

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF

RICH MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

NEXT ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD WITH

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
CORNER OF CHERRY AND PETROSS STREETS
MENA, ARKANSAS

JUNE 24-25, 1977

SATURDAY MORNING

The morning service was opened with the singing of "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder," led by Bro. Kevin Jewell.

Opening prayer by Rev. S. B. Metcalf.

After another congregational song, "He Set Me Free," Rev. Roy L. Wilson, the moderator, welcomed everyone and then read the Rules of Order and the Constitution. The Moderator requested that the Association receive Audra Metcalf and Marilyn Wilson as delegates to replace those absent from the Hatfield delegation. The motion was made and carried and the new delegates, along with the Midway Delegates, were seated with a right hand of fellowship with the singing of "At Calvary."

All the letters from the churches were read in full by the Clerk. The letters were approved as read. A request by the Liberty Church to ordain Bro. Donnie Jewell as a minister of the Gospel was made. A recommendation of Bro. Donnie Jewell was also given by the Hatfield Church. The Credentials Board was instructed by the moderator to act on this.

Billy Hooper gave the report of the Arrangements Committee. The report was accepted and the committee was dismissed.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Dwight Evans, Ethel Peters, Arvella Evans.

RESOLUTIONS: Rev. Horace Thoburn, Donnie Jewell, Audra Metcalf.

OBITUARY: Esther Thoburn, Zella Hooper, May McDonald, Rev. Smith.

TEMPERANCE: Ray Metcalf, Rev. Bennie Fisher, Clarence Peters,
Rev. William Hicks.

STATISTICS: Kevin Jewell, Marilyn Wilson, Judy Jewell.

FINANCE: Judy Lewis, Rodena Bailey, Sherri Jewell.

A recess was then called to allow the committees to work on their reports. Dismissal prayer was by Rev. Smith.

After a 30 minute recess the meeting was reopened with the singing of "Kneel At The Cross." The Moderator asked for the report of the Executive Board. Rev. Horace Thoburn reported that the Executive Board highly recommended Bro. Donnie Jewell as a minister of the Gospel.

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

FRIDAY EVENING

The sixty-eighth annual session of the Rich Mountain Association of Free Will Baptist churches met June 25, 26, 1976 at the Big Cedar Free Will Baptist Church.

The services were opened with the singing of "I'd Rather Be an Old Time Christian," led by Rev. Bennie Fisher. The opening prayer was led by Rev. J. T. Burnette.

After two more congregational songs, Rev. Fisher welcomed everyone to the Big Cedar Church and to the sixty-eighth annual Associational meeting. At this time he turned the meeting to the moderator, Rev. Roy L. Wilson. Judy Lewis, Clerk, read the letters from four of the five churches in the association. The letters were approved as read and the delegates were seated with a right hand of fellowship. The moderator then turned the service over to Rev. Bennie Fisher who brought the evening message, using as his text Hebrew 10:24 and Acts 2:1,2.

Highlights of his message were "Three ways for a better church."

1. Do not fail to assemble ourselves together; 2. Love one another; 3. Pastor in fellowship with God.

After the message, the moderator appointed the Arrangements Committee. Appointed were: Billy Hooper, Chairman, Judy Jewell, Linda Denton and Novella Davis.

The time was set to meet for the Saturday morning service at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. C. C. Rogers led the closing prayer.

A motion to accept the report of the Executive Board was passed. A motion was also passed to waive the one year trial period between licensing and ordination in order to ordain Bro. Donnie Jewell during this associational meeting. Bro. Donnie Jewell requested that Rev. William Hicks deliver the ordination sermon, with Rev. Roy L. Wilson and Rev. S. B. Metcalf to participate in ordination at 2:00 p.m. today.

At this point, special songs were offered by Kevin and Sherri Jewell, "Will you be among the missing?"; and Donnie and Judy Jewell, "God Walks the Dark Hills. "

Rev. Roy L. Wilson delivered a very spirit-filled message, "The One Way Road," using Luke 9:57 as his text. The morning session was closed with the singing of "AT THE CROSS". Rev. Horace Thoburn dismissed in prayer and asked a blessing on the noon meal.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The song "Standing On the Promises" opened the afternoon session. Opening prayer was by Kevin Jewell. After another congregational song, the Moderator asked for the reports of the various committees.

