# **Minutes**

of the

# Fifty-Eighth Annual Session

of the

# State Line Free Will Baptist Association

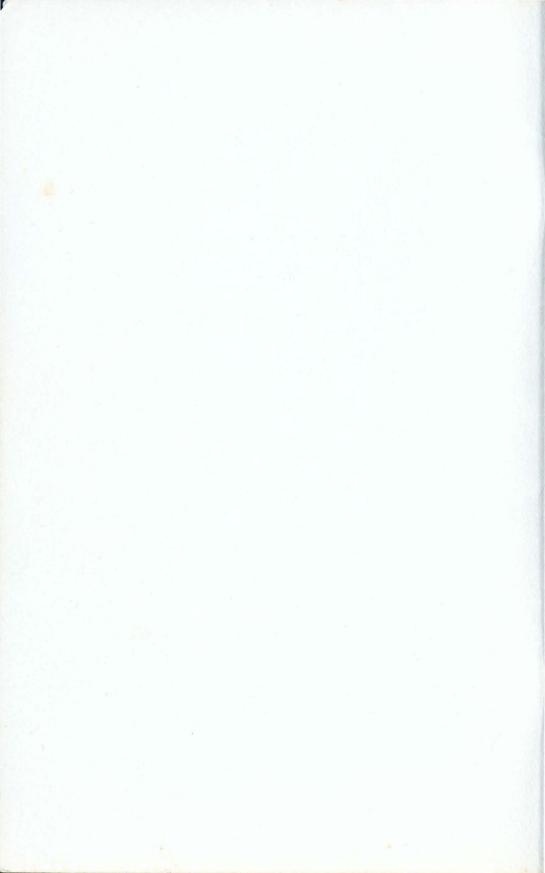
Held with the Fairview Free Will Baptist Church October 12 and 13, 1962



# **OFFICERS**

REV. GURLEY ROBERTS	MODERATOR
REV. L. V. COLLIER ASSISTANT	MODERATOR
REV. HUBERT GARDNER	<b>EVANGELIST</b>
LOWELL PARKER CORRESPONDING	SECRETARY
HUBERT PEOPLES CLERY AND	TREASURER

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#### PROCEEDINGS

The Fifty-Eighth annual session of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association met with the Fairview Free Will Baptist Church October 12, 13, 1962.

The service was opened with a song led by Bro. L. V. Collier and prayer by Bro. Bobby Jeffreys. Psalms 133:1 was read by Bro. O. S. Gardner before introducing the moderator, Bro. C. C. Berryhill.

#### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Association was called to order by moderator and prayer by Bro. Grady Hudson. Song entitled "I Want To Love Him More" led by Bro. L. V. Collier. Welcome address by pastor of Church, Bro. O. S. Gardner.

Appointing of Credential Committee: Bro. D. L. Brown, Bro. Troy Clifton, Bro. John Sanderson.

Appointing Finance Committee: Bro. Monroe Howell, Bro. F. F. Terry, Bro. Clyde Palmer, Bro. Russell Cooper.

Reading of The Rules of Decorum and the Constitution by Bro. L. V. Collier.

Ministers from visiting associations were recognized: Bro. W. H. Ryland, Birmingham, Bro. Grady Hudson, North East Mississippi Association.

Appointing Devotional Committee: Bro. L. G. Boyett, Bro. J. D. Kelly with Deacons of Fairview Church.

Song directed by Bro. Ray Birmingham.

#### INTERMISSION

Service opened with a song, "I Would Not Be Denied" led by Bro. Collier.

## REPORT OF DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE

Bro. Howard Simmons to have devotional Friday Morning: Bro. C. C. Berryhill to bring the 11:00 o'clock message. Bro. Bobby Jeffreys to have Friday night devotional with Bro. L. V. Collier bringing the message.

Bro. Roy Barnes to have the devotional Saturday morning with Bro. Grady Hudson bringing the message at 11:00 o'clock.

Received report and discharged committee.

Scripture reading by Bro. Howard Simmons before he conducted a most enjoyable testimony service. Messages by Bro. C. C. Berryhill, Matthew 15:1-20, "Are You Rebuking Christ?"

Song led by Bro. Fermon Wright and an altar prayer was given for all.

Dismissed for lunch by Bro. C. D. Paden.

# FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Services begin with song led by Bro. Roy Barnes. Prayer by Bro. Fermon Wright. Appointing reading clerks: Bro. Ray Birmingham, Bro. Guy Ford.

## CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your credential committee, have examined all church letters and found them in order.

D. L. Brown, Chairman

# CHURCH LETTERS READ AND SEATING OF DELEGATES

ANTIOCH - Bro. Charlie Templeton, Sis. Palmer, Sis. Templeton.

BARNESVILLE — Sis. Simmons, Sis. Brown, Sis. Hall, Bro. Hall.

COOPER — Bro. John Rye, Bro. Sherman Frederick, Sis. Ila Frederick, Sis. Ruby Finch.

FAIRVIEW — Bro. W. B. Osborn, Bro. Clade Abbott, Bro. Jack Lindsey.
FREE WILL CHAPEL — Sis. Ozie Franks, Bro. Belton Smith, Bro. Murray Jackson,

LIBERTY — Sis. Pauline Childers, Sis. Brenda Pharr, Sis. Jonnah Childers.

MT. HOPE — Sis. Lizie Cochran, Sis. Verdie Purser, Bro. J. D. Kelly, Jr. NEW BETHLEHEM — Sis. Omega Stievener, Sis. Emma Woodham, Sis. Dorothy Duncan.

NEW CENTER POINT — Bro. Guy Ford, Sis Beatrice Puckett Scott, Sis. Pearl Brown.

NEW HOPE — Bro. E. M. Tice, Bro. Robert Avery, Sis. Verdie Dobbs, Sis. Ovelene Avery.