

MINUTES
OF THE
63rd ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SALEM FREE WILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH
Travelers Rest and Salem Churches
October 3rd and 4th, 1958

Clarksville and Kynsville, Florida

OFFICERS

Rev. Roy Bozeman, Moderator Tallahassee, Fla.
Rev. J. C. Watson, Vice-Moderator Marianna, Fla.
Chester L. Cook, Secretary & Treasurer Rt. 1, Altha, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. D. Hart, J. T. Sullivan, W. J. Mazerac, Roy Bozeman
And Chester L. Cook

THE ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Roy Bozeman, C. L. Cook, Rev. J. E. Nichols
Rev. J. C. Watson and Rev. D. F. Pelt

The next session will convene with Lovewood Church, Friday,
October 2, 1959. The 2nd will convene with Damascus Church,
October 3, 1959. Lovewood Church 4 miles North West of Cottondale,
Damascus Church five miles South West of Marianna.

BYE COLLEGE
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING January 3rd, 1959
Green Head Church. Message by Rev. C. H. Pelt

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION March 29, 1959
Damascus Church, Marianna, Florida

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING April 4, 1959
Holley Grove Church, Marianna, Fla., Message by Rev. Clyde
Owens.

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING July 4, 1959
Travelers Rest Church. Message by Rev. Walter Eldridge

SALEM ASSOCIATION October 2, 1959
Lovewood Church, Message by Rev. W. E. George
Damascus Church, October 3, 1959

DISTRICT AUXILIARY CONVENTION September 26, 1959
Malone Church, Malone, Florida

**PROGRAM FOR SIXTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE
SALEM ASSOCIATION — OCTOBER 2 - 3, 1959**

10:00 A.M.—Devotion by Rev. W. S. Driggers

Welcome Address by Rev. Alvin Howell

Response by Rev. Clarence Windham

10:30—Moderator's Message and Enroll Delegates

11:00—Message by Rev. W. E. George

12:00—Noon Hour

1:30—Devotion by Rev. J. E. Nichols

Moderator renewed the call for correspondence and visiting delegates.

Report of Committees

3:00—Adjourned

Saturday Morning, October 3rd, 1959

9:30—Song Service led by J. R. Long

Devotion led by Rev. A. H. Reathlford

Report of Committees

10:00—Testimonial Service

11:00—Messengar to be supplied

12:00—Noon hour

1:30—Devotional by Rev. Walter Eldridge

Appointed Committies and boards

Adjourned

PROCEEDINGS

Sixty-Third Annual Session of the Salem Free Will Baptist Association. Held with Travelers Rest Church October 3rd and Salem Church October 4th, 1958.

Rev. I. O. Cook gave the devotion, Friday morning Scripture reading First Six verses of Sixth chapter of Romans. Welcome address given by Rev. W. E. George, the church pastor. Response by Rev. D. F. Pelt. At this time moderator asked for all corisponding letters and appointed Sister Corene George and Sister Florence Cook to read the Association letters.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

SALEM—Sis. Daisy Morris, Sis. Evvie Hindrix, Sis. Lena Kent, and Bro. Jim Barns.

MIDWAY—Bro. and Sis. G. G. Winberley.

CYPRESS CREEK—Bro. Joe Tharp, Stella Ramsey, and Edith Northcut.

GREEN HEAD—Sister Essie Taylor and Douglas Finch.

ABE SPRINGS—Bro. and Sis. C. A. Bozeman and Etter Dean, Allen Summer.

CEDAR GROVE—Bro. B. B. Thomston, and Sis. Grace Rathel.

DAMUSCUS—Bro. John Hill, B. H. Windham and B. T. Chatwood.

HICKORY GROVE—Walter Baxter, G. W. Hatcher, J. D. King, J. R. Long, Joseph Johnson and James I. Ditty.

HOLLEY GROVE—Sis. Nellia Lipford, Lena Ross and Marie Chafin.

TRAVELERS REST—Sis. Lillie Mae Tew, Ella Grantham, Bro. Vander Shiver and Bro. Carlos Weeks.

MARVIN CHAPEL—Sis. Myrtel Sapp, Sis. Audrey Eiland, Bro. Albert Wright and Sis. Mayone Belles.

CHRISTIAN HOME—Sis. Ada Holley, Bro. Joe Spears, Bro. Grady Burkette, Sis. Ruby Pelt, Bro. and Sis. Hugh Peacock, and Sis. Lonia Glisson.

NEW HOPE—Sis. Polly Bennette, and Sis. Mildred Mears

OAK GROVE—Represented by letter.

MALONE—Bro. and Sis. Walter Calloway.

LOVEWOOD—Sis. Adel Morris, Sis. Mae Johnson and Sis. Love Johnson.

BLOUNTSTOWN—Bro. Eddie Crockron, Bro. and Sis. W. B. Phipplis.

PINE GROVE—Sister Lessie Adams and Sister Viola Dutton.
At this time labor was called off for the eleven o'clock service. Rev. C. H. Pelt brought the message which was enjoyed. Scripture reading taken from 13th chapter of Mark, 9:13 verse. Meeting was called off for the lunch hour.

At 1:30 the body re-assembled. Song service led by Rev. Jim Nichols. Devotion led by Rev. Edward Sheffield. Reading 1st chapter 2nd Peter. The moderator renewed the call for corresponding letters. Received Rocky Grove Church. Delegates, Bro. Rob Elmore and Bro. Seab Roberson. Cottdale Church—Delegates Bro. and Sis. George Windsor, Sis. Evelyn Brannon. There was a move and second that the delegates be seated.

At this time called for visitors from other associations.

MARTIN ASSOCIATION—Rev. H. L. Cattrac, Rev. Edward Sheffield and Rev. W. H. Horn.

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION—Bro. and Sis. D. W. Poole, Bro. W. E. George and wife, Bro. A. B. Cook, Bro. Wayne Hicks.

STATE LINE ASSOCIATION—Rev. and Mrs. G. B. Nobles.

UNION HILL ASSOCIATION—Rev. S. E. Carrol.

There was moved and second that these delegates be seated.

At this time the body had a moment of silent prayer honoring our dead.

Called for report on League from Christian Home Church (See report). Called for report of Treasurer.(See report). At this time business was called off.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

After song service, Rev. Wayne Hicks brought the message. Subject on the 2nd Coming of Christ.

SATURDAY A.M., OCTOBER 4th, 1958

The body re-assembled at Salem Free Will Baptist Church. Song service led by W. S. Driggers. Prayer by C. H. Peacock. Committee appointed on Devine Service: C. H. Peacock, W. W. Eiland and J. W. Hill. Devotion led by J. W. Roberts. Scripture 5 chapter of Ephesians.

A call for report on Temperance, Travelers Rest Church (See report).

Call for report on Education, Damascus Church (See report).

Report of Churches and Ministers, Malone Church (See report).

Called for report on Auxiliary, Cottdale Church (See report).

Report on Salem District Auxiliary Convention (See report).

Called for report on Sunday School Convention (See report).

The planning board of the State Association made their report (See report).

Rev. Chester Pelt reported that Hickory Grove Church offered their service as care takers for the Florida State Youth Camp. Which was accepted as far as Salem Association concerned.

At this time labor was called off for the eleven o'clock service. Rev. Clyde Owens brought the message reading 7th chapter of Matthew 13 and 14 verse. Adjourned for lunch at 1:30.

The body was called to order by moderator. Song service led by W. E. George. Prayer by Rev. C. H. Pelt. Devotion led by Rev. Driggers. Scripture reading 21st chapter of Matthew. Reading 4 verses. At this time moderator called for report on Superannuation (See report) Abe Springs Church. Called for report on Nomination (See report) Lovewood Church.

