The

# Liberty Association

# Free Will Baptists

### 1941

Proceedings of the 8 th Annual Session

Convened at
Pleasant Grove Church
Ashville, Alabama

#### PROCEEDINGS

The Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists met in its Eighth Annual Session with Pleasant Grove Church of Shoal Creek, Ashville, Alabama, on Friday morning, September 26, 1941, continuing until Saturday night, September 27th.

The clerk called the house to order at 9:05 A.M. Friday.

The moderator and assistant moderator being absent, Eld. T. J. Finch was called upon to officiate until the election of a permant moderator.

He proceeded by reading 1 Peter 5:1-11.

Prayer by Eld. A. G. Robershaw.

Elder Finch declared the conference duly opened for business.

Motion carried to elect officers: Eld. O. B. Hamilton was elected moderator; Eld. T. J. Finch, ass't. moderator.

Motion carried to retain the present clerk and assistant clerk, Eld. C. L. Carlisle and Bro. D. J. O'Donnell.

Roll call of churches as follows:

Friendship Church of Pell City, Alabama — Eld. R. P. Ritch. pastor; Carliss Hollis, clerk. Delegates: Eld. W. B. Hollis, Bro. Wallace Patterson.

Malone Church of Alabama City, Alabama — Eld. A. G. Robershaw, pastor; Bro. Homer Cannon, clerk. Delegates: Bros. Earl Portwood, R. F. Jones, Breman Rogers, and Bro. Riley.

Pilgrim Pest Church of Aldridge, Alabama — Failed to report with letter. Sister Sallie Bosworth was seated as corresponding messenger.

Unity Church of Keener, Alabama — Eld. Huey Bolen, pastor; Sister Ellen Bradford, clerk. Delegates: Bro. Marshall Roberts, Sister Lou Roberts.

Fleasant Grove Church of Shoal Creek, Ashville, Alabama, Route 1 — Eld. A. G. Robershaw, pastor; Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, clerk. Delegates: Bros. G. D. Bishop, G. W. Corneilus, H. D. O'Donnell.

Cuiding Light Church of near Coal City, Alabama — Eld. LeRoy Smith, pastor; Sister Alice Smith, clerk. Delegates: Sister Belle Callahan, Josie Callahan. (This church was received into the Association Saturday morning.)

Motion carried to adopt church letters and seat their delegates.

Motion carried that the chair appoint the working committees:

Devotional — Bros. Wallace Patterson, D. J. O'Donnell, Breman Rogers.

Business — Elders Clarence O'Donnell, R. S. Pennington, J. T. Windsor.

Sabbath Schools — Sister Ellen Bradford, Eld. R. S. Pennington, Bro. Breman Rogers.

Family Religion — Eld. A. G. Robershaw, Brother Marschall Roberts, Sister Sallie Bosworth.

Temperance — Bros. G. W. Corneilus, H. D. O'Donnell, G. D. Bishop.

Education — Elders Clarence O'Donnell, R. S. Pennington, J. T. Windsor.

Deceased Members — Sister Ellen Bradford, Eld. H. T. Perkins, Bro. Earl Portwood.

Auditing — Bro. H. D. O'Donnell, Eld. W. B. Hollis, J. W. Callahan.

Ministerial Standing — Bros. D. J. O'Donnell, Breman Rogers, S. D. Kimberly, Marschall Roberts, Sister Belle Callahan.

Literature — Eld. W. B. Hollis, Sister Sallie Bosworth, Eld. Clarence O'Donnell.

Ordaining Council — Elders T. J. Finch, R. S. Pennington, H. A. O'Donnell.

Resolutions — Elders H. A. O'Donnell, W. G. Rogers, J. T. Windsor.

Organizing Council — Elders T. J. Finch, Clarence O'Donnell, C. L. Carlisle, H. T. Perkins.

Executive Board — Bros. Breman Rogers, H. D. O'Donnell, S. D. Kimberly.

Home Mission Board — Bros. Carliss Hollis, Homer Cannon, Henry Bishop.

Motion carried to recess for fifteen minutes.

Reassembleded at 10:45 A.M.

Partial report of devotional committee read and adopted. Eld. H. T. Perkins to preach at eleven o'clock. Motion carried to recess business until one o'clock.

#### ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Eld. H. T. Perkins delivered the message, reading

Gen. 2:21 and Matt. 27:46. Text, Gen. 2:21, "And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam". Subject, "The Church, the Lamb's Bride". He delivered a real good message.

