

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Call for ministers reports and the same is received to-wit.
Rev. C C Strength, miles traveled 784, sermons preached 100 members received 20, baptised 9, money received \$27.50, Railroad fare \$3.60,
Rev. G W Murphy, miles traveled 376, sermons preached 79 members received 14, baptised 5, money received \$11.85.

Rev. Warren Renfroe, miles traveled 443, sermons preached 93, members received 12, baptised 10, reorganized one church, money received \$25.16, railroad fare \$6.00.

Rev. J J Thomley, miles traveled 836, sermons preached 96, members received 33, baptised 10, money received \$41.70, railroad fare paid out \$14.00, churches organized one.

Rev. R T Coleman, miles traveled 500, sermons preached 70, members received 14, baptised 5, money received \$27.00.

Rev. J A Slay, miles traveled 1145, sermons preached 101, members received 3, baptised 1, money received \$11.07, railroad fare \$1.80 and on a motion we adjourn to 8.30 Saturday morning.

Saturday morning session after singing by the congregation prayer was offered by Warren Renfroe and the body is called to order and the moderator extends the right hand of fellowship to those arriving since the last session and on a motion brother C C Hanks name is added to the roll of ministers with the understanding that Brother Hanks will meet his church in conference and get in proper standing with the church and a recess is taken for 10 minutes, after which Rev. J J Thomley takes the stand and preaches a Free-Will Baptist Doctrinal sermon and a recess is again taken to 2 p m afternoon session. the body met pursuant to adjournment with prayer by Rev. J A Slay, and committees reports as follows.

Com. on Devotional Exercise full report Thursday night, Rev. J A Slay preached, followed by Rev. A J Browning, Friday 11 a m. Rev. R T Coleman, followed by J J Thomley Friday night 7:30, Warren Renfroe, followed by R T Coleman, Saturday 11 a m, Rev. A J Browning.

Saturday night Rev. C C Hanks to preach followed by R T Coleman.
T J Phillips, Chairman.

The report is adopted and the committee discharged.

Committee on home mission, we your committee find brought over from last year \$4.15 and turned in this year with the letters \$5.15 Total on hand \$9.30 and we suggest that we use our home mission funds for the benefit of widows and orphans and the benefit of our churches.
R T Coleman, Chairman.

The report is adopted and the committee discharged.

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But on motion the body agrees to pay up the interest on the note given by R M Chambless on the mule bought for brother J J Thomley, using this fund for that purpose and get said note carried over if same can be done.

Com. on the state of the ministry, we your committee find all our ministers in good standing so far as we can find out.

C A Dean, Chairman.

The report is adopted and the committee discharged.

Com. on the standing of the churches, we find all the churches in good standing so far as we can ascertain, except friendship, and Bethlehem we find they are destitute of a pastor and recommend that some of our ministers whose time is not taken up, will endeavor to assist them.

B F Smith, Chairman.

The report is adopted and the committee discharged.

Com. on suggestions, we suggest and recommend that the pastors and preachers and churches adhere to the resolutions past heretofore by the association we also recommend that the next session of this association meet with Pine Grove Church at Perdido Station Ala at the regular time, we suggest that we hold one fifth Sunday meeting to be held with New Home church at Lottie, Ala., commencing on Thursday night before the fifth Sunday in July 1917 and we further recommend that the preachers get together on the other two fifth Sundays and run revival meetings with some of the weak churches, we further suggest that the association get down to business and quit childrens play, and adhere to the rules and regulations as passed by the association.

C C Hanks, Chairman.

The report is adopted and the committee discharged.

Com. on Sabbath schools and Temperance, we are glad to note that while there are only a few churches represented and reported at this session we find five Sunday schools and we are glad to see the interest taken and manifested in this important work for the master. as it is the first step into the christian kingdom, and we do most earnestly beg our people to never rest until there is a Sunday School in every church in this association, as to temperance the book tells us to be ye therefore temperate, touch not taste nor neither handle the unclean thing, we suggest that these subjects be taken up for discussion Sunday morning at 9 o'clock.

W M Williams, Chairman.

The report is adopted and the committee discharged.

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Com. on obituaries, we find 7 deaths reported as follows, sister Sarah Merchant, of Good Will church, one from Pleasant Plains church name not given, Sister Annie Mason of Bethlehem church, sister Catharine Boon, of New Home church, Brother J V Cooper and Sister Creacy Cooper of Sardis church No. 2.