At this time the moderator call for volunteer delegates to other associations.

Liberty Association—Mrs. Florence Cook, Bro. Joe Tharp and W. S. Driggers.

Martin Association—Bro. I. O. Cook, Bro. J. E. Nichols and W. S. Driggers.

West Florida Association—Rev. Roy Bozeman and Rev. C. H. Pelt.

There was move and second that the clerk be paid \$10.00 (Ten Dollars) extra. Mildred Pelt, Ruby Pelt and Ada Holley appointed to help the clerk with a statistical report. There was a move and second to give Travelers Rest Church and Salem Church a rising vote of thanks for the kind hospitality given this body during the session. After which the congregation sang "God Be With You Till We Meet Again". So ended the 63rd Session.

Rev. Roy Bozeman, Moderator

Chester L. Cook, Tre. and Clerk

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

J. C. Watson Marianna, Fla.
D. F. Pelt Marianna, Fla.
C. H. Pelt Marianna, Fla.
J. W. Roberts
J. E. Nichols Rt. 1, Altha, Fla.
I. O. Cook Rt. 1, Altha, Fla.
W. L. Eldridge Cottondale, Fla.
Arnold Woodlief Marianna, Fla.
W. C. Windham Marianna, Fla.
Roy Bozeman Tallahassee, Fla.
John Carr Cottondale, Fla.
Joe Cain Blountstown, Fla.
W. S. Driggers Cottondale, Fla.
Trim Finch
W. H. Keel Sneads, Fla.

GREETINGS FROM THE SALEM SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

Sunday April 1st, 1958. Supt. Hill alone with Mrs. Rogers of Malone, Mrs. Stephens of Marvin Chapel and Mr. Frank Clarke of Salem met at Holley Grove to discuss the revising of the point system to equal all churches. After discussing it was decided to ask all pastors be present at the next convention to give their view point. The following pastors along with supt. were present to give their view point. Present were Rev. Owens, Rev. George, Rev. Windham, Rev. C. H. Pelt, Supt. Sapp and Supt. Baxter. They gave many interesting points which fill around sitting the convention on a basic program. The next convention will convene at Damascus F. W. B. Church the 5th Sunday in March.

Mr. L. L. Hill, President

Miss Helen Speight, Secretary

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Finance	Marvin Chapel Church
Obituaries	Salem Church
Temperance	Green Head Church
Stewardship	Hickory Grove Church
Auxiliary	Malone
Resolution	Christian Home Church
Nomination	Holly Grove Church

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Associational Expense	\$140.00
Cooperative Program	211.51
Children's Home	9.00
Foreign Missions	2.00
Home Missions	2.00
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	\$364.51

Hickory Grove F. W. B. Church, Committee

TREASURY REPORT — OCT. 3, 1958

Balance in Treasury October 4, 1957	\$474.67
Received from Committee October 5, 1957	554.28
Received First Quarter	260.21
Received Second Quarter	363.55
Received Third Quarter	368.68
Received from W. L. Eldridge	25.00
Received from Sunday School Convention	5.00
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TOTAL FOR YEAR	\$2,051.39

EXPENSE FOR YEAR

Paid State Treasury	\$1,575.83
Houston Printing Co. (for minutes)	234.00
Moderator	25.00
Clerk	25.00
Postage	7.50

TOTAL SPENT FOR YEAR	\$1,867.33
Balance in Treasury October 3, 1958	\$184.06

C. L. COOK, Treas.

COMMITTEE ON LEAGUE

Again the year comes to a close and we try to evaluate our achievements in the Lord's work. We are greatly concerned over our young people. We realize that our League Program has somewhat lagged behind. Our youngsters get important training in this phase of Christian work. We pray that no church will neglect it. If you have a League in your church, work hard and pray hard to have the young people there on Sunday night. If you do not have a League may we urge you to organize one. Even though your young people may be few, they need you and the training that a League program will give them. Let us set for one our goals for the next year, "Every Church a League."

Respectfully submitted,
Christian Home F. W. B. Church

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOL

To the Salem Free Will Baptist Association. We your Committee on Sabbath School make the following report:

We find that there are very few churches that do not have Sunday School. We find that most churches that do not have Sunday School are just on quarter time or half time and we pray that they will see the need of having Sunday School every Sunday. We all know that Sunday School strengthens our churches. We hope by next association every church will have a good, strong Sunday School and the only way we can is by trying, each one putting forth an effort.

Holley Grove Church

THE SALEM DIST. CONVENTION REPORT

The Salem District Convention met with Marvin Chapel Free Will Baptist Church September 27, 1958 with five auxiliaries representing. The body was called to order by the auxiliary president Mrs. Ruby Pelt. After congregation singing Mrs. Owen of Malone Church led the devotion which was very inspiring. Welcome address given by the host church. Response by Christian Home church. At this time the following committees were appointed.

1. Finance Committee—Eron Bailey, Mrs. Sellers, Mrs. Mildred Pelt.
2. Plan of Work—Mrs. Audrey Eiland, Mrs. Lona Glissan and Mrs. Owen.

3. Nomination Committee—Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Suggs and Mrs. Day.

After Mrs. Mildred Pelt gave a very interesting report on the National Convention Bro. Owen brought the 11:00 o'clock message.

The body met back at 1:15 o'clock for the afternoon session. After song and prayer the committees reported.

President, Mrs. Ruby Pelt; Vice President; Recording Sec. and Treas., Mrs. Eron Bailey; Ass. Sec. and Treas., Mrs. Audrey Eiland Study Course Chr., Mrs. Mildred Pelt; Youth Chr., Mrs. Florence Cook; Personal Service Chr., Mrs. Clyde Owen; Stewardship Chr., Mrs. Donnie Bush.

Our 1959 District Auxiliary will convene with Malone church, Malone, Fla. on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mrs. B. M. Bailey, Sec. & Treas.

We nominate as delegates to the State Convention Mr. and Mrs. Annual Association and Damascus Church the second day. We nominate that Rev. Bill George preach the introductory message. The quarterly meetings will be held with the following churches: First Session, Green Head, message by Rev. Chester Pelt. Second Session with Holly Grove, message by Rev. Clyde Owen. Third Session with Travelers Rest, message by Rev. Walter Eldridge. We nominate as delegates to the State Convention Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Shivers, Mrs. Ruby Pelt, Mrs. Mildred Pelt, Mrs. Audrey Eiland, Mrs. W. S. Driggers, Mrs. Mae Johnson.

Lovewood Church

REPORT ON THE STATE OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS

After having the letters read from the churches of our association. We can see that there is an improvement in our churches in supporting the work of the Lord. Our churches seem to be more in one accord than in the past, which we are thankful. Unity brings power. With as much information as we could get, a majority of our pastors are in good standing. We recommend that churches in calling their pastors review section eight (8) on our by-laws of our minutes and act accordingly.

Submitted by Malone Church

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

We the Committee on Education make the following suggestions. That in as much as it takes education to qualify for teaching we urge that each member make every effort possible to educate their children that they might be able to understand and explain any subject they might undertake. In this way we feel like they will be much better prepared to teach and do better work in our churches and Sunday schools.

Your respectfully,
Damascus Free Will Baptist Church

COMMITTEE ON DEVINE SERVICE

We the Committee to select a speaker for the morning worship hour do hereby recommend Rev. Clyde Ownes.

Hugh Peacock
John W. Hill
W. W. Eiland

REPORT ON SUPERANUATION COMMITTEE

We report that there are no retired ministers in this association at the present time. We further recommend that the Salem Association discontinue the Committee on Superanuation since all matters of superanuation are now handled on a state and national level. We respectfully submitted.

