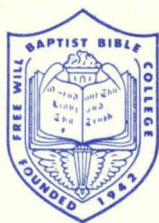


**The
Liberty
Association
of
Free Will Baptist**

1944

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

**Convened with
Amity
Free Will Baptist Church
Sept. 23 rd. 1944**



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. Winford Davis

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

Amity Church in Webster Co., beginning August 23,
1943

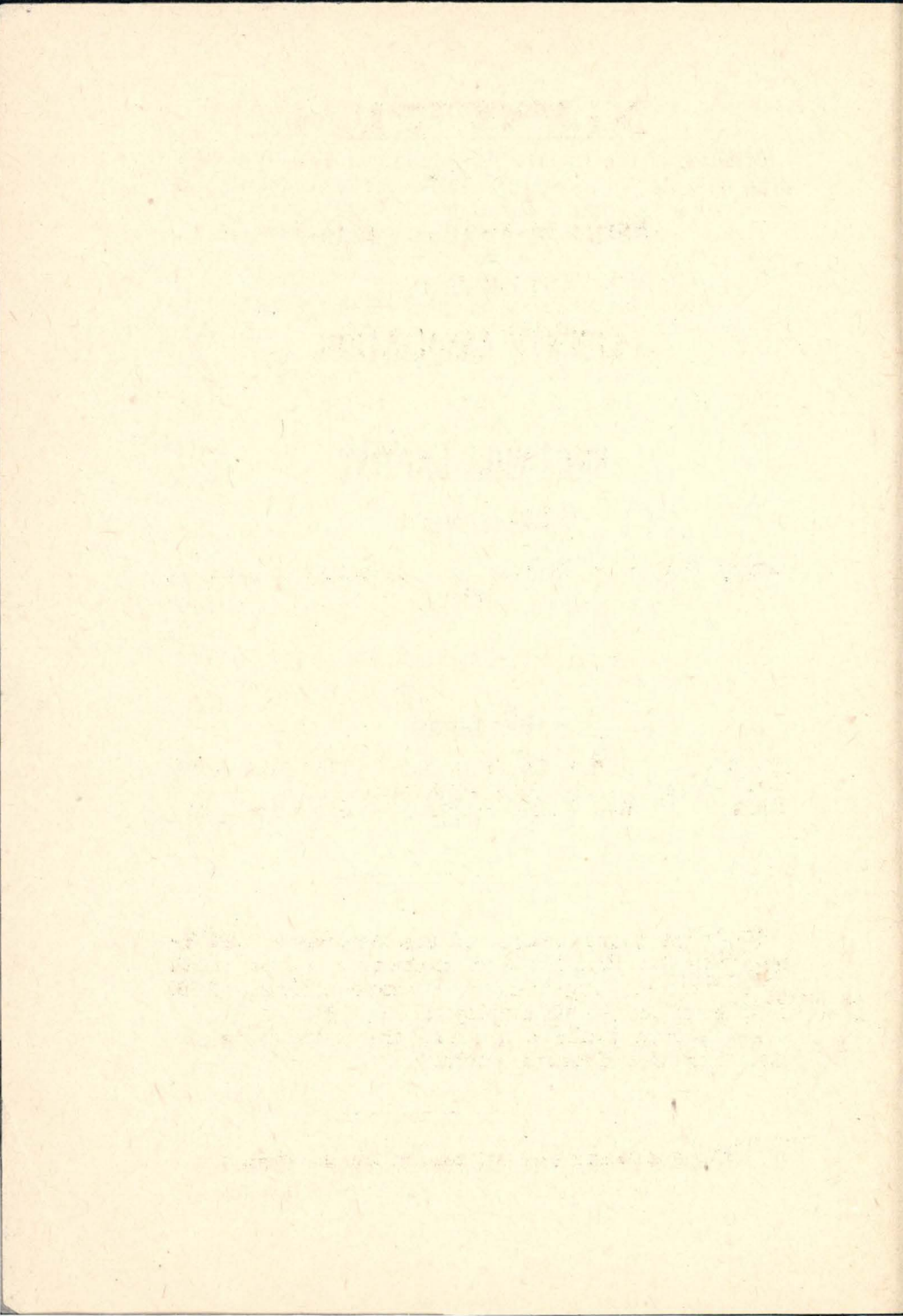
OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. Henry Dong	Phillipsburg, Mo.
Ass't. Mod.	Bro. Jim Clemons	
Clerk	Rev. Vinita Broyles	Grovespring, Mo.