We regret to part with those we love, yet we hope to meet them above, where sad partings will be more humbly submitted.

Rev A J Browning Chairman

A little prayer, all is well

The day is ended, ere I sink to sleep
My weary spirit seeks repose in thine
Father forgive my Tresspasses and keep
This little life of mine,

2nd

With loving kindness curtain thou my bed
And cool in rest my burning pilgrim feet,
Thy pardon be the pillow for my head
So shall my sleep be sweet

3rd

At peace with all the world dear Lord and thee,
No fears my souls unwavering faith can shake
All's well which ever side the grave for me
The morning light may brake.

These are the true sentiments of the heart of Rev; A J Browning, traveling Evangelist of Liberty association No 2.

The report is adopted and the committee discharged.

Com. on finance, we find on hand for minutes \$17.45 and we recommend that the same be turned over to the clerk for the minutes and that the amount be raised and made up to \$25.00 and a collection is taken up and amount raised \$2.80, Total on hand \$20.25 and the ministers and delegates are instructed to make an effort to raise the balance and send it to the clerk.

R T Coleman, Chairman.

The report is adopted and the committee discharged.

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The reports all being in we take up miscellaneous business and the subject of the woman preacher having been sprung by Rev J J Thomley in preaching the doctrinal sermon with a suggestion that she be not allowed to preach in our churches, is again introduced by R M Chambless and after considerable discussion Pro and Con by the members of the body, a vote is taken will the woman be allowed to preach in our churches the majority voting no those voting yes were R M Chambless, T J Phillips, C A Dean, D E Dean and W M Williams 5, Rev. R T Coleman and Thomas Coleman not voting, while others were very much confused and admitted that they did not exactly understand the proposition.

On motion Rev. W R Thompson of liberty No. 2 is seated with the body, and a vote of thanks is extended to the brethren and sisters and community at large for their kindness and hospitality shown the body while here assembled, Rev. J J Thomley is re-elected evangelist of the association; and Rev. Warren Renfroe is elected to write the circular letter, and Rev. R T Coleman to preach the introductory sermon in 1917.

A motion prevails that the Deacons of the church is empowered and instructed to administer Baptism to candidates in the absence of the pastor or other preacher if the candidate is ready.

Resolutions and Querries, brought from the fifth Sunday meeting.

1st Shall we adopt the rule the second fellowship in receiving members after Baptism as is now practiced by some of our churches it is so carried.

2nd. Does any church have a right to lay aside the old rool book and make a new list of names, leaving off some of the members, the body votes no and the churches is instructed to comply with the rules and regulations of the church covenant, as laid down therein.

On motion we adjourn to meet with Pine Grove church at Perdido Station, Ala., on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in October 1917 at 10 o'clock a m.

Rev. J J Thomley, Moderator.
R M Chambless, Clerk.

CHURCH COVENANT

In order to have a more perfect and free christian love and fellowship for each other, and to advance the cause of our Lord and Master, we do hereby agree and covenant by the help of God our Father and aided by the Holy Spirit, to keep the ordinances precepts and examine as laid down in the new testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

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AS TO RULES ARTICLE I

Sec. 1. When a sufficient number of members are ready for organization the articles of faith and church covenant shall be read and if adopted the right hand of fellowship shall be extended and after prayer they shall proceed to the election of officers, after which they shall be declared organized and ready for business.

Sec. 2. No church shall be organized with less than three male members.

Sec. 3. The officers of a church shall be a pastor, one or more deacons and a clerk and a treasury and not less than three trustees.

Sec. 4. The church shall call their pastor at the next preceeding the last regular conference, in the associational year, unless in case of a vacancy, in such case they may call a conference for that purpose.

Sec. 5. Any church in case of necessity may call a conference and elect one of their members or a visiting minister as moderator.

Sec. 6. The church may hold a conference as often as it deems it necessary.

Sec. 7. It is suggested that the church commune and wash the saints feet four times a year if convenient, and it shall not be postponed on account of disobedient members, and they may commune oftener if they so desire.

Sec. 8. The church shall not try a member without a hearing unless said member refuses to attend the conference, when notified to do so.

Sec. 9. The church may grant a license to any member in good standing to preach the gospel if it deems him worthy and competent, and said license shall be good as long as he is an advantage to the cause, but he shall not be ordained only by the recommendation or order of the church.

