

MINUTES
OF THE
Fifty-Second Annual Session
OF THE
NORTHWEST BRAZOS ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
CONVENED WITH THE
First Free Will Baptist Church
OF
AMARILLO, TEXAS
August 23-24, 1962

Will convene with the Vernon Church on Thursday
night before the last Sunday in August, 1963.

Officers Elected for This Year

MODERATOR.....REV. C. W. LEEWRIGHT
ASSISTANT MODERATOR.....REV. H. H. HASTON
CLERK.....SIS. MAE ROGERS
ASSISTANT CLERK.....SIS. MELBA LYNCH
TREASURER.....SIS. EUNICE HASTON

THURSDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 23, 1962, 7:30 P. M.

The Moderator, Rev. H. H. Haston, called the conference to order. Conference opened with congregational singing, led by Sis. Rozelle White, pianist, Sis. Betty Witt. Opening prayer led by Bro. Eddie Inglis. Congregational song, "He Keeps Me Singing." The Amarillo Church quaret sang, "Follow Me." Devotional Scripture read: James 1:1-6, and prayer by Rev. J. E. Rogers. Motion carried that we go into the business session of our Conference.

Church letters turned into the Clerk from Amarillo and Crowell. The letters were read and accepted, and delegates seated. The Rules of Order were read by the Moderator, and he invited all visiting church brethren to sit with us in this Conference. The hand of fellowship was given to all delegates, ordained authorities and their wives.

Motion carried that we give the Moderator power to appoint the Committees. Pulpit committee: Mro. A. A. Allison of Amarillo, Sis. Lydia Bell Beesinger of Crowell, Sis. Betty Witt of Amarillo. Congregational song, led by Bro. Eddie Inglis. Solo, "God's Tomorrow," by Sis. Rozelle White. Prayer led by Sis. Williams. Introductional message given by the host pastor, Rev. Edd Abbott. Scripture, Psalms 10:36. Theme: "How Great Was Christ's Love for Us."

Invitational song, "Lord, I'm Coming Home." Prayer led by Rev. Edd Abbott. Pulpit for Friday morning, Rev. J. E. Rogers to bring the 11:00 o'clock message. Delegates were placed for the night. Motion carried that we adjourn, to meet back at 9:30 A. M. Friday. Benediction by Rev. J. E. Rogers.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1962, 9:30 A. M.

Conference opened with congregational singing, led by Sis. Opal Allison, pianist, Sis. Betty Witt. Devotional was brought by Bro. Bernie Witt. Scripture, Romans 12:1-2. Opening prayer led by Sis. Tola Huddleston. Congregational singing, "Are You Washed in the Blood" and "Standing on the Promises." Prayer led by Sis. Yvonne Wheeler. The Moderator declared the business in session for today. Motion carried that we suspend the 'Rules' for this session, regarding using only delegate and ordained authorities on our committees. And use any of the congregation that is necessary, since there are so few delegates here. The minutes were read, up to this time. Motion carried they be received as read. Pampa Church letter was handed in, and read. Motion carried we receive the letter as read, and seat the delegates. Treasurer elected for the coming year: Sis. Eunice Haston. Motion carried that we move back the date of the next Quarterly Meeting, to begin one week earlier, on November 15, since the regular time would occur on Thanksgiving Day.

Motion carried we begin our Quarterly Meeting sessions on Friday night and go through Saturday in the future (As long as it doesn't interfere with the League.) The Ladies'

Auxiliary to meet at 2 P. M. Fridays, instead of Thursdays. The Young People's League to be on Saturday nights. The Yearly Association to remain as it is now. (This change will cause the Quarterly Meeting to convene on November 16, begin, instead of November 15, as stated above. Congregational song, "The Haven of Rest." Dismissed for 5 minutes intermission by Bro. A. A. Allison.

