

MINUTES
OF THE
Eighty-Eighth Annual Session
OF THE
MOUNT MORIAH ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST
HELD WITH
MOUNT ZION CHURCH
SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY
October 8, 9 and 10, 1938

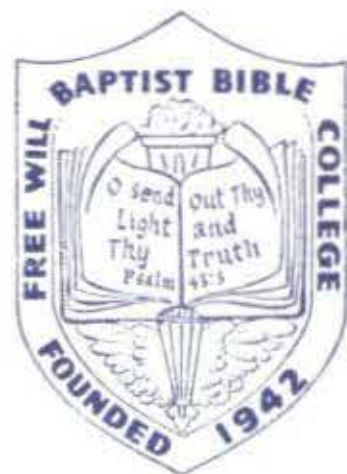
OFFICERS

Rev. M. Montgomery, Brownville, Ala., R. 1. Moderator
J. H. Harless, Elrod, Alabama, Clerk

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. A. Hickman, J. S. Loftis, J. O. Perigen,
J. M. Stokes and J. C. Oswalt

The next session of this Association will be held with Sardis Church, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, beginning on Saturday before the Second Sunday in October, 1939.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. Al Hamm

PROCEEDINGS

The Eighty-Eighth Session of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association was held with Mount Zion Church, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, on October 8, 9 and 10, 1938. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. T. A. Springfield, St. Mark 1st. chapter, 17th. verse.

After which one and one half hours were taken for recreation and refreshments. At the appointed time the ministers and messengers reassembled in the house and was called to order by the former Moderator, Rev. M. Montgomery, after reading 23rd Psalms and prayer.

The body was fully organized after which the following business was transacted.

Letters from the various churches were handed in and read and delegates listed as per statistical table.

The body then proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk, whereby Rev. M. Montgomery, Moderator and J. H. Harless, Clerk.

Extended an invitation to new churches. None present.

Called for corresponding messengers from sister associations. J. M. Graham from Vernon.

The following committees were appointed.

On Document and Order of Business: Rev. J. E. Tilley, Rev. T.

L. Walker, Rev. T. V. Wheat, with Moderator and Clerk

On Devotion: B. Montgomery, Land McAdams, M. B. Fields, with Deacons of Mount Zion.

On Sabbath School: S. R. Lee, Sister Addie Montgomery, Mrs. T. R. Sellers, Anna Springer.

On Temperance: J. L. Lavender, Mossie Koon, O. L. Pearson, S. H. Lindsey.

On Finance: O. W. McGee, G. E. Ruffin, J. C. Brown.

On Deceased: Claude Malone, H. B. Latham, W. H. Watley.

On Moral Reform: Rev. Edgar Jones, W. L. Roberson, L.S. Peek.

On Education, Publication and Literature: J. A. Driver, Tom Driver, J. F. Malone.

On Resolutions and Querries: J. L. Lynn, Rev. Nunly Sanford, T. M. Moore.

The Devotional Committee made a partial report as follows:

Rev. J. L. Lavender to preach at 9:00 A. M.

Rev. T. L. Walker to preach at 11:00 A. M.

Rev. J. E. Tilley to preach at 2:30 P. M.

After the assignments the body adjourned till Monday morning at 8:00 o'clock.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Rev. J. L. Lavender preached at 9:00 A. M., Text, Timothy 4th. chapter, 6th., 7th. and 8th. verses.

Rev. T. L. Walker preached at 11:00 A. M., Text, 1st. Kings 4th. chapter, 40th. verse.

Rev. J. E. Tilley preached at 2:30 P. M., Text, Joshua 24th. chapter, 15th. verse.

