

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**THIRD ANNUAL SESSION**  
**OF THE**  
**LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**CONVENED WITH**  
**PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH**  
*ASHVILLE, ALABAMA, ROUTE THREE.*  
**September 25-26-27, 1936.**

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**OFFICERS:**

ELDER T. J. FINCH.....MODERATOR  
ELDER H. T. PERKINS.....ASST. MODERATOR  
R. W. WIGGINS.....CLERK & TREASURER

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The next Annual Session of this Association will be held  
with FRIENDSHIP CHURCH, PELL CITY, ST. CLAIR  
COUNTY, ALABAMA, convening on Friday Morning, at  
8:30 before the Fourth Sunday in September, 1937.



The First Annual Session of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Association, the Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Pell City, and the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ashville, Rt. 3, Ala., met with Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, for the purpose of organizing an Association, Friday night before the 4th Sunday in September 1934. Proceedings:—Friday night. Devotional Service; Saturday a. m., after devotional services a Council was selected by the two churches, as follows: Elders E. J. Carlisle, N. Polk, W. B. Hollis and Bro. W. G. Jackson. Eld. E. J. Carlisle was elected Moderator. Letters were read and delegates seated. According to Sec., 1, of the Co-operative General Association, Treatise of Church work. Eld. E. J. Carlisle, Moderator. R. W. Wiggins Clerk and Treasurer.

The Third Session of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Association convened with the Pleasant Grove Church, Ashville, Rt. 3; on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in September, 1936. Devotional Service conducted by Bro. Y. J. Pickett. After song and prayer. Sermon by Elder J. R. Weaver, Text, 2nd Timothy, 3: 6. The Spirit of the Lord was with us. After which every one were assigned to homes. Saturday, 8:30 a. m. The Clerk called the Association to order. Devotional conducted by Elder Leroy Smith, he reading, 8 verses, 4th chapter, Gal. Prayer and Song.

BUSINESS—Sec. 2, Art 2—Motion sustained that Eld. T. J. Finch, be elected Moderator. Eld. H. T. Perkins, Assistant, and R. W. Wiggins, Clerk and Treasurer. Roll Call Of Churches - Friendship—formerly Mt. Zion Church—Delegates, Grady Bishop, W. G. Jackson, Sister Martha Williams. Alternate Sister Zella Smith.

PLEASANT GROVE—Delegates - W. O. Davis, Clyde Bishop, Ham O'Donnell. On motion, the letters accepted and delegates seated.

Records of delegates and corresponding messengers: A letter from Pilgrim Rest Church, Aldrich, Ala., a request for membership with this body, moved that letter be accepted and the following delegate were seated: Bros. Walter Bosworth, Y. J. Pickett, Sisters Sallie Bosworth and Julia Pickett. On motion, the body seated Elder J. R. Weaver, as Corresponding Messenger from West Blocton Church, after which, the right hand of fellowship was extended.

Unfinished Business—The Minutes of the last Association read and approved Reports of standing committees very good

Committees Appointed - Business, Grady Bishop, Eld. Clarence O'Donnell, Y. J. Pickett. Devotional - Nana B. Hollis, Ima O'Donnell, Sallie Bosworth, Henry Bishop, A. B. Lee. Sabbath School - Cecil Simpkins, Clyde Bishop, T. C. Mitchell. Literature - Ham O'Donnell, Elder W. B. Hollis, Sister Julia Pickett. Religion - Sister Zella Smith, Henry Bishop, Walter Bosworth. Temperance - W. O. Davis, W. G. Jackson, Sister Martha Williams. On Education - Rev. Charlie Carlisle, Elders Leroy Smith and J. R. Weaver. On Deceased Members - Elder H. T. Perkins, Ham O'Donnell, Y. J. Pickett. Standing of the Ministry - D. J. O'Donnell, T. C. Mitchell, W. G. Jackson. Auditing - Elders W. B. Hollis, Clarence O'Donnell. Resolutions - Cecil Simpkins, A. B. Lee.



Moved and carried—That the Fifth Sunday Ministers and Deacons Conference make a report to the Association each year. Moved and carried—

Take up business called for, from Pilgrim Rest Church. (See reports)

Moved and carried—That the Moderator appoint an ordaining council as follows: Elders W. B. Hollis, H. T. Perkins and Deacon D. J. O'Donnell.