Dismissed for the noon hour. Dinner was served on the grounds by the good sisters of Pleasant Grove church, and was heartily enjoyed by all partakers.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The clerk called the house to order at 1:10 P. M. for further transaction of business.

The moderator took charge reading the 20th Psalms. Motion carried to postpone ministers conference until 2:30 Saturday afternoon.

Motion carried to adopt partial report of business committee.

Motion carried to elect delegates to the State Associatin. Bros. Wallace Patterson, D. J. O'Donnell, Eld. A. G. Robershaw were elected.

Motion carried that the ministers conference convene Saturday morning at 8:30.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

After the song service and prayer, Bro. D. J. O'Donnell conducted the testimony service. Many good testimonies were rendered.

Elder J. S. Fredrick then took charge reading Eph. 4:1-4. Text, Eph. 3:21. He delivered a wonderful message on the church of the living God.

Dismissed by prayer.

#### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

#### Ministers' Conference

The ministers of Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists met in their Sixth Annual Conference with Pleasant Grove Church of Ashville, Alabama, Route 1, at 8:30 A.M., Saturday September 27, 1941.

Devotional services conducted by Eld. C. L. Carlisle. Scripture lesson, Isaiah 8th chapter.

Motion carried to go into election of officers: Eld. Clarence O'Donnell was elected moderator. Motion carried to retain the pre ent clerk, Bro. D. J. O'Donnell.

Motion carried to test the fellowship of the ministers. All was in good fellowship.

Invitation for membership given. Elder Chester O'Donnell presented himself and was received in full fellowship. Eld. J. T. Windsor presented himself for membership and was received in full fellowship.

The clerk called the house to order at 10:45 A.M. Saturday following the Ministers' Conference, the moderator taking charge.

Motion carried to adopt partial report of devotional committee: Eld. W. G. Rogers to preach at eleven o'clock.

Opportunity given for membership. The Guiding Light Church presented a petition for membership, and was duly received in full fellowship and their delegates seated.

#### SATURDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Eld. W. G. Rogers took the stand and after scripture reading and prayer delivered a very good talk.

Dismissed by prayer for noon hour.

Dinner was again served on the grounds by the good sisters of Pleasant Grove Church, and was heartily enjoyed by all partakers.

We wish to extend our heart felt thanks and appreciation for the splendid co-operation and warm hospitality shown us during our stay here.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Reassembled at 1:10 P. M.

After song service and prayer the moderator took charge reading 128th Psalms.

At this time the ordaining council called in question the following brethren for license to preach the Gospel: Bros. W. G. Rogers and Lawrence Williams; Also Bros. Breman Rogers and Homer Cannon for ordination for deacons. They found them worthy and recommended that this body grant Bros. W. G. Rogers and Lawrence Williams license to preach the gospel for one year. Bros. Breman Rogers and Homer Cannon was ordained as deacons by prayer and the laying on of hands by the presbytery.

Motion carried to adopt the report of ordaining council

and authorize the clerk to prepare proper credentials for the ministers aforenamed.

Motion carried to adopt the final report of devotional committee and release them: Sister Maggie Robershaw to conduct prayer services Saturday night; Eld. C. L. Carlisle to preach after prayer services Saturday night.

Motion carried to adopt the reports of committees and release them.

Motion carried to retain present associational evangelist, Eld. A. G. Robershaw.

Motion carried to turn the request of Bro. L. L. McDonal, of East Gadsen, Alabama, over to the evangelist or investigation.

Motion carried to repay Eld. R. P. Ritch the amount paid out by him on the printing of previous minutes.

Motion carried to elect officers for the year 1941-42. Eld. H. T. Perkins elected moderator; Eld. H. A. O'Donnell elected assistant moderator.

Motion carried to retain the present clerk, Eld. C. L. Carlisle, and assistant clerk, Bro. D. J. O'Donnell.

Motion carried to adjourn to reconvene with Friendship Church of Pell City, Alabama, on Friday morning at 8:30 o'clock before the fourth Sunday in September, 1942.

#### SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Assembled at 6:45 P. M.

After song service Sister Maggie Robershaw conducted prayer and testimony services. Many good testimonies were rendered. The Spirit was wonderfully manifested.

Eld. C. L. Carlisle took the stand, reading 46th Psalms and Rev. 22:17-21.

After preaching service he broke the bread and administered the Lord's Supper. Supper being ended he girded himself with a towel and began washing his brothers feet followed by a goodly number of others. A real good service.

