

*History*

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**FIFTY-SEVENTH 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**

**July 8-10, 1966**



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

## FRIDAY EVENING

The fifty-seventh annual session of the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptist Churches met with the Liberty Church August 13-15, 1965.

The association opened with singing led by Bro. Metcalf, Bro. Rash, and Bro. Burnett, followed by a prayer by Bro. Lloyd Thomas.

A special was rendered by Carla and Sherri Wilson, and Karen and Sharon Morrison.

The Moderator read from Job 14:1-15. Prayer was then led by Bro. A. A. Williams, after which a song was led by Bro. Dwight Evans.

The evening message was then delivered by Bro. Roy Wilson, from Acts 9:1-6.

The Church Letters were read and delegates seated. Visiting Associations were recognized: Bro. A. A. Williams from Eastern Oklahoma Association, and Bro. Lloyd Thomas from New Hope Association. They were given the right hand of fellowship while Bro. Fisher led a song.

The congregation then proceeded to elect officers.

Rev. Bennie Fisher, Moderator.

Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Assistant Moderator.

Rev. Roy Wilson, Clerk.

Sister Violet Wilson, Assistant Clerk.

The Constitution and Rules of Order were then read by Rev. Bennie Fisher. The Arrangements Committee was then appointed as follows: Sisters Hazel Morrison, Ola Parker, Ethel Peters, Bessie Mixon and Dorthy Looney. Service was closed with a song led by Bro. Rash and a prayer led by Rev. C. C. Rogers.

## SATURDAY MORNING

The Association convened Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. The service came to order with singing led by Bro. Fisher followed by prayer led by Bro. Thomas.

The Moderator then read from Isaiah 1.

The following committees were appointed:

1. ARRANGEMENTS: Hazel Morrison, Ola Parker, Ethel Peters, Bessie Mixon, Dorthy Looney and Beulah Hess.
2. SUNDAY SCHOOL: Omar Yeaman, Joyce Wilson and Bob Chastain.
3. RESOLUTIONS: Jim Burnett, Rev. Metcalf, Rev. Thomas.
4. OBITUARY: Clarence Peters, Doyle Morrison and Mattie Self.
5. TEMPERANCE: Ray Metcalf, Roy Gipson and Claud Davis.
6. FINANCE: Barney Larmon, Carl Wilson and J. C. Ray.
7. STATISTICS: Herbert Hess, Jim Burnett, Linda Ansley and Rev. Metcalf.

Committees were then dismissed until 10:45 a.m.

The meeting came to order with singing led by Bro. Burnett. The



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

The business session was closed by prayer led by Bro. Jim Burnett. Rev. Lloyd Thomas then preached from Joshua 1:1-9, "Stepping Out on the Promises of God." Rev. Fisher then followed, speaking on the same thought. Service was then dismissed by prayer led by Rev. Metcalf.

### **SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

Service was opened by singing led by Bro. Jim Burnett and prayer led by J. C. Ray.

Rev. Metcalf then read from John 16:1-33.

The Temperance Committee reported. Report was accepted and committee dismissed.

The Finance Committee reported. Report was accepted and committee dismissed.

The Resolutions Committee reported. Report was accepted and committee dismissed.

Sunday School Committee reported. Report was accepted and committee dismissed.

Obituary Committee reported. Report was accepted and the committee dismissed.

Precious Memories was then directed by Bro. Jim Burnett, in memory of those deceased in the last year.

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

Bro. Jim Burnett gave a report of the Executive Board. The report was accepted.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Rev. C. C. Rogers was elected to serve on the Executive Board.

A vote of thanks was given to the host church.

Delegates to State Association:

Bro. Rash was elected as a delegate with the remainder of the delegates to be elected at the first Fifth Sunday meeting.

The next Association will convene with the Mena Church July 8-10, 1966. Rev. C. C. Rogers will preach the introductory sermon with Rev. John Peoples as alternate.

The business session was then adjourned by singing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," and a prayer.

