

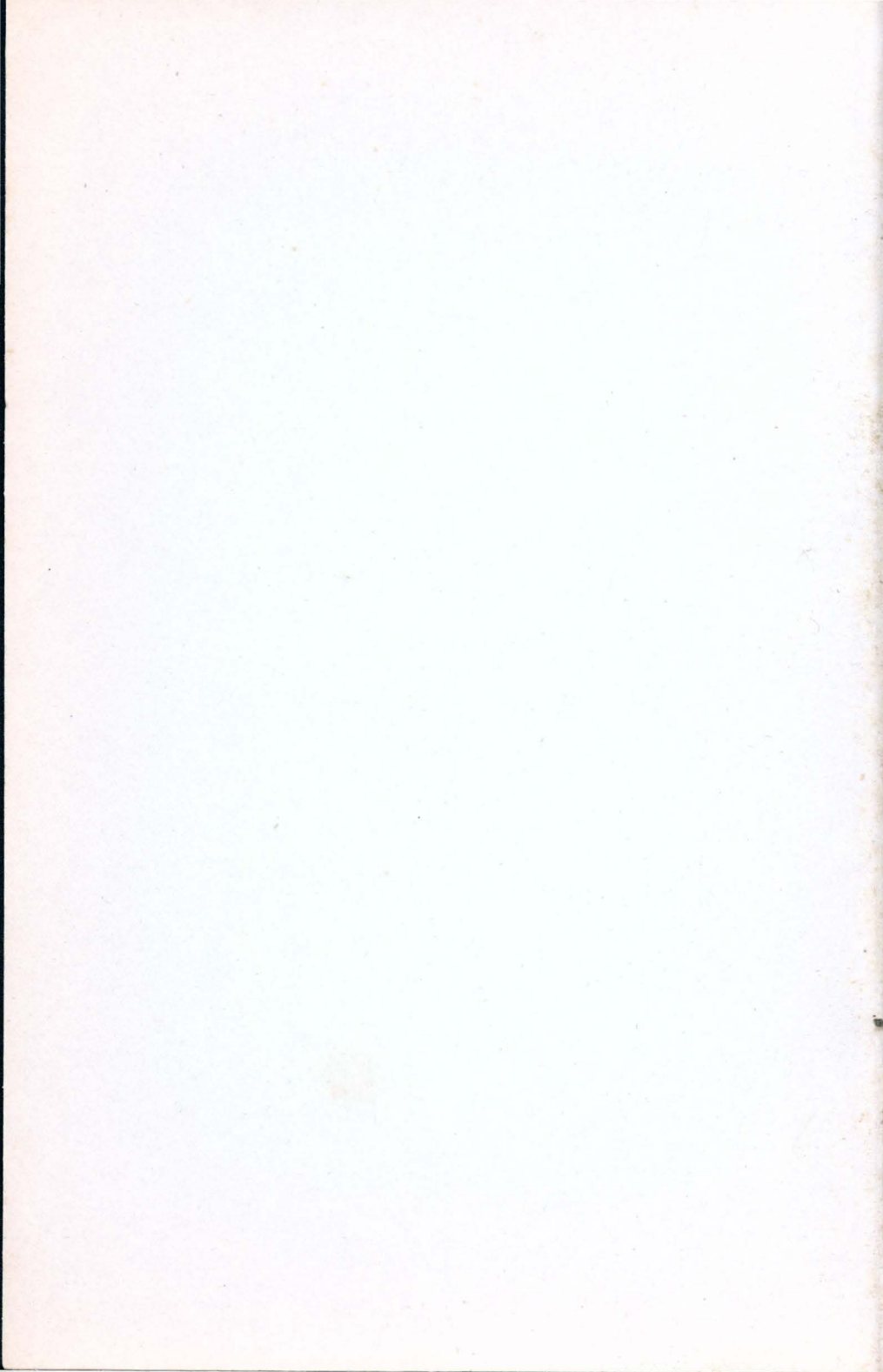
1958

**M I N U T E S**  
**OF THE**  
**FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION**  
**OF**  
**RICH MOUNTAIN**  
**ASSOCIATION OF**  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**



**NEXT ASSOCIATION TO BE HELD WITH**  
**BIG CEDAR**  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**BIG CEDAR, OKLAHOMA**

**August 13-16, 1959**



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## MINUTES OF THE FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE RICH MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST

The fiftieth annual session of the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptist Church of Christ met with the Liberty Church, Star Route, Hatfield, Ark., August 14-17, 1958.