MONDAY MORNING

Met pursuant to adjournment. After reading 37th. Psalms and prayer by the Moderator, the following business was transacted. The Moderator then read the By Laws and Constitution of the Association. Saturday's minutes were read and adopted. Roll call of Delegates as listed in statistical table.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

ON DOCUMENT AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

We, your committee on document and order of business beg leave to report as follows: That we proceed after the usual order of business. We recommend that the next session of the Association be held with Sardis Church on Saturday before the 2nd. Sunday in October 1939. We recommend that Rev. M. Montgomery preach the introductory sermon and that Rev. T. V. Wheat be his alternate. We recommend that the clerk superintend the printing of the minutes and that he be paid \$15.00 for his services.

Report of committee received and adopted.

REV. J. E. TILLEY, Chairman.

ON DEVOTION

We, your committee on devotion make a final report as follows.

That Rev. W. J. Harbin preach the Valedictory sermon.

Report received and committee discharged.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your committee on Sunday School make the following report:

From all reports our Sunday School has made some improvements over last year, but as important as Sunday School is, it is not near what it should be yet. So we urge preachers and lay members to get behind this good gospel

ON TEMPERANCE

We, your committee on temperance, wish to submit the following report.

We find that the human family are prone to seek after worldly things. Therefore; since intemperance is a great evil practiced, we beg that as christian leaders try every possible means to guard and teach against such.

Temperance is a great thought that should concern everyone of us. The habit of drinking among our young people of today is one of the greatest curses in our land. More sin and more heart aches are caused through the influences of strong drink than any other one thing.

Then, it behooves each of us as christians to be on our guard every day to do what we can to destroy it and its influences. We know that in a few years our responsibility as christians and leading church members will rest upon the young generation. We should do our very best to live clean sober lives before them. By so doing what we can to prove to them that they must at all times be temperate to live happy, successful christian life.

Report received and committee discharged.

REV. J. L. LAVENDER, Chairman.

DECEASED MEMBERS

We, your committee on deceased members beg to report that since our last meeting the following brothers and sisters have passed away:

Mr. Moriah-Bro. S. W. Jones

Shiloah-Annie Bell Sexton, Bro. H. H. Latham, W. H. Daniel,

W. M. Sanders.

Union-Sister Mandy Hudgins, Era Archibald, Bro. A. C. Hamlin

Union Hill-Bro. T. W. Going

Mt. Zion-Bro. Arthur Gober, Sister Unity Spencer

Pleasant Hill-Sister Beulah Strickland

Let us strive to meet them in the Sweet Bye and Bye

The business of the Association was called off and a song was sung, Oh! When Shall I See Jesus, and prayer by Rev. T. V. Wheat in memory of the deceased.

Report received and committee discharged.

CLAUDE MALONE, Chairman.

MORAL REFORM

We, your committee on Moral Reform report as follows:

We recommend that our deacons and preachers take a clear oversight of our members and seeing that our young people are being led into immoral practices, we recommend that we provide places of employment in our churches and homes for them such as prayer meetings, Sunday Schools, Young Peoples League. and singing. We also recommend that our members abstain from attending places of worldly amusements, such as ball games, swimming pools and picture shows, and other things that will lead our children down to crime.

Report received and committee discharged.

REV. EDGAR JONES, Chairman.

EDUCATION, PUBLICATION AND LITERATURE

We, your committee on Education recommend the former report.

We, your committee on Education, Literature and Publication recommend that our people take greater interest in the education of their children, training the mind to think, the heart to feel and the body to act in true accord to the teachings of the bible. The word of the truth which has proven beyond a doubt to be the guide from earth to heaven, by it we are made to more fully comprehend and understand the truth, the pure and beautiful, it brings to light of the individual life its demand was never greater than now. Young men entering the ministry should be encouraged and aided in their preparations for so great a calling. We recommend the loyal use of our common literature published by the Free Will Baptist Press:

Report received and committee discharged.

J. A. DRIVER, Chairman

ON FINANCE

We, your committee on finance beg leave to report as follows:

We have collected at this session \$43.50.

Report received and committee discharged.