Abes Spring Church

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We your committee on Temperance make the following report. We find that we need to be more Temperance in many ways. We as Christians need to take a stand whole hearted against any sale of alcohol beverages.

Travelers Rest Church & Pastor

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

We your committee on Women's Auxiliary submit the following:
Women Auxiliary is to the church as the wife is to the husband. Therefore to better operate in the work of the Lord we urge every

church in the association to organize a Woman Auxiliary to aid in the spread of the gospel, care for the sick, help the needy and assist in the maintenance of the spiritual and financial cause for local church.

Respectfully submitted,
Cottdale Church

SALEM CHURCH OBITUARY

Bro. Hosea B. Barnes born June 10, 1888 was called from our midst June 13, 1958. He was a faithful member of Salem Free Will Baptist Church, Cottdale, Fla. He is sadly missed by his many friends, relatives and church. Our loss is Heaven's gain.

Humbly submitted,
Salem Church
Mrs. Nellie Morris, Church clerk

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES

We your Committee on Obituaries submit to your honorable body the following report.

Midway Free Will Baptist Church, Sister Hattie (Thomas) Coley.

Christian Home F. W. B. Church	One
Abe Spring F. W. B. Church	Three
Salem F. W. B. Church	One
Piney Grove F. W. B. Church	One
Hickory Grove F. W. B. Church	Two
New Hope F. W. B. Church	None
Rocky Grove F. W. B. Church	None
Green Head F. W. B. Church	One
Blountstown F. W. B. Church	None
Holly Grove F. W. B. Church	None
Cedar Grove F. W. B. Church	One
Oak Grove F. W. B. Church	None

Cypress Creek
 Travelers Rest F. W. B. Church One
 Love Wood F. W. B. Church One
 Damascus F. W. B. Church None
 Malone (First F. W. B. Church)
 Marvin Chapel F. W. B. Church One
 Cottondale F. W. B. Church

They are gone but not forgotten. No one can fill their places.
 God calls and we must answer.

Humbly Submitted,
 Midway Church

MARVIN CHAPEL OBITUARY

On April 12, 1958, the Lord saw fit to call from our midst Sister Lucy Taylor known to her friends as Miss Lucy. She was a member of Marvin Chapel Church for many years and served faithful until her death. She will be missed by a host of relatives and friends but we know that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Respectfully submitted,
 Mrs. Audrey Eiland
 Marvin Chapel Church Clerk

MIDWAY CHURCH OBITUARY

God called from our midst Sister Hattie (Thomas) Coley, on September 10th, 1958. She had been a member of Midway Freewill Baptist Church for many years, but had been inactive for several years on account of ill health. She was 78 years old, date of birth unknown. She leaves her husband and three children and several grand children to mourn her passing besides a host of friends and relatives. She is gone but not forgotten.

Humbly Submitted,
 Midway Church
 Shonie L. Cook (Church Clerk)

GREEN HEAD CHURCH OBITUARY

Bro. L. H. Flackler born September, 1874 was called from our midst January 11, 1958. He was a faithful worker in our church and has been missed among us. We trust our loss is heaven's gain.

Humbly Submitted,
Douglas Finch, Church Clerk

OBITUARY FROM TRAVELERS REST CHURCH

Inasmuch as it has pleased the Almighty God to call from our midst our beloved sister, Ora Lee Cook(wife of the Reverend I. O. Cook, we humbly submit her obituary. She was born in Cook County, Georgia, October 6, 1904, and was called home January 15, 1958, making her stay on earth 53 years, 3 months, and 9 days. She was a loyal and faithful supporter of the church for thirty years. Her passing saddened our hearts greatly, but we bow in humble submission to His will Who doeth all things well, and we know that our loss is Heaven's gain. We hereby express our heartfelt sympathy to the family and loved ones during their great sorrow.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mrs. Verlie Suggs, Church Clerk

CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH OBITUARY

As we come to the close of another associational year we wish to recognize our dead. God saw fit to call from our midst Bro. Rob Parrish. He is sadly missed by friends and relatives.

Humbly Submitted,
Christian Home Church
Falfa Clark, Church Clerk

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SALEM ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

ARTICLE I NAME AND COMPOSITION. This Association shall be known as the SALEM FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF WEST FLORIDA, and shall be composed of the following churches: Abes Springs, Cedar Grove, Christian Home, Cottdale, Cypress Creek, Damascus, First Church of Blountstown, First Church of Malone, Green Head, Hickory Grove, Holly Grove,

Lovewood, Marvin Chapel, Midway, New Hope, Oak Grove, Pine Grove, Rocky Grove, Salem, Traveler's Rest and any other duly organized Free Will Baptist Church that may wish to unite with this Association.

ARTICLE II. REPRESENTATION. The sessions of this Association shall consist of delegates from the Churches of which it is composed, each Church being entitled to one (1) delegate for every twenty-five (25) members or fraction thereof.

All ordained ministers and deacons who are members and in good standing with the Association and the Churches to which they belong, shall be standing delegates. Ministers from sister Associations who are serving Churches in this Association shall have full delegative powers so long as they are in good standing with this body.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Vice-Moderator and Clerk-Treasurer, who shall be elected every two (2) years.

The Standing Committees of this Association shall be: Executive, Finance, Obituary, Temperance, Stewardship, Auxiliaries, Resolutions and Nominations who shall make annual reports to the Association. Other committees shall be appointed as the need may arise.

The Executive Committee shall be composed of three (3) members elected for two (2) year terms and the Moderator of this Clerk of the Association shall act as standing members of this Committee.

The Ordaining Council shall consist of three (3) members to be elected for two (2) year terms.

All elections shall take place on the odd years, except elections to fill vacancies.

ARTICLE IV. SESSIONS AND FINANCE. The sessions of this Association shall be held quarterly. These sessions will convene on Saturday afternoon and night before the first Sunday in each quarter with the exception of the fourth (4th) quarter. The fourth session in each year will meet on Friday and Saturday before the first (1st) Sunday in October. This particular session shall be known as the annual meeting of the Association, and all annual letters, reports and matters affecting the year's work shall be received in this session.

The general expense of the Association shall be provided by each Church according to the number of its delegates.

Each Church is urged to send at least ten percent (10%) of its income to the Treasurer of the Association quarterly for the Florida State Cooperative Program.

The Moderator and Clerk shall each receive twenty-five (\$25) dollars annually for their services.

ARTICLE V. DISCIPLINE. This Association shall have the power to discipline the Churches of which it is composed and to exclude them for disorderly conduct and for doctrine, or practices, which are contrary to accepted FREE WILL BAPTIST belief and custom.

ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS. This Constitution may be altered or ammended by a majority vote of the Association at any regular annual session, provided the suggested ammendment is received by the Clerk in writing one day before the vote is taken.

BY-LAWS

1. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preserve order and submit all actions to the body. He shall have the same right of speech as any other member, but he must appoint someone else as Chairman while he speaks. He shall not have the right to vote except in the case of a tie.

2. The Vice-Moderator shall assume the duties, rights and privileges of the Moderator in his absence.

3. The delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk before they are seated in the body.

4. All business shall be brought before the body by a move and second and shall be disposed of according to Parlimentary usage. No person shall be allowed to speak more than three (3) times on the same subject, and not more than ten (10) minutes each time without special permission from the Moderator.

5. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and he must rise to his feet and be recognized by the Moderator. No person is to be disturbed while speaking so long as he keeps to the point in debate except by the Moderator, and then only to call him to order, unless he is willing to yield the floor to some one else temporarily.

6. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to act officially for the Association while it is not in session.