### **SATURDAY EVENING**

Service was opened with singing led by Bro. Dwight Evans and prayer by Rev. Roy Wilson. Rev. S. B. Metcalf then brought the Communion service, after which the Lord's Supper and Washing of the Saints' Feet were observed. The service was then dismissed by singing of a song.

### **SUNDAY MORNING**

After Sunday School Rev. Buster Lyda brought the morning message reading from I Timothy 4. He was followed by Rev. C. C. Rogers who spoke from Exodus.

The association was then dismissed for lunch and an hour of fellowship.

## SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Service opened with a song and a prayer led by Rev. Fisher. After a few songs an ordaining council consisting of Rev. Bennie Fisher, Rev. S. B. Metcalf and Rev. C. C. Rogers came forward and Bro. Roy L. Wilson was ordained as a Minister, Rev. Fisher doing the questioning, Rev. Metcalf giving the charge, and Rev. Rogers leading the prayer.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in singing. Several specials were rendered. Service was dismissed with prayer.

REV. BENNIE FISHER, Moderator.  
REV. ROY L. WILSON, Clerk.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Report of the Arrangements Committee.

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

Saturday morning at 11 o'clock to be filled by Rev. Lloyd Thomas to be followed by Rev. Bennie Fisher.

Saturday evening to be filled by Rev. S. B. Metcalf.

Sunday morning at 11 o'clock to be filled by Rev. C. C. Rogers.

HAZEL MORRISON.  
DORTHY LOONEY.  
ETHEL PETERS.  
BESSIE MIXON.  
BEULAH HESS.

### Report of the Sunday School Committee.

We, your Sunday School Committee, submit the following report. Each church should have a Sunday School. The Sunday School is the life of the church.

It is the training place for adults and children 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.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for such is the Kingdom of God."—St. Mark 10:14.

We found by looking over our Church Letters that all five churches have a Sunday School. Hatfield, Midway, Mena, Big Cedar and Liberty all use Free Will Baptist literature.

JOYCE WILSON.  
ROBERT CHASTAIN.  
OMAR YEAMAN.

### Report of the Resolutions Committee.

We, your Resolutions Committee recommend that Resolution No. 9 be stricken from the minutes.

Be it resolved that our Association meet on Friday night before the second Sunday in July of each year, in order that we may meet with the State Association.

JIM BURNETT.  
S. B. METCALF.  
LLOYD THOMAS.

### Report of the Obituaries Committee.

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

Sister Julie McClain of Hatfield.

Bro. Happy Park of Mena.

Bro. Ed Self of Liberty.

Sister Linda Rainwater of Midway.

Sister Donnie Yeaman of Big Cedar.

CLARENCE PETERS.

MATTIE SELF.

DOYLE MORRISON.

### Report of the Temperance Committee.

We feel that Christians should be temperate in all things. We are reminded of the exhortation of the Apostle Paul in Romans 12:1-2 that we are to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is our reasonable service. We are not to be conformed to this world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. "Wherefore come ye out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean things, and I will receive you, and will be a father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord God Almighty."—II Cor. 6:17-18. "As touching strong drink we should be total abstainers."—Proverbs 20:1. We call your attention to the obligation in our church covenant, Section 1: "for the drunkard and glutton shall clothe a man with rags."—Proverbs 23:21-29-35.

RAY METCALF.

J. C. DAVIS.

### Report of the Finance Committee.

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

We find a balance of \$27.43 in the treasury and the churches have contributed \$101.00. This makes a total in the treasury of \$128.43.

J. C. RAY.

BARNEY LARMON.

CARL WILSON.

### Report of the Statisticians Committee.

For the five active Churches of the Rich Mountain Association, we have 9 ordained ministers and 14 ordained deacons.

The total membership for the churches is 255 with 19 being added and 3 being dismissed. We find a Sunday School enrollment of 215.

The churches paid:

Pastors .....	\$ 2,278.06
Evangelists .....	227.48
For Building and Repair .....	1,904.62
Literature .....	426.27
Miscellaneous .....	144.34
Associational Fund .....	101.00
Total Value of Church Properties .....	28,000.00

H. E. HESS.

JIM BURNETT.

