

**The  
Liberty  
Association  
of  
Free Will Baptist**

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**1945**

**Proceedings of the  
124th. Annual Session**

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**Convened at  
Pleasant Grove Church  
Ashville, Ala.**

# MINUTES

## OF THE LIBERTY ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

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Through the continued Mercies of God, the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists, met in its 12th Annual Session with Pleasant Grove Church of Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1. Sept. 21-22, 1945.

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### HELD WITH

Pleasant Grove Church, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1  
Sept. 21-22, 1945

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### OFFICERS

Rev. R. P. Ritch, Pell City, Ala.—Moderator.  
Rev. J. T. Windsor, Pell City, Ala.—Assistant Moderator.  
Rev. C. L. Carlisle, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1—Clerk.  
Rev. C. A. O'Donnell, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1—Assistant Clerk

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The next Session of this Association will convene with Friendship Church of Pell City, Ala., on Friday morning before the 4th Sunday in September, 1946.

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# PROCEEDINGS

## FRIDAY MORNING

House called to order by the Clerk at 9:05. Former Moderator, Rev. H. A. O'Donnell, took charge reading from St. John 15:1-20. Prayer was offered by Bro. Ben Howard. The Moderator then declared the body in order for business. Motion carried to elect Officers for this term and they were duly elected as notated at top of page.

Roll of Churches called, and their letters read and adopted, and the delegates seated. The Moderator then appointed the working committees as follows:

DEVOTIONAL—Bro's. W. W. Callahan, Ben Howard, Henry Bishop.

BUSINESS—Rev's. T. J. Finch, H. A. O'Donnell, G. N. Benfield.

SABBATH SCHOOLS—Sisters Loucille Gibson, Susie Ponder, Bro. Edward Ledlow.

FAMILY RELIGION—Bro. Robert Burnham, Sisters Willo-dean Gibson, Hattie Argo.

TEMPERANCE—Rev's. LeRoy Smith, H. T. Perkins, A. J. Burgess.

EDUCATION—Rev's. J. T. Windsor, Alfred Ledlow, Bro. J. E. Self.

DECEASED MEMBERS—Bro's Hubert Ledlow, H. D. O'Donnell, Rev. E. L. Tally.

AUDITING—Rev's. W. C. Patterson, A. J. Burgess, H. T. Perkins.

MINISTERIAL STANDING—Bro's. H. D. O'Donnell, J. E. Self, Robert Burnham.

LITERATURE—Bro. Ben Howard, Sisters Mary Stalling, Loucille Gibson.

RESOLUTIONS—Rev's. T. J. Finch, H. A. O'Donnell, Bro. Hubert Ledlow.

Partial report of Devotional Committee adopted. Motion carried that the Ministers' Conference convene Friday evening instead of Friday night.

Business recessed until after Ministers' Conference Friday evening.

## ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Rev. W. C. Patterson filled the stand, reading St. John 14:15 through 21st V. Text, "I will not leave you comfortless" St. John 14:18. God blessed Bro. Patterson to deliver a real inspiring message. Dismissed by prayer for noon hour.

Noon hour.

Dinner was served on the grounds by the good sisters of the church and community, and was heartily enjoyed by all partakers. May God's richest blessings rest upon these good people.

## MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

### FRIDAY EVENING

The 10th Annual session of the Ministers' Conference of Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists, met with Pleasant Grove Church of Ashville, Ala., Friday Evening, Sept. 21st, 1945.

House was called to order by the Clerk at 1 p.m. Former Moderator, Rev. W. C. Patterson took charge reading the 1st Psalm. Prayer offered by Rev. T. J. Finch. Motion carried to elect officers for this term, when Rev. J. T. Windsor was elected moderator; Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, clerk. Motion carried that conference remain open until Saturday night, account of other ministers not present wishing to join this body. Rev. R. P. Ritch, Rev. Alfred Ledlow was duly received into full fellowship. Ministers reports read and adopted, and request made that the Association grant all ordained ministers reporting, certificate of standing and all licensed ministers reporting a renewal of license. Recessed until Saturday evening.