Moved and carried—That this Body organize a Ministers' Conference. A council was called of Ministers, and covenanted together, and elected their officers according to Section 2, of the Ministry in the usages of the Free Will Baptist Church work, after which a consecration prayer was offered, and the right hand of fellowship was extended,

Moved this body adjourn until 1:30. See devotional report.

After dinner was served, the Clerk called the house to order for business

Devotional reading by the Moderator—2nd Peter, 1 to 11; Prayer and Song.

Moved and carried: Brother Charles Carlisle draw up By Laws for this Association to be presented at the next session. Moved that this body stand adjourned until the next setting of the Association,

ELDER W. B. HOLLIS, Moderator.

ALFRED O'DONNELL Clerk

## REPORTS OF ALL COMMITTEES

**DEVOTIONAL**—Elder H. T. Perkins, preach at Eleven o'clock Saturday followed by Elder J. R. Weaver, Text Luke 4, 5. That Sister Zella Smith conduct Mothers Prayer Service Saturday night, at 6:39. Elder T. J. Finch, conduct Communion and Feet washing service Saturday night. Text, St. John 14 3. Elder Clarence Goodwin preach Sunday at Eleven o'clock Sunday followed by Rev. Charley Carlisle, reading St. Luke 4; 1 to 10 Nana B. Hollis, Ch'm'n

**SABBATH SCHOOL**—That teachers and officers should have their lives dedicated to the Lord, we urge parents and young people to see the great need for Sabbath School in the Church, to bring up the child in the way it should go. When they become older, they will not depart from it. Bring them up to know Love, and to fear God. Cecil Simpkins, Chairman

**LITERATURE**—We recommend all good and wholesome literature. This to be furnished as freely as possible to our children in our homes, schools and churches. We recommend that the Bible be taught, and studied above all other books. We recommend that all unwholesome literature be banished from among us. We recommend the use and study of the Free Will Baptist Literature in our homes and churches. We feel that the responsibility of our Literature is upon the parents of our country. Julia Pickett, Chairman.

**FAMILY RELIGION**—We believe every Christian family should teach their children, and all other children the same—the way of Christ—and to follow Him. Parents should take their children to Church, so that they may learn, and be in the work of the Lord. Zella Smith, Chairman.

**TEMPERANCE**—We can be Temperate in many ways. God's Word teaches us to be temperate in all things. We should be temperate in all things, and we should practice temperance in our homes. W. O. Davis, Chairman.

**EDUCATION**—We see in God's Word that the beginning of wisdom is the fear of God. While we believe that Literary Education is necessary, but God's Word says after all this get understanding. Also, that my people are dying for the lack of knowledge. We need to teach the fear of God in our homes, and educate our children the Bible. The Church should awake to its duty, for the harvest is great, and the laborers are few. We urge every one to set up an altar in their home. Charlie L. Carlisle, Chairman.

**DECEASED MEMBERS**—After careful examination, we find that Brother Walter Picket was called away June 26, 1936, of Pilgrim Rest Church, of which he served as Deacon over 20 years. We extend his family our sympathies. Elder H. T. Perkins, Chairman.

**AUDITING COMMITTEE**—We find the records in good condition, but no money in the treasury. We have raised \$13.00 at this session, which is in the treasury at the close of this session. Elder W. B. Hollis, Chairman.

**STANDING OF THE MINISTRY**—After careful examination of their Christian life, we recommend a certificate of standing as follows, for one year. Ordained: Elders T. J. Finch, H. T. Perkins, W. B. Hollis, Leroy Smith, Clarence O'Donnell, Licensed: Elders Charlie L. Carlisle, Clarence Goodwin, Roscoe Gardner. D. J. O'Donnell, Chairman.

**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**—1. Be it resolved, that each minister furnish a written report of this year's work, to be printed in the minutes, also to appear in person, or by letter.

2. That each member of each church pay into the Association treasury 50 Cents each year, to support its work. These collections to be looked after by the Deacons.

3. We resolve that each Church pay its Pastor before contributing to other things.

4. We extend our thanks to the Almighty God, and to the good hospitality of this community, and the Church while we are among them. Cecil Simpkins, Chairman.

