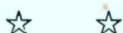


MINUTES
OF THE
SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF
RICH MOUNTAIN
ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST



NEXT ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD WITH

HATFIELD FREE WILL
BAPTIST CHURCH

Johnson Street West
HATFIELD, ARK.

June 28, 29, 1974

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FRIDAY EVENING

The sixty-fifth annual session of the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptist churches met June 22-23 at the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church at Zafra, Okla.

Services opened with singing led by Rev. C. C. Rogers.

Prayer was led by Rev. William Hicks.

Congregational singing was led by Rev. C. C. Rogers and Dwight Evans.

The Moderator being absent, Rev. S. B. Metcalf took charge of the service, being the senior minister present. His opening remarks included reading John 14:1-4.

The service was then turned to Rev. Fred Hensley who brought the evening message. Text: Numbers 13:1-33.

After the inspiring message the association was called into session to carry out the business. Rev. S. B. Metcalf was elected Moderator Pro-Tem after which letters were read and delegates seated with a right hand of fellowship.

The Moderator Pro-Tem read the Rules of Order.

After the closing prayer by Elmer Bates, the Association was adjourned until 9:30 Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING

Services were opened with a song led by Rev. Bennie Fisher, "I'll Live in Glory."

Prayer was led by Rev. C. C. Rogers.

Rev. Fisher read a scripture from Hebrews 13:1-9, "Let Brotherly Love Continue."

The letter from Midway Church was then read and received.

The Moderator then appointed the committees:

Arrangements: Mr. Lawrence, Linda Denton, and Zella Hopper.

Sunday School: Mr. Combs, Bob Chastain, and Ray Metcalf.

Obituary: Rev. Hicks, Ray Metcalf, and Larry Denton.

Temperance: Mrs. Mixon, Sister Hicks, Andy Mixon, Rev. Atchley, and Rev. Metcalf.

Statisticians Committee: Zella Hooper, and Sylvania Shults.

Finance Committee: Zella Hooper, Sylvania Shults.

Resolutions Committee: Rev. C. C. Rogers, Rev. Roy L. Wilson, and Rev. S. B. Metcalf.

The Executive Board report was given and accepted.

The Mission Board report was given and accepted.

The Treasurer's report was given and accepted.

The committees were then dismissed to work on their reports until the appointed hour.

The business being resumed, the Arrangements Committee gave their report which was accepted and the committee dismissed.

Rev. Bennie Fisher led a song "Won't It Be Wonderful There," followed by prayer.

Rev. C. C. Rogers brought the message with text from I Kings chapter 8, verses 54-61.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Services were opened with singing led by Rev. C. C. Rogers.

Prayer by Rev. Artie Atchley.

The Assistant Moderator then read a scripture from Romans 8:12-25.

The following committees reported: Sunday School, Resolutions, and Obituaries. The reports were accepted and the committees dismissed.

Rev. Rogers led the congregation in singing "Precious Memories" in memory of those who had passed away in the past year.

Rev. Roy L. Wilson reported for the Temperance Committee presenting an amendment concerning dangerous drugs and the occult and witchcraft to be added as a resolution. The motion was passed by the body.

The Statistician and Finance Committees reported, their reports being accepted and committees dismissed.

The motion was made and carried that Mena and Hatfield churches make up the balance to pay for the Minutes rather than transferring funds from the Gospel Voice Fund.

The next Association Meeting and the first Quarterly Meeting were placed as follows:

Association — Hatfield Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. C. C. Rogers was appointed to preach the introductory sermon at the next Association Meeting by the Moderator.

Rev. Artie Atchley was appointed as alternate.

First Quarterly Meeting — Mena Free Will Baptist Church was selected as the site for the first Quarterly Meeting.

A prayer of thanks was offered to the Host Church by Ray Metcalf.

It was suggested by the moderator that each church find out who can be a delegate to the State Association and report to the Clerk the following week.

The following were appointed to the Gospel Voice Staff: Sharon Ray and Roger Wilson. They were to select a place to print the paper.

The officers and Board Members were elected.

The business session was adjourned and the afternoon service was dismissed with a song and a prayer.

SATURDAY EVENING

The service opened with singing led by Rev. Roy L. Wilson, followed by prayer.

Congregational singing was led by Dwight Evans.

The service was then turned to Rev. Roy L. Wilson, speaker for the evening, who brought an inspiring message.

The service was closed with a song and a prayer.

NEXT ASSOCIATION

Hatfield _____ June 28-29, 1974

OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. C. C. Rogers, 603 Tenth St., Mena, Ark. 394-3134.

Assistant Moderator: Rev. William Hicks, Route 1, Cove, Ark.

Clerk: Linda Denton, P. O. Box 108, Hatfield, Ark.