7. It shall be the duty of the Ordaining Council to ordain all candidates for the ministry in the Association. Applications for all ordination must be made to and approved by the Association. Said applications must come from the Church to which the persons involved belong.

8. No minister or deacon shall be considered in good standing with this body who drinks intoxicating beverages or fails to pay, or make proper satisfaction, of his just and honest debts and no minister shall preach in our Churches who cannot bring a clear record from his home Church.

9. Any minister who voluntarily gives up his calling shall immediately turn his credentials over to the Ordaining Council of the Association.

10. No Church shall be recognized in this body who does not commune and wash feet at least once annually. The pastor's salary, number of conferences and the number of communion services shall be contained in the Associational letter.

11. No Church shall be considered in order in this body that holds fellowship with a minister or deacon who does not conform with number eight (8) of these by-laws.

12. It shall be the duty of each minister who belongs to, or serves, Churches in this Association to attend all of its sessions. A roll call of the ministers shall be made in all sessions, and the minutes shall carry a list of those present and of those absent. If any minister is absent for two consecutive sessions, his Church, or Churches, shall be notified of said absences, in writing, by the Clerk of the Association.

13. No person shall be ordained as a minister or deacon who has more than one living wife until the National Association of Free Will Baptist makes a decision of this matter. Thereafter this body shall be governed on this question by the decision of the National Association.

14. All ministers must serve Churches as licentiates for a period of two (2) years, or do equivalent Church work under the supervision of a duly ordained pastor of the Association appointed by the Ordaining Council, before they are eligible for ordination.

15. Since a call to the ministry and preparation for the same are inseparable, one who is not willing to prepare himself shall not be ordained.

TREATISE

Revision of the Treatise and the Faith and Practices of the Free Will Baptists.

CHAPTER I

The Holy Scriptures

These are the Old and the New Testaments; they were written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed Word to man. They are a sufficient and infallible rule and guide to Salvation and all Christian worship and service.

CHAPTER II

Being and Attributes of God

The Scriptures teach that there is only one true and living God,¹ who is Spirit,² self-existent,¹ eternal,² immutable,³ omnipresent,⁴ omniscient,⁵ omnipotent,⁶ independent,⁷ good,⁸ wise,⁹ holy,¹⁰ just,¹¹ and merciful,¹² the

¹ Deut. 6:4, The Lord our God is one Lord. 1 Cor. 8:4, There is none other God but one. Jer. 10:10, But the Lord is the true God, he is the living God. John 7:28; 2 Cor. 1:18; 1 John 5:20; 1 Tim. 6:17.

² John 4:24, God is a Spirit. 2 Cor. 3:17.

³ able,³ omnipresent,⁴ omniscient,⁵ omnipotent,⁶ independent,⁷ good,⁸ wise,⁹ holy,¹⁰ just,¹¹ and merciful,¹² the

¹ Exod. 3:14, And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM. Psa. 83:18; John 5:26; Rev. 1:4.

² Psa. 90:2; From everlasting to everlasting thou art God. Deut. 33:27; Isa. 57:15; Rom. 1:20; 1 Tim 1:17.

³ Mal. 3:6, For I am the Lord, I change not. Num. 23:19; James 1:17.

⁴ 1 Kings 8:27; But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee. Jer. 23:24; Psa. 139:7-10; Isa. 57:15; Acts 17:24.

⁵ Acts 15:18, Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world. 1 Chron. 28:9; Psa. 94:9, 10; Acts 1:24.

⁶ Rev. 19:6, The Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Job. 42:2; Psa. 135:6; Matt. 19:26; Mark 14:36; Luke 18:27.

⁷ Eph. 4:6, One God and Father of all, who is above all. Job 9:12; Isa. 14:13, 14; Dan. 4: 35; Rom. 11:33-36.

⁸ Psa. 119:68, Thou art good, and doest good. Psa. 25:8; 106:1; 145:9; Matt. 19:17.

⁹ Rom. 16:27, To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Dan. 2:20; 1 Tim. 1:17; Jude 25.

¹⁰ Lev. 19:2, I the Lord your God am holy. Job. 6:10.

¹¹ Deut. 32:4, Just and right is he. Psa. 92:15; 119:137; Zeph. 3:5.

¹² Eph. 2:4, God, who is rich in mercy. Exo. 34:6; Neh. 9:17; Psa. 100:5.

Creator,¹ Preserver,² and Governor³ of the universe; the Redeemer,⁴ Savior,⁵ Sanctifier,⁶ and Judge⁷ of men; and the only proper object of worship.⁸

The mode of His existence, however, is a subject far above the understanding of man⁹—finite beings cannot comprehend Him.¹⁰ There is nothing in the universe that can justly represent Him, for there is none like him.¹¹ He is the fountain of all perfection and happiness. He is glorified by the whole inanimate creation, and is worthy to be loved and served by all intelligence.¹

¹ Gen. 1:1, In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Exo. 20:11. Psa. 33:6-9; Col. 1:16. Heb. 11:3.

² Neh. 9:6, Thou preservest them all. Job 7:20; Col. 1:17. Heb. 1:3.

³ Psa. 47:7, God is the King of all the earth 2 Chron. 20:6; Psa. 95:3.

⁴ Isa. 47:4, As for our Redeemer, the Lord of hosts is his name. Psa. 78:35; Prov. 23:11; Isa. 41:14; 59:20 Jer. 50:34.

⁵ Isa. 45:21, A just God and a Savior. Isa. 43:3-11; 49:26.

⁶ Exo. 31:13, I am the Lord that doth sanctify you. 1 Thess. 5:23; Jude 1.

⁷ Heb. 12:23, God the Judge of all. Gen. 18:25; Psa. 50:6; 2 Tim. 4:8.

⁸ Exo. 34:14, Thou shalt worship no other god. Exo. 20:4, 5; Matt. 4:10; Rev. 19:10.

⁹ Job 11:7, Canst thou by searching find out God? Isa. 40:28.

¹⁰ Rom. 11:33, How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! Job 26:14.

¹¹ Exo. 9:14, There is none other like me in all the earth. Exo. 8:10; 1 Chron. 17:20.

CHAPTER III.

Divine Government and Providence

1. God exercises a providential care and superintendence over all his creatures,² and governs the world in wisdom and mercy, according to the testimony of His Word.³

2. God has endowed man with power of free choice, and governs him by moral laws and motives; and this power of free choice is the exact measure of his responsibility.¹

¹ Psa. 19:1, 2, The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. Psa. 145:10, All thy works shall praise thee. Psa. 150:6, Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

² Acts 17:28, In Him we live, and move, and have our being. Matt. 10:30, The very hairs of your head are all numbered. Psa. 104:13, 14; Job. 14:5; Eph. 1:11.

³ Psa. 22:28, For the kingdom is the Lord's; and he is the Governor among the nations. Psa. 97:2, Righteousness and judgment are the habitation of His throne. Isa. 33:22; Exo. 34:6; Job 36:5.

3. All events are present with God from everlasting to everlasting; but His knowledge of them does not in any sense cause them, nor does He decree all events which He knows will occur.²

CHAPTER IV

Creation, Primitive State of Man, and His Fall

Section I.—Creation

1. **Of the World.** God created the world, and all things that it contains, for His own pleasure and glory and the enjoyment of His creatures.³

¹ Deut. 30:19, I have set before thee life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live. Isa. 1:18-20; John 5:40; Rom. 2:14, 15; Prov. 1:24-28.

² Ezek. 33:11, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Acts 15:18; 1 Sam. 2:30; Ezek. 18:20-25, 31; Jer. 44:4.

³ Rev. 4:11, Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. Isa. 43:7; 1 Tim. 6:17, The living God, who giveth us richly of all things to enjoy.