Saturday evening session assembled at 1:30. Rev. J. B. Ledlow was duly received into full fellowship. Motion carried to request the Association to appoint a council of (3) three ordained men to recover the papers of Rev. W. G. Rogers. Motion carried to adjourn to reconvene with Friendship church of Pell City, Ala., on Friday night before the 4th Sunday in Sept. 1946.

Rev. J. T. Windsor, Moderator  
Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, Clerk

After Ministers' Conference the Association resumed business. Report of Bible Student read and adopted. Evangelist report adopted. Business Committee partial report adopted and business therein dispensed with in order. Motion car-



ried to grant Rev. R. P. Ritch a certificate of standing. Ordaining Council then took charge and examined Bro. J. O. Wallace for deacon, Bro. J. B. Ledlow for ministry. Ordaining Councils report adopted and Bro. J. B. Ledlow was granted license to preach the gospel for (1) one year. Motion carried that ordination of Bro. J. O. Wallace take place Saturday 2 p.m. and that Rev. T. J. Finch preach the ordination sermon. Motion carried request of Guiding Light Church be granted and they be excused from their obligation to Bible Student. Motion carried to elect a board of trustees for care of tent funds. Bro's. D. J. O'Donnell, J. E. Self, Ben Howard duly elected.

Partial report of Devotional Committee adopted. Quarterly Meeting report adopted. Business recessed by motion until 9 a.m. Saturday morning.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

After song service, Bro. D. J. O'Donnell offered prayer. Sister Lula Carlisle took charge of prayer and testimony service, reading St. John 17:1-10. Many inspiring testimonies was rendered. Rev. G. N. Bennifield continued service by reading St. Matt 15:10-14; Rom. 8:14. Subject "Leadership". Bro. Bennifield was inspired to deliver a real warm message. Dismissed by prayer.

#### SATURDAY MORNING

Reassembled at 9:05 a.m., Moderator taking charge reading Rom. 8:1-11. Prayer offered by Bro. Ben Howard. Reports of working committees read and adopted. Motion carried that the Moderator appoint a committee to organize a Sunday School Convention, when he appointed Bro's. Robert Burnham, J. E. Self, D. J. O'Donnell. Motion carried to replace the 3rd item of the Business Committee's report with the following: 25% of tithes of churches be sent to the Home Mission treasurer by the Clerk of each church.

Motion carried to elect Field Evangelist when Rev. R. P. Ritch was elected. Motion carried that the pastors of each church raise funds to purchase an 8x11½ in. Duplicator for Clerk's use. Motion carried that each pastor select a committee from his church to raise funds to purchase a tent for Field Work. Recessed by motion until 1:30 p.m.

#### ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Short sermon by Rev. C. L. Carlisle. Dismissed by prayer.

#### Noon Hour.

Dinner was again served on the grounds by the sisters of the church and community and heartily enjoyed by all partakers. We extend to them our heart felt thanks for their warm hospitality towards during our stay among them.

#### SATURDAY EVENING

Business was resumed after a short session of the Ministers Conference. The Assistant Moderator reading from St. Luke 9:54-61. Motion carried to elect Associational Treasurer, Rev. C. L. Carlisle elected. Motion carried to rescind the act of 1943 of sending student to Bible School yearly, defraying ½ his expenses. Motion carried to elect delegate to the State Association, Bro. D. J. O'Donnell was elected and presented with \$45.00 entrance fee and expense money. Rev. T. J. Finch then took the stand. Text "You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you", Bro. Finch delivered a real good sermon which we will all do well to heed. Rev. G. N. Bennifield then led in the prayer of consecration and service was completed by the laying on of hands, and Bro. J. O. Wallace was declared duly ordained for deacon. Report of Home Mission Treasurer read and adopted. Motion carried to place present Home Mission funds in the Tent Funds. Motion carried to adopt report of Ministers' Conference and grant their request of (3) three ordained men to recover the papers of Rev. W. G. Rogers. Rev. W. C. Patterson, Rev. G. N. Bennifield, Bro. D. J. O'Donnell duly appointed. Motion carried to adjourn to reconvene with Friendship Church of Pell City, Ala., on Friday morning before the 4th Sunday in September, 1946.