The Association opened with singing "Jesus Hold My Hand," directed by Bro. Clermon Rogers. Rev. S. B. Metcalf led the opening prayer.

Rev. S. B. Metcalf read Romans 6th for a lesson. After prayer by Bro. Ed Metcalf, Bro. S. B. Metcalf preached from Romans 6:23. Services were dismissed by Bro. Riley Donica.

### FRIDAY SERVICES

Friday morning services came together with singing "Anywhere Is Home," directed by Rev. Bennie Fisher. Bro. W. A. Rash led the opening prayer.

The moderator read Malachi 4th chapter for a lesson.

The moderator called for Church Letters and the following churches responded: Hatfield, Big Cedar, Midway, Liberty and Oak Grove.

A motion was made and carried to receive the letters and seat the delegates.

The association went into permanent organization by electing Bennie Fisher, Moderator; Rev. A. A. Miller, Assistant Moderator; Sister Violet Wilson, Clerk-Treasurer, and Sister Opal Joplin, Assistant Clerk.

The moderator took his seat by reading the Rules of Order and the Constitution, then he appointed the following committees:

Arrangements: Sister Bessie Thornburgh, Sister Beulah Hess, Sister Dollie Storey, Sister Ethel Peters and Sister Kathryn Rash.

Sunday School: Sister Barbara Vickers, Sister Addie Evans, Bro. Ray Metcalf and Sister Lula Shults.

Resolutions: Bro. Yeaman, Bro. S. B. Metcalf, Bro. W. A. Rash, Bro. A. Duke and Bro. A. A. Williams.

Finance: Sister Ola House, Sister Juanita Griffin, Sister Shirley Peters and Sister Anna Metcalf.

Obituary: Sister Mattie Self, Bro. W. F. Smith, Mary Medford and Ed Self.

Temperance: Bro. James Lawrence, Sister Wilma Griffin, Bro. John Storey and Bro. Miller.

Business was dismissed by Bro. Duke.

The 11 o'clock services came together with singing, led by Bro. W. A. Rash. After a prayer, led by Bro. W. F. Smith, Rev. A. A. Williams of Broken Bow preached from I Cor. 10:31.

Services were dismissed by Bro. A. A. Miller.

Friday afternoon services came to order with singing, led by Bro. Rash, and prayer, led by Rev. S. B. Metcalf. The Moderator read Matt. 5:1-6 for the lesson.

The Committee on Sabbath School reported. The report was accepted and the committee dismissed. The Committee on Temperance reported. The report was accepted, and the Committee dismissed. The Committee on Finance reported. The report was accepted, and the committee dismissed.

The Clerk gave his annual report and the report was accepted.

Motion was made and carried to buy a notebook to keep the History of the Rich Mountain Association.



Business was dismissed by Bro. Omar Yeaman. Friday night services came together with singing "Revive Us Again," directed by Rev. Bennie Fisher, after which an old-time altar prayer was offered.

Rev. A. A. Miller preached from Mark 16:15-17.

Services were dismissed by Sister Violet Wilson.

### **SATURDAY SERVICES**

Saturday morning services came to order with singing, led by Rev. Bennie Fisher. Prayer was led by Sister Annie Metcalf.

The Moderator read Psalm 33:1 for a lesson.

A motion was made and carried to permit Rev. S. B. Metcalf to add some new material to our History of the Association.

The Resolutions Committee reported and their report was accepted and the committee was dismissed.

Business was dismissed by Bro. Jim Burnett. The 11 o'clock services came to order with singing and prayer, led by Bro. A. A. Williams. Rev. S. B. Metcalf preached from I Cor. 2nd chapter. Services dismissed by Rev. Bennie Fisher.

The Saturday afternoon service came together with singing, led by Bro. Jim Burnett.

I Peter 5:1-7 was read by the Moderator. Prayer was led by Sister Donnie Yeaman.

The Arrangements Committee reported and the report was accepted and the committee was dismissed.

Auditing Committee made their report and the report was accepted and the committee dismissed.

A motion was made and carried to appoint a Statistical Committee.

The Association will convene with the Big Cedar Church, August 13-16, 1959. Rev. Thomas Billy was selected to preach the introductory sermon with Rev. Albert Duke as alternate.

A Presbytery of five ordained ministers was appointed to help to organize a Free Will Baptist Church of Jesus Christ in Mena on Thursday night, August 21, 1958.