O. W. McGEE, Chairman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We, your executive committee report as follows:

First: We find that all of our preachers are in good standing and in sound faith except Brother Williamson. We find that he has had talk that is not becoming for a preacher to talk. We recommend that Rev. Arlie Berry's name be dropped from our roll for joining another denomination.

Report received and adopted.

J. A. HICKMAN, Chairman

RESOLUTIONS AND QUERIES

We, your committee on Resolutions and Queries wish to submit the following report:

We wish to tender our sincere thanks to Mt. Zion Church and community for the able manner in which they have cared for us during our stay among them. We pray God's richest blessings to be bestowed upon them.

Report received and committee discharged.

J. L. LYNN, Chairman

A collection was taken up for three of our aged and infirmed ministers, Rev. W. J. Harbin, Rev. J. E. Mathis and Rev. J. D. Byars, whereby we collected \$19.82.

The valedictory sermon was preached by Rev. W. J. Harbin, after which the parting hand was taken to meet with Sardis Church, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1939.

REV. M. MONTGOMERY, Moderator
J. H. HARLESS, Clerk

List of Delegates Attending the Association

Mt. Moriah--Geo. McReynolds.

Macedonia--M. B. Fields, Lando McAdams, Geo. Ruffin.

Shiloah--M. M. Koon, H. B. Latham, A. J. Burkhalter.

Tabernacle--O. W. McGee, C. P. Malone, J. F. Malone.

Union--S. H. Lindsey, Mrs. J. T. Lindsey, W. H. Whatley,

Phillips Chapel--J. C. Oswalt, T. J. Sanford, J. L. Lynn.

Union Hill -Tom Moore, Levi Peeks, Albert Peeks.

Mount Zion -T. J. Shipp, W. F. Winter, J. C. Brown.

Pleasant Hill--O. L. Pearson, J. H. Harless, Sister Anna Springer

Espy Springs--B. Montgomery, Mrs. B. Montgomery.

Sardis--Alonzo Robertson, J. A. Driver, Tom Driver.

Glen Echo--Robert Sellers, Mrs. M. A. Sellers.

Hatties Chapel--J. E. Tilley.

Ordained Ministers and their Addresses

Rev. J. E. Mathis, Millport, Ala., Rt. 3, Rev. J. D. Byars, Millport, Ala., Rev. W. R. Robison, Reform, Ala., Rt. 2, Rev. J. M. Spencer, Northport, Ala., Rev. J. E. Tilley, Ethelsville, Ala., Rt. 1, Rev. L. A. Williamson, Newtonville, Ala., Rev. M. Montgymery, Brownville, Ala., Rt. 1, Rev. T. V. Wheat, Coker, Ala., Rt. 1, Rev. T. L. Walker, Gordo, Ala., Rt. 3, Rev. W. J. Harbin, Berry, Ala., Rev. T. A. Springfield, Gordo, Ala., Rt. 1, Rev. M. Pinkerton, Plainview, Texas, Rev. R. L. Taylor, Brownville, Ala., Rev. H. E. Cobb, Millport, Ala., Rev. N. M. Sanford, Peterson, Ala., Rev. J. L. Lavender, Gordo, Ala., Rt. 1, Rev. Edgar Jones, Coker, Ala., Rt. 1, Rev. S. R. Lee, Coker, Ala., Rt. 1.

Licentiates

W. W. Benson, Gordo, Ala., Rt. 4.

Deceased Ministers

Rev. W. B. Montgomery, Rev. Wood Springfield, Rev. W. E. Harbin, Rev. I. T. Nabors, Rev. E. Gore, Rev. T. Maloy, Rev. W. R. Latham, Rev. W. J. Cowart, Rev. J. S. Hinton, Rev. J. R. Robertson, Rev. O. M. Archie, Rev. E. F. Pool, Rev. V. Pool.

PROCEEDINGS OF UNION MEETING

The Forty-Seventh annual session of the Union Meeting of the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association was held with Union Church, Pickens County, Alabama, on July 23rd. and 24th. 1938.