2. **Of the Angels.** The angels were created by God¹ to glorify Him² and obey His commandments.³ Those who have kept their first estate He employs in ministering blessings to the heirs of salvation⁴ and in executing His judgments upon the world.⁵

3. **Of Man.** God created man, consisting of a material body and a thinking, rational soul.⁶ He was made in the image of God, to glorify his Maker.⁷

¹ Col. 1:16, For by him were all things created that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible.

² Rev. 7:11, And all the angels stood round about . . . and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God.

³ Psa. 103:20, Bless the Lord, ye his angels, . . . that do his commandments.

⁴ Heb. 1:14, Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation? Jude 6.

⁵ 2 Sam. 24:16, The angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it. Rev. 16:1.

⁶ Gen. 2:7, And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

⁷ Gen. 1:27, So God created man in his own image; in the image of God created he him. 1 Cor. 6: 20.

Section II.—Primitive Man, and His Fall

Our first parents, in their original state of probation, were upright. They naturally preferred and desired to obey their Creator, and had no preference or desire to transgress His will¹ until they were influenced and inclined by the tempter to disobey God's commands. Previously to this, the only tendency of their nature was to do righteousness. In consequence of the first transgression, the state under which the posterity of Adam came into the world is so different from that of Adam that they have not that righteousness and purity which Adam had before the fall; they are not willing to obey God, but are inclined to evil.² Hence none, by virtue of any natural goodness and mere work of their own, can become the children of God;³ but they are all dependent for salvation

¹ Eccl. 7:29, God hath made man upright. Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10.

² Psa. 51:5, Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Rom. 8:7, The carnal mind is enmity against God. Eph. 2:3, And were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. Psa. 58:3; Gen. 8:21; John 3:6; Gal. 5:19-21; Rom. 5:12.

³ John 6:44, No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him. 1 Cor. 2:14, The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them.

upon the redemption effected through the blood of Christ, and upon being created anew unto obedience through the operation of the Spirit;¹ both of which are freely provided for every descendant of Adam.²

CHAPTER V

Of Christ

Section I.

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, possesses all divine perfections. As He and the Father are one, He in His divine nature, filled all the offices and performed the works of God to His creatures that have been the subjects of revelations to us. As man, He performed all the duties toward God that we are required to perform, repentance of sin excepted.

His divinity is proved from His titles, His attributes, and His works.

¹ John 3:3, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. John 3:5; 1:13; Heb. 12:14, And holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. Col. 1:14; Titus 3:5.

² See Atonement (Chapter VII)

1. **His Titles.** The Bible ascribes to Christ the titles of Savior,¹ Jehovah,² Lord of hosts,³ the first and the last,⁴ God,⁵ true God,⁶ great God,⁷ God over all,⁸ mighty

² Isa. 45:21, There is no God else beside me; a just God and a Savior; there is none beside me. Isa. 43:10, 11, Beside me there is no Savior. John 4:42, This is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world. Phil. 3:20; 2 Tim. 1:10; Titus 2:13.

² Psa. 83:18, Whose name alone is JEHOVAH. Isa. 40:3, The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord (Jehovah). Luke 1:76.

³ Isa. 8:13, 14, Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary: but for a stone of stumbling, and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel. 1 Peter 2:4-6; Isa. 6:5; John 12:41.

⁴ Rev. 22:13, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Isa. 44:6; Rev. 1:1, 11.

⁵ 1 Tim. 3:16, God was manifest in the flesh. 1 John 3:16; John 1:1; Heb. 1:8; John 20:28, 29.

⁶ 1 John 5:20, We are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

⁷ Titus 2:13, Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Savior Jesus Christ.

⁸ Rom. 9:5, Of whom, as concerning the flesh, Christ came: who is over all, God blessed forever.

God, and the everlasting Father.⁹

2. His Attributes. He is eternal,² unchangeable,³ omnipresent,⁴ omniscient,⁵ omnipotent,⁶ holy,⁷ and is entitled to divine worship.⁸

¹ Isa. 9:6, For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

² Col. 1:17, And he is before all things. Micah 5:2; Heb. 1:8.

³ Heb. 13:8, Jesus Christ, the name yesterday, and today, and forever. Heb. 1:12.

⁴ John 3:13, No man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. Matt. 18:20; 28:20; Eph. 1:23.

⁵ John 16:30, Thou knowest all things. John 2:24, 25; 21:17; Rev. 2:23.

⁶ Col. 2:8-10, Christ . . . is the head of all principality and power. Matt. 28:18; Heb. 1:8; Rev. 1:8.

⁷ Acts 3:14, But ye denied the Holy One. Luke 1:35; Heb. 7:26; Rev. 3:7.

⁸ Heb. 1:6, Let all the angels of God worship him. John 5:23, That all men should honor the Son even as they honor the Father. Phil. 2:10, 11; Matt. 28:9; Luke 24:52.

3. His Works. By Christ the world was created,¹ He preserves² and governs³ it; He has provided redemption for all men⁴ and He will be their final Judge.⁵

Section II—The Incarnation of Christ

The Word, which in the beginning was with God and which was God, by whom all things were made, condescended to a state of humiliation in being united with human nature and becoming like us, pollution and sin excepted.⁶ In this state, as a subject of the law, He was

¹ Heb. 1:8, 10, Unto the Son he saith . . . Thou, Lord in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands. John 1:3, 10, All things were made by him. The world was made by him. Col. 1:16.

² Heb. 1:3, Upholding all things by the word of his power. Col. 1:17.

³ Isa. 9:6, The government shall be upon his shoulder. 1 Peter 3:22; Eph. 1:21.

* Eph. 1:7, In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins. Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; Isa. 44:6. 1 Peter 1:18, 19; Rev. 5:9.

* 2 Tim. 4:1, The Lord Jesus Christ who shall judge the quick and the dead. Matt. 25:31-46; John 5:22.

* John 1:14, And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us. Phil. 2:6, 7, Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God; but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. 2 Cor. 8:9; Heb. 4:15.

liable to the infirmities of our nature;¹ was tempted as we are,² but lived our example,³ and rendered perfect obedience to the divine requirements.⁴ As Christ was made of the seed of David according to the flesh, He is called "the Son of man";⁵ and as the divine existence is the fountain from which He proceeded, and was the only agency by which He was begotten⁶ He is called "the Son of God",⁷ being the only begotten of the Father,⁸ and the only incarnation of the Divine Being.

¹ Heb. 2:17, Wherefore, in all things, it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren. Matt. 8:17; 4:2; 8:24; John 11:33, 35; 19:28; Isa. 53:3. Luke 22:44.

² Heb. 4:15, Was in all points tempted like as we are. Matt. 4:1-11.

³ 1 Peter 2:21, Leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps. John 13:15; 1 John 2:6.

⁴ Isa. 42:21, He will magnify the law, and make it honorable. Matt. 5:17; 3:15; Gal. 4:4.

⁵ Luke 19:10, For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

⁶ John 16:27, I came out from God. Matt. 1:18, 20.

⁷ Luke 1:35, That holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. Mark 1:1; John 1:34; 20:31.

⁸ John 3:16, God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son. John 1:18.

CHAPTER VI

The Holy Spirit

1. The Scriptures ascribe to the Holy Spirit the acts and attributes of an intelligent being. He is said to guide,¹ to know,² to move,³ to give information,⁴ to command,⁵ to forbid,⁶ to send forth,⁷ to reprove,⁸ and be sinned against.⁹

¹ John 16:13, Howbeit, when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth.

² 1 Cor. 2:11, Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

³ Gen. 1:2, And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. Acts 8:39.