Sec. 10. When ministers or deacons are to be ordained the church shall call a presbytery or instruct their pastor to do so for that purpose, and said presbytery shall be composed of two ministers or one minister and two deacons.

Sec. 11. Deacons shall not be ordained until they have been tried.

Sec. 12. Each minister shall be a member of some live church and in good standing with his church.

Sec. 13. It shall be the duty of every member male and female to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor

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is expected to instruct the church in a spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine and discipline, and the rule of holy living and the church members duties.

Sec. 14. No member shall give or attend card parties or attend other places of worldly amusement, or allow such things to be given in their homes, and drunkenness is strictly forbidden.

Sec. 15. Members dismissed from the church by letter who becomes disorderly or continues to hold their letters out of a church an unreasonably length of time without a reasonable excuse shall be cited to the church in conference to answer for their conduct,

ARTICLE 2

Sec. 1. The pastor shall attend his church monthly unless providentially hindered, and shall sit as moderator and see that justice is done, but he may appoint some suitable brother to sit in his stead, when he thinks proper for cause, he shall also hold a protracted meeting with his churches once a year.

Sec. 2. The deacons shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the discretion of the church, they shall watch over the flock advise the unruly members and report such to the church in conference when necessary, and may administer the ordinance of Baptism, they shall make all necessary arrangements for the communion, look into the needs of the church, and the support of the pastor, they shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's supper and wash each others feet, and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

Sec. 3. The clerk shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the discretion of the church, he shall keep a record of the members and a minute of the business transactions of the church and shall read same at the conference as often as the church may demand, and shall turn over all books and papers to his successor in office.

Sec. 4. The treasury shall be elected by the church, shall hold office at the will of the church, shall hold all moneys paid into the church for general expenses, and pay out same only on an order from the church, in conference and shall turn over all money and papers to his successor.

Sec. 5. The trustees shall be elected by the church, and shall hold office for two years and until their successor are elected, unless removed for cause, they shall have charge of the deeds and all other

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church property and shall look after the repairs of the church, but they can not sell or otherwise dispose of the church property without an order from the church in conference.

Sec. 6. No one shall be received in the church unless scripturally baptised and members shall not miss three conferences in succession without a good excuse,

Sec. 8. Members must pay all debts contracted by them or make satisfactory arrangements with their creditors, and they shall help pay their pastors.

ORDER OF CONFERENCE

1. Opportunity for members.
2. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
3. Reading the minutes of last conference.
4. Church report or acknowledgements.
5. Deacons report.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Motion to adjourn.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. As to God—One God and Father of all. Eph. 4:6.
2. As to the Scripture—All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. 2 Tim. 3:16.
3. As to Freedom of the Will—Ye will not come unto me. John 5:40. Whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely. Rev. 22:17.
4. As to Conditions of Salvation—He (Christ) died for all, 2 Cor. 5:15. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Rom. 10:13. For in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Gal. 6:9. Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown for life. Rev. 2:10.
5. As to Election—God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted with him, Acts 10:34-35.
6. As to Grace—For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Titus 2:11. For by grace are ye saved through faith. Eph. 2:8.

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7. As to Faith—Justified by faith. Rom. 5:1. This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith. 1 John 5:4.

8. As to Works—Faith without works is dead. James 2:6. God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Eph. 2:10.

9. As to Baptism—And they went down both into the water. and when they were come up out of the water. Acts 8:39. We are buried with him by baptism unto death, Rom. 6:4.

10. As to Subjects of Baptism—If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest, Acts 8:39. So then everyone of you will give an account of himself unto God. Rom. 14:12.

11. As to the Oneness of the Christian Church—Is Christ divided? 1 Cor. 1:33. I am the vine, ye are the branches. John 15:5. That they, may be one as we are, John 17:11-21. There is one body and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling: Eph. 4:4.

12. As to Communion—This do in remembrance of me. Luke 22:19. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 1 Cor. 11:28. Let no man therefore judge you. Col 2:16.

13. As to the Resurrection—For the hour cometh in which all that are in the grave shall hear his voice and shall come forth, John 5:28. For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 1 Cor. 15:52.

14. As to the Judgement, Reward and Punishment—For we shall stand before the judgement seat of Christ. Rom. 14:10. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal. Matt. 25:46.

15. As to Feet Washing—Ye also ought to wash one another's feet John 13:14, For I have given you an example, John 13:15. Verily, verily I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his Lord, John 13:16. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them, John 13:17. Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, 1 Peter 2:21.

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