Assistant Clerk: Rev. Roy L. Wilson, Route 1, Box 78, Hatfield, Ark. 389-2503.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mr. Yeaman _____ 3 Years

Rev. Roy L. Wilson _____ 2 Years

Rev. C. C. Rogers _____ 1 Year

MISSION BOARD

J. C. Ray, J. T. Burnette, Rev. 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 389-2943.
Rev. C. C. Rogers, 603 Tenth St., Mena, Ark., Phone 394-3134.
Rev. Roy L. Wilson, Route 1, Box 78, Hatfield, Ark., Phone 389-2503.
Rev. J. T. Burnette, Boles Route, Waldron, Ark., Phone 637-2824.
Rev. William Hicks, Route 1, Cove, Ark., Phone 387-5781.
Rev. Frederick Hensley, Mena, Arkansas, Phone 394-3466.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. Horace E. Thoburn, Big Fork Star Route, Black Springs, Ark.
71930. Phone 394-3632.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sunday School:

We, your Sunday School Committee, submit the following report:

We find by looking over the letters that all five churches have a Sunday School. The five churches together have five Sunday School Superintendents, 23 classes, 23 teachers, five secretaries, and an average attendance of 193. The churches are Mena, Midway, Big Cedar, Hatfield and Liberty.

Ray Metcalf
Robert Chastain
Mrs. Ada Combs

Obituary:

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 Viola Joplin, Hatfield Free Will Baptist Church.
Roy Stenett, Deacon, Hatfield Free Will Baptist Church.
Sister Rosa Rippley, Mena Free Will Baptist Church.
Brother Barney Larmon, Mena Free Will Baptist Church.
Sister Goodner, Mena Free Will Baptist Church.
Sister Pauline Ratliff, Liberty Free Will Baptist Church.

Ray Metcalf
Rev. William Hicks
Larry Denton

Committee on Temperance:

We, your committee on Temperance, submit the following report:

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

Mrs. Minnie Hicks
Mrs. Bessie Mixon
Andrew Mixon
Rev. Artie Atchley
Mrs. S. B. Metcalf

Arrangements Committee:

We, your arrangements committee, submit the following report:

Saturday Morning—Rev. C. C. Rogers.

Saturday Night—Rev. Artie Atchley.

Alternate—Rev. Roy L. Wilson.

Mr. Lawrence
Mrs. Wade Hooper
Linda Denton

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 15 ordained deacons. Our total membership is 391 members. Six members died during the past year. The churches paid:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Pastors' Salary | \$ 3,108.12 |
| Evangelistic Work | 1,119.21 |
| Building and Repair | 2,948.37 |
| Literature | 829.21 |
| Radio Broadcast | 913.50 |
| Miscellaneous | 1,589.51 |
| State Association | 65.00 |
| Local Association | 95.00 |
| Total Value of Church Properties | 60,700.00 |

Mrs. Wade Hooper
Lula Shults

Report of the Finance Committee:

We, your Finance Committee, submit the following report:

We find a balance of 0.00 in the treasury and the churches have contributed \$90 for the Associational Minutes. This makes a total in the treasury of \$90.00. Each church has contributed \$13 for the State Association for a total of \$65.00.

Mrs. Wade Hooper
Sylvania Shults

Report of the Resolutions Committee:

We, your resolutions committee, submit the following report:

We recommend that article 9 of our constitution be changed to read as follows:

When a minister of this association shall be charged with preaching any doctrine contrary to the Articles of Faith of the Original Free Will Baptists as set forth in our National Treatise, the charge shall be proven or dropped.

We recommend that Resolution 16 be dropped from our minutes.

Rev. S. B. Metcalf
Rev. C. C. Rogers
Rev. Roy L. Wilson

Report of the Treasurer:

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

Received from the churches:

| | |
|--|----------|
| For Minutes | \$ 90.00 |
| For State Association | 65.00 |
| Transferred from Gospel Voice Fund | 51.63 |

Total Funds Received

Expenses:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| For State Association | \$ 65.00 |
| For District Minutes | 141.63 |

Total Expenses

Balance in Treasury June 30, 1973

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE GOSPEL VOICE

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Balance in the Treasury 7-1-72 | \$ 56.48 |
| Contributions | 83.00 |
| Total | \$139.48 |
| Expenses: | |
| Transferred to Minutes Fund | \$51.63 |
| For supplies | 25.35 |
| For Postage | 16.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$92.98 |
| Balance in Treasury 6-30-73 | \$46.50 |
| Mrs. Wade Hooper Lula Shults | |

MISSION BOARD

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Balance | \$45.00 |
| No funds received | |
| No expenses | |
| Balance in treasury 6-30-73 | \$45.00 |

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 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 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. 17—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. 18—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 afternoon.

Resolution No. 19—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. 20—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.