The Sunday School report was given. The report was accepted and the committee was dismissed.

The Obituary Committee gave their report which was accepted and their committee was dismissed.

The Temperance Committee gave their report which was accepted and the committee was dismissed.

The Statistics Committee gave their report and compared the figures with those recorded last year. The report was accepted and the committee was dismissed.

The Finance Committee gave their report which included a recommendation to pay the clerk, Judy Lewis, \$30.00 for printing the minutes. The recommendation carried and the complete report was accepted and the committee was dismissed.

A motion was made to resume printing the Gospel Voice once a month. The motion carried and the Moderator asked for any volunteers to undertake this work. Frank and Judy Lewis volunteered to do the typing of the Gospel Voice and Donnie and Judy Jewell the printing of same. The body unanimously accepted these workers. There was a suggestion to have the paper distributed the first Sunday of each month, however a definite time was not decided upon.

The Treasury Report was given. Last years figures and costs were compared to this years. The report was accepted and the committee was dismissed.

The Resolutions Committee recommended that all business be taken care of before the preaching service. The motion was made and carried and the Resolutions Committees report was accepted and the resolution was adopted.

The Moderator then asked for miscellaneous business.

(A) The Moderator answered the question, What is an Executive Board? Larry Denton was nominated by Rev. Thoburn for a three year term on this board and was elected by acclamation.

(B) The Mena Church extended an invitation to the association to hold the Associational Meeting at their church next year. The body unanimously accepted this invitation.

(C) Bro. Donnie Jewell was elected as Moderator and Rev. Bennie Fisher was elected Assistant Moderator.

Linda Denton was elected as clerk; Judy Jewell was elected Assistant Clerk.

(D) Rev. William Hicks was chosen to preach the introductory sermon at next years associational meeting.

(E) Delegates were elected to the State Association convening August 10-12, 1976. Elected were: Judy Jewell, Rodena Bailey, and Judy Lewis.

(F) Those elected to the Mission Board are as follows:

3 years-----Doyle Morrison
2 years-----Rev. S. B. Metcalf
1 year-----Charles Hensley

(G) A vote of thanks was given to the host church for entertaining this associational meeting.

A congregational song "WHERE COULD I GO" was sung and a prayer was offered by Bill Hooper. The Moderator, Rev. Roy L. Wilson then asked Bro. Donnie Jewell to come forward and give his testimony and thoughts concerning his ministry.

Rev. William Hicks delivered the ordination sermon using II Timothy 4:1. After the message, Bro. Donnie Jewell answered the customary questions. Rev. S. B. Metcalf gave the charge, followed by the laying on of hands. The right hand of fellowship was given Rev. Donnie Jewell and his wife, Judy, with the singing of "HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND."

The Moderator, Rev. Roy L. Wilson, turned the service over to the new moderator, Rev. Donnie Jewell for closing. Doyle Morrison led the closing prayer.

SATURDAY NIGHT

The song service was opened with the singing of "I'LL FLY AWAY," led by Kevin Jewell. The opening prayer was led by Larry Denton. The welcome and opening comments were by Rev. Donnie Jewell, Moderator. After several congregational songs, special songs were sung by the Hatfield Choir, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Evans, Judy Jewell, and Rev. Donnie Jewell. A testimony service was led by Kevin Jewell. Another special song was presented by two teenage girls from New Hope.

Several gathered for an altar prayer to remember the little Lyda boy from Mena who has Muscular Dystrophy.

The evening message was delivered by Rev. Donnie Jewell. After the invitation song, the service was dismissed in prayer by David Campbell.