LINDA ANSLEY.

S. B. METCALF.

### Report of the Treasurer.

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

Balance in the Treasury .....	\$ 42.35	
Minute Fund .....	75.00	
Funds for Delegates to State Association .....	12.00	
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$129.35</b>	
Paid for Printing Minutes .....	\$ 70.30	
State Minute Fee .....	15.00	
Entertainment Fee for Delegates at State Association .....	15.00	
Postage .....	1.00	
Bank Service Charges .....	1.62	
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$102.92</b>	
		102.92
		<b>\$ 27.43</b>

### QUARTERLY MEETINGS

1st — Liberty .....	Aug. 27-29, 1965
2nd — Midway .....	Oct. 29-31, 1965
3rd — Hatfield .....	Jan. 29-31, 1966
4th — Big Cedar .....	May 27-29, 1966

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. R. I. Cook—Mena Church .....	Rt. 2, Mena, Ark.
Rev. A. A. Miller—Hatfield Church .....	Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.
Rev. W. F. Smith—Big Cedar Church .....	Muse, Okla.
Rev. S. B. Metcalf—Hatfield Church .....	Rt. 1, Cove, Ark.
	Phone DU 7-2352
Rev. Bennie Fisher—Hatfield Church .....	Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.
	Phone DU 9-2943
Rev. C. C. Rogers—Mena Church .....	603 Tenth Street, Mena, Ark.
Rev. Joel Calhoun—Big Cedar Church .....	Hodgens, Okla.
Rev. John Peoples—Mena Church .....	Mena, Ark.
Rev. Roy L. Wilson—Hatfield Church .....	Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. C. C. Rogers .....	3-Year
Bro. Jim Burnett .....	2-year
Rev. S. B. Metcalf .....	1-Year

### 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.

Resolution No. 2—Be it resolved that we, members of the Rich Mountain Association, do pledge ourselves to conform to the require-



ments of God's words, first by confessing our faults to one another, and praying one for another that we 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 unit 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. 3—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. 4—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. 5—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. 6—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. 7—Be it resolved, that the moderator need only read the rules of order after organizing and seating any new delegates.

Resolution No. 8—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. 9—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. 10—Be it resolved, that the minutes of the Association be signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

Resolution No. 11—Be it resolved, that the Host Church make all arrangements for the Fifth Sunday Meetings with the Executive Board to take charge of all Business Sessions at the Fifth Sunday Meetings.

Resolution No. 12—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 took care of this Fifty-Seventh Session of the Association.

Resolution No. 13—Be it resolved, that the association furnish an annual Ministers Certificate to each Minister in good standing with the association.

Resolution No. 14—Be it resolved, that our Association meet on Friday night before the second Sunday in July of each. year.

## 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 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 reserve 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 and churches 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 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 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 another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.—Gal. 6:1-2; Matt. 18:15-18.

12. We believe 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.

## 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 preached 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 Johnson 5:7; Isaiah 48:16-19.

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 Thess. 3:16-17; II Peter 1:21.

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 all who have reached the age of accountability must be regenerated and born of the Spirit of God if they inherit eternal life.—John 3:3; I John 1:13; II Cor. 5:17.



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.—Rev. 21:14; Matt. 10:22; James 1:12.

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 instruction 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 11:30, 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, 20.

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 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 secluded. Now listen to Christ. "He that offends one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and that he was 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. 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. 12:15. 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 the 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) Resolution, (D) Obituaries, (F) Temperance, (G) Statisticians and (H) 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 organizing 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 agreed 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

Offering: Minute Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_. Orphan Home \$\_\_\_\_\_.