Eld. O. B. Hamilton, Moderator, Eld. C. L. Carlisle, Clerk.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

DEVOTIONAL — We recommend the following program: Eld. H. T. Perkins to preach at 11:00 o'clock Fridal morning; Eld. J. S. Fredrick to preach after prayer services Friday night; Eld. W. G. Rogers to preach at 11:00 o'clock Saturday morning; Sister Maggie Robershaw to conduct prayer services Saturday night; Eld. C. L. Carlisle to preach after prayer services Saturday night.

- Bro. Wallace Patterson, Chairman.

BUSINFSS — We present the following business for your consideration:

That this Association grant the request of Malone Church of Alabama City, Alabama, and examine Bros. W. G. Rogers and Lawrence Williams for license to preach the gospel. Brothers Breman Rogers, Homer Cannon, and R. F. Jones for ordination for deacons.

Also grant the request of Friendship Church of Pell City, Alabama, and examine Bro. Johnie Burnham for ordination for a deacon.

Also consider the request of Bro. L. L. McDonal, of East Gadsden, and send one or more ministers to investigate his claim for a church there.

-Eld. Clarence O'Donnell, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOLS—We recommend that each church of this Association maintain a sabbath school. That all teachers and officers thereof be regenerated followers of God. That every Christian training be given at home.

- Sister Ellen Bradford, Chairman.

EDUCATION — We recommend that the last years report be reprinted.

— Eld. Clarenct O'Donnell, Chairman.

Reprint of 1940 Report

We find in God's word that the beginning of true wisdom is the fear of God. While we believe literal education necessary, yet God's word says "after all this get understanding"; also "My people are dying for the lack of knowledge". We urge all parents to educate their children more in the Bible and train them in the church work. The church should awake to its duty for the harvest is truly great and laborers are few.

- D. J. O'Donnell, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE — Temperance is one of the greatest principles of the Christian religion, yet is very lightly taken by most professors. We urge our people to give more earnest heed to this great principle, asking God to guide and direct.

- Bro. G. D. Bishop, Chairman.

FAMILY RELIGION — We urge our people to practice their religion at home as well as abroad. To be careful how they live before their children, bringing them up in the fear of God. Especially do we urge all homes to hold regular family devotions.

- Eld. A. G. Robershaw, Chairman.

LITERATURE We urge our people to be more careful of the kind of literature they read and sanction in their homes; placing the King James Bible first then all wholesome literature approved by our churches.

- Eld. W. B. Hollis, Chairman.

RESOLUTIONS - Be it Resolved, by this body, That:

Each member contribute liberally to the support of their pastor and all benevolent work.

That each deacon of this Association be granted certificates of ordination.

That the clause "Church of God" be omitted from the names of our churches.

- Eld. H. A. O'Donnell, Chairman.

DECEASED MEMBERS — We are greived to report the death of three of our beloved members: Sister Lillie West of Keener, Alabama and Bros. James Houston and Walter Bosworth of Aldridge, Alabama.

May the blessing of God rest and abide with the bereaved families.

- Sister Ellen Bradford, Chairman.

AUDITING — We find the records in splendid condition with \$26.95 in the treasury.

- Bro. H. D. O'Donell, Chairman.

MINISTEIAL STANDING — We recommend that all ordained ministers of this Association be granted certificates of standing for the year 1941-42. That all licensed ministers' certificates be renewed.

- Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, Chairman.

HOME MISSIONS — Received from clerk of Association, \$16.56; expended for evangelistic work, \$15.00; balance, \$1.56.

Bro. Carliss Hollis, Treasurer.

EVANGELIST'S REPORT — I have held one revival by request of Unity Church of Keener, Alabama. Received from Home Mission Board, \$15.00.

Eld. A. G. Robershaw, Evangelist.

#### CHURCH REPORTS

FRINDSH'P CHURCH of Pell City, Ala. — Eld. R. P. Ritch, proton: Bro. Carlisa Hollis, clerk. Delegates: Eld. W. B. Hollis and Bro. Wallace Patterson. State of religion, not so good at present. Members received this year, 3; dismissed by letter, 9; excluded, 16; total membership, 106. Condition of prayer meeting, good. Condition of Sabbath School, good; average attendance of about 30 publis: officers, 3; teachers, 5. Expended: pastor, \$20.00: assisting ministers, \$19.99; lights and heat, \$38.69; otherwise, \$63.70; total, \$142.38. Enclosed for: Home Missions. \$5.50; minutes, \$10.25. We have called Eld. A. G. Robershaw for our pastor for the year 1941-42.

We ask that you call in question Bro. Johnie Burnham and

if found worthy ordain him for a deacon.

