

1971

MINUTES
OF THE
SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF
RICH MOUNTAIN
ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST



NEXT ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD WITH THE

BIG CEDAR FREE WILL
BAPTIST CHURCH
BIG CEDAR, OKLAHOMA

June 23-24, 1972



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THURSDAY EVENING

The sixty-third annual session of the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptist Churches met June 24-26, 1971, at the Mena Free Will Baptist Church, at Mena, Arkansas.

The services opened with singing led by Rev. Roy L. Wilson. The opening song was "Kneel At The Cross."

Prayer was led by Rev. William Hicks.

After the singing, service was turned to the Moderator, Rev. S. B. Metcalf, who introduced the speaker of the evening. Rev. Artie Atchley used as his text "The Presence of the Lord" with Jonah 1:1-3 as his scripture.

After the sermon the service was dismissed with prayer.

FRIDAY EVENING

Prayer by Rev. J. T. Burnett followed the opening song.

Rev. C. C. Rogers then led the congregation in singing after which the Moderator took charge of the service.

After the seating of the delegates and reading of the constitution by the Clerk, Rev. S. B. Metcalf brought the introductory sermon. His text was taken from St. John 16:1-16. After the message the moderator then read the rules of order.

The arrangements committee was then appointed as follows: Irene McCoy, Kathy Kinkade, Ethel Peters, Lou Lawrence and Wilma Griffin.

The congregation then gave Rev. Artie Atchley a right hand of fellowship as he is leaving our Association.

Closing prayer was led by Rev. Artie Atchley.

SATURDAY MORNING

The opening song was led by Rev. S. B. Metcalf followed by prayer led by Rev. J. T. Burnett.

Rev. S. B. Metcalf then led the song, "In the Sweet By and By."

The Moderator then read from Heb. 3:1-19.

The letter from the Midway church was read and the delegates seated. No delegates from the Liberty church were present, therefore the association voted to seat Mrs. Lou Lawrence from the Liberty church as a delegate.

The following committees were appointed:

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Claude Davis, Colleen Kinkade, Bonnie Richardson.

RESOLUTIONS: J. C. Ray, James Lawrence, Ray Metcalf, Bennie Fisher, Doyce Davis.

OBITUARIES: Violet Wilson, Annie Park, Dorthy Holcolm.

TEMPERANCE: J. T. Burnett, Claude Davis, Raymond McCoy.

FINANCE: Margaret Risenhoover, Ola Parker, Lois Davis, Zella Hooper.

STATISTICIAN: Lula Hooper, Nettie Stricklin, Ovie Hooper.

Service was dismissed for the committee to work on their reports. At 10:45 A.M. the service was called to order with a song, "Sunlight" led by Rev. Roy L. Wilson.

The following committees reported, the reports were accepted and the committees were dismissed. (Arrangements, Temperance, Obituary).

A song, "Precious Memories" was led by Rev. Roy Wilson in memory of those who have passed from our midst during the past year. Rev. S. B. Metcalf then led the congregation in prayer.

The service was then turned to Rev. Bennie Fisher, who brought the morning message. His scripture and text were, II Timothy 2:19-21. "Purge Yourself."

After the message, the service was dismissed for lunch with prayer led by J. C. Ray.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

After lunch was finished service came to order with singing led by Rev. Roy Wilson and prayer led by Ray Metcalf.

The Moderator read James 1:12-27.

Committee reports were called for.

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

The Executive Board report was received.

The Resolutions Committee reported. The report was received with action being taken on each item separate.

The Treasurer's Report was given and the report was accepted with the recommendation to transfer funds from the "Gospel Voice" account to the general fund to help bear the expense of the minutes. The amount to be transferred will depend on the amount needed to pay for the minutes above what has been paid in by the churches.

The Statistician's Committee reported. The report was accepted and the committee dismissed.

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

Big Cedar was selected as the site for the next Association.

Rev. C. C. Rogers was selected to bring the Introductory Sermon, with Rev. Fred Hensley as alternate.