A vote of thanks was given the host Church and Community for caring for the 1958 session.

Bro. Omar Yeaman and Sister Donnie Yeaman, Sister Annie Metcalf, Bro. Herbert Hess and Sister Charlene Billy were selected as delegates to the State Association.

Services dismissed by Rev. Thomas Billy.

Saturday evening services came to order with singing, led by Bro. Dwight Evans.

Rev. Fisher read Statistical Report. Prayer, led by Rev. Thomas Billy. Rev. Bennie Fisher preached from Exodus 12; Matthew 2:17-29; I Cor. 11:21-34; St. John 12:1, and Timothy 5:9.

The Lord's Supper and Washing of the Saints' Feet were partaken of and services were dismissed by singing a hymn.

### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

Sunday morning services came together with singing and prayer, led by Rev. S. B. Metcalf. After the Sabbath School Rev. Thomas Billy preached from 10th and 16th chapters of Luke, John 14:3.

After a song and altar call services were dismissed by Rev. Bennie Fisher.

Sunday afternoon services came to order with singing after a number of songs by the class and several quartets and prayer, led by Bro. James Lawrence. The Moderator called a council, consisting of Rev. A. A. Miller, Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Rev. Thomas Billy and Bro. Clarence Peters for the purpose of ordaining Rev. Perry Looney as a Free Will Baptist preacher. Prayer was led by Rev. S. B. Metcalf, after which the services were turned over to the singers for the rest of the afternoon.

Services were dismissed by Rev. Bennie Fisher.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

We, your Committee on Arrangements submit the following report.

Thursday evening: Sermon by Rev. S. B. Metcalf.

Friday 11 o'clock: Sermon by Rev. A. A. Williams.

Friday night: Sermon by Rev. A. A. Miller.

Saturday 11 o'clock: Sermon by Rev. S. B. Metcalf.

Saturday night: Sermon by Rev. Bennie Fisher.

Sunday 11 o'clock: Sermon by Rev. Thomas Billy.

ETHEL PETERS.

BESSIE THORNBURGH.

DOLLIE STOREY.

KATHRYN RASH.

BEULAH HESS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, submit the following report.

It is our opinion that each church should have a Sabbath School. We believe that the Sabbath School is the life of the Church. It is a training place both for children and adults in God's work. Our Lord says, "Search the Scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."—St. John 5:39.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."—Proverbs 22:6.

We found, by looking over our church letters, that all the churches have a Sabbath School. The Oak Grove Church studies directly from the Bible. The Big Cedar, Hatfield and Midway Churches use Free Will Baptist Literature and the Liberty Church uses Union Literature in their study. All the churches report a good Sunday School.

MRS. BARBARA VICKERS.

MRS. ADDIE EVANS.

RAY METALF.

MRS. LULA SHULTS.

We, your Committee on Obituaries, submit the following report. We find that God in his infinite wisdom, has called from our midst during the past year:

Bro. Bill Clift, Jan. 22, 1958, from the Midway Church.

Bro. W. S. Evans, Jan. 4, 1958, and Bro. Lewis Nichols, Nov. 26, 1957, from the Liberty Church.

Sister Liza Hill, June 2, 1958, and Sister Jewel Tash, Feb. 2, 1958, from the Big Cedar Church.

MATTIE SELF.

MARY MAE MEDFORD.

REV. W. F. SMITH.

ED SELF.

We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following.

We find a balance of \$19.00 in the Treasury and the Churches contributing \$82.00, this makes a total of \$101.00 in Treasury.

OLA HOUSE.  
JUANITA GRIFFIN.  
ANNIE METCALF.  
SHIRLEY PETERS.

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report.  
We recommend that the report be retained as it appears in the last minutes.

REV. A. A. MILLER.  
J. E. STOREY.  
WILMA GRIFFIN.

We, your Committee on Resolutions, submit the following report.

Be it resolved that the Clerk strike out the clause in Resolution No. 3 insofar as our ability and circumstances affords us to do so, and otherwise let the resolution stand in minutes.

Be it resolved that Resolutions Nos. 7, 11, 17, 13, 16, be taken out of minutes.

We also recommend that this body change Resolution No. 19, to read: We recommend that each Church have a Bible School each year, the teachers of which to be selected by the individual churches.

Be it resolved that where a resolution has served its purpose that it be removed from the minutes and also to rearrange the numbers of the resolutions to correspond to the new arrangement.