We ask that the next session of this association be held witness.

This dama by order of Friendship church while in regular conference this 20th day of September, 1941.

Fid. R. P. Ritch, Moderator, Bro. Carliss Hollis, Clerk.

UNITY CHURCH of Keener, Ala.—Eld. A. G. Robershampastor; Sister Ellen Bradford, clerk. Delegates: Bro. Marshall Roberts and Sister Lou Roberts. State of religion, good. Dismissed by letter, 1; deaths. 1. Condition of prayer meeting, good. Condition of Sabbath school, good; with an average attendance of 35 pupils; officers, 1; teachers, 4. Expended for: Pastor, \$8.00; evangelist, \$8.00. Enclosed for: minutes, \$1.20.

This done by order of Unity Church in regular conference this 7th day of September, 1942.

Eld. A. G. Robershaw, Moderator, Sister Ellen Bradford, Clerk.

MAI ONE CHURCH of Alabama City, Ala.—Eld. A. G. Robershaw, pastor: Bro. Homer Cannon, clerk. Delegates: Bros. Earl Portwood, R. F. Jones and Breman Rogers. State of religion. good. Members received this year, 3; dismissed by letter, 19; total membership, 82. Condition of prayer meeting. good. Condition of Sabbath school, good; with an average attendance of 60 pupils; officers, 2; teachers, 5. Expended for: 1 stor, \$15.65; evangelist, \$25.00.

We ask that you call in question Bros. W. G. Rogers and Lawrence Williams and if found worthy grant them license to preach the Gospel for one (1) year. Also examine Bros. Breman Rogers, Homer Cannon and R. F. Jones and if found worthy ordain them as deacons.

This done by order of Malone Church in regular conference this 6th day of September, 1941.

> Eld. A. G. Robershaw, Moderator, Bro. Homer Cannon, Clerk.

GUIDING LIGHT CHURCH of near Coal City, Ala. — Eld. Le Roy Smith, pastor; Sister Alice Smith, clerk. Delegates: Sisters Belle Callahan and Josie Callahan. State of religion, good. Condition of prayer meeting, good. Sabbath school has just been organized. Enclosed for minutes, \$2.00. Expended for building and repairs, \$3.50.

We have called Eld. T. J. Finch for our pastor the year 1941-42. We wish to become a member of Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists.

This done by order of the Guding Light Church in regular conference this 21st day of September, 1941.

Eld. Le Roy Smith, Moderator, Sister Alice Smith, Clerk.

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH of Ashville, Ala., Route 1—Eld. A. G. Robershaw, pastor; Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, clerk. Delegates: Bros. G. D. Bishop, G. W. Corneilus and H. D. O'Donnell. State of religion, good. Dismissed by letter, 1; total membership, 40. Condition of prayer meeting, good. Condition of Sabbath school, good; average attendance, 30; officers, 2; teachers, 3. Expended for: Pastor, \$83.10; building and repairs, \$265.49. Enclosed for: Home Missions, \$5.50; minutes, \$4.00. We have recalled Eld. A. G. Robershaw for our pastor for the year 1941-42.

This done by order of Pleasant Grove Church while in regular conference this 21st day of September, 1941.

Eld. A. G. Robershaw, Moderator, Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, clerk.

#### MINISTERS' REPORTS

Eld. O. B. Hamilton, Alabama City, Ala. — Traveled 481 miles: expended, \$7.49; received, \$14.49; preached 41 sermons, pastored one church; assisted in two revivals.

Eld. Roscoe Gardner, Bessemer, Ala., P. O. Box 291 — Traveled 150 miles; expended, \$7.00; received, \$12.00; baptized, 4.

Eld. Clarence O'Donnell, Pell City, Ala. — Traveled 50 miles; preached 5 sermons.

Eld. C. A. O'Donnell, Ashville, Ala., Route 1 — Traveled 16 miles; preached 24 sermons.

