

Mrs. A. Keefe

MINUTES

—of the—

Twenty-first Annual Sessoin

—of the—

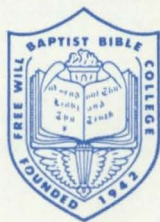
SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

of the Church of God, denominated, Free
Will Baptist, Held with the Plainview
Church, on Wednesday Night Before
The Fourth Sunday in August
1927

J. C. Byrne

OFFICERS

H. W. Finney, Moderator.....Idabel, Okla.
J. C. Byrne, Clerk.....Idabel, Okla.
Mrs. Cora Thompson, Ass't Clerk



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

the daughters of

Rev. G. W. Million

in his memory

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Called to order by Moderator.
3. Letters called for and adopted.
4. Right hand of fellowship.
5. Electing officers.
6. Reading Rules of Order.
7. Petitionary letters.
 Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
9. Appointment of committees.
10. New Business.
11. Report of Committees.
12. Miscellaneous Business.

MINUTES OF SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION

Proceedings of the twenty-first annual session of the Southern Oklahoma Association of the church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist) met with Plainview church on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1927.

Meeting was called to order by singing. Introductory sermon preached by Eld. Edwards—text Rev. 22 chapter.

THURSDAY MORNING

Song by the choir. Scripture read by Elder H. W. Finney—Rom. 6th.

After a comment by the Elder H. W. Finney the association was organized.

Elder H. W. Finney was elected moderator, J.O.Byrne, clerk; Mrs. Cora Thompson, assistant clerk. Rules of order were read by the Moderator.

A devotional committee was appointed by the Moderator:—J. M. McCormack, G. W. Thomas, Miss Eula Collie.

Central church of Cisco was the first church to represent with their letter, and delegates as follows: J. M. McCormack, Lorena McCormack and Mrs. Mary Smith.

Minute fund, \$3.00.

Present pastor, H. W. Finney.

Pastor Elect, H. W. Finney.

Elder C. A. Sledge is a member of this

church in good standing.

Members received this year, five.

Total membership, 95.

Number enrolled in Sunday school, 60.

Prayer meeting Thursday night.

A league team puts on a program every Sunday night.

A live working home mission circle.

Brother and Sister Byrne are members of this church and were ordained at the association.

Brother Jones and Brother Overturf, also were ordained deacons of this church at the association.

CLEODIS FINNEY, Clerk,

MARY SMITH, Treas.

✓ Plainview church represented by delegates as follows: Paul Thompson, Nevinaza Bryant, Eula Collie, Coralie Toppings and Osborn Platt.

Present pastor, H. W. Finney.

Pastor Elect, H. W. Finney.

Membership received, two; by statement two,

Total membership, 58.

For minutes, \$3.00.

Assocation purposes, \$1.00.

CORA THOMPSON,

Church, Clerk.

Balance of money brought forward from last year, 1926, to 1927, from the annual association was, \$19.00. The amount for this year was \$17.45 for minutes. Total amount, 36.45.

3 Forest Grove church represented by delegates as follows: G. W. Thomas, J. A. Davidson and Mrs. Thomas.

Minutes fund, \$2.00.

Present pastor, Eli Sheets.

Chnrch in good standing.
Very good Sunday school
Members received this year, nine.

C. C. LAWLESS,
Church Clerk.

4 Halls church was represented by delegates
as follows: J. P. Hargis, J. P. Lewis and J. R.
Burges.

Days of meeting second Sunday.
J. H. Coffman, pastor elect.
J. H. Coffman and I. N. Pate are members of
this church in good standing.
Total membership, 36.
Paid pastor, \$25.00.
Number in Sunday school, 75.
Meeting every week.
Send \$4.00 for minute fund.

J. H. COFFMAN, Mod.,
J. E. McCARY, Clerk.

5 Felker church. This is a new church organ-
ized and received into the association.

Delegates were seated.
\$4.25 for minute funds.
Elder C. A. Sledge, pastor for 1928.
Old Cobol church represented by statement.
Elder Eli Sheets, pastor for 1928.

The associational body voted and adopted
the word "delegate" to be used in representing
churches instead of the word "messenger."

The first fifth Sunday meeting to be held
at Cisco with the Central church, Oct. 31, 1927.

The third to be held with Forest Grove

LIST OF DELEGATES

1. LUVENA McCORMACK
2. CORALI TOPPINGS
3. NEOVAZA BRYANT
5. OSBORN PLATT
4. PAUL THOMPSON
6. L. C. JONES

7. MARY SMITH
9. JOHN McCORMACK
8. G. W. THOMAS
10. EULA COLLIE
11. BROTHER FINNEY
12. ELI SHEETS
13. J. P. LEWIS
14. J. A. DAVIDSON
15. SISTER THOMAS
16. BROTHER KELLUM
18. SISTER DAVIS
19. J. P. HARGIS
20. J. R. BURGESS
21. BROTHER OVERTURE

List of ministers and their addresses:

Elder H. W. Finney, Idabel, R. 1. Bx. 47

Elder J. A. Davidson, Sobol, Okla.