⁴ Acts 10:19, While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. 1Cor. 2:13; Acts 21:11; John 14:26.

⁵ Acts 13:2, The Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

⁶ Acts 16:6, And were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia.

⁷ Acts 13:4, So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed into Seleucia.

⁸ John 16:8, and when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. Gen. 6:3.

⁹ Mark 3:29, But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness. Isa. 63:10; Acts 7:51; Eph. 4:30.

2. The attributes of God are ascribed to the Holy Spirit; such as eternity,¹ omnipresence,² omniscience,³ goodness,⁴ truth.⁵

3. The works of God are ascribed to the Holy Spirit; creation,⁶ inspiration,⁷ giving of life,⁸ and sanctification.⁹

¹ Heb. 9:14, Who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God.

² Psa. 139:7, Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

³ 1 Cor. 2:10, The Spirit searcheth all things yea, the deep things of God.

⁴ Neh. 9:20, Thou gavest also thy good Spirit to instruct them. Psa. 143:10.

⁵ John 14:17, Even the Spirit of truth.

⁶ Job 33:4, The Spirit of God hath made me. Job 26:13; Psa. 104:30.

⁷ 2 Peter 1:21, Prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

⁸ 1 Peter 3:18, Quickened by the Spirit. Rom. 8:11.

⁹ 1 Cor. 6:11, But ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

4. The same acts which in one part of the Bible are attributed to the Holy Spirit are in other parts said to be performed by God.¹

5. The apostles assert that the Holy Spirit is Lord and God.²

From the foregoing the conclusion is that the Holy Spirit is in reality God, and one with the Father in all divine perfections. It has also been shown that Jesus Christ is God—one with the Father. Then these three, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are one God.

The truth of this doctrine is also proven from the fact that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are united in the authority by which believers are baptized and in the benedictions pronounced by the apostles,³ which are acts of the highest religious worship.

¹ Isa. 6:8, 9, I heard the voice of the Lord. And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye, indeed, but understand not. Acts 28:25, 26, Well spake the Holy Ghost . . . Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand. Compare John 3:16 with Matt. 1:18.

² 2 Cor. 3:17, Now the Lord is that Spirit. Acts 5:3, 4, Why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost? . . . Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

³ Matt. 28:19, Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. 2 Cor. 13:14, The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. 1 Peter 1:2.

CHAPTER VII

The Atonement and Mediation of Christ

1. **The Atonement.** As sin cannot be pardoned without a sacrifice, and the blood of beasts could never wash away sin, Christ gave Himself a sacrifice for the sins of the world,¹ and thus made salvation possible for all men.² He died for us, suffering in our stead, to make known the righteousness of God, that He might be just in justifying sinners who believe in His Son.³ Though the redemption effected by Christ, salvation is actually enjoyed in this world, and will be enjoyed in the next by all who do not in this life refuse obedience to the known re-

¹ John 2:2, And he is the propitiation of our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. Isa. 53:5; 10:11; Rom. 4:25; Matt. 20:28; 1 Peter 3:18; John 1:29; Heb. 9:26; Rom. 5:6, 8.

² Titus 2:11, For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Heb. 2:9, That he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. 1 Tim. 2:6; Isa. 45:22; 2 Peter 3:9; 2 Cor. 5:14, 15; 1 Tim. 4:10.

³ Rom. 3:25, 26, Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation, through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness; that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Rom. 5:9, 18; Matt. 26:28; Eph. 1:7; Rev. 5:9; 1 Peter 2:24.

quirements of God.¹ The atonement of sin was necessary,² For present and future obedience can no more blot out our past sins than past obedience can remove the guilt of present and future sins. Had God pardoned the sins of men without satisfaction for the violation of His law, it would follow that transgression might go on with impunity; government would be abrogated, and the obligation of obedience to God would be, in effect, removed.

2. Mediation of Christ. Our Lord not only died for our sins, but He arose for our justification,³ and ascended up to heaven,⁴ where, as Mediator between God and man, He will make intercession for men until the final Judgment.⁵

¹ Rom. 5:18, Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. Rom. 8:1, There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Mark 16:15; Rom. 2:14, 15.

² Heb. 9:22, Without shedding of blood is no remission. Eph. 1:7, In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins.

³ Rom. 4:25, Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification. 1 Cor. 15:17.

⁴ Acts 1:11, This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven. Mark 16:19.

⁵ Heb. 7:25, He ever liveth to make intercession for them. Rom. 8:34; Heb. 9:24.

CHAPTER VIII

The Gospel Call

The call of the Gospel is co-extensive with the atonement to all men,¹ both by the word and strivings of the Spirit;² so that salvation is rendered equally possible to all;³ and, if any fail of eternal life, the fault is wholly his own.⁴

¹ Mark 16:15, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Isa. 45:22, Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth. Prov. 8:4; Isa. 55:1; Rev. 22:17.

² Joel 2:28, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh. John 16:8; John 1:9; Isa. 55:11; Luke 2:10.

³ 1 Tim. 2:4, Who will have all men to be saved, and come unto the knowledge of the truth. Acts 10:34, God is no respecter of persons. Ezek. 33:11; 2 Peter 3:9.

⁴ Hosea 13:9, O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself. Prov. 1:24-31; Isa. 65:12; Jer. 7:13, 14; Zech. 7:11-13; John 5:40, And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. Matt. 23:37.

CHAPTER IX

Repentance

The repentance which the Gospel requires includes a deep conviction, a penitential sorrow, an open confession, a decided hatred and an entire forsaking of all sin.¹ This repentance God has enjoined on all men; and without it in this life the sinner must perish eternally.²

CHAPTER X

Faith

Saving faith is an assent of the mind to the fundamental truths of revelation,² an acceptance of the Gospel,

¹ 2 Cor. 7:10, For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of. Psal. 51:17; Prov. 28:13, He that covereth his sins shall not prosper; but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them, shall have mercy. Psal. 32:3, 5; Ezek. 36:31, Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations. Psal. 51:3, 4; Ezek. 18:30, Repent, and turn yourself from all your transgressions so iniquity shall not be your ruin.

² Acts 17:30, But now commandeth all men everywhere to repent. Luke 13:5, but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Acts 3:19.

³ Heb. 11:6, He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Heb. 11:1, Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. John 5:46, 47; Rom. 10:9.

through the influence of the Holy Spirit;¹ and a firm confidence and trust in Christ.² The fruit of faith is obedience to the Gospel.³ The power to believe is the gift of God;⁴ but believing is an act of the creature, which is required as a condition of pardon, and without which the sinner cannot obtain salvation.⁵ All men are required to believe in Christ; and those who yield obedience to this requirement become the children of God by faith.⁶

¹ Rom. 10:10, With the heart man believeth unto righteousness. Gal. 5:22, But the fruit of the Spirit is . . . faith. 1 Cor 12:8, 9.

² Acts 16:31, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. John 3:16; Rom. 4:20-22; Eph. 3:12.

³ Jas. 2:17, Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Gal. 5:6; 1 Tim. 1:5.

⁴ Phil. 1:29, Unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ . . . to believe on him. 2 Peter 1:1; Eph. 2:8.

⁵ John 3:36, He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. Mark 16:16; John 8:21, 24; Heb. 11:6.

⁶ John 1:7, That all men through him might believe. Gal. 3:26, Ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. Acts 10:43; Rom. 5:1; John 3:15.

CHAPTER XI

Regeneration

As man is a fallen and sinful being, he must be regenerated, in order to obtain salvation.¹ This change is an instantaneous renewal of the heart by the Holy Spirit,² whereby the penitent sinner receives new life, becomes a child of God,³ and disposed to serve Him.⁴ This is called in Scripture being born again—born of the Spirit,⁵ being quickened,⁶ passing from death unto life,¹ and a partaking of the divine nature.²

¹ John 3:3, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Heb. 12:14; Rev. 21:27; Gal. 5:19-21.