Saturday, July 23rd. at 9:50 A. M. the former Moderator called the body to order after reading the 4th. chapter of First John and prayer by Rev. S. R. Lee, the Union Meeting was open for business.

1. Letters from various churches was read and delegates listed as per roll.

2. Proceeded to elect moderator and clerk, whereby Rev. J. E. Tilley was elected moderator and B. Montoomery, clerk.

3. Extended an invitation to visiting brethren to seat with us, whereby Rev. J. L. Lavender from the Vernon Association was present and was seated with the body.

Saturday at 11:00 o'clock Rev. T. L. Walker preached the introductory sermon. Text: 4th. chapter, 12th. verse of Amos.

After the service the body was dismissed for one and one half hours for refreshments. After refreshments the body returned to the house for the transaction of the remainder of the business.

After reading the 16th. Psalms and prayer, Rev. J. L. Lavender proceeded to preach. Text: 133rd. Psalms, 1st. verse.

After preaching the following business was transacted.

DOCUMENT AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

We, your committee on Document and Order of Business, report as follows:

That we proceed after the usual order of business. We recommend that the next session of the Union meeting be held at Glen Echo Church, Pickens County, Alabama, Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in July, 1939. We recommend that Rev. T. A. Springfield preach the introductory sermon at 11:00 A. M., and Rev. M. Montgomery be his alternate.

Report received and committee discharged.

J. M. STOKES, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your committee on Sunday School report as follows:

From all reports our Sunday School has failed to make any improvement from last year, but will still urge all our pastors and members to make a great effort to improve our Sunday School, so we ask that we get the good gospel work going once more and then above all things stay behind it.

Report received and committee discharged:

BELTON WEAVER, Chairman

RESOLUTIONS AND QUERIES

We, your committee on resolutions and queries wish to submit the following report: We wish to tender our sincere thanks to Union Church and community for the great way in which they have cared for us during our stay among them. We pray God's richest blessings to be bestowed upon them.

Report received and committee discharged.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Devotional Report for next Session

We, your committee on Devotion report as follows:

That Rev. S. R. Lee preach at 9:00 A. M. and Rev. Edgar Jones be his alternate. Rev. M. Montgomery preach at 11:00 A. M. and Rev. J. E. Tilley be his alternate, and Rev. T. V. Wheat preach at 2:30 P. M., and Rev. R. L. Taylor be his alternate.

Report received and committee discharged.

J. S. LOFTIS, Chairman

List of Delegates Attending Union Meeting

Glen Echo--Mr and Mrs. T. R. Sellers and Oscar Fulghum.
Espy Springs--L. C. Shirley, Belton Weaver, B. Montgomery
Tabernacle--J. S. Loftis, Archie Montgomery, P. J. Frazier
Union--H. A. Beverly, J. S. Curry, J. T. Lindsey
Sardis--Tom Driver, Jim Driver, Bennie Vaughan
Shiloah--J. A. Hickman, A. J. Burkhalter, L. B. Koon
Mt. Zion--J. C. Brown, T. E. Logan, T. J. Shipp
Phillips Chapel--Thomas Sanford, Joel Montgomery
Macedonia--J. M. Stokes, Geo. Ruffin
Union Hill--J. O. Perigen, Tom Moore
Pleasant Hill--Ezra Martin, Lula Mae Fant

Ministers Attending Union Meeting

Rev. T. V. Wheat, Rev. T. A. Springfield, Rev. T. L. Walker, Rev. M. Montgomery, Rev. J. E. Tilley, Rev. S. R. Lee, Rev. Edgar Jones, Rev. W. W. Benson, Rev. J. L. Lavender.

There being no further business, moved to meet with Glen Echo Church, Pickens County, Alabama, on Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in July, 1939, at 9:00 A. M.