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

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



## CHURCH REPORTS

### FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF HATFIELD

Delegates — Sisters Hazel Morrison, Joyce Wilson, Darlene Bates;  
 Bro. Doyle Morrison and Bro. Carl Wilson.  
 State of religion — good.  
 Members received 12 — baptized 9 — dismissed 2.  
 Total membership ..... 91  
 Condition of Sunday School—good.  
 Average number of pupils ..... 43  
 No. of officers 2 — No. of teachers 6 ..... 8  
 Paid Pastor ..... \$690.25  
 Paid Evangelists ..... 100.00  
 For Education ..... 176.57  
 Enclosed for Minutes ..... 15.00  
 For State Association ..... 6.00  
 Ministers belonging to our Church — Rev. Bennie Fisher, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.; Rev. A. A. Miller, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.; Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Rt. 1, Cove, Ark.; Rev. Roy L. Wilson, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.  
 Pastor — Rev. Bennie Fisher, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark. 71945.  
 Clerk — Violet Wilson, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark. 71945.

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### FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF MENA

Delegates — Sisters Ola Parker, Mrs. H. V. Park, Mrs. Jim Burnett, Darlene Summit, Bro. Barney Larmon.  
 State of religion—fair.  
 Members received ..... 7  
 Baptized 2 — Deceased 1.  
 Condition of Sunday School—good.  
 Average number of Pupils ..... 68  
 No. of Officers 2 — Number of Teachers 5 ..... 7  
 Paid Pastor ..... \$ 480.00  
 Paid Evangelist ..... 120.00  
 Building and Repairs ..... 1,741.80  
 For Education ..... 140.11  
 For Publications ..... 18.00  
 Enclosed for Minutes ..... 20.00  
 For State Association ..... 6.00  
 Ministers belonging to Church — Rev. C. C. Rogers, Mena, Ark.; Rev. John Peoples, Mena, Ark.; Rev. R. I. Cook, Rt. 2, Mena, Ark.  
 Pastor — Rev. C. C. Rogers, Mena, Ark.  
 Clerk — Mrs. Wade Hooper, Rt. 1, Mena, Ark.

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### LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates — Roy Gipson, Elmer Self, Sisters Mattie Self, Icie Self and Bessie Mixon.  
 State of religion—fair.  
 Members received past year ..... 0  
 Dismissed 1 — Deceased 1.

Total membership .....	29
Condition of Sunday School—fair.	
Average number of Pupils .....	18
No. of Officers 3 — No. of Teachers 4 .....	7
Paid Pastor .....	\$233.00
Paid Evangelist .....	7.48
Building and repairs .....	45.00
For Education .....	44.00
Enclosed for Minutes .....	15.00
Enclosed for State Association .....	6.00
Pastor — Rev. John Peoples, Mena, Ark.	
Clerk — Addie Evans, Star Rt., Hatfield, Ark.	

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### MIDWAY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates — Sisters Beulah Hess, Doyce Crawford and Dorothy Looney.	
State of religion—fair.	
Total membership .....	30
Deceased .....	1
Condition of Sunday School—fair.	
Average number of Pupils .....	9
No. of Officers 2 — No. of Teachers 1 .....	3
Paid Pastor .....	\$79.81
For Education .....	11.05
For Publication (Vision) .....	4.50
Miscellaneous .....	37.96
Enclosed for Minutes .....	12.00
Enclosed for State Association .....	3.00
Pastor — Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Rt. 1, Cove, Ark.	
Clerk — Wilma Griffin, Board Camp, Ark.	

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### BIG CEDAR FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates — Sister Ethel Peters, Brothers Omer Yeamon, Claude Davis and Clarence Peters.	
State of religion—fair.	
Deceased 1 — Dismissed 1.	
Total membership .....	31
Condition of Sunday School—fair.	
Average number of Pupils .....	20
No. of Officers 2 — No. of Teachers 3 .....	5
Paid Pastor .....	\$795.00
Building and repairs .....	117.82
For Education .....	54.54
Enclosed for Minutes .....	15.00
Enclosed for State Association .....	3.00
Ministers belonging to our Church — Rev. Joel Calhoun, Hodgens, Okla., Rev. W. F. Smith, Muse, Okla.	
Clerk — Mrs. May Andrews, Star Rt., Page, Okla.	