Conference resumed with congregational singing, led by Sis. Opal Allison. Duet, "In the Shadow of the Cross," by Sis. Sue Klepper and Sis. Melba Lynch. The 11:00 o'clock message was brought by Rev. J. E. Rogers, scripture, First Thessalonians 5:1-9. Theme, "Work for Christ while you can; the time is much shorter than you think." The Moderator read the list of Committees. Appointed on the Committees were the following: Finance Committee, Sis. Betty Witt and Sis. Sue Klepper. Home and Foreign Missions Committee, Sis. Melba Lynch and Rev. J. E. Rogers. Obituary Committee, Sis. Jeffie Webster and Sis. Opal Allison. Resolution Committee, Rev. Edd Abbott, Rev. J. E. Rogers, Bro. A. A. Allison. Sunday School Committee, Sis. C. W. Leewright and Sis. Yvonne Wheeler. Temperance Committee, Sis. Eunice Haston, Sis. Betty Lynch, Sis. Tola Huddleston. Congregational song, "He Leadeth Me." Dismissed in prayer by Sis. Letty Lynch. To meet back at 1:30 P. M.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1:30 P. M.

Conference opened with congregational singing, led by Sis. Opal Allison. Pianist, S's. Betty Witt. Opening prayer, led by the Moderator, Rev. H. H. Haston. The minutes were read up to this time. Motion carried they stand as read. Pulpit report for tonight: Rev. H. H. Haston is to bring the message. Vernon Church letter just arrived by mail. It was read. Motion carried we accept the letter as read. No delegates. Levelland Church was not represented by delegate or letter. Committee reports were given on Obituary, Sunday School, Finance, Temperance, Home and Foreign Missions, and Resolution, in that order. Separate reports are as follows:

Obituary: We, the Obituary Committee, regret to report that the good Lord has seen fit to remove from our presence, his beloved children: Sis. Pearl Abbott of Amarillo, Texas, May 27, 1962; Bro. B. F. Hardin, Amarillo, Texas, Aug. 2, 1962; Sis. Mattie White, Crowell, Texas, March 8, 1962. Signed by the Obituary Committee: Sis. Jeffie Webster and Sis. Opal Allison. Motion carried we accept the report as read, and dismiss the Committee. A moment of silent prayer, then led in prayer for the deceased by Rev. J. E. Rogers.

Sunday School: We, the Sunday School Committee, wish to report the yearly average attendance of each Sunday School is as follows: Amarillo 82, Crowell 42, Levelland (no report), Pampa 21, Vernon 20, average yearly attendance for all 5 Sunday Schools is 41. Yearly average offering of each Sunday

School is as follows: Amarillo \$410.78, Crowell \$312.00, Levelland (no report), Pampa \$130.00, Vernon (no report). Average yearly offering for all 5 Sunday Schools, \$284.29. Signed by the Sunday School Committee: Sis. C. W. Leewright and Sis. Yvonne Wheeler. Motion carried we accept the report as read, and dismiss the Committee.

Finance: We, the Finance Committee, wish to report the total finances received by the churches this past year is as follows: Amarillo \$5,270.74, Crowell \$1,796.35, Levelland (no report), Pampa \$5,621.62, Vernon \$671.91. Total income for the churches for the year \$13,360.62. Total paid-outs by each church as follows: Amarillo \$4,785.66, Crowell \$1,623.84, Levelland (no report), Pampa \$6,092.34, Vernon \$623.89. Total paid outs for the year, 313,125.73. All totals: income \$13,360.62; paid outs \$13,125.73; balance \$234.89. Signed by the Finance Committee: Sis. Betty Witt and Sis. Sue Klepper. Motion carried we accept the report as read, and dismiss the Committee.

Temperance: We, the Temperance Committee, recommend that we be temperate in dress and speech, as well as drinks. Signed by the Temperance Committee: Sis. Eunice Haston and Sis. Letty Lynch. Motion carried we accept the report as read, and dismiss the Committee.