O. H. YEAMAN.  
W. A. RASH.  
REV. A. E. DUKE.  
REV. S. B. METCALF.

We, your Auditing Committee, submit the following report.

There has been no contributions to any orphan homes, as far as we can find out. We have accepted the Clerk's report as the association passed on.

We find the Association History to be in good condition and a 1957 Minutes is filed with same.

REV. A. A. MILLER.  
H. E. HESS.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

To the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptist:  
I, your Clerk and Treasurer, submit the following report:

Balance in Treasury .....	\$ 3.06
Received at Association .....	78.00
<b>TOTAL IN TREASURY .....</b>	<b>81.06</b>
Paid for printing Minutes .....	\$61.80
Total Paid Out .....	61.80
<b>BALANCE IN TREASURY .....</b>	<b>\$19.26</b>

S. B. METCALF.

### **STATISTICIAN'S REPORT**

The Fiftieth Session of the Rich Mountain Association was composed of five churches, all of them represented and all of them filing Church reports. These churches are composed of 10 ordained ministers, 2 licensed ministers, 11 deacons, 185 membership, 5 deceased, 8 added, 6 dismissal. They have paid pastors \$902.89, evangelists \$292.85, home mission work \$34.50, building and repairs \$53.31, education and literature \$118.13, minute fund \$82.00, mis-



cellaneous \$192.37. Total expenditures \$1,676.05. Total value of church property \$12,300.00.

VIOLET WILSON.  
OPAL JOPLIN.

### FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS

1st — Hatfield Church .....	Aug. 22-24, 1958
2nd — Midway Church .....	Nov. 28-30, 1958
3rd — Liberty Church .....	March 27-29, 1959
4th — Oak Grove Church .....	May 22-24, 1959

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. T. H. Horton, (retired) Oak Grove Church .....	R. 2, Mena, Ark.
Rev. J. C. Nichols .....	2105 S. 2nd Ave., Yakima, Washington
Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Hatfield Church .....	Cove, Ark.
Rev. Bennie Fisher, Hatfield Church .....	R. 1, Hatfield, Ark.
Rev. R. I. Cook, Oak Grove Church .....	R. 2, Mena, Ark.
Rev. Thomas Billy, Big Cedar Church .....	R. 2, Box 116, Poteau, Okla.
Rev. LeRoy Billy, Big Cedar Church .....	R. 2, Box 116, Poteau, Okla.
Rev. W. F. Smith, Big Cedar Church .....	Muse, Okla.
Rev. A. A. Miller, Hatfield Church .....	R. 1, Hatfield, Ark.
Rev. Perry Looney .....	Board Camp, Ark.

### RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 1—Be it resolved, that our deacons be instructed to see after the support of their pastors and needy widows and orphans; in fact, all the needy Saints of Jerusalem.—Acts 6:1-7.

Resolution No. 2—Be it resolved, that God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ indorsed it in the Gospel (Matthew 23:23), and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him."—I Cor. 16:2.

Resolution No. 3—Be it resolved, that we, members of the Rich Mountain Association, do pledge ourselves to conform to the requirements of God's words, first by confessing our faults to one another, and praying one for another that ye may be healed.—James 5:16. That we will do, God being our helper. Moreover, we each one of us, will strive to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace by strictly observing that Holy Rule of Order laid down by our Lord and Christ, our great and loving redeemer, found in the fifth chapter of Matt. 23, 24, in which, reads as follows: "Therefore, if thou bring thy gift to the altar and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee leave here thy gift before the altar and go thy way. First be reconciled to thy brother and then come and offer thy gift." Matt. 5:23-24. Failure to observe these holy rules of order is the direct cause and only true reason why we are so often found out of fellowship and without a good report. Then in order that we may correct this hurtful evil and restore fellowship and peace among ourselves and make it safe for all coming times we are asking the hearty adoption and faithful observance of this resolution.

Resolution No. 4—Be it resolved, that the deacons and respective churches and their pastors shall fix the programs for the Fifth Sunday meeting when it convenes with their church.

Resolution No. 5—Be it resolved, that each church have a Pastor,



Deacon, and Clerk, chosen by the church, to continue in office during the pleasure of the church.

Resolution No. 6—Be it resolved, that we, as Free Will Baptists, abstain from worldly amusements and keep ourselves unspotted from the world, that our lives may be a shining light to those in sin.—Matt. 5:16.