REV. J. E. TILLEY, Moderator
B. MONTGOMERY, Clerk

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Art. 1. We believe there is one true and living God, who is the Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth, self-existent Creator of all things, and revealed under the personal divine perfection, and existing in distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Art. 2. We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, truth for its matter and salvation for its end, and it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is and shall remain to the end of the world, the center of Christian union, the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinion will be tried.

Art. 3. We believe that man was created only under the law of his Maker, but from voluntary transgression fell from that holy state, in consequence of which all mankind are depraved and wholly unable of their own will and ability to recover from the fallen state in which they are by nature,

Art. 4. We believe that God has not fixed the future of mankind by an absolute and unalterable decree; but salvation is offered in the Gospel free to all, and if sinners are lost forever it will be their own fault.

Art. 5. We believe that Christ by His death and suffering made an atonement for the sins of all mankind in general, and every individual in particular; however, that none but those who believe in Him can be partakers of the divine benefits.

Art. 6. We believe that true faith cannot proceed from the exercise of our natural faculties and powers or from the force and operation of the free will, since man in consequence of his natural corruption is capable neither of thinking or doing anything spiritually good.

Art. 7. We believe in a general application of the grace of God for fallen men sufficient to enable him morally and actually to obey the requirements of the law of liberty---James 1:25, this is to act of saving faith, John 1:9, however, none but those who believe or acquiesce in Christ will be saved thereby; Acts 17:32, Romans 2:9, John 3:19.

Art. 8. We believe in the moral agency of man, by the grace of God, before and after conversion; that he is laid under invincible necessity, but his Creator, to get in the given way, that if he lives after the flesh he shall die, but if he through the spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body he shall live, and, therefore, man is always a proper subject for admonition and exaltation. Hebrews 11:12-13; Romans 12:14; Mark 14:12; Ezekiel 18:24; Rev. 2:3; Ezekiel 33:13-28; 1 Timothy 4:1; Heb. 3:5; 1 Cor. 10-12-22; 1 Peter 1:10.

Art. 9. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of believers, associated by covenant in faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only proper officers are bishops, pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles of Timothy and Titus.

Art. 10. We believe that Christian Baptism is immersion in water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that believers are proper subjects.

Art. 11. We believe the Lord's supper is a perpetual obligation, by which the members of the church in the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ preceded always by solemn self-examination.

Art. 12. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgment; and joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal upon principles of grace and justice.

Art. 13. We believe in open mixed communion and the churches of our body are authorized by their pastors, to invite Christians of all orthodox churches who are in good standing in their respective churches, to commune with us at the Lord's Table.

RULES OF DECORUM

Art. 1. The Association shall be called to order by the Moderator who presided at the last session, the former Clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.

Art. 2. The Association shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

Art. 3. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by ballot at each session of the Association. A majority of votes by delegates present elect.

Art. 4. The names of the delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called for as necessary during the session.

Art. 5. A majority of delegates shall rule in all cases except in the reception of churches, then it shall be unanimous.

Art. 6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote except in cases of a tie, and then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on all questions after others have spoken, provided he appoints some one to the chair while he is speaking.

Art. 7. Only one person shall speak at a time and he shall rise and address the Moderator and after recognition by the Moderator he shall proceed.

Art. 8. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject under discussion or uses words of personal reflection.

Art. 9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association, nor more than 15 minutes at a time.

Art. 10. No member shall laugh or talk while debates are going on.

Art. 11. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.

Art. 12. The Moderator shall have power to call the Association together at any time upon a petition of two-thirds of the churches composing the Association over which he presides.

Art. 13. That the appointment of all committees by the Moderator be confined to ministers and delegates composing the Association.

CONSTITUTION

Art. 1. This Association shall be known as the Mount Moriah Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, being composed of delegates from the different churches forming the same, each church being entitled to three delegates.

Art. 2. The body shall be considered an Advisory Council, but having no authority over the affairs of other churches, unless they depart from the articles of faith of the Association. In case any church departs from the articles of faith and supports doctrines of heresy, or allows any minister of her body to teach doctrines not in keeping with our articles of faith, the same shall be dealt with by this Association as it may deem proper and right, according to the teachings of the Bible.