NEXT ASSOCIATION

First Free Will Baptist Church, Mena, June 24,25, 1977

OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. Donnie E. Jewell, Route 1 Box 10, Hatfield,
Arkansas 71945 Phone: 389-6762
Assistant Moderator: Rev. Bennie Fisher, Route 1, Hatfield,
Arkansas 71945 Phone: 389-6354
Clerk: Linda Denton, Route 1 Box 242-A, Hatfield, Arkansas
Phone: 389-6676
Assistant Clerk: Judy Jewell, Route 1 Box 10, Hatfield, Ark.
Phone: 389-6762

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Larry D. Denton.....3 Years
Rev. Bennie Fisher.....2 Years
Rev. Horace Thoburn.....1 Year

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Artie Atchley, Cove, Arkansas 71937
Rev. J. T. Burnette, Boles Route, Waldron, Ark. Phone: 637-2824
Rev. Fred Edin, Route 8, Mena, Arkansas 71953
Rev. Bennie Fisher, Route 1, Hatfield, Ark. Phone: 389-6354
Rev. William Grantham, Cove, Arkansas 71937
Rev. William Hicks, Route 1 Cove, Ark. 71937 Phone: 387-5781
Rev. Frederick Hensley, Route 2, Box 413, Mena, Ark. Ph. 394-3466
Rev. Donnie E. Jewell, Rt. 1 Box 10, Hatfield, Ark. Ph. 389-6762
Rev. S. B. Metcalf, Rt. 1 Box 232, Cove, Ark. Phone: 387-2971
Rev. C. C. Rogers, 603 Tenth St., Mena, Ark. Phone: 394-3134
Rev. W. F. Smith, Big Cedar, Oklahoma Phone: 651-2251
Rev. Horace E. Thoburn, D.D., Rt. 8 Box 193, Black Springs, Ark.
Zip 71930, Phone 394-3632

LICENSED MINISTERS

Bro. David DePriest, Cove, Arkansas 71937
Bro. Kevin Jewell, P. O. Box 191, Hatfield, Ark. 71945

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 together have five Sunday School Superintendents, and an average attendance of 219. The churches are Mena, Hatfield, Liberty, Big Cedar, and Midway.

Dwight Evans
Arvella Evans
Ethel Peters

OBITUARY:

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

We find that God in His infinite love has called from our midst during the past year:

Mrs. Barbara Thompson, Big Cedar Free Will Baptist Church
Mrs. Dorothy Looney, Midway Free Will Baptist Church
Bro. Charlie Goodman, Midway Free Will Baptist Church
Mrs. Bessie Mixon, Liberty Free Will Baptist Church
Mrs. Mattie Self, Liberty Free Will Baptist Church
Mrs. Dossie McDonald, Hatfield Free Will Baptist Church
Mrs. Cora Larmon, Mena Free Will Baptist Church
Bro. Rex Cecil, Mena Free Will Baptist Church
Bro. Roy Whitehead, Mena Free Will Baptist Church

May McDonald
Mrs. Wade Hooper
Mrs. Horace Thoburn

ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE:

We, the Arrangements Committee submit the following report:

Saturday morning:.....Rev. Roy L. Wilson

Saturday night:.....Bro. Donnie Jewell

Bill W. Hooper
Linda E. Denton
Novella Davis
Judy Jewell

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE:

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

We recommend that the churches teach and preach temperance in all walks of life.

We should abstain from the use of alcoholic beverages in any form, and the use of harmful drugs of the various types. We recommend in view of the conditions of the day and times, temperance in all things such as the various cults, dress, etc. In general, temperance in all walks of life.

Bro. Ray Metcalf
Rev. Bennie Fisher
Clarence Peters
Rev. William Hicks

REPORT OF THE STATISTICIAN COMMITTEE:

We, your committee of Statistics, submit the following report:

For the five active churches of the Rich Mountain Association, we have 15 deacons. Our total membership is 356 active members and 43 inactive members. Nine members died during the past year. The churches paid the following:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Pastor Salary..... | \$ 4,720.00 |
| Building and Repair..... | 3,002.51 |
| Radio Broadcast..... | 975.00 |
| State Association..... | 88.00 |
| Local Association..... | 95.00 |
| Foreign Missions..... | 294.00 |
| Home Missions..... | 824.29 |
| Literature..... | 1,217.40 |
| Revival..... | 1,689.11 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 1,852.92 |
| Total Value-Church Property..... | 68,800.00 |

Kevin Jewell
Marilyn Wilson
Judy Jewell

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

We, your Finance Committee, submit the following report:

We find a balance of \$167.27 in the treasury.