Resolution No. 7—Be it resolved, that church clerks, when writing their letters to the association, list only the names of the ministers, who belong to their church by membership.

Resolution No. 8—Be it resolved, that a church does not recommend any one to be ordained for the ministry until they have preached at least one year with license.

Resolution No. 9—Be it resolved, that we ask each church of the association to commune and wash the saints' feet at least once a year.

Resolution No. 10—Be it resolved, that the moderator need only read the rules of order after organizing and seating any new delegates.

Resolution No. 11—Be it resolved, that each committee read their report to the association and that it be passed by the association before they turn it over to the clerk.

Resolution No. 12—Be it resolved, that the association have a committee which is to report on any collections other than the ones reported in the Church Letters, such as a collection sent to the Orphans' Home, etc. This committee is to check with the clerk as to how the associational money is spent. And also this committee is to see that the History of the Association is kept along with a minute of each Association, beginning with a minute of the 1957 session.

Resolution No. 13—We recommend that each church have a Vacation Bible School each year, the teachers, of which, to be selected by the individual church.

### **CONSTITUTION OF RICH MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST**

From long experience we, the members of the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ, being regularly baptized upon the confession of our faith in Jesus Christ, being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, do adopt this constitution for our church government.

1. The Association shall be composed of Ordained Ministers, Deacons, Church Clerks, and members of the different Churches, chosen as delegates, and not to exceed five (5) from each Church. Delegates producing letters with sufficient Minute funds, from any Church in our Association, shall be entitled to a seat.

2. Letters from the different churches are to express their number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letters of recommendations, the number of dismissed, excluded, restored and those who have died since the last Association.

3. Delegates thus chosen are to be called the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of churches in Western Arkansas and Eastern Oklahoma. The association is to have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have ecclesiastical power over the churches; but reserves the right to withdraw from any church becoming disorderly. The association shall have the power provided however it is for a good cause, to revoke the license or

credentials of any minister licensed or ordained by any church within its jurisdiction. The association shall also have the power to exclude any delegates from its sessions when they or their church are disorderly or fail to keep a good report.

4. The Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the membership present.

5. Newly constituted churches may be admitted by the Association by petitioning by letter, and delegates if orderly and orthodox. The Association may receive them by giving the hand of fellowship.

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

7. Every motion made and seconded shall be considered by the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

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

9. When a minister of this Association shall be charged with preaching any doctrine, other than the Free Will doctrine, by any church or member of a church, the charge will be proven, or dropped within a period of two years.

10. Dealing with disorderly members—If I see my brother in a fault, I should go to him and try to restore him. But if he will not hear me, then I should take one or two others, and if he neglects to hear them also, then take him to the church, and let the church deal with him as a disorderly member. For Paul said that if a man be overtaken in a fault let him that is spiritual restore such one, in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Bear ye one anothers' burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.—Gal. 6:1-2; Matt. 18:15-18.

11. Be it resolved that our association and fifth Sunday meetings can organize with two (2) or more churches present.

## **RULES OF ORDINATION**

1. Do you believe in the total depravity of the human brain? Answer, no.

2. Do you believe that infants are saved while in a state of innocence? Answer, I do.

3. Do you believe in a full and free salvation to all who will accept it in Gospel terms? Answer, I do.

4. Do you believe in the burial of the believer with Christ in water after he has been baptized into Christ by the Holy Ghost? Answer, I do.

5. Do you believe that any man has a right in the Gospel to repeat baptism to such a subject? Answer, no.

6. Do you believe that communion, feet washing and baptism are Gospel ordinance and are to be taught and practiced until He comes again? Answer, I do.

7. Will you solemnly pledge yourself to preach and practice the same, God being your helper? Answer, I will by the help of God.

8. Do you believe that none will be finally saved but those who persevere in holiness to that end? Answer, I do.



## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; and these three are equal in Divine essence, power and glory.—John 1:1; I John 5:7.

2. We believe that the Scripture of the Old and New Testament are the written and revealed Word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16-17.

3. We believe that God created man good, but man disobeyed God, transgressed the law and fell under just condemnation, whereby all mankind are sinners, not by constraint but by choice, being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall, and that man is unable to save himself with his own power, but we see Jesus, for the sufferings of death, crowned with glory, that He, by the grace of God, shall taste death for every man.—Heb. 2:9; Gen. 1:31; Gen. 3:6-7.