- Eld. H. A. O'Donnell, Ashville, Ala., Route 1 Traveled 215 miles; expended 65c; received \$3.30; conducted 2 funerals; assisted in 2 revivals.
- Eld. Le Roy Smith, Pell City, Ala., Route 2 Traveled 870 miles; expended \$15.25; received \$3.69; preached 56 sermons; pastored one church; conducted one revival; organized one church.
- Eld. R. S. Pennington, Eden, Ala., Route 1—Traveled 656 miles; expended \$15.00; received, \$28.50; preached 56 sermons; married two couples; conducted one funeral; conducted two revivals; assisted in one revival.
- Eld. A. G. Robershaw, Ashville, Ala., Route 1—Traveled 2000 miles; expended \$95.00; received \$152.16; preached 120 sermons; pastored two churches; conducted three revivals; conducted one funeral; married two couples.
- Eld. H. T. Perkins, Eden, Ala., Route 1 Preached 16 sermons; assisted in two revivals; married three couples.
- Eld. J. T. Windsor, Pell City, Ala. Traveled 160 miles; expended \$4.87; preached 41 sermons; conducted one revival.
- Eld. C. L. Carlisle, Pell City, Ala., Route 1 Traveled 115 miles; expended \$3.25; preached 18 sermons; married one couple.
- Eld. T. J. Finch, Pell City, Ala., Route 1 Traveled 391 miles; expended \$6.10; received \$2.00; assisted in one revival; conducted three funerals; married two couples.

#### ASSOCIATIONAL RULINGS

- 1. Each minister, ordained or licensed, shall make a written report of his years work at each session of this Association.
- Each minister, ordained or licensed, of churches belonging to this association is expected to affiliate with the ministers' conference.
- 3. Each ordained minister must bear yearly certificates of standing to be eligible to pastor churches of this association.
- 4. License of all licensed ministers must be renewed each year.
- 5. Ministers coming to us from another denomination must hold membership in some church of this association for one (1) year before being eligible to pastor churches of this association.
- 6. Licensed ministers must bear license for one (1) year before being eligible for ordination.
- 7. Each member of churches belonging to this association, both male and female, is requested to pay into the home mis-

treasury the sum of 50c per year, to be paid quarterly. I. L. 12c first quarter, 12c second quarter, 12c third quarter, 14c fourth quarter.

# ORDER OF BUSINESS (For Church Conferences)

- 1. Call to order.
- 2. Call for peace and fellowship.
- 3. Opportunity for membership.
- 4. Invite visiting brothers and sisters to seats.
- 5. Reading of previous minutes.
- 6. Unfinished business. of previous conference.
- 7. Appointment of committees.
- 8. Acknowledgements.
- 9. Committee reports.
- 10. New business.
- 11. Adjournment.

# ASSOCIATIONAL LETTER FORM (From Church to Association)

To the Annual Session of Association of Free Will Baptists when convened with Free Will Baptist Church of God at September 19 Greetings from Free Will Baptist Church of
We send as delegates, our beloved bretheren
by Baptism; by letter; by restoration;
by recommendation Dismissed by letter; by
exclusion: deaths Total membership
Condition of prayer meeting Condition of Sabbath
school; average number pupils; number
officers; number teachers Paid pastor \$
paid evangelist \$ Enclosed for: Home Missions \$
Foreign Missions \$ Minutes \$ Expended for:
Ruilding and repairs \$; education \$; publication
\$
Pastor's name and address
ns: (Please nut them on a separate sheet of paper, and state
whether ordained or licensed).
This done by order of Free Will Baptist
Church of God, in regular conference this day
of
Moderator,
Clerk.

-11--

#### MINISTERS' REPORT FORM

To the	Annual Sessie	on of the	Ministe	ers' Con-
ference of	. Association	of Free	Will	Baptists.
when convened with	F	ree Will	Baptist	Church
of God at				
	Contract of the Contract of th			

The sum of my labours in the Lord's vineyard for the past year as follows:

Traveled.....miles; expended \$......; collected \$.....; preached.....sermons; pastored.....churches; baptized .....; married.....couples; conducted ..... funerals; conducted ..... revivals; assisted in ..... revivals; organized ......churches.

(PLEASE print or write name and address PLAINLY.)

#### FREE WILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

- THE BIBLE.— The Scriptures of the (ld 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 the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one Cod, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.
- 3. CHRIST.— Christ is God manifest in the 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 our ever present Savior and Lord.
- 4. THE HOLY SPIRIT.— The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.
- 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 requires.
- 6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN.— Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.
  - 7. THE WORK OF CHRIST .- The Son of God, by His incar-

nation, life, sufferings, death and ressurrection affected 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: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. 2. 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 is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. 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 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 of the water of Life freely.
- 12. PERSEVERANCE.— All believers 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, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel: Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.
- 14. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.
- 15. RESURRECTION, JUDGEMENT, 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 evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked shall "go away into eternal punishmen" but the righteous into eternal life."

#### FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one 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 the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to 'provide things honest in the sight of all men.'

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit," in the bonds 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 and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle 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 of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

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 conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and 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 Christ.