#### SATURDAY NIGHT

Sister Willodean Gibson conducted prayer and testimony service, reading from St. Mark 16:15-20. Prayer offered by Rev. C. A. O'Donnell. Many warm testimonies were rendered. Rev. LeRoy Smith continued service by reading St. Luke 7:36; St. John 13:15. Text, St. Luke 22:33. Bro. Smith was blessed to deliver a good sermon. After Communion was prepared and many partook of the Lord's Supper. Feet Washing followed and was enjoyed by all participants. Dismissed by prayer.

#### CHURCH REPORTS

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH—Pell City, Ala., Rev. W. C. Patterson pastor; Bro. Carliss Hollis, Clerk; Delegates, Bros. Ed-



ward Ledlow, Ben Howard, Robert Burnham, Hubert Ledlow; state of religion good; members received this year 12; dismissed 33; deaths 1; total loss 34; present membership 90; good Sabbath School; good prayer meetings; average Sabbath School attendance 66; officers 2; teachers 4; paid out for, pastor \$225.00; evangelist \$91.75; building and repairs \$59.67; orphanage \$95.00; flowers and sickness \$420.90; total expended \$797.32. Inclosed for, Home Missions \$4.50; minutes \$7.25; total inclosed \$11.75; value of church property \$800.00.

MALONE CHURCH—Alabama City, Ala., Rev. LeRoy Smith pastor; Sister Willodean Gibson, clerk; delegates, Sisters Edna Speakman, Loucille Gibson, Willodean Gibson, Rev. R. P. Ritch; state of religion, good; total members received this year 8; total loss 8; present membership 60; good prayer meetings; good Sunday School; average number of pupils 55; officers 6; teachers 4; paid out for, pastor \$459.20; evangelist \$39.50; building and repairs \$52.00; education \$5.00; orphanage \$49.07; total expended \$604.77; inclosed for, Home Missions \$10.00; minutes \$2.55; orphanage \$4.00; total inclosed \$16.55; value of church property \$4,000.00.

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1; Rev. A. J. Burgess, pastor; Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, clerk; delegates, Bro. H. D. O'Donnell, Sisters Willie Holiday, Bertha Tally; state of religion, good; members received this year 2; present membership 45; good prayer meetings; good Sunday School; average number of pupils 35; officers 2; teachers 4; paid out for, pastor \$208.35; evangelist \$75.00; education \$69.00; publications \$12.00; orphanage \$136.03; inclosed for, Foreign Missions \$25.00; minutes \$5.00; Tent funds \$25.00; value of church property \$900.00.

GUIDING LIGHT CHURCH—Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1; Rev. W. C. Patterson, pastor; Bro. W. W. Callahan, clerk; delegates, Bro. W. W. Callahan, Rev. G. L. Ramsey; state of religion, excellent; fair prayer meetings; excellent Sunday School; average number of pupils 40; officers 2; teachers 3; paid out for, pastor \$51.00; building and repairs \$10.50; education \$112; inclosed for, Home Missions \$1.50; minutes \$2.05; Tent funds \$10.00; value of church property \$200.00.

1ST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Alabama City, Ala., Rev. G. N. Bennifield, pastor; Bro. Earl Portwood, clerk; delegates, Sisters Susie Ponder, Hattie Argo, Mary Stalling, state of religion, good; good prayer meetings; good Sunday School; average number of pupils 35; officers 2; teachers 3; paid out for, pastor \$140.00; evangelist \$49.85; orphanage \$74;

total expended \$283.60; inclosed for, Foreign Missions \$5.00; minutes \$5.00; orphanage \$5.00; Tent funds \$25.00; total \$40; value of church property \$3,500.00.

#### QUARTERLY MEETING REPORT

Oct. 28th, 1944, 23rd session held with Pleasant Grove Church Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1. Barretts Chappel Church was duly received as a member of this body. An offering of \$28.50 was taken and given the delegates to assist in the building expenses.