4. We believe that Christ, by his death, burial and resurrection purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon the principle of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent; therefore He saith, "Look unto me and be saved, all ye ends of the earth, for I am God and there is no one else."—Isa. 45:22; Matt. 4:17; Acts 17:3, 20, 21.

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the Spirit of God if they inherit eternal life.—John 3:3.

6. We believe that infants are saved by the merits of the Son of God.—Mark 10:14.

7. We believe that Christians should persevere in grace and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life, for blessed are they that do His Commandments, that they may have a right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.—Matt. 24:14.

8. We believe that baptism by immersion is in the apostolic mode, even the burial of the believer in water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost; and that Christ, who is our life, showed this humble example to His children and bids us walk herein.—Matt. 28:19-20; John 3:33.

9. We believe that our ministers should be qualified according to instructions given by Paul to Timothy.—I Tim. 3:1-8; II Tim. 2:15.

10. We believe that God displays his power to grace to a great degree by calling and qualifying His servants. By the teaching of the Holy Ghost, and by the instruction of His blessed word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation. He bids us to freely come and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their own stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come.—I Cor. 12:3; Eph. 3:7; Rev. 22:17; Isa. 55:1-5; Matt. 28:19-20.

11. We believe that Baptism and The Lord's Supper and the Washing of Saints' Feet to be Gospel ordinances.—St. John 13:3-5; I Corinthians 11:20, 34; St. Mark 16:15-18; and Matthew 28:18-20.

12. We believe the first day of the week to be the Lord's Day, and the apostles taught us to set it aside to worship God.—Romans 14:16; Romans 6:14-15; Romans 10:4; St. Mark 16:2; II Corinthians 16:2 and St. John 20:1, 19, 26.

13. We believe the assembling of ourselves together is an ornament which prepares and beautifies the soldier of the cross to march onward in the army of the Lord.—Hebrews 15:25; Acts 2:42.

14. We believe that none have a right to baptism only those who have retained a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none



have a right to administer the same except those who are called of God and have come under the hand of the Presbytery of Elders.—Titus 1:5; Acts 14:23.

15. We believe it to be the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month, and that it is the duty of the pastor of the church, when setting for the Lord's Supper and washing the saints' feet, to invite all Christians.—I Cor. 11:27-29.

16. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust. The resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God; the unjust to the everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God.—Matt. 25:31-46; I Cor. 15:42-45; Rev. 20:10.

## **"THE LAW OF THE LORD'S SUPPER"**

(By Rev. William Mankin)

The Lord's Supper was instituted for God's people. They all have equal rights to the supper and the right is a birthright. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body."—I Cor. 12:13. This is not water baptism, but spiritual baptism. Again Christ says, I am the door, by me, if any man enter in, he shall be saved. John 10:9. Christ is not the water baptism. Yet he is "The Door." There is but one door and Christ says He is the Door, and he that cometh in at that door shall have full fellowship and equal rights with all other Christians. "Let a man examine himself, and let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself." Not to the church, but to himself. It is a personal matter in judging and eating.

The church that does judge and exclude any of God's people is not in keeping with the instruction given by the church of Corinth. To thus judge and exclude one of the children of God is to offend the child so judged and excluded. Now listen to Christ. "He that offends one of these little ones that believes in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."—Matt. 18:6; I Cor. 10:30, and 13:22. It is contended that they of the same faith and order should be entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper.

I admit that Christ is the one true faith, and that His church is true order, and that faith is the means by which men belong to the true order. If this is meant by the same faith, we shall not object; we are agreed. But if sect is referred to, we object. As to order, if nothing but Gospel Order is meant, very well. But we do not believe that one child of God should dictate just what another should believe or what church he should belong to in order that he may be in the right church, for the visible church is but an organized body of Christians and placing your name on the church book of the best church on earth does not make you a Christian. The eunuch that believed and was baptized, what church did he join? Here is faith and here is order. Now ask if the eunuch were to wish to commune with some of the churches, would he be allowed the right? No, he is not the same faith and order. Yet, he is admitted to heaven, but could not be admitted to a sectarian table. At the Lord's table all His people have a perfect right, be he who he may, and when the supper is set and all of God's people are not invited, it is not the Lord's but a sectarian table.

"So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."—Rom. 12:5. And the way we become one body is by being baptized into that body. And, of course, this is spiritual

baptism. He that gets in by water baptism, the same is a thief and a robber, and when any one gets into that body in a legal way he has a right to all the benefits and privileges of that body." "For we, being many, are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread."—I Cor. 10:17.