Home and Foreign Missions: We, the Home and Foreign Missions Committee, are sorry to report that the yearly offering for both Home and Foreign Mission work is less than last year's, for which we ask God's forgiveness. Report of giving as follows: Amarillo, Home \$10.00, foreign \$32.50; Crowell, home \$15.00, foreign \$00.00; Levelland (no letter report); Pampa, home \$00.00, foreign \$00.00; Vernon, home \$00.00, foreign \$00.00; total yearly: home \$25.00, foreign \$32.50. Signed by the Home and Foreign Missions Committee: Rev. J. E. Rogers and Sis. Melba Lynch. Motion carried we receive the reports as read, and dismiss the Committee.

Resolution: We, the Resolution Committee, feel it necessary to bring forward the following resolutions: No. 1. Be it resolved that we work more with our young people; trying to make their road just a little easier to travel in this day, when the world is so wild. Teaching them to depend more and more upon God. No. 2. Be it resolved that if the body of the Association does not want the Resolutions, to please vote them down. For we have too many on our books now, that we don't know about. We will not mind. Signed, by the Resolution Committee: Bro. Alex Allison, Rev. J. E. Rogers, Rev. Edd Abbott. Note: Bro. Abbott was excused from the Committee, to visit the sick. Motion carried we adopt both Resolutions as read, and dismiss the Committee.

Treasury Report was given as follows: We now have \$109.89 in Treasury.

Amount of yearly minutes requested by the churches as

follows: Amarillo 25, Crowell 25, Levelland (not represented), Pampa 10, Vernon 12. Motion carried that we have 72 Minutes printed, as by request. (Or as many as 100, if it is just as cheap to do so.) Motion carried that we have the person, or committee on printing, as we did last year, which was Rev. H. H. Haston. Motion carried that we accept Rev. Edd Abbott's resignation from the Executive Board. Executive Board members elected: Rev. H. H. Haston 3 years, Rev. L. C. Lynch 2 years, Rev. Alton Hickey 1 year. Clerk elected was Sis. Mae Rogers, assistant clerk, Sis. Melba Lynch. Moderator elected was Rev. C. W. Leewright. Assistant moderator, Rev. H. H. Haston. Motion carried that we adjourn our business to meet back at 8:00 tonight.

FRIDAY NIGHT, AUGUST 24, 1962, 8:00 P. M.

Conference opened with congregational singing, led by Bro. Bob Thompson. Prayer led by Rev. C. W. Leewright, followed by several more good songs by the congregation. Prayer led by Sis. Frankie Thompson, then the congregation sang the chorus of "Standing Somewhere in the Shadows." The League play was put on by Amarillo, "Judgment Day." Invitational song, "Are You Ready for the Judgment Day?" Prayer led by Rev. Edd Abbott. Congregational song, "He Abides with Me." Charge message was brought by Rev. H. H. Haston. Scripture, Second Corinthians, chapter 6, and Daniel 3:15. Theme: "There was a man sent from God." License for Minister to preach the Gospel was presented to Howard Otto, by the laying on of the hands of presbytery. The hand of fellowship was given to Bro. Otto by the congregation. The Pampa League petitionary letter was read. Motion carried that we accept them wholeheartedly into our Association. Motion carried that we give the host church a standing vote of thanks for their wonderful food and hospitality. Motion carried that we adjourn, to meet at The First Free Will Baptist Church in Crowell, Texas, on November 16-17, 1962. Prayerfully done in order, and for the furtherance of God's kingdom. Rev. H. H. Haston, Moderator. Sis. Mae Rogers, Clerk.

RULES OF ORDER

1. Every session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. Those who speak shall rise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
3. No motion shall be discussed without a second.
4. When a motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be separated by vote on request of any member.
5. Motion lost shall not be recorded.
6. No one shall speak more than twice on any subject, or more than ten minutes, without permission from the moderator.
7. All questions shall be decided by majority vote of the members present.
8. No one shall leave the Association without permission

of the moderator.