The churches have contributed \$95.00 for Associational minutes and \$88.00 for the State Association for a total of \$350.27. We, of the Finance Committee, further recommend that a payment of \$30.00 be made to the Associational Clerk for the

purpose of preparing the Minutes of the Associational meeting for this year.

Sherri Jewell

Rodena Bailey

Judy Lewis

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE:

We, your Resolutions Committee, submit the following report:

Be it resolved that in the future Associational meetings that the required business be taken care of before the sermon of the meeting.

Rev. Horace E. Thoburn

Donnie E. Jewell

Audria Metcalf

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

We your executive committee recommend Donnie E. Jewell for ordination to the ministry.

Further: In view of his call by Liberty Church as pastor and the recommendation of the Hatfield Church, we move that the rule of one year license period be set aside. We recommend that he be ordained in this associational meeting.

Rev. Horace E. Thoburn

Rev. Bennie Fisher

Omer H. Yeaman

REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

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

Balance in Treasury June 30, 1975 \$00.00

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Received at annual meeting for District Minutes and State Associational Minutes..... \$255.00

Collected at February Quarterly Meeting as repayment of a loan to Association Youth..... 29.71

Collected for church in DeQueen..... 46.45

Total Funds Received..... \$331.16

EXPENSES

State Association..... \$100.00

Stamps..... 4.00

(Treasurer's Report, continued)

Expenses--continued

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Paid to Gospel Voice Fund (loan repayment)..... | \$41.46 |
| Paid to Clerk, Linda Denton..... | 25.00 |
| Minute Supplies..... | 26.28 |
| Church in DeQueen..... | 46.45 |
| Mena Star..... | 9.53 |
| Christian Supply Store..... | <u>6.48</u> |
| Total Expenses..... | \$259.20 |

Total Contributions.....\$331.16

Less Total Expenses.....259.20

Balance in General Fund June 30, 1976.....\$ 71.96

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE GOSPEL VOICE:

Balance in Treasury, June 30, 1975.....\$53.85

Received from General Fund (Loan Repayment).....41.46

No Expenses

Balance in Gospel Voice Fund June 30, 1976.....\$95.31

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, the 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 5:6. 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 Matthew, verses 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 there 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 anyone 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 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. 11--Be it resolved, that the association furnish an annual Ministers Certificate to each Minister in good standing with the association.

RESOLUTION NO. 12--Be it resolved, that our association meet on Friday night before the last Sunday in June each year.

RESOLUTION NO. 13--Be it resolved, that we elect our Moderator, and Clerk and Treasurer at the close of our business session of each year.

RESOLUTION NO. 14--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. 15--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 consist of three ordained members, serving for 1, 2, and 3 year terms, alternating each year.

RESOLUTION NO. 16--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. 17--Be it resolved that we meet Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings for our Quarterly meetings.

RESOLUTION NO. 18--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. 19--Be it resolved that the delegates from each church have the authority to fill the vacancies in their delegation 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. 20--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 our in opposition to, and endeavor to make our people more aware of the dangers of these drugs.

RESOLUTION NO. 21--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 Jesus Christ, being regularly baptised 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 and 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. Galatians 6:1,2; Matthew 18:15-18.

11. We believe that God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament. Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 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.

12. 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 innocense? 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 baptised 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 ordinances, 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 presevere 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 Testaments

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." Isaiah 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. Timothy 8:1-8; II Timothy 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 Cor. 11:30-34; St. Mark 16:15-18; Matt. 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; 6:14-15; 10:4; St. Mark 16:2; I Cor. 16:2; 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. Heb. 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, 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. 12:5. 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 Corinthians 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 goodfaith and the other not.