² John 3:5, Except a man be born . . . of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. John 1:13; Ezek. 36:26, 27; Titus 3:5; Eph. 2:10.

³ Rom. 8:16, The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God. John 1:12; 5:25; James 1:18; 2 Cor. 5:17.

⁴ Ezek. 11:19, 20, And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit with in you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh: that they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them. 1 Peter 2:5.

⁵ John 3:6, That which is born of the Spirit is spirit. John 3:5-8; 1 John 4:7; 5:1.

⁶ Eph. 2:1, You hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins. Psa. 119:50, 93; Eph. 2:5; Col. 2:13.

CHAPTER XII

Justification and Sanctification

1. **Justification.** Personal justification implies that the person justified has been guilty before God; and, in consideration of the atonement of Christ, accepted by faith, the sinner is pardoned and absolved from the guilt of sin and restored to the divine favor.³ Through Christ's atonement is the foundation of the sinner's **redemption**, yet, without repentance and faith, it can never give him justification and peace with God.⁴

¹ John 5:24, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me . . . is passed from death unto life 1 John 3:14.

² 2 Peter 1:4, That by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature. Heb. 3:14.

³ Rom. 5:1, Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Rom. 5:16, The free gift is of many offences unto justification. Acts 13:39; Isa. 53:11.

⁴ Acts 3:19, Repent ye, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out. Heb. 4:2; 11:6; Rom. 9:31, 32; Acts 13:38, 39.

2. **Sanctification** is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It commences at regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.²

CHAPTER XIII

Perseverance of the Saints

There are strong grounds to hope that truly regenerate will persevere unto the end, and be saved, through the

¹ 1 Cor. 6:11, And such were some of you; but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. Rom. 12:1, Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God. 1 Thess. 4:3; John 17:17; Eph. 5:26; 1 Cor. 6:20.

² 1 Thess. 5:23, And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly: and I pray God that your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Cor. 7:1; 2 Peter 3:18, Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Heb. 6:1; 1 John 5:4; Col. 4:12; Prov. 4:18; 1 John 1:7, 9; 1 Peter 1:16; Gal. 2:20.

power of divine grace which is pledged for their support;¹ but their future obedience and final salvation are neither determined nor certain, since through infirmity and manifold temptations they are in danger of falling; and they ought therefore to watch and pray, lest they make shipwreck of their faith and be lost.²

¹ Rom. 8:38, 39, For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. 1 Cor. 10:13, God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able: but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. 2 Cor. 12:9, My grace is sufficient for thee. Job. 17:9; Matt. 16:18; John 10:27, 28; Phil. 1:6.

² 2 Chron. 15:2, The Lord is with you, while ye be with him . . . but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you. 2 Peter 1:10, Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if you do these things, ye shall never fall. Ezek. 33:18, When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die thereby. John 15:6. 1 Cor. 10:12; Heb. 6:4-6; 12:15. 1 Chron. 28:9; Rev. 2:4; 1 Tim. 1:19; 2 Peter 2:20, 21; 1 Cor. 9:27; Matt. 21:12.

CHAPTER XIV

The Sabbath

This is one day in seven, which from the creation of the world God has set apart for sacred rest and holy

service.¹ Under the former dispensation, the seventh day of the week, as commemorative of the work of creation, was set apart for the Sabbath.² Under the Gospel, the first day of the week, in commemoration of the resurrection of Christ, and by authority of the apostles, is observed as the Christian Sabbath.³ On this day all men are

¹ Gen. 2:3, God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it. Mark 2:27, The Sabbath was made for man. Neh. 9:14.

² Exo. 20:8-11, Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

³ Luke 24:1-7. Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre . . . He is not here, but is risen. Luke 24:33-36; John 20:19, 26; Acts 2:1; 20:7, And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them. 1 Cor. 16:2; Rev. 1:10; Psa. 118:22-24.

required to refrain from secular labor, and devote themselves to the worship and service of God.¹

CHAPTER XV

The Church

A Christian Church is an organized body of believers in Christ, who statedly assemble to worship God, and who sustain the ordinances of the Gospel according to the Scriptures.² Believers in Christ are admitted to this church on giving evidence of faith in Christ, obtaining consent of the body, being baptized, and receiving the right hand of fellowship.³

¹ Isa. 58:13, 14, If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord. Isa. 56:2; Exo. 20:8-11.

² 1 Cor. 1:2, Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints. Acts 2:41. 47; 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1, 2; Rev. 1:4.

³ Eph. 5:25, 27, Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it . . . that he might present it to himself a glorious church. Eph. 1:22, 23; 1 Cor. 12:27, 28; Col. 1:18, 24; 1 Peter 2:5; John 18:36; John 15:2, 6.

The Church of God, or members of the body of Christians throughout the whole world, and none but the regenerate are its members.¹

CHAPTER XVI

Tithing

Both the Old² and New Scriptures³ teach Tithing as God's financial plan for the support of His work.

¹ Acts 2:41, Then they that gladly received his word were baptized; and the same day were added unto them about three thousand souls. Acts 8:12; Gal. 3:27.

² Gen. 14:20, And he gave him tithes of all. Gen. 28:22, I will surely give the tenth unto Thee. Deut. 14:22, Thou shalt truly tithe. Malachi 3:8-10.

³ 1 Cor. 16:2, Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him. Matt. 23:23.

CHAPTER XVII

The Gospel Ministry

1. **Qualification of Ministers.** They must possess good natural and acquired abilities,¹ deep and ardent piety,² be especially called of God to the work,³ and ordained by the laying on of hands.⁴

2. **Duties of Ministers.** These are to preach the Word,⁵ administer the ordinances of the Gospel,⁶ visit their people

¹ 2 Tim. 2:15, Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 1 Tim. 4:13-16, Till I come give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Neglect not the gift that is in thee . . . Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Titus 1:9; 2:7, 8; 2 Tim. 1:7; 2:2. 1 Tim. 3:2-7.

² Psa. 50:16, But unto the wicked, God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth? 2 Tim. 1:8-11, 14; 2:22; 3:5; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Cor. 2:12-16.

³ Acts 20:28, Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock . . . over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers. Heb. 5:4; 1 Cor. 9:16; Acts 13:2.

⁴ 1 Tim. 4:14, With the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.
2 Tim. 1:6; Acts 13: 3.

⁵ Mark 16:15, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 2 Tim. 4:2; 2 Cor. 4:5; Ezek. 33:7.

⁶ Matt. 28:19, Teach all nations, baptizing them. Luke 22:19, 20, This do in remembrance of me. Acts 20:11; 27:35; 1 Cor. 11:23-28; 10:16.

and otherwise perform the work of faithful pastors.¹

CHAPTER XVIII

Ordinances of the Gospel

1. **Christian Baptism.** This is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,² in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ, the death of Christians to the

¹ Heb. 13:17, They watch for your souls as they that must give account. 1 Peter 5:2, Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof. Acts 20:28; Jer. 3:15.

² Matt. 28:19, Baptizing (Greek, immersing) them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Col. 2:12, Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him. Acts 8:36-39; Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:5; John 3:23; Acts 16:32-34; 2:41.

world, the washing of their souls from the pollution of sin, their rising to newness of life, their engagement to serve God, and their resurrection at the last day.¹

2. **The Lord's Supper.** This is a commemoration of the death of Christ for our sins, in the use of bread which He made the emblem of His broken body, and the cup, the emblem of His shed blood,² and by it the believer expresses his love for Christ, his faith and hope in Him, and pledges to Him perpetual fidelity.³

¹ Rom. 6:4, Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Col. 3:3; 2:12; Titus 3:5; Gal. 3:27; 1 Cor. 15:29.