A vote of thanks was given for the host church.

Almeda Looney and Roger Wilson were selected as delegates to the State Association.

Liberty was selected as the site for the first Quarterly Meeting.

Officers and board members were elected. A list is found on page 4 of the minutes.

The business session was adjourned.

The evening service was dismissed with a song, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes" and prayer led by Doyce Davis.

SATURDAY EVENING

The service opened with singing led by Rev. Roy Wilson and prayer by Rev. J. T. Burnett.

After a time of congregational singing the service was turned to Bro. Fred Hensley, who brought the message. His text, "The Signs of His Coming" with Luke 21:1-26 as his scripture.

The service was dismissed with a song and prayer led by Rev. Roy Wilson.

NEXT ASSOCIATION

Big Cedar _____ June 23-24, 1972

OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. Bennie Fisher, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark. 71945.

Assistant Moderator: Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Rt. 1, Cove, Ark.

Clerk: Rev. Roy L. Wilson, Rt. 1, Box 43, Hatfield, Ark. 71945.

Assistant Clerk: Johnnie Faye Kinkade, Carder St., Mena, Ark. 71953.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. C. C. Rogers	3 years
J. C. Ray	2 years
Rev. S. B. Metcalf	1 year

MISSION BOARD

J. C. Ray, J. T. Burnett, Roy L. Wilson.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Route 1, Cove, Ark., Phone 387-2971.
Rev. W. F. Smith, Big Cedar, Okla., Phone Clayton, Okla., 651-2251.
Rev. Bennie Fisher, Hatfield, Ark., Phone 289-2943.
Rev. C. C. Rogers, 603 Tenth Street, Mena, Ark., Phone 394-3134.
Rev. Roy Wilson, Route 1, Box 43, Hatfield, Ark., Phone 389-2503.
Rev. J. T. Burnett, Boles Route, Waldron, Ark., Phone 637-8743.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. William Hicks, Rt. 1, Cove, Ark.
Rev. Fred Hensley, Mena, Arkansas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Sunday School Committee

We, your Sunday School Committee, submit the following report. We find by locking over the letters that all five churches have a Sunday School. The five churches together have 5 Sunday School Superintendents, 18 teachers, 18 classes, and an average attendance of 169. The churches are Mena, Midway, Big Cedar, Hatfield, and Liberty.

Claude Davis
Colleen Kinkade
Bonnie Richardson

Report of the Temperance Committee

We, your committee on Temperance, submit the following report. We recommend that our churches teach temperance more in the future than in the past. As the Apostle Paul preached on righteousness he taught temperance in all things. As touching alcoholic beverage in any form, we should be abstainers. We call your attention to our Church Covenant, Section 1.

J. T. Burnett
J. C. Davis
R. W. McCoy

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:

Bro. Pate Earnest, Mena Free Will Baptist Church.
Sister Mary Morrison, Hatfield Free Will Baptist Church.
Sister Little Bell Holliman of the old West Valley Free Will Baptist Church.

Violet Wilson
Annie Park
Dorothy Holcomb

Report of the Statisticians Committee:

We, your committee on Statistics, submit the following report. For the five active churches of the Rich Mountain Association, we

have 6 ordained ministers and 2 licensed ministers. We have 17 ordained deacons. Our total membership is 325. We had an average number in Sunday School of 181. Four members died during the past year.

The churches paid:

Pastors	\$ 3,382.19
Evangelists	1,128.72
Building and Repair	9,198.87
Literature	970.50
Radio Broadcasts	498.00
Home Missions	68.00
Miscellaneous	1,198.29
State Association	65.00
District Association	85.00
Total Value of Church Properties	\$56,800.00

Lula Shults
Ovie Hooper
Nettie Stricklin

Report of the Finance Committee

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

We find a balance of \$2.49 in the treasury and the churches have contributed \$90.00 for the Associational minutes. This makes a total in the treasury of \$92.49. Each church has contributed \$13.00 for the State Association for a total of \$65.00. Total for all expenditures \$92.49 plus \$65.00 equals \$157.49.