Every Christian is responsible for his own act, and not for another. Simon the Sorceror 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. Association called to order by the Moderator and in his absence, by the clerk.
2. Letters from churches composing the association called for, read, and the delegates seated.
3. Corresponding Associations.
4. Right hand of fellowship.
5. Call for letters from newly organized churches.
6. Reading Constitution and Rules of Order by moderator.
7. Appointment of Committees: (A) Arrangements, (B) Sunday School, (C) Resolution, (D) Obituaries, (E) Temperance, (F) Statistics, and, (G) Finance.
8. Introductory sermon.
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 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. 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 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, or its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness and 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 to 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

BIG CEDAR FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Novella Davis, Lucilla Davis, Ethel Peters, Omer Yeaman
Total Membership.....24
Members Received..... 0
Members Dismissed..... 2
Members Deceased..... 1
Average Attendance.....18
Number of Ordained Deacons..... 1
Paid Pastor.....\$260.00
For Minutes..... 15.00

(BIG CEDAR FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH REPORT CONTINUED)

For State Association.....\$ 20.00
For Education (Literature)..... 63.74
For Evangelistic Work..... 250.00
Building and repair..... 52.00
Miscellaneous..... 69.11
Value of Church Property.....\$3,000.00
Pastor: Rev. Bennie Fisher, Rt. 1, Hatfield, Ark.
Clerk: May McDonald, Star Rt. 2, Hodgen, Oklahoma

HATFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Kevin Jewell, Linda Denton, Sherri Jewell, Viola Bates,
David Campbell. Alternates: Larry Denton, Frank Lewis
Total Membership.....107
Members received.....
Members dismissed..... 5
Members deceased..... 1
Sunday School Enrollment.....85
Number of Classes..... 7
Average Number in Sunday School.....79
Church Training Service Enrollment.....15
Average Attendance.....15
Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment.....9
Average Attendance..... 6
Master's Men Enrollment.....14
Average Attendance..... 9
Number of Ordained Deacons.....6
Number of Licensed Ministers.....2
Paid Pastor.....\$2,150.00 Evangelistic Work \$389.00
Building and Repair..... 2,884.45 Literature..... 629.25
District Minutes..... 25.00 State Association.. 20.00
Value of Church Property.....\$30,000
Pastor: Rev. Roy L. Wilson, Box 126, Hatfield, Ark.
Clerk: Opal Nichols, Box 5, Hatfield, Ark.

LIBERTY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Rodena Bailey, Charles Hensley, Jan Denton, Judy Jewell,
Elizabeth Hensley

Total Membership.....40
Members Received.....9
Members Deceased.....2
Average number in Sunday School.....35
Number of Ordained Deacons.....3
Number of Licensed Ministers.....1
Literature.....\$75.50 For District Minutes.....\$15.00
For State Assoc..... 13.00 Value of Church Property..\$3,300.00
Pastor: Donnie E. Jewell, Rt. 1 Box 10, Hatfield, Ark.
Clerk: Arvella Evans, Star Rt., Hatfield, Ark.

MENA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Billy Hooper, Jo Dean Hooper, Wanda Jones, Connie Davis
Melba Davis, Isabel Ray

Church Membership159
Members Dismissed..... 3
Members Deceased..... 3
Sunday School Enrollment.....100
Average Attendance.....80
Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment.....16
Midweek Service Average.....25
Number of Ordained Deacons..... 5
Paid Pastor.....\$2,125 Evangelistic Work.....\$1,050.00
Building and Repair....66.06 Literature..... 421.63
Radio Programs.....975.00 Foreign Missions..... 120.00
District Minutes..... 25.00 State Association..... 20.00
Value of Church Property.....\$30,000.00
Pastor: Rev. J. T. Burnette, Waldron, Ark.
Clerk: Mrs. Wade Hooper, 910 South 2nd St., Mena, Ark.

MIDWAY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Delegates: Mrs. Esther Thoburn, Alton Looney, Mary Looney

Total Membership.....26

Sunday School Enrollment.....12

Average Attendance..... 7

Paid Pastor.....\$185.00

Literature..... 27.28

For District Minutes..... 15.00

For State Association..... 15.00

Miscellaneous..... 92.00

Value of Church Property.....2,500.00

Pastor: Rev. Bennie Fisher, Hatfield, Ark.

Clerk: Wilma Griffin, Rt. 1 Box B. C. 14, Mena, Ark.