The next annual session of this Association will be held with Mt. Zion No. 3 on Highway 5, 4 miles north of Grovespring, beginning on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, before the 4th Sunday in Aug. 1945.

Eld. Emmet Drake is to preach the introductory sermon; Eld. Geo. Deckard, alternate.

Free Will Baptist Gem, 211 Bond St. Monett, Missouri



PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists held its 7th annual session with the Amity Church in Webster Co., beginning Aug. 23, 1944.

House was called to order by singing, "Blessed Assurance".

Prayer by Eld. Henry Long.

The stand was filled by Eld. Jno. Moore.

Lesson found in Psalms 23, text, "Tho I walk thru the valley and shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me."

Eld. Henry Long was elected moderator.

Bro. Jim Clemens, ass't. moderator.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

House was called to order by singing.

Prayer by Eld. Jeff Peterson.

Moderator read Psalms 1.

Letters from Mt. Zion No. 3, Niangua, Amity, Liberty, Black Oak and Rock Chapel were received as read and delegates seated.

Sister Ora George was elected as ass't. clerk to Liberty Association.

Eld. Henry Long and Eld. Curtis Wilson was chosen to preach at eleven o'clock services.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Ermel Hefton.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICES

Congregation sang 193, "I'll Be Satisfied," prayer by Eld. Ezra Vestal.

Song "I Dreamed I Searched Heaven For You."

Prayer by Eld. W. E. Broughton.

Eld. Curtis Wilson read for his lesson 4th chapter of Hebrews. Text "Follow Me."

Christian handshake was enjoyed by all. Closed session with prayer by Eld. Geo. Deckard.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Session was opened with prayer by Bro. Will Chandler.

Moderator read 25th chapter of Matthew.

Letter from Little Vine Church was read and approved and motion carried that it be admitted to this Ass'n.

Motion carried that this Association convene with Mt. Zion No. 3 Church on highway 5, 4 miles north of Grove Spring, beginning on Thursday morning before the 4th Sunday in Aug. 1945.

Bro. Emmet Dake was elected to preach the introductory sermon.

Eld. Geo. Deckard alternate.

Motion carried that we observe communion and feet washing at each session on Thursday night.

Eld. W. E. Broughton was elected to bring the message.

Motion carried that the report of the Executive Board be received.

Bro. Emmet Dake was chosen to bring the message Thursday night.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICES

House was called to order by singing.

Prayer by Bro. Josh Stokes.

After prayer, services were turned to Bro. Dake, who delivered a message on Luke 16th chapter, text, "There is a Great Gulf Fixed."

Services dismissed in prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

House was called to order by Eld. Ezra Vestal in absence of Moderator.

Singing by choir.

Prayer by Bro. Jemes.

Song, "When I've Gone the Last Mile of the Way."

Motion carried that article No. VII of the Constitution be changed to begin on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock.

Motion carried that numbers 15 and 17 of the By-Laws be removed.

Motion carried to receive Obituary report as read.

Motion carried to receive Temperance report as read.

Motion carried to receive Credential report as read.

Delegates to State Association were: Ora George, Gladys E. Filmer and Ancil Alexander.

Corresponding delegates to Harmony Association were Will Chandler Vinita Broyles, Bro. and Sister Willie Johnston.

Corresponding delegates to Laclede Co. Association

were: Henry and Lola Long, Ezra Vestal and Geo. Deckard.

Eld. Jno. Hiffel was chosen to preach at eleven o'clock services.

Song "Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus."

Prayer by Eld. W. E. Broughton.

FRIDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICES

The stand was filled by Eld. Jno. Hiffel.

Scripture lesson was read from Matt. 9th chapter.

Text, "Verily I say unto you, there be some standing here of thee which shall not taste of death until the Son of Man comes in His Glory."

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

House was called to order by Moderator.

Prayer by Levi Jemes.

Scripture lesson was read from 1st chapter of Rev. by Moderator.

Motion carried to order 200 minutes.

Sister Gladys E. Filmer was elected Statistician for 1 year.

Eld. Henry Long and Eld. W. E. Broughton volunteered as corresponding messengers to Niangua Ass'n.

A testimony meeting was rendered and a wonderful time was enjoyed.

Motion carried that this Association adjourn.