² 1 Cor. 11:23-26, For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you. That the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the New Testament in my blood; this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as oft as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. Matt. 26:26-28.

³ 1 Cor. 10:16, The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the

communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? 1 Cor. 10:21; 11:27-29.

It is the privilege and duty of all who have spiritual union with Christ to commemorate His death; and no man has a right to forbid these tokens to the least of His disciples.¹

3. Washing the Saint's Feet.—This is a sacred ordinance, which teaches humility, and reminds the believer of the necessity of a daily cleansing from all sin. It was instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ, and called an "example" on the night of His betrayal, and in connection with the institution of the Lord's Supper. It is the duty and happy prerogative of every believer to observe this sacred ordinance.²

CHAPTER XIX

Death, and the Intermediate State

1. Death. As a result of sin, all mankind, are subject to the death of the body.³

¹ 1 Cor. 10:17, For we being many are one bread and one body; for we are all partakers of that one bread. Matt. 26:27, Drink ye all of it. Rom. 14:1, 10; 1 Cor. 12:12-27; Acts 2:42; 20:7.

² Cf. St. John 13:4-8, and 1 Tim. 5:1-10.

³ Rom. 5:12, As by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Heb. 9:27, It is appointed unto men once to die. 1 Cor. 15:22; Psa. 89:48; Eccl. 8:8.

2. The Intermediate State. The soul does not die with the body; but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the moral character here possessed.¹

CHAPTER XX

Second Coming of Christ

The Lord Jesus, who ascended on high, and sits at the right hand of God, will come again, to close the Gospel dispensation, glorify His saints, and judge the world.²

¹ Eccl. 12:7, Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it. Phil. 1:23, Having a desire to depart, and be with Christ, which is far better. Luke 23:43; Matt. 17:3; 22:32; Acts 7:59; Matt. 10:28; 2 Cor. 5:8; Luke 16:22-26; Rev. 6:9.

² Acts 1:11, This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Matt. 25:31; 1 Cor. 15:24-28; 1 Thess. 4:15-17; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; 2 Peter 3:3-13; Matt. 24:42-44.

CHAPTER XXI

The Resurrection

The Scriptures teach the resurrection of the bodies of all men at the last day, each in its own order; they that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil to the resurrection of damnation.¹

CHAPTER XXII

The General Judgment and Future Retribution

1. **The General Judgment.** There will be a general judgment, when time and man's probation will close forever.² Then all men will be judged according to their works.³

¹ John 5:28, 29, The hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation. Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:22, 23; 2 Tim. 2:18; Phil. 3:21; 1 Cor. 15:35-44; Dan. 12:2.

² Acts 17:31, Because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness. 1 Cor. 15:24; Rev. 10:6; 22:11; 2 Peter 3:11, 12; Eccl. 9:10.

³ 2 Cor. 5:10, For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. Eccl. 12:14, For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. Matt. 12:36; Rev. 20:12; Rom. 2:16.

2. **Future Retribution.** Immediately after the general judgment, the righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked will go into a state of endless punishment.¹

¹ Matt. 25:46, And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal. 2 Thess. 1:8-10, Taking vengeance on them that know not God, and they that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; when he shall come to be glorified in his saints. Rom. 6:23; 2 Peter 1:11; Mark 3:29; 9:43, 44; Jude 7; Rev. 14:11; 21:7, 8, 27; Matt. 13:41-43; Rom 2:6-10.

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND ADDRESSES	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES	Rec. By Baptism	Otherwise	Dis. By Letter	Dead	Total Membership	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelists	Value of Church Property	Cooperative	Meeting Days
Midway	J. E. Nichols, Rt. 1, Altha, Fla.	Mrs. Shanie Cook, Grandridge, Fla.	1	1		1	34	\$ 133.00	\$ 56.00	\$ 2000.00		2nd Sun.
Damascus	A. H. Ruthford, Rt. 2, Marianna, Fla.	J. W. Hill, Marianna, Fla.	2	1			105	241.00	72.00	5000.00		1st & 3rd Sun.
Hickory Grove	C. H. Pelt, Marianna, Fla.	J. W. D. Stephens, Bascom, Fla.	1		4	2	243	875.00	110.00	15000.00	\$ 179.00	1st & 3rd Sun.
Salem	C. B. Craddock, Dothan, Ala.	Mrs. Nellia Morris, Cottondale, Fla.	1			1	126	573.62	65.00	9250.00	58.68	2nd & 4th Sun.
Pine Grove	W. C. Windham, Marianna, Fla.					1	12	75.40	20.00	1000.00		
Cedar Grove		Mrs. Grace Rathel, Greenwood, Fla.	1		1	1	29	168.82		3000.00		1st Sun.
Cottondale	W. S. Driggers, Cottondale, Fla.	Mrs. Mary Addison, Cottondale, Fla.	2	3	1		59	1040.00	50.00	35000.00		F. T.
Abes Springs	W. C. Windham, Marianna, Fla.	C. A. Bozeman, Blountstown, Fla.	1	1		3	60	131.00	40.00	1000.00	5.48	1st & 3rd Sun.
New Hope	W. H. Horn, Donaldsonville, Ga.	Mildred Mears, Grandridge, Fla.	1				52	338.95	24.56	3400.00		1st & 3rd Sun.
Christian Home	D. F. Pelt, Marianna, Fla.	Mrs. Falfa Clark, Blountstown, Fla.	1	2	1	1	164	1200.00	160.00	32653.00	396.00	1st & 3rd Sun.
Marvin Chapel	C. B. Craddock, Dothan, Ala.	Mrs. Audrey Eiland, Marianna, Fla.	7	8	1	1	93	964.00	305.08	8000.00	180.00	1st & 3rd Sun.
Cypress Creek	J. E. Nichols, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.	F. E. Locke, Marianna, Fla.					56	134.75	40.00	2000.00		3rd Sun.
1st F.W.B., Mal.	Clyde Owens, Malone, Fla.	Mrs. Thelma Grondon, Malone, Fla.			1		54	687.92	65.69	5000.00	133.09	1st & 3rd Sun.
Travelers Rest	W. E. George, Bonifay, Fla.	Mrs. Verlie Suggs, Rt. 1, Altha, Fla.	4	4		1	71	895.00	80.00	9000.00	154.30	2nd & 4th Sun.
1st F.W.B. Blts.	T. E. Coxwell, Blountstown, Fla.	Mrs. Mable Phillips, Blountstown, Fla.					23	229.00		5000.00		2nd & 4th Sun.
Lovewood	Alvin Howell, Bonifay, Fla.	W. T. Justice, Cottondale, Fla.	3		2		58	493.49	50.00	8000.00	62.60	F. T.
Rocky Grove	W. H. Horn, Donaldsonville, Ga.	Mrs. Alice Robinson, Greenwood, Fla.					65	85.40	23.00	1000.00		4th Sun.
Green Head	J. E. Nichols, Rt. 2, Altha, Fla.	Duglas Finch, Chipley, Fla.				1	25	61.00	36.50	3000.00		1st Sun.
Holly Grove	W. C. Windham, Marianna, Fla.	Linda Ross, Marianna, Fla.	2				71	133.03	60.00	5000.00		2nd & 4th Sun.
Oak Grove		C. W. Cox, Sneads, Fla.			3	1	31	131.50		1000.00		4th Sun.
TOTAL			25	21	13	14	1417	\$7691.88	\$1257.83	\$154303.00	\$1169.15	