**BUSINESS COMMITTEE**—Pilgrim Rest Church request this body to call in question, and if found worthy, ordain them for Deacons of Pilgrim Rest Church. Brothers Y. J. Pickett, Walter Bosworth, also Pleasant Grove Church request that Brother Roscoe Gardner be called in question, and if found worthy, grant him license to preach the Gospel one year. Eld. Clarence O'Donnell, Ch'm'n.

**ORDAINING COUNCIL**—After careful examination, we find Brothers Y. J. Pickett, Walter Bosworth, in harmony with our Doctrine, and we recommend them as Deacons; also Brother Roscoe Gardner, and we recommend a certificate of license for one year. Elders W. B. Hollis, H. T. Perkins, and Deacon D. J. O'Donnell.



**MINISTERS CONFERENCE**—The first session of the Ministers Conference of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Association convened with Pleasant Grove Church, Ashville, Rt 3, Ala., Sunday a. m., September 27, 1936. After prayer. Motion carried to go into election of officers; The following were elected: Moderator, Elder W. B. Hollis; For Clerk Alfred O'Donnell.

### THE ROLL CALL OF MINISTERS

Elder W. B. Hollis, present. Preached 15 sermons; expense none; baptized none; married couples, one; pastored churches, none; Cropwell, Ala., Rt 2 box 4.

Elder T. J. Finch, sermons preached, 26; miles traveled 286; expenses, \$1.60; receipts, \$3.00; baptized none; married couples, one; assisted in revivals, 3; pastored churches, none; funerals conducted, one; Pell City, Ala., Rt 1, box 26

Elder H. T. Perkins, sermons preached, 52; miles traveled, 250; expenses, \$10; receipts, \$75.00; baptized none; assisted in revivals, one; churches pastored, one; Eden, Ala.

Elder Clarence O'Donnell, present, sermons preached 24; miles traveled 220; baptized, none; married couples, none; assisted in revivals, none; churches pastored, none; Ashville, Ala., Rt. 3.

Elder Leroy Smith, present, sermons preached 35; miles traveled 708; expenses, \$19.80; receipts, \$43.75; baptized, none; married couples, none; assisted in revivals one; pastored churches, one; Pell City, Ala., Rt 2, box 61.

Friendship Church—Elder T. J. Finch, Pastor, Pell City Rt 2; members received, none; excluded, none; deaths, 1; membership 50; Charles L. Carlisle, C C

**LICENSED**—Charles L. Carlisle, present; sermons preached 5; miles traveled, 150; expenses \$3.50, receipts, none; Pell City, Ala., Rt 2, box 4.

Clarence O. Goodwin, sermons preached, 12; miles traveled, 202; expenses, \$15.00; receipts, 25 cts; Munford, Ala., Rt 2.

Roscoe Gardner, sermons preached, 5; miles traveled 150; Ashville Ala. Rt 3. Moved, and carried, that they be accepted.

### ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE**.—The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **GOD**.—There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the universe and in the scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, yet, one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are to supremely love, adore, and obey.

3. **CHRIST**.—Christ is God manifest in flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in his human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man; once crucified, He is now risen and glorified and is an ever present Savior and Lord.

4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT**—The scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all attributes of God. He is Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men,

### ARTICLES OF FAITH—Continued.

5. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD**.—God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man may require.

6. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN**.—Man was created innocent but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to the years of accountability sin and become guilty before God.

7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST**.—The son of God by his incarnation, life, suffering, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. **THE TERMS OF SALVATION**.—The conditions of salvation are: First, repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. Second, faith, or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin becomes a child of God. Third, continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. **ELECTION**.—God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence, by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. **FREEDOM OF THE WILL**.—The human will is free and self controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the spirit and live or to resist them and perish.

11. **SALVATION FREE**—God desires the salvation of all, the gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all and whosoever will, may come and take the water of life freely.

12. **PERSEVERANCE**.—All believe in Christ, who, through grace, persevere in holiness to the end of life have the promise of eternal salvation.

13. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES**.—Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, feet washing, and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be perpetuated under the gospel of universal obligation, and administered to all true believers.

14. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH**.—The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works and activities and for personal communion with God.

15. **RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION**.—The scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done ill unto the resurrection of judgment; then the wicked will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.—John 5:29, revised version; Matt. 25:46.



## CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopting the word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves one to another by the will of God, in this solemn Covenant.

We promise, by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the purpose of the church, of its poor and its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reprove with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bond of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church of the gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling; that the kingdom may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus.