

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



NEXT ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD WITH  
**MENA  
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**MENA, ARKANSAS**

**August 18-21, 1960**



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OF THE

~~FIRST~~ <sup>SECOND</sup>

FIFTY ~~FIRST~~ ANNUAL SESSION

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## MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE RICH MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

The fifty-first session of the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptist Church of Christ met with the Big Cedar Church about 30 miles west of Mena, Arkansas, August 13-16, 1959.

The Association opened with singing. After an altar prayer, Rev. Thomas Billy preached from St. John 8:36. Services were dismissed by Bro. W. A. Rash.

### FRIDAY SERVICES

Friday morning services came together by singing "Send The Light." Rev. B. True led the opening prayer. The moderator read the 9th Psalm for the lesson.

In the absence of the clerk, Rev. S. B. Metcalf was elected clerk pro-tem.

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

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

By motion the petitionary letter from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Mena be received and to seat the delegates.

The association went into permanent organization by electing Bro. Bennie Fisher, Moderator; Sister Dorothy Looney, Clerk and Treasurer; Sister May Andrew, Assistant Clerk.

Bro. Bennie Fisher gave right hand fellowship to Bro. True and Bro. Flickinger.

The moderator took his seat by reading the rules of order and the Constitution, then appointed the following committees:

Arrangements: Sister Max Andrews, Sister Beulah Hess, Sister Elizabeth Chastain, Sister Kathryn Rash.

Sunday School: Sister Kathleen Parson, Sister Cherrylene Billy, Sister Matty Self.

Resolutions: Bro. Billy, Bro. Rainwater, Bro. Miller, Bro. S. B. Metcalf, Bro. True, Bro. Walter Flickinger.

Finance: Bro. W. F. Smith, Bro. Henry F. Parson, Bro. James Lawrence, Sister Dollie Storey.

Obituary: Sister Shirley Peters, Bro. Ray Metcalf, Bro. W. A. Rash, Bro. Robert Chastain.

Temperance: Sister Obie Hooper, Bro. Jim Burnett, Sister Almeda Looney, Sister Rose Chastain.

Statistician's: Sister Bessie Mixon, Sister Lula Shults, Bro. J. C. Davis, Bro. Tomson.

Business was dismissed by Bro. Burnett.

The 11:00 o'clock services came together with singing led by Rev. Bennie Fisher, and prayer by Bro. Flickinger. Bro. Rainwater preached from Matt. 24:25.

Services were dismissed by Bro. Smith.

Friday afternoon services came to order with singing led by Bro. Fisher, and prayer by Bro. Rash. The Moderator read Psalms 19 for the lesson.

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

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

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

The delegates from the State Association made their report, and it was accepted.

Business was dismissed by Bro. Larman.

Friday evening services came together with singing. After a testimony service and special songs, Bro. W. F. Smith preached from St. Luke 13:25. Subject: "The Closed Door."

Services were dismissed by Bro. True.

### **SATURDAY SERVICES**

Saturday morning services came to order with singing, led by Bro. Miller. Prayer was led by Bro. Bennie Fisher.

The Moderator read Psalms 24 for the lesson.

Sister Zellar Hooper was given right hand fellowship as a delegate by moderator.

Moderator called for presbyterian of Elders to ordain Bro. Wade Hooper for deacon of the Mena Church.

The Finance Committee reported. The report was accepted and the Committee was dismissed.

Business was dismissed by Bro. Parson.

The 11:00 o'clock service came to order with singing and prayer led by Bro. True. Rev. Metcalf preached from Romans 4; St. John 3:18-21.

Services were dismissed by Bro. J. C. Davis.

Saturday afternoon services came together with singing led by Bro. Rash.

The Moderator read Psalm 133 for the lesson. Prayer was led by Bro. Omar Yeaman.

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

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

The Association will convene with the Mena Church, August 18-21, 1960.

Rev. R. L. Rainwater will preach the introductory sermon, with Rev. S. B. Metcalf as alternate.

Bro. Ormar Yeaman, Sister Shirley Peters, Sister Cherrylene Billy, Sister Almeda Looney, Sister Zella Hooper were selected as delegates to the State Association.

Services were dismissed by prayer led by Rev. Bennie Fisher.

Saturday evening services came together with singing. After song services and altar prayer, Bro. Bennie Fisher brought the message using Exodus 15:1-14; St. Matthew 26:17-30; St. John 13:1-17; I Cor. 11:16-30; I Tim. 5:9-10, after which communion and washing of the saints' feet was carried out.

Services was dismissed by song.

### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

Sunday morning services came together with singing and prayer led by Bro. Rash. After the Sabbath School, Rev. True preached from Romans 11. Subject: Eternal Security.

Services were dismissed by Rev. Perry Looney.

Sunday afternoon services came to order with singing and prayer



led by Bro. Clermon Rogers. The singing class had the rest of the evening for singing. Services were dismissed by Bro. Billy.

Moderator, Rev. Bennie Fisher.

Clerk and Treasurer, Sister Dorothy Looney.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

We, your Committee on Arrangements submit the following report.

Thursday evening: Sermon by Rev. Thomas Billy.

Friday 11 o'clock: Sermon by Rev. R. L. Rainwater.

Friday night: Devotional by Rev. Thomas Billy. Sermon by Rev. W. F. Smith.

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

Saturday night: Devotional by Rev. A. A. Miller. Sermon by Rev. Bennie Fisher.

Sunday 11 o'clock: Sermon by Rev. True.

SISTER MAY ANDREWS.

SISTER BEULAH HESS.

SISTER ELIZABETH CHASTAIN.

SISTER KATHRYN RASH.

SISTER ZELLA HOOPER.

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 of the Churches have a Sabbath School. The Big Cedar, Hatfield, Midway and Mena Churches use the Free Will Baptist literature in their study. The Liberty Church uses Union literature.

Many of the churches report an increase in their Sunday School attendance.

SISTER KATHLEEN PARSON.

SISTER OLLIE.

SISTER CHERRYLENE BILLY.

SISTER MATTEE SELF.

We, your Committee on Resolutions, submit the following report: Be it resolved that our 5th Sunday meeting be known as the quarterly meeting and, that we meet on Friday night before each 5th Sunday and that we organize on Saturday morning for a business session of one day.

Be it resolved that we carry a petitionary letter in our Minutes.

Be it resolved that we add the following Scriptures: I Cor. 16:1-3; Heb. 10:34, to Resolution No. 1.

Be it resolved that Resolution No. 4 be restricted from the Minutes as it is no longer needed.

Be it resolved that the pastor of the Church where the quarterly meetings convene serve as Moderator of the quarterly meeting, and the church clerk be clerk of the quarterly meeting, each clerk to be responsible to the Association for minutes of the quarterly meetings.

Be it resolved that the minutes of the Association and quarterly meetings be signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

Be it resolved that the Host Church entertaining the quarterly meeting and association select one to have charge of the song service to be a member of this Association and our services start on the hour set by the body.

Be it resolved that we from the depths of our hearts do thank the ones that have labored to earned, prepare the food and taken care of this fifty-first session of the Association.

BRO. THOMAS BILLY.

BRO. R. L. RAINWARTER.

BRO. A. A. MILLER.

BRO. S. B. METCALF.

BRO. TRUE.

BRO. WALTER FLICKINGER.

We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following report: We find a balance of \$23.01 in the treasury and the Churches have contributed \$90.05. This makes a balance of \$113.06 in the treasury.

REV. W. F. SMITH.

BRO. HENRY F. PARSON.

BRO. JAMES LAWRENCE.

SISTER DOLLIE STORY.

BRO. BARNEY LARMON.

We, your committee on Obituary, submit the following report: We find that God, in His infinite wisdom, has called from our midst during the past year: Bro. John Storey, June 13, 1959, from the Mena Church; Sister Rosey Attery, April 22, 1959, and Bro. S. W. Cureton, Nov. 5, 1959, from the Hatfield Church.

SISTER SHIRLEY PETERS.

BRO. RAY METCALF.

BRO. W. A. RASH.

BRO. BOB CHASTAIN.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

Balance in Treasury .....	\$ 19.00
Received at Association .....	82.00
Total in Treasury .....	101.00
Paid for printing Minutes .....	\$61.80
Sent to State Association .....	15.00
Note Book .....	1.00
Postage .....	1.00
Total paid out .....	78.80
Balance in Treasury .....	\$ 23.01

VIOLET WILSON.

### **STATISTICIAN'S REPORT**

The Fifty-first Session of the Rich Mountain Association was composed of four active churches and one inactive, and one petitionary church. All active churches represented.

The new Church consists of 19 charter members, 5 new members. They have 2 ministers and 3 deacons. Their total membership is 24.

Our association is composed of 10 ordained ministers, 1 licensed minister, and 10 deacons. Our membership is 192. During the year

we have received 23 new members, 3 have deceased, and 7 were dismissed.

We have paid pastors .....	\$ 1,093.43
Evangelists .....	268.16
Building and repair .....	645.90
Education and literature .....	228.01
Minute funds .....	85.00
Miscellaneous .....	470.95
Total expenses .....	2,791.45
Total value of Church property .....	\$16,800.00

SISTER BESSIE MIXON.

SISTER LULA SHULTS.

BRO. J. C. DAVIS.

BRO. TOMSON.

### QUARTERLY MEETINGS

1st—Hatfield Church .....	August 28-30, 1959
2nd—Midway Church .....	November 27-29, 1959
3rd—Mena Church .....	January 29-31, 1960
4th—Big Cedar Church .....	May 27-29, 1960
5th—Liberty Church .....	July 29-31, 1960

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. T. H. Horton, (retired) Oak Grove Church ..	Rt. 2, Mena, Ark.
Rev. J. C. Nickols .....	2105 S. 2nd Ave., Yakima, Wash.
Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Hatfield Church .....	Cove, Ark.
Rev. Bennie Fisher, Hatfield Church .....	Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.
Rev. R. I. Cook, Mena Church .....	Rt. 2, Mena, Ark.
Rev. Thomas Billy, Big Cedar Church ..	Rt. 2, Box 116, Poteau, Okla.
Rev. W. F. Smith, Big Cedar Church .....	Muse, Okla.
Rev. A. A. Miller, Hatfield Church .....	Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.
Rev. Perry Looney, Midway Church .....	Board Camp, Ark.
Rev. R. L. Rainwater, Mena Church .....	Mena, 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; I Cor-16:1-3; Heb. 10:34.

*To be settled*  
Resolution No. 2—*We believe* 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 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 each church have a Pastor, Deacon, and Clerk, ~~chosen by the church, to continue in office during the pleasure of the church.~~

Resolution No. 5—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. 6—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. 7—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. 8—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. 9—Be it resolved, that the moderator need only read the rules of order after organizing and seating any new delegates.

Resolution No. 10—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. 11—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. 12—We recommend that each church have a Vacation Bible School each year, the teachers, of which, to be selected by the individual church.

Resolution No. 13—Be it resolved that the Pastor of the Church where the quarterly meetings convene serve as Moderator of the quarterly meetings, and, the church clerk be clerk of the quarterly meeting, each clerk to be responsible to the Association for minutes of the quarterly meetings.

Resolution No. 14—Be it resolved that the minutes of the Association and quarterly meetings be signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

Resolution No. 15—Be it resolved that the Host Church entertaining the quarterly meeting and Association select one to have charge of the song service to be a member of this Association and our services start on the hour set by the body.

Resolution No. 16—Be it resolved that we from the depths of our hearts do thank the ones that have labored to earn and prepare the food and taken care of this Fifty-~~First~~ Session of the Association.

Second

## 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 session 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.

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 the 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 preserve 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 preserve 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. 25:1.

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; I 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 10:25; 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 wait 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) Arrangemnts, (B) Sunday School, (C) Resolutions, (D) Obituaries, (F) Temperance, (G) Statistics. *FINANCE*
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 Saviour 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

### PETITIONARY LETTER FORM

To the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptist Church of Christ.

We, the \_\_\_\_\_ Church, have been organized according to the faith of Free Will Baptist.

Greetings, we send \_\_\_\_\_ to petition for us that we may be received in your honorable body.

Our church was organized on \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_.

Our church is composed of \_\_\_\_\_ Deacons and \_\_\_\_\_ Ministers.  
A total membership of \_\_\_\_\_.

Offerings: Minute Funds \$\_\_\_\_\_. Orphan Home \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Done in conference this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_, Moderator  
\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

### CHURCH REPORTS

#### MENA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Bro. and Sister Barney Larman, Sister Zelda Hooper.

Clerk: Ova Hooper.

Pastor for coming year: Rev. R. L. Rainwater.

Deacons: Bro. Jim Burnett, Bro. J. C. Ray, Bro. Wade Hooper.

State of Religion	Good
Members Received	5
Baptized	3
Statement	2
Dismissed	None
Died	1
Total	24
Condition of Sunday School	Good



Attendance .....	35
Officers and Teachers .....	5
Paid Pastors .....	\$225.00
Evangelist .....	\$60.00
Publication .....	\$35.00
Incidental .....	\$64.12
Church Property .....	\$4,500

### MIDWAY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Herbert Hess, Sister Beulah Hess, Sister Flora Lewis, Sister Dorothy Looney, Sister Almeda Looney.

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

Clerk: Sister Wilma Griffin.

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

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. Perry Looney.

State of Religion .....	Good
Members Received .....	2
Baptized .....	2
Dismissed .....	3
Died .....	None
Total Membership .....	37
Condition of Sunday School .....	Good
Attendance .....	22
Officers and Teachers .....	6
Paid Pastor .....	\$134.00
Building and Repairs .....	\$45.00
Education .....	\$24.40
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$20.00
Incidentals .....	\$46.79

### BIG CEDAR FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Bro. Fulton Smith, Sister May Andrews, Sister Shirley Ann Peters, Bro. Wayne Peters, Sister Cherylene Billy, Bro. J. C. Davis.

Clerk: Donnie Yeaman.

Pastor for the coming year: Rev. Thomas Billy.

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. W. F. Smith, Rev. Albert Duke, Rev. Thomas Billy.

State of Religion .....	Good
Members Received .....	1
Baptized .....	None
Dismissed .....	3
Died .....	None
Total Membership .....	51
Condition of Sunday School .....	Good
Attendance .....	34
Officers and Teachers .....	5
Paid Pastor .....	\$453.00
Paid Evangelist .....	\$47.56
Education .....	\$42.75
Publication .....	\$42.75
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$20.00
Miscellaneous .....	\$176.25

## HATFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Sister Lula Shults, Bro. W. A. Rash, Sister Kathrin Rash, Bro. Henry Parsons, Sister Kathleen Parsons.

Clerk: Violet Wilson.

Pastor for Coming Year: Rev. Bennie Fisher.

Deacons: Bro. Ray Metcalf, Bro. Roy Stinnelt.

Ministers belonging to our Church: Rev. Bennie Fisher, Rev. A. A. Miller, Rev. S. B. Metcalf.

State of Religion .....	Good
Members Received .....	15
Baptized .....	4
Dismissed .....	1
Died .....	2
Total Membership .....	52
Condition of Prayer Meeting .....	Poor
Condition of Sunday School .....	Good
Attendance .....	21
Officers and Teachers .....	10
Paid Pastor .....	\$228.72
Paid Evangelist .....	\$60.60
Building and Repair .....	\$121.51
Education .....	\$78.13
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$20.00
Charity .....	\$41.00
Miscellaneous .....	\$93.38

## LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Bro. Bob Chastain, Sister Rose Chastain, Sister Mattie Self, Sister Bessie Mixon, Sister Elizabeth Chastain.

Clerk: Mrs. Opal Joplin.

Pastor for the Coming Year: Rev. Perry Looney.

Deacons: Bro. James Lawrence.

State of Religion .....	Good
Members Received .....	2
Baptized .....	2
Dismissed .....	2
Died .....	None
Total Membership .....	
Condition of Prayer Meeting .....	Good
Condition of Sunday School .....	Good
Attendance .....	28
Officers and Teachers .....	5
Paid Pastor .....	\$51.67
Paid Evangelist .....	\$100.00
Incidentals .....	\$57.14
Publication .....	\$40.00
Enclosed for Minutes .....	\$15.00