By partaking we exhibit a oneness of that body. Who is meant by "we?" It certainly means all Christians of all ages. "When you come together, tarry one for another, be of one mind." But let the word of God control that mind. If it had ever been intended by the Saviour that the supper should be guarded, as some attempt to guard it, God would have endowed judges with power to discern the pure from the impure. But the standpoint from which to judge is water baptism, and a legal administration of the same. So, if baptism by immersion, and a legal administration, this settles the matter, and Christian character is left out, by which some make a woeful mistake; for, after all this precaution, some have been found unworthy of the least of the privileges of the church.

To admit immersion to be the only mode of baptism and a true believer receiving it, is that not all right? Some would answer, "If by a legal administration, this is all that is wanted." It is not purely a personal matter? So it is the duty of the preacher to baptize, and the applicant to be baptized.

When this is done, each has performed a personal duty. If I had never been baptized and had to await until I found one whom I knew to be a legal administrator, I never would be baptized at all, as I cannot know the heart of man. Two acting in concert, one acting in good faith and the other not.

Every Christian is responsible for his own act, and not for another. Simon the sorcerer believed and was baptized, and that by a legal administrator, and yet it was discovered that he was not a Christian.

So we see that baptism by legal administration does not confer any claims to Christian rights, as this proves to be a personal matter; For we clearly see that Apostle, inspired as he was, did not discover the evil of Simon's heart; neither can we know the heart of a man. When we do our duty, it is ours; when an applicant, it is his. So we find that in repentance, faith, baptism and Christian duties, all are personally accountable to God and not to man.

Various are the opinions of men; and the way we account for them is in the capacity of men; and if we use the capacity God has given us, we do not think that we should be eternally condemned for what we cannot help. The church of Christ is divided into many members but is one spiritual body and Christ the head, and they should have the same care for each other that the fleshly body has for its members.

Should Christians commune together at the Lord's table? "What God has joined together let no man put asunder." Christians do not feel alike if they do not think alike.

They can preach together, sing and love together, and should they not commune together?

Then a union and free communion is forced upon us.

Christ said He would drink no more of the fruit of the vine until He should drink it anew in His Kingdom.

So as assembled at God's table in Heaven, so should we be on earth.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association called to order by the moderator and in his absence, by the clerk.
3. Letters from churches composing the association called for, read, and the delegates seated.
4. Corresponding Associations.
5. Right hand of fellowship.
6. Call for letters from newly organized churches.
7. Election of Officers.
8. Reading Constitution and Rules of Order by moderator.
9. Appointment of Committees: (A) Arrangements, (B) Sunday School, (C) Resolutions, (D) Obituaries, (F) Temperance, (G) Statistics.
10. Report of Committees appointed at last association and other unfinished business.
11. Report of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Selecting place for next association.
14. Select the one to preach the introductory sermon the following year.
15. Vote of thanks to the Host Church for caring for the delegates to the association.
16. Selection of delegates to State Association.
17. Adjournment.

## RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting business shall be opened and concluded by prayer.
2. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.
3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator.
4. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.
5. When a motion has been made and seconded and a member opposes its discussion, the moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall not be discussed.
6. If a proposition or motion under debate contains two points, it shall be divided if requested, and a vote taken.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on any subject without special leave of the moderator.
9. In all cases a majority shall rule, except in receiving members, which shall be unanimous.
10. No person shall absent himself without special leave of the moderator.
11. Arrangements shall be made so as to insure two or more sermons each day of the Association.
12. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.
13. The churches should be more careful of their selection of delegates to the Association, as the Association is not composed of deacons and ministers alone, but by a delegation from the laity of the churches of the Association. Try to select delegates that will be present to represent you.—Hebrews 10:25.
14. Alterations may be made in these Rules at any regular session of the Association.



## FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith, in Jesus 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 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 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 in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, public worship, and the observance of the ordinance 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 education and denominational enterprises, the support of Missions, the success of Sunday Schools and evangelical 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.

### FORM OF LETTER OF DISMISSAL

This certifies that \_\_\_\_\_ is a member in good standing of the Free Will Baptist Church at \_\_\_\_\_, and as such we recommend \_\_\_\_\_ to the fellowship of God's people. Done in conference \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, Moderator  
\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

### FORM OF DEACON'S LETTER

This is to certify that Bro. \_\_\_\_\_ is a worthy Deacon of our church and we recommend him as being worthy of his calling.