9. Arrangements shall be made for two or more sermons each day of the Association, or other equivalent services.

10. The rules of order shall be read by the moderator immediately following each convening of the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE IN:

1. The Bible. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments given by inspiration of God, and are infallible rules of faith and practice.

2. God. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the Universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

3. Christ. Christ is God manifested 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 Saviour and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

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, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to year of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of salvation are: (a) Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. (b) Faith or the reserved commital of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercising of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. (c) Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

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

10. Freedom of the Will. The human race is free and is self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, 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 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 ministered to all true believers.

14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let everyone of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." (I Cor. 16:2).

15. 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.

16. Resurrection, Judgment and Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men on the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil until the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience, we, the Church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate union and communion amongst us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, and we do hereby adopt this Constitution for our church government.

1. The Association shall be composed of delegates chosen by the different churches in our union and not exceeding four from each church, and, on producing letter, shall be entitled to seat.

2. Letters from the different churches shall express their number of members, number received by experience, letter of recommendation, dismissed, excluded, restored, and those who have died since our last Association.

3. The members thus chosen to be denominated the Northwest Brazos Association of Free Will Baptists.

4. This body shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor have ecclesiastical power over churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly. However, the Association shall have the power, for good cause, to revoke the license or credentials of any minister, licensed or ordained by any church within its jurisdiction, and to exclude the delegates from its session when they, or

church, become disorderly or fail to keep good report.

5. The Association is to have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, chosen by vote of members present.

6. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which shall petition by letter and delegates, and if, upon examination, they be found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the body extending the hand of fellowship.

7. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed in its own church.

8. Every oral motion, seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the members who made it.

9. The Clerk shall assign each church its quota of minutes.

10. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the Minutes of the Association in a book kept for that purpose.

11. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the close of the Association.

12. No amendment shall be made to this Constitution without first being adopted by the three-fourths vote of the churches in the Association.

13. The Presbytery is composed of all ordained authorities in the Association. Any three members of the Presbytery may ordain a minister to preach the Gospel.

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 another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise, by His Grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all 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 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 Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake 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.

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.

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 the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ORDAINED MINISTERS belonging to the Association

Rev. Edd A. Abbott.....	900 N. Johnson St., Amarillo, Texas
Rev. C. W. Leewright.....	3807 Beaver Dr., Amarillo, Texas
Rev. H. H. Haston.....	P. O. Box 807, Crowell, Texas
Rev. L. V. Eaton.....	P. O. Box 1355, Levelland, Texas
Rev. J. E. Rogers.....	111 10th St., Levelland, Texas
Rev. M. T. Holley.....	Box 149, New Deal, Texas
Rev. L. C. Lynch.....	821 N. Dwight St., Pampa, Texas
Rev. A. J. Blackwood.....	P. O. Box 1168, Vernon, Texas
Rev. Ranzy Chennault.....	Vernon, Texas
Rev. G. G. Garrett.....	1318 Gordon St., Vernon, Texas
Rev. Alton Hickey.....	P. O. Box 2229, Vernon, Texas

DEACONS

Bro. A. A. Allison.....	Amarillo, Texas
Bro. Dick Perry.....	Amarillo, Texas
Bro. Barnett Steward.....	Amarillo, Texas
Bro. Eddie Inglis.....	Amarillo, Texas
Bro. Leonard Robinson.....	Amarillo, Texas
Bro. Kelly Collins.....	Crowell, Texas
Bro. Clarence Beesinger.....	Crowell, Texas
Bro. J. W. Golden.....	Crowell, Texas
Bro. Bob Mulloy.....	Levelland, Texas
Bro. Elwood Patterson.....	Levelland, Texas
Bro. Neil Tyler.....	Levelland, Texas
Bro. Haskle Medley.....	Pampa, Texas
Bro. O. B. Hickey.....	Vernon, Texas
Bro. W. O. Kennedy.....	Vernon, Texas