Report of the Arrangements Committee

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

Saturday morning—Rev. Bennie Fisher.

Saturday Night Devotional Service—Rev. C. C. Rogers.

Saturday Night Message—Rev. Fred Hensley.

Report of the Resolutions Committee

We, your resolutions committee, submit the following report.

Be it resolved that Resolution Number 11 be removed from our minutes.

Be it resolved that resolution Number 20 be changed to read as follows: Be it resolved that we meet Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings for our Quarterly Meetings.

J. C. Ray
James Lawrence
Ray Metcalf
Bennie Fisher
Doyce Davis

Report of the Executive Board

The Executive Board met Thursday night, June 24, 1971, at the Mena Church for the purpose of instructing the Associational clerk to write a letter of recommendation for Rev. Artie Atchley, who is leaving the Rich Mountain Association to enter the Arkansas District Association.

Report of the Treasurer

I, your Clerk and Treasurer, submit the following report.

Received from the Churches:

For Minutes	\$105.00
For State Association	65.00

TOTAL	\$170.00
Balance in Treasury 7-1-70	23.79

TOTAL IN TREASURY \$193.79

Paid out:

For Minutes	\$113.30
For State Association	78.00
For bank service charges85

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$192.15	192.15
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Balance in Treasury June 24, 1971	\$ 1.64
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Period of time covered in this report 7-1-1970 to 6-24-71.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MISSION BOARD

The Mission Board has \$45.00 in the treasury. No funds were spent during the past year.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE GOSPEL VOICE

Balance in Treasury 7-1-70	\$ 57.49	
Donations for the Gospel Voice were	66.00	\$123.49

Paid for operating expense	\$ 57.01	57.01
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Balance in Treasury 6-30-71	\$ 66.48

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. 14:34.

Resolution No. 2—Be it resolved, that we, members of the Rich Mountain Association, do pledge ourselves to conform to the requirements of God's work, 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, 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 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 Sixty-first Session of the Association.

Resolution No. 12—Be it resolved, that the association furnish an annual Ministers Certificate to each Minister in good standing with the association.

Resolution No. 13—Be it resolved, that our association meet on Friday night before the last Sunday in June each year.

Resolution No. 14—Be it resolved, that we elect our Moderator, and Clerk and Treasurer at the close of our business session of each year.

Resolution No. 15—Be it resolved, that the Association give the Moderator the authority to appoint a Promotional Director for each of the following duties: Vacation Bible School and C.T.S. or League work.

Resolution No. 16—Be it resolved that it is the duty of the Moderator, Associational Clerk, and Ministers belonging to the Association to be present at all services of the Quarterly meetings and Association if at all possible.

Resolution No. 17—Be it resolved that we the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptists create a mission board for the purpose of surveying surrounding communities to determine the possibility of beginning new churches. This board shall be composed of three ministers and two lay members.

Resolution No. 18—Be it resolved that we sponsor a news bulletin to be printed twice monthly, for the purpose of keeping our people in the various churches informed as to the activities of the other churches. Be it resolved that we secure a mailing list from the various churches that we might be able to send this bulletin to interested persons outside our local churches. The cost of this bulletin to be provided by the various churches according to the number of copies they wish to receive.

Resolution No. 19—Be it resolved that we meet Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings for our Quarterly Meetings.

Be it resolved that our Association meet Friday evening, Saturday and Saturday evening.

Resolution No. 20—Be it resolved that the churches contribute to the minute fund in relation to church membership and the number of minutes needed rather than having each church contribute an equal amount.

Resolution No. 21—Be it resolved that the delegates from each church have the authority to fill the vacancies in their delegations created because of an elected delegate's failure to be present by 10:00 A.M. Saturday morning. In the event that no delegates, deacons or the Pastor of a particular church is present that the association body may vote to receive as voting delegates any members of said church which may be present.

CONSTITUTION OF RICH MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF JESUS 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 any 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 delegate 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.