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, Moderator  
\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

## CHURCH REPORTS

### LIBERTY FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Ed Self, Sisters Ola House, Addie Evans, Mattie Self and Bessie Thornburgh.

Clerk: Mrs. Opal Joplin.

Pastor for coming year, Rev. A. A. Miller.

Deacon, Bro. James Lawrence.

State of Religion .....	Good
Members Received Past Year .....	3
Baptized .....	1
Died .....	2
Total Membership .....	28
Condition of Sunday School .....	Fair
Average Number of Pupils .....	31
Number of Officers .....	2
Number of Teachers .....	4
Paid Pastor .....	\$100.00
Paid Evangelist .....	\$50.00
For Publication .....	\$40.30
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$15.00
Incidentals .....	\$28.92
Value of Church Property .....	\$1,500

### OAK GROVE CHURCH

Delegates: Mr. and Mrs. Holson.

Minister belonging to our church: Rev. R. I. Cook.

Clerk: Dollie Storey.

State of Religion .....	Good
Total Membership .....	28
Condition of Sunday School .....	Fair
Average Number of Pupils .....	8
Number of Officers .....	2
Number of Teachers .....	1
Paid Pastor .....	\$82.54
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$6.00
Incidentals .....	\$32.05

### BIG CEDAR CHURCH

Delegates: O. H. Yeaman, Vernon Davis, Jodie McCullie, Ethel Peters and Alvin Simmons.

Ministers belonging to our church: Thomas Billy, R. 2, Box 116, Poteau, Okla.; Fulton Smith, Muse, Okla.; Albert Duke, Muse, Okla.

Pastor's name: Thomas Billy, R. 2, Poteau, Okla.

Clerk: Donnie Yeaman.

Deacons: Claud Davis, Star Route, Page, Okla.; Clarence Peters, Star Route, Page, Okla.

State of Religion .....	Good
Members Received Past Year .....	2
Baptized .....	1
Dismissed .....	3
Died .....	2
Total Membership .....	53
Condition of Sunday School .....	Good
Average Number of Pupils .....	28
Number of Officers .....	1

Number of Teachers .....	4
Paid Pastor .....	\$426.35
Paid Evangelist .....	\$190.35
Building and Repairs .....	\$20.00
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$20.00

### MIDWAY CHURCH

Delegates: Sisters Beulah Hess, Flora Lewis, Juanita Griffin, Barbara Vickers and Mary Medford.

Pastor: Bro. Perry Looney, Board Camp.

Clerk: Mrs. Wilma Griffin.

Remarks: We recommend that Bro. Perry Looney, a licensed minister, be ordained as a minister.

Deacons: R. L. Burnett, Perry Looney and A. B. Foster.

State of Religion .....	Good
Members Received .....	1
Baptized .....	1
Dismissed .....	2
Died .....	1
Total Membership .....	36
Condition of Sunday School .....	Good
Average Number of Pupils .....	20
Number of Officers .....	2
Number of Teachers .....	4
Paid Pastor .....	\$138.02
Paid Evangelist .....	\$52.50
Home Mission .....	\$22.00
For Education (S. S. Literature) .....	\$25.47
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$20.00
Incidentals .....	\$83.78

### FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF HATFIELD

Delegates: Bro. W. A. Rash, Sister Kathryn Rash, Sister Ova Hooper, Sister Sylvania Shults and Bro. Nick Wilson.

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. Bennie Fisher, R. 1, Hatfield; Rev. Al Miller, R. 1, Hatfield; Rev. S. B. Metcalf, R. 1, Cove.

Clerk: Sister Violet Wilson.

Remarks: Value of church propetry \$5,500.00. Resident members 21, non-resident members 19. We have called Rev. Bennie Fisher as pastor for the coming year.

Deacons: Ray Metcalf, Hatfield, Ark.; Roy Stinnett, Turner, Ore.

State of Religion .....	Good
Members Received .....	2
Dismissed .....	1
Total Membership .....	40
Condition of Prayer Meeting .....	Poor
Condition of Sunday School .....	Good
Average Number of Pupils .....	13
Number of Officers .....	3
Number of Teachers .....	3
Paid Pastor .....	\$156.00
Home Mission .....	\$12.50
Building and Repairs .....	\$33.31
For Publication .....	\$52.36
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$20.00
Incidentals .....	\$87.57