Elder Eli Sheets, Rufe, Okla.

Elder J. C. Byrne, Idabel R. 1. Bx. 101.

Elder Mrs. Mae Byrne, Idabel, R. 1 Bx. 101.

Elder J. H. Coffman, Antlers, Okla.

Elder I. N. Pate, Antlers, Okla.

Halls church is the place selected for the next annual session of the Southern Free Will Baptist association to begin Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1928.

Mrs. Mae Byrne was appointed secretary in Southern Association district.

RESOLUTIONS

We your committee on resolutions beg to report as follows:

1. Seeing the need of a greater number of unity in the church, be it resolved that the church in general throughout this associational district use their best efforts to bring about a greater Christian unity, and a better co-opera-

tion of the churches in this association.

2. Be it resolved that we, the members of the several churches, of this associational district will watch over each other in the spirit of true charity, helping to bear each others burdens.

3. Be it resolved that we adopt this great Sunday school work and organize at this association.

4. Be it resolved that we organize and adopt the home mision circle work in our asociation.

5. Be it resolved that we adopt the plan of paying the pastors of the churches more than has been paid to them. That each member should pay into the church treasurer \$2.00 each during the 12 months.

6. Be it resolved that we should pay \$1.00 per member each year for college funds and that we refuse to sanction all wordly amusements that tend to lesson true piety in ourselves, or others or weaken Christian influence, so that the religion of our Master be not reproached on our account.

W. H. Hunt, Eli Sheets, J. A. Davidson, J. H. Coffman.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We, your committee on temperance, beg leave to report as follows: We can not place too high an estimate on this subject. That it is indispensable to the well being in this life and the life which is to come. Intemperance is disloyal to the laws of nature, and morals as well. It is always harmful and many times destructive to both soul and body.

Therefore, we urge that abstinence is the only safeguard against its baneful influence, and that all true-hearted children of God should take part in assisting fallen men from its

blighting influence.

J. M. McCORMACK,
MAE BYRNE
NEOVNAZA BYRINE

FINANCE

....We, your committee on finance beg to report as follows:

From Central or Cisco church	\$3.00
Felker church	4.25
Plainview church	4.00
Halls Church	4.10
Forest Grove church	2.00

\$17.45

Ballance brought forward..... \$19.00

Total \$36.00

Auditors: Neomaza Bryant, Paul Thompson and Osborn Platt.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK

We your committee on Sunday school work, beg to report as follows: We know that the Sunday School is the stay of the church. That our great hope is in the rising generation through the Sunday Schools. We recommend that this association nominate and elect a superintendent, and secretary-treasure for this associational district, to co-operate with our state superintendent. We recommend Free Will Baptist literature to be used, and that the superintendent and teachers insist that the children stay for church and the superintendent sees that the teachers are Christians and of good character.

MARY SMITH
MAY BYRNE
NEOMAZA BRYANT

EDUCATION.

We, your committee on education, beg leave to report as follows: That we cannot place too high an estimate on the value of education. Not that it makes better christians for the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin, John 1:7. Although if properly used in humbleness of heart; guided by the comforting influence of the Holy Spirit and led by Jesus our captain. It is a great asset in the comprehension of the Book of Almighty God.

Therefore, we recommend that each member of this association strive to build up education in our ministry, by advocating Bible schools in our association and by contributing to the support of the same, also the Tecumseh college.

We recommend that we make an earnest effort to place our church paper in the home of every Free Will Baptist in this association and as many others as possible.

May the God of heaven help us to study his will concerning us. The Apostle Paul told Timothy to "study to show himself an approved workman." 1 Tim. 2:15. And if Timothy had to study to make a good workman out of himself, so do we.

LUVENA McCORMACK
B. F. OVERTURF
J. P. LEWIS

Mrs. Cora Thompson was appointed president of the home mission circle at Plainview and Mrs. Byrne at Cisco.

INVESTIGATION

We your committee on investigation beg to report as follows: We have examined Bros. B. F. Overturf and L. C. Joes, candidates for ordination as deacons and found them sound in the faith.

W. H. HUNT
J. A. DAVISON

COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS

We, your committee, beg to report that we have adopted the Home Mission work by a unanimous vote of the association.

COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY.

Beg to report that Sister Davidson, wife of Elder J. A. Davidson, departed this life last spring of which we all sympathise with Bro. Davidson, G. W. Thomas, Coralie Toppings, Thompson, Bro. Edd Tate, Oak Grove church and Bro. Harvey Thomas of the same church.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

We beg to report as follows: We recommend that this body express their thanks to Bro. Epperson and Bro. Waltman for their help during this association, also recommend that the next annual session of this association will meet with Halls church.