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 churches of the Association. Try to select delegates that will be present to represent you.—Hebrews 10:25.

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 John 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. 8:1-8; 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; 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. Johns 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 and 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; 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; 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. 12:5. 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 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 is 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. Reading Constitution and Rules of Order by moderator.
8. Appointment of Committees; (A) Arrangements, (B) Sunday School, (C) Resolution, (D) Obituaries, (F) Temperance, (G) Statistics and (H) Finance.
9. Report of Committees appointed at last association and other unfinished business.
10. Report of new committees.
11. New business.
12. Selecting place for next association.
13. Select the one to preach the introductory sermon the following year.
14. Vote of thanks to the Host Church for caring for the delegates to the association.
15. Selection of delegates to State Association.
16. 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. Where a motion has been made and seconded and a member op-

poses 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. 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 sanctions 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, or 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 _____, 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

MIDWAY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates — Dorothy Looney, Dorothy Holcomb, Almeda Looney.

Total Membership	26
Members Received	0
Members Dismissed	0
Members Deceased	0
Average Number in Sunday School	10
Number of Ordained Deacons	0
Paid Pastor	\$ 118.19
For Education	25.23
For Publication	4.00
For Minutes	15.00
For State Association	13.00
Value of Church Property	2,500.00
Pastor — Rev. Bennie Fisher, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.	
Clerk — Mrs. Wilma Griffin, Board Camp, Ark.	

BIG CEDAR FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates — Omer Yeaman, Lucille Davis, Novella Davis, Ethel Peters,
Lenora McBride.

Total Membership	27
Members Received	1
Members Dismissed	0
Members Deceased	1
Average Number in Sunday School	15
Number of Ordained Deacons	2
Paid Pastor	\$ 549.00
Building and Repair	204.23
Education	50.00
Miscellaneous	37.25
Home Missions	10.00
For Minutes	15.00
For State Association	13.00
Value of Church Property	3,000.00

Pastor — Rev. C. C. Rogers, 603 Tenth St., Mena, Ark.

Clerk — May Macdonald, Big Cedar Rt., Page, Okla.

MENA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates — Colleen Kinkade, Annie Park, Kathy Kinkade, Fred
Hensley, Margaret Risenhoover.

Total Membership	130
Members Received	8
Members Dismissed	0
Members Deceased	1
Average Number in Sunday School	80
Number of Ordained Deacons	7
Paid Pastor	\$1,185.00
For Minutes	20.00
For State Association	13.00
Paid Evangelist	752.25
Home Missions	58.00
Building and Repair	1,584.20
For Education	538.11
For Publication	98.24
Radio Broadcast	498.00
Value of Church Property	25,000.00

Pastor — Rev. J. T. Burnett, Boles Route, Waldron, Ark.

Clerk — Mrs. Wade Hooper, 910 S. Second St., Mena, Arkansas.

HATFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates — Violet Wilson, Bonnie Richardson, Nettie Stricklin,
Irene McCoy, Viola Bates.

Total Membership	111
Members Received	16
Members Dismissed	0
Members Deceased	2
Average Number in Sunday School	55
Number of Ordained Deacons	6
Paid Pastor	\$1,290.00
Paid Evangelist	376.41
For Minutes	20.00
For State Association	13.00
Building and Repair	6,710.00
For Education	299.16
For Publication	37.10
Value of Church Property	25,000.00

Pastor — Rev. Roy L. Wilson, Rt. 1, Box 43, Hatfield, Ark.

Clerk — Lula Shults, Star Rt., Hatfield, Ark.

LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates — Wanda Denton, Leona Denton, Zack Denton.

Total Membership	29
Members Received	5
Members Dismissed	0
Members Deceased	0
Average Number in Sunday School	20
Number of Ordained Deacons	1
Paid Pastor	\$ 240.00
For Education	58.00
For Minutes	20.00
For State Association	13.00
Value of Church Property	1,200.00

Pastor — Rev. Bennie Fisher, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.

Clerk — Leona Denton, Star Rt., Hatfield, Ark.