Dec. 1944, 24th session held with 1st Free Will Baptist Church Alabama City, Ala. No special business to report.

April, 28th, 1945, 25th session held with Barretts Chapel Church, Round Mountain, Ala., Bro. Buster Hurley, duly ordained as deacon for that church.

July 28th, 1945, 26th session held with Friendship Church, Pell City, Ala. Offering of \$25.71 taken for Rev. A. G. Robershaw. No special business to report.

Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, clerk

#### MINISTERS' REPORTS

Rev. E. L. Tally, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1; traveled 20 miles; expended \$2.00; received \$2.00; preached 12 sermons.

Rev. A. J. Burgess, 210 Chester St., Alabama City, Ala.; traveled 1,485 miles; expended \$38.45; received \$271.35; preached 59 sermons; pastored 1 church; baptized 6; performed 1 wedding ceremony; conducted 1 revival; assisted in 1 revival; conducted 1 funeral.

Rev. T. J. Finch, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1; traveled 211 miles; received \$37.00; preached 15 sermons; conducted 2 funerals.

Rev. W. B. Hollis, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1, Box 55; preached 5 sermons; performed 3 wedding ceremonies.

Rev. R. S. Pennington, Eden, Ala., Rt. 1; traveled 650 miles; expended \$18.25; received \$26.75; preached 36 sermons; conducted 1 revival.

Rev. C. L. Carlisle, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1, Box 91; traveled 1,325 miles; expended \$261.40; preached 25 sermons.

Rev. Alfred Ledlow, Pell City, Ala.; traveled 985 miles; expended \$28.00; received \$18.04; preached 16 sermons.

Rev. Clarence O'Donnell, Pell City, Ala.; preached 3 sermons.

Rev. W. C. Patterson, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1, Box 56; traveled 2,192 miles; expended \$76.16; received \$437.65; preached 92



sermons; pastored 2 churches; baptized 17; conducted 4 funerals; conducted 4 revivals; assisted in 1 revival.

Rev. G. N. Bennifield, 904 Spruce St., Gadsden, Ala.; traveled 1,019 miles; expended \$297.50; received \$406.00; preached 115 sermons; pastored 1 church; baptized 10; conducted 1 funeral; conducted 1 revival; assisted in 4 revivals.

Rev. J. T. Windsor, Pell City, Ala.; traveled 1,730 miles; expended \$39.13; received \$84.59; preached 65 sermons; baptized 3; conducted 1 funeral; assisted in 2 revivals.

Rev. C. A. O'Donnell, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1; traveled 2,241 miles; expended \$333.49; received \$236.50; preached 36 sermons; assisted in 1 revival.

Rev. LeRoy Smith, Ragland, Ala., Rt. 1; traveled 4,000 miles; expended \$222.58; received \$459.20; preached 113 sermons; pastored 1 church; baptized 2; performed 2 wedding ceremonies; conducted 1 funeral; conducted 1 revival.

Rev. H. T. Perkins, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1; traveled 285 miles; expended \$2.75; received \$62.00; preached 29 sermons; assisted in 1 revival.

Rev. H. A. O'Donnell, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1; Traveled 150 miles; expended \$2.00; received \$5.00; preached 3 sermons.

Rev. J. D. O'Donnell, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1; preached 10 sermons.

Rev. G. L. Ramsey, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1; traveled 40 miles; expended \$20.00; received \$5.00; preached 25 sermons; performed 1 wedding ceremony; conducted 1 funeral.

Rev. A. G. Robershaw, 2-10th St., Alabama City, Ala.; traveled 300 miles; expended \$20.00; received \$366.79; preached 10 sermons; pastored 1 church (Bro. Robershaw has been bed-fast the greater part of this year).

Rev. R. P. Ritch, Pell City, Ala.; traveled 300 miles; expended \$15.00; received \$95.00; preached 30 sermons; conducted 2 revivals.