Moderator, Eld. Henry Long

Clerk, Sister Vinita Broyles

ENROLLMENT

Ministers

Jno. Moore, Ezra Vestal, Geo. Deckard, Vinita Broyles, Henry Long, W. E. Broughton.

Licentiate

Emett Dake.

Visiting Ministers

Curtis Wilson, Jeff Peterson, Jno. Hiffel.

Clerks

Percy Sells, Jno. Blackwell, Martha Johnson.

Deacons

Joda McKeel, W. I. Jemes, Levi Jemes, Harry Alex-

ander, Ira Walton, Jno. Dinwiddie, Ermel Hefton.

Delegates

Freda Sells, Mrs. Woodrow Montgomery, Willie Johnston, Emmet Dake, Gladys Montgomery, Doris Blackwell, Opal Hyde, Effa Baker, Harold Jones, Jno. Dinwiddie, Rena Dinwiddie.

Ministers Reports

W. E. Broughton, Hartville, Mo.

Revivals held 1, professions witnessed 8, funerals preached 5, money received \$30.00.

Henry Long:

Sermons preached 94, churches pastored 2, revivals held 2, professions witnessed 12, number baptized 9, additions to church 10, funerals preached 17, money received \$620.70, married 3, ordained one preacher, one deacon.

John Moore, Grove Springs, Mo.

Preached 8 sermons, married 1 couple, preached 6 funerals.

Treasurer's Report

Money in treasure	\$39.54
Disbursements for 1943:	
Minutes	\$17.00
Clerks fee	5.00
Postage	1.50
Budget money to State	10.00
Total disbursements	\$33.50
Balance	\$6.04
Money received for session 7	27.25
Total	\$33.29
Disbursements for Session 7:	
Minutes	\$21.50
Clerks Fee	5.00
Money order and postage30
Money to State Association	3.00
To Statistician	1.20
Total	\$31.00
Balance in treasure	\$2.29

Vinita Broyles, treas.

TEMPERANCE—We your Committee on Temperance

wish to submit the following recommendations:

1. That we, the local body, take our stand as discouraging the use of tobacco among our ministry and people.

2. That we encourage the shunning as far as possible of all places of business where intoxicating beverages are sold.

3. That we refuse to support politically any man who favors the use of intoxicants.

Committee: Freda Sell, Naomi Hefton, Opal Hyde.

OBITUARY REPORT—Our Heavenly Father has called to their reward a number of our beloved brothers and sisters, we recommend God as a present help in time of trouble to the bereaved.

Liberty Church: Bro. J. W. Patton, deacon; Sister Ada Minpler.

Amity Church: Bro. Arch Johnson.

Black Oak: Sister Lue Dodson, Sister Lilley Hargas, Mrs. Will Hargas, Bro. S. A. Dodson, deacon.

Committee: Uneda Deckard, Eva Stapes, Ancil Alexander.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Devotional exercises.
2. Introductory sermon.
3. Election of officers.
4. Calling for letters and enrolling delegates.
5. Appointment of committees.
6. Call for new churches.
7. Call for request from churches.
8. Call for correspondence.
9. Inviting visiting brethren and sisters to seats in council.
10. Reports of ministers.
11. Reports of treasurer, committees, boards, etc.
12. Appointing delegates to state and other associations.
13. Unfinished business.
14. New business.
15. Place of next session.
16. Adjournment.

CONSTITUTION

From long experience we, the Free Will Baptist quarterly meetings and churches, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of quarterly meetings and churches to perpetuate our union, and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other in our union; therefore, we purpose to maintain and keep the orders and rules of our Association according to the following plan and form of government.

Art. 1. This Association shall be called the Liberty Association of Free Will Baptists, and shall be composed of such well regulated Free Will Baptists quarterly meetings and churches as may embody themselves under this Constitution.

Art. II. The acting members of the conference of this Association shall be two delegates from each church, chosen by the members of their respective churches while in conference, together, with all ministers, deacons and church clerks belonging to any church composing this body, also three members from each quarterly meeting under the Association, two to be chosen by each quarterly meeting, and the other one shall be the permanent clerk of the quarterly meeting.