Art. 3. Each church in this Association shall be considered an advisory body, and shall control its own internal affairs in matters of discipline, etc. It may, however, in extreme cases, call aid from sister churches, but the Association shall rule in all matters of doctrine and general interest.

Art. 4. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be settled by a two-thirds vote of the Association and the decision shall be final.

Art. 5. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen at each session by a majority of votes.

Art. 6. This Association shall meet annually, at such time and place as may be agreed at a previous annual session, and shall not adjourn finally until all business is transacted.

Art. 7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its Articles of faith and conform to its usage.

Art. 8. We agree as churches of this Association to use our best influences to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as the temperance cause, Sabbath Schools, Missionary work, etc.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES County-State	PASTORS	CLERKS Post Office	EX-PASTORS	Paid Pastors	Paid Helper	Baptised	Rec'd, by Letter	Dismi'd by Letter	Restored	Deceased	Excluded	Meeting Days	No. of Members	Minute Fund
1. Mt. Moriah Pickens County, Ala.	T. L. Walker	Edna Gore McShan, Ala.	J. D. Byars	\$70.25	\$47.45	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	126	\$2.25
2. Macedonia Pickens County, Ala.	J. E. Tilley	W. E. Dean Millport, Ala.	J. E. Tilley	91.70	26.00	4	0	1	0	0	0	1	290	4.00
3. Shiloah Pickens County, Ala.	J. L. Lavender	L. B. Koon Gordo, Ala., R. 1	J. E. Tilley	88.27	14.75	5	3	9	0	4	3	3	189	5.44
4. Tabernacle Tuscaloosa Co. Ala.	T. V. Wheat	J. S. Loftis Brownville, Ala., R. 1	T. V. Wheat	19.15		8	1	2	0	0	0	1	157	5.00
5. Union Pickens County, Ala.	J. E. Tilley	S. H. Lindsey Gordo, Ala., R. 2	J. E. Tilley	74.70	19.35	4	0	3	0	3	0	2	144	3.00
6. Phillips Chapel Tuscaloosa Co. Ala.	M. Montgomery	J. L. Lynn Brownville, Ala. R 1	M. Montgomery			0	0	1	0	0	0	4	247	4.00
7. Union Hill Pickens County, Ala.	T. L. Walker	W. M. Harris Reform, Ala.	T. L. Walker	30.00	13.31	3	3	1	0	1	0	2	101	2.00
8. Mt. Zion Tuscaloosa Co. Ala.	M. Montgomery	T. E. Logan Brownville, Ala., R1	M. Montgomery	35.00		2	0	0	0	2	0	3	124	4.00
9. Hatties Chapel Pickens County, Ala.	W. R. Robinson	L. D. Tilley Ethelsville, Ala.				0	10	0	0	0	0	3	20	3.55
10 Pleasant Hill Tuscaloosa Co. Ala.	J. E. Tilley	W. W. Tilley Elrod, Ala.	J. E. Tilley	70.00	15.00	3	0	0	0	1	0	4	127	3.00
11 Espy Springs Tuscaloosa Co. Ala.	M. Montgomery	L. G. Weaver Samantha, Ala., R1	M. Montgomery	68.45		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	46	3.00
12 Sardis Tuscaloosa Co. Ala.	S. R. Lee	G. D. Skelton Moores Bridge, Ala.	S. R. Lee	20.00		2	2	0	0	0	0	3	51	3.00
13 Glen Echo Pickens County, Ala.	T. L. Walker	Viola Fulghum Carrollton, Ala.	T. L. Walker	21.60		0	0	0	0	0	0	4	17	1.25
14 New Hope Fayette County, Ala.														
Totals				\$589.12	\$135.86	32	19	20	0	12	3		1639	\$43.49