Rev. O. B. Hamilton and Rev. G. I. Taylor made no report and according to ruling of this Association cannot receive a certificate of standing for this year.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

DEVOTIONAL—We recommend the following: Rev. W. C. Patterson to fill the 11 o'clock hour Friday morning. Sister Loucille Gibson conduct prayer services Friday night. Rev. G.

N. Bennifield to preach after prayer services Friday night. Rev. C. L. Carlisle to fill the 11 o'clock hour Saturday 2 p.m. Sister Willodean Gibson conduct prayer services Saturday night. Rev. LeRoy Smith conduct Communion and Feet Washing services Saturday night.

BUSINESS—We recommend the following for your consideration: 1. Bros. J. B. Ledlow, Amon Edge be called in question and if found worthy grant them license to preach the Gospel. 2. Bro. J. O. Wallace be called in question and if found worthy, ordain him for a deacon. 3. This body grant Rev. R. P. Ritch a Certificate of Standing for ensuing year. 4. The request of Guiding Light Church be granted. 4. This body adopt some plan to raise funds for purchase of a Tent for Evangelistic work. 5. This Body rule that any minister of this Association have a right to use said Tent when not being used by regularly elected Evangelist, by inviting the Evangelist to assist in revival. 6. This Association purchase an 8x11½ in. Duplicator for Clerk's use.

Rev. T. J. Finch, Chairman

SABBATH SCHOOLS—We recommend that each church maintain a Sabbath School. That all Teachers and Officers be regenerated followers of God. That the Word of God be taught above all else in our schools and homes. That each church use Free Will Baptist literature. That the Sunday Schools of this Association organize a Sunday School Convention.

Sister Loucille Gibson, Chr.

FAMILY RELIGION—We urge our people to practice their religion at home as well as abroad. Be careful how they live before their children, bringing them up in the fear and nurture of God. Especially do we urge all homes to hold regular family devotions. That we be more diligent to visit sick homes and hold prayer with them.

Bro. Robert Burnham, Chr.

EDUCATION—We recommend that the Bible be taught more in the homes. That good wholesome literature be given our children to read. That each home set up a family altar, and pray with and for their children and teach them the Word of God. 2 Tim. 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

Rev. J. T. Windsor, Chr.

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 based upon its teachings.

Bro. Ben Howard, Chr.

**RESOLUTIONS**—Be it resolved that: Each Pastor of churches of this Association make it a rule to visit all homes in the vicinity of his church and read the Bible and hold prayer with them. 2. That we tender our thanks to the good sisters of this church and community for their warm hospitality toward us during our stay among them. 3. That each church of this Association pay 25% of all tithe money into the Home Mission Treasury for Field Work.

Rev. T. J. Finch, Chr.

**TEMPERANCE**—Temperance being one of the greatest principles of the Christian Faith, we earnestly urge our people to live and practice it at all times.

Rev. LeRoy Smith, Chr.

**DECEASED MEMBERS**—We are greived to report the deaths of three (3) of our beloved fellow-workers. Sister Artemessa Wright, of Friendship Church, Pell City, Ala. Deacon W. R. Ramsey of Guiding Light Church, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1. Bro. Bill Coffman of the 1st Free Will Baptist Church Alabama City, Ala. To the families of the departed ones we extend our deepest sympathies. May the blessings of God rest upon them, and comfort their bruised hearts.

Bro. Hubert Ledlow, Chr.

**AUDITING**—We find the records in good condition.

Rev. W. C. Patterson, Chr.

**MINISTERIAL STANDING**—We recommend all ordained ministers reporting to this session be granted Certificates of Standing for the ensuing year. That license of all licensed ministers reporting, be renewed.

Bro. H. D. O'Donnell, Chr.

**BIBLE STUDENT'S REPORT**—According to agreement, (3) three churches was to pay \$4.00 per month and (2) two churches \$3.00 per month toward my expenses, making a total of \$162.00. Of this Pleasant Grove Church payed \$64.00, Friendship Church \$36.00, Malone Church \$5.15, 1st Free Will Baptist Church \$27.00, Guiding Light Church \$27.00, total paid to me \$159.15. I here-by thank each one for their support, both in money and prayers.