And a voice of thanks to the young delegates for the good untiring work they have done in the association.

Also to our Moderator for his patient, faithful service, and kind spirit as a genial Christian. Also recommend that we try to make the next Association still a greater one.

J. C. BYSUR
EULA CALLIE
OSBORN PLOTT

Bro. W. H. Hunt was appointed President or general organizer of all the Sunday School work in this Southern Association District for the year of 1928.

J. C. BYRNE, Assistant

Ordaining Council:

J. A. DAVIDSON
J. H. COFFMAN
ELI SHEETS

Bro. Waltman gave us a real strong talk on the work of Church and its needs. 1st. The Home Mission Circles. 2nd. The College Work. 3rd. Sunday Schools. 4th. Our Aged Ministers. 5th. And the Orphans Home, all of which were very impressive, though enjoyed by all who heard it.

J. C. BYRNE, Sec.
CORA THOMPSON, Asst.

THANKS

We, your Committee on Thanks beg to report. That we, the Associational body extend our sincere thanks to the good people of Plainview and vicinity for their kind genial hospitality shown to all of us during our stay with them during this Association. May God's richest blessings rest upon them and prosper them in all their efficient work for good and for God.

NEOMAZA BRYANT
CORALIE TOPPINGS
MAE BYRNE

MINISTERIAL INVESTIGATION AND ORDAINING COUNCIL

1. We, your committee beg to report. We find our ministers that are herein named, also Deacons, all in good standing. We further recommend that when a Minister is called to the charge of any Church and fails to respond without a reasonable excuse that said Church report said Minister to the Association.

2nd. When any Church calling a pastor fails to contribute to needs of such pastor, we recommend that the pastor report said Church to the next Association.

3rd. We further recommend that this Association give each Minister a recommended certificate for the ensuing year.

4th. We also recommend that each Minister

preach on finance and Doctrine more this year than previous years.

J. A. DAVIDSON
J. H. COFFMAN
ELI SHEETS
W. H. HUNT
DIVINE SERVICES

Wednesday Night

Introductory Sermon preached by Eld. Edwards. Rev. 22 Ch. ✓

Thursday Morning

Scripture read by the Moderator and a nice comment from Romans 6th Ch.

Bro. Waltman talked on Mission at the Eleven o'clock service.

Thursday Night

Preaching by Eld. Epperson. Text, Luke 10th Ch.

Friday Morning

Reading by the Moderator. Luke 22 Ch.

Friday at Eleven O'clock

Preaching by Mrs. Mae Byrne. Gen. Ch. 3, 9th V.

Friday Evening Lesson

Read by Eld. Davidson.

Friday Night

Eld. Edwards preached from the text "Be Sure Your Sins Will Find You Out," with 3 conversions, 1 reclaimed.

Saturday Night

Preaching by J. C. Byrne. Text, Heb. 12-1.

Sunday Morning

Eld. J. A. Davidson preached the Ordination Sermon at 11:30.

Sunday Night

Eld. H. W. Finney preached the closing sermon from the subject "The Office Work and the Co-operation of the Holy Spirit."

J. C. BYRNE, Sec.

CORA THOMPSON, Asst.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting business shall be opened and conducted by prayer by the Moderator or whomsoever he may request.

2. Ministers present, invited to seats, are allowed to take part in debate on subjects, and to vote.

3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

4. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.

5. When a motion has been made and seconded and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question: "Shall it be dismissed".

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be discussed? If negative the question shall be voted at the request of any member 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 leave of the Moderator.

9. All questions decided by a majority of the members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the moderator.

11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association if necessary.

12. In the future meetings of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons each day, or other equivalent devotional exercises.

13. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

CHURCH COVENANT.

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements, and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotion, and social worship, and by self-denial faith and good works endeavor to "Grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of our selves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pay, according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all benevolent work. We agree to accept christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bond 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 able promote the success of the church and

the Gospel. We will everywhere hold christian principles sacred and christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business of 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 Sabbath Schools and evangelistical efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world, and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FREEWILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FATH

1. **The Bible.** The scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **God.** There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Pre-verse, and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, yet as one God infinitely wise and good whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey,

3. **Christ.** Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified He is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. **The Holy Spirit.** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the reprover, comforter, guide and sanctifier of men.

5. **The Government of God.** God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the consti-

tution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of Salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of Salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ, our Saviour and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. Freedom of Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. Salvation Free. God desires the Salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take the water of life freely.

.... **12. Perseverance.** All believers in Christ,

who through grace, persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of the believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14 The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements for rest, worships, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

15. War. War destroys the lives of the innocent, and is contrary to the teachings of the New Testament, therefore we are opposed to war.

16. Resurrection, Judgment, Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil to the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