Resolution No. 21—Whereas, the use of dangerous drugs is rapidly increasing, and aiding in destruction of the minds of our young people; Be it resolved that we speak out in opposition to, and endeavor to make our people more aware of the dangers of these drugs.

Resolution No. 22—Whereas, Witchcraft, Occult and Astrology are clearly defined in the Bible as originating with Satan; Be it resolved that we encourage our members to be more alert to the dangers to the Christian who becomes involved in these satanic practices.

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 contrary to the Articles of Faith of the Original Free Will Baptists as set forth in our National Treatise, the charge shall be proven or dropped.

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 the 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 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—Any member of the church that attends the association.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Total Membership | 29 |
| Members Received | 3 |
| Members Dismissed | 0 |
| Members Deceased | 0 |
| Sunday School Enrollment | 30 |
| Number of Ordained Deacons | 0 |
| Paid Pastor | \$ 207.12 |
| For Minutes | 15.00 |
| For Education | 69.96 |
| Gospel Voice | 10.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 37.14 |
| For State Association | 13.00 |
| Value of Church Property | \$2,500.00 |
| Pastor—Rev. Bennie Fisher, Route 1, Hatfield, Ark. | |
| Clerk—Mrs. Wilma Griffin, Board Camp, Ark. | |

BIG CEDAR FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates—Novella Davis, Elizabeth Hensley, Ethel Peters, Lucille Davis, Omer Yeaman.

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|---|------------|
| Total Membership | 28 |
| Members Received | 0 |
| Members Dismissed | 0 |
| Members Deceased | 0 |
| Sunday School Enrollment | 20 |
| Average Attendance | 16 |
| Number of Ordained Deacons | 1 |
| Paid Pastor | \$ none |
| Building and Repair | 264.06 |
| Education | 70.52 |
| Miscellaneous | 197.10 |
| For Minutes | 15.00 |
| For State Association | 13.00 |
| Value of Church Property | \$3,000.00 |
| Pastor—Rev. Frederick Hensley, Route 2, Box 413, Mena, Ark. | |
| Clerk—May McDonald, Big Cedar Route, Page, Okla. 74950. | |

MENA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates—Mrs. Marvin Parker, Mrs. Anna Park, Mrs. Vernon Ewin, Danny Davis, Mrs. Loretta Isom.

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|--|-------------|
| Total Membership | 177 |
| Members Received | 19 |
| Members Dismissed | 4 |
| Members Deceased | 3 |
| Sunday School Enrollment | 120 |
| Average Number in Sunday School | 85 |
| Number of Ordained Deacons | 6 |
| Paid Pastor | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Evangelistic Work | 782.50 |
| Building and Repair | 69.57 |
| For Education | 361.85 |
| Radio Broadcast | 913.50 |
| For Minutes | 25.00 |
| For State Association | 13.00 |
| Value of Church Property | \$25,000.00 |
| Pastor—Rev. J. T. Burnette, Boles Route, Waldron, Ark. | |
| Clerk—Mrs. Wade Hooper, 910 S Second St., Mena, Ark. | |

HATFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates—Gaylord Griffin Freddie Griffin, Biola Bates, Joe Nichols,
Larry Denton, Linda Denton.

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|--|-------------|
| Total Membership | 120 |
| Members Received | 6 |
| Members Dismissed | 0 |
| Members Deceased | 1 |
| Sunday School Enrollment | 87 |
| Average Number in Sunday School | 54 |
| Number of Ordained Deacons | 6 |
| Paid Pastor | \$ 1,047.59 |
| Evangelistic Work | 166.71 |
| For Education | 331.88 |
| Miscellaneous | 608.89 |
| Building and Repair | 2,220.47 |
| For Minutes | 25.00 |
| For State Association | 13.00 |
| Value of Church Property | \$30,000.00 |
| Pastor—Rev. Roy L. Wilson, Route 1, Box 43, Hatfield, Ark. | |
| Clerk—Sylvania Shults, Star Route, Hatfield, Ark. | |

LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates—Sister Hicks, Lee Lawrence, Andrew Mixon, Bessie Mixon,
Ada Combs.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Total Membership | 37 |
| Members Received | 0 |
| Members Dismissed | 0 |
| Members Deceased | 1 |
| Sunday School Enrollment | 37 |
| Average Number in Sunday School | 22 |
| Number of Ordained Deacons | 2 |
| Paid Pastor | \$ 187.74 |
| For Education | 65.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 00.00 |
| For Minutes | 15.00 |
| For State Association | 13.00 |
| Value of Church Property | \$1,200.00 |
| Pastor—Rev. William Hicks, Route One, Cove, Ark. | |
| Clerk—Leona Denton, Star Route, Hatfield, Ark. | |