Rev. C. A. O'Donnell

#### STANDING COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

**ORDAINING COUNCIL**—Rev. W. C. Patterson, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1, Box 56; Rev. H. T. Perkins, Pell City, Ala.; Rev. H. A. O'Donnell, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1.

**ORGANIZING COUNCIL**—Rev. T. J. Finch, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1; Rev. A. J. Burgess, 210 Chester St., Alabama City, Ala.; Rev. G. N. Bennifield, 904 Spruce St., Gadsden, Ala.; Rev. LeRoy Smith, Ragland, Ala., Rt. 1; Rev. J. T. Windsor, Pell City Ala.

**HOME MISSIONS BOARD**—Bro. Robert Burnham, Pell City, Ala.; Bro. Henry Bishop, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1; Bro. W. W. Callahan, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**—Bro. W. W. Callahan, Pell City, Ala., Rt. 1; Bro. D. J. O'Donnell, Ashville, Ala., Rt. 1; Bro. Ben Howard, Pell City, Ala.

**EVANGELIST**—Rev. R. P. Ritch, Pell City, Ala.

#### Associational Rulings

1. Each Minister, ordained or licensed, shall make written report of his years work at each session of this Body. No certificates of standing will be issued to any minister not complying. No license will be extended to any licensed minister not complying.

2. Each minister, ordained or licensed, of churches belonging to this Association is expected to affiliate with the Ministers Conference, and cannot be recognized as a minister, nor pastor churches of this Association except they comply with this ruling.

3. Each ordained minister must bear yearly Certificates of Standing to be eligible to pastor churches of this Association. License of all licensed ministers must be renewed.

4. Ministers coming to us from another denomination, must hold membership in some church in this Association for one (1) year before being eligible to pastor churches of this Association.

5. Licensed ministers must bear license for one (1) year before being eligible for ordination.

6. Churches must use the letter form sent them each year by the Clerk to be recognized by this Association.



## FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 Timothy 3:16.

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 God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

1 Cor. 8:6; Matt. 28:19.

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.

St. John 1:1-12.

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.

St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 4:46.

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.

Psalms 22:28; 97:2.

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.

Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

7. THE WORK OF CHRIST.— The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection affected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

1 John 2:2.

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.

2 Cor. 7:10; Pro. 28:13.

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.

1 Tim. 2:4.

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.

Joshua 24:15.

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.

Rev. 22:17.

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

St. John 16:6; 2 Peter 2:20-22.

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.

Mark 16:15; 2 Cor. 4:5; St. John 13:14.

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.

Gen. 2:3; Exod. 20:8-11.

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 punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

John 5:29; Matt. 25:46.



## ORDER OF BUSINESS

(For Church Conference)

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.
7. Appointing of committees.
8. Acknowledgements.
9. Committee reports.
10. New business.
11. Adjournment.

## MINISTERS' REPORT FORM

To the ..... Annual Session of the Ministers' Conference of ..... Association of Free Will Baptists, when convened with ..... Free Will Baptist Church at ..... ,September ..... 19....

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.

Remarks: .....

Your Brother in Christ,

Correct Address: .....

(PLEASE print or write name and address PLAINLY)

## ASSOCIATION LETTER FORM

(From Church to Association)

To the ..... Annual Session of ..... Association of Free Will Baptists when convened with ..... Free Will Baptist Church at ..... September ..... 19....

Greetings from ..... Free Will Baptist Church at ..... ..

We send as delegates, our beloved brethren ..... whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberation.

State of religion ..... Members received this year: 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: Building and repairs \$.....; education \$.....; publication \$.....

Pastor's name and address .....

Names and addresses of ministers holding membership with us: (Please put them on a separate sheet of paper and state whether ordained or licensed).

This done by order of ..... Free Will Baptist Church, in regular conference this ..... day of ..... 19....

....., moderator

....., clerk



## FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

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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.



If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when men rose up against us; then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us; our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken and we are escaped. Our help is in the Name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Psa. 124:3-7-8.