Art. III. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator and an Assistant Moderator, who shall be elected annually, and shall hold their office until their successors shall be elected; a permanent Clerk and Treasurer, who shall superintend the printing of the Minutes; an Executive Board of five members, whose duty it shall be to transact all business of this Association when this body is not in session, and whose term of office shall be as follows: One for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years; and at the expiration of each of these terms, one is to be elected for a term of five years, and who shall hold their office until their successors are elected. And further, if any vacancies occur between sessions of the Association, the board shall fill such vacancy or vacancies until the next session of the Association; all of whom shall perform such duties as usually devolve upon such officers.

Art. IV. Any regular organized Free Will Baptist quarterly meeting or church maintaining Gospel order, agreeing with this denomination in doctrine and practice, in favor of the benevolent enterprises, as Sabbath Schools, Missions, Temperance and Education, may be received into this Association by presenting a petition asking to be received; and ministers and deacons desiring to become members, must be recommended by the church to which they belong, appear in person, and then by a

vote of this Association, when such vote shall be decided by a majority of all votes cast.

Ar. V. This Association shall have power to discipline its quarterly meetings and churches, exclude them for disorderly walk if labor proves unsuccessful, to ordain deacons, to license and ordain minsters, such as give evidence as being qualified and called of God, by request of the church to which such persons belong; to settle such questions of discipline and doctrine as the quarterly meetings or churches may refer to them; to make any rules or by-laws necessary to its regulation and not inconsistent with its constitution, but in no case shall this Association reverse a decision of its quarterly meetings or in any way interfere with its internal regulations, nor hold any ecclesiastical power over the quarterly meetings or churches composing this Association.

Art. VI. The sessions of this Association shall be held with only such churches that call for it by vote of the church while in conference, and when two or more churches make a request for the same session, it shall be decided by a vote and the majority of all votes cast shall be final.

Art. VII. The sessions of this Association shall convene annually, Thursday morning, 10 a.m., before third Sunday in August at which time it shall be the duty of the quarterly meetings and churches composing this Association to represent themselves by delegates, and send written reports, the quarterly meetings are to report their spiritual standing, benevolent work, ministers licensed or ordained, and appeals if any have been taken, churches are to report their spiritual standing, benevolent work, names and addresses of their ministers and clerks, the names of their deacons, meeting days, and statistics; at which time the Association shall act upon such questions and topics as may be referred to them through their committees; and transact such other business, not repugnant to this constitution nor the usages of the denomination as in their judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the quarterly meetings and churches within the limits of this Association.

Art. VIII. It is the duty of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches, to point out their interests and aid them in securing pastors, to put out evangelists, and other ministers in place where the Gospel is most needed, and require a written annual report of each minister belonging to this body.

Art. IX. This constitution may be altered or amended by a

two-thirds majority of all members voting at any regular session of this Association, when written notice setting forth the exact intended alterations or amendments shall have been given at the previous regular session.

BY-LAWS

1. All business meetings shall be opened by singing, reading a portion of God's word and prayer, and shall be closed with prayer.

2. The Clerk or Assistant Clerk, or in their absence, the senior minister in years, shall call the Association into conference. And in the absence of the Moderator or assistant, the senior minister shall act as Moderator.

3. Any ruling of the Moderator may be over-ruled by a majority vote of the members present.

4. This Association may correspond by messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies.

5. This Association shall sit with open doors except when it shall go into committee as a whole.

6. Any member of this body may appeal from the decision of the Moderator to the Association, and by a majority vote thereon, the objection shall be sustained or rejected.

7. The Moderator shall stop all discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit.

8. No member of this Association shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes nor twice on the same subject without permission of the Moderator.

9. Any one desiring to speak shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator by the appellation, "Brother Moderator" but shall not speak further until recognized by the Moderator.

10. All business, except routine, shall be brought before the body by committees, but should any committee refuse or fail to present to this body any business given to it by any member of this Association, then such business may be presented to the body by any member, but cannot be discussed unless by a vote of this body.

11. No one shall leave the Association without consent of the Moderator.

12. All officers of this Association shall be nominated from the floor and elected by ballot, except when the rules are suspended, then election may be by acclamation.

13. All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, but

any appointment may be changed by a majority vote of this body.

14. A majority of all votes cast shall be final upon all subjects except to ammend the Constitution or By-Laws, then it shall require a two-thirds majority.

15. Churhes of the Liberty Association shall not call a pastor who does not have a yearly certificate.

16. Each minister in good standing shall be given a yearly certificate.

17. These By-Laws may be amended or changed at any regular or adjourned session of this Association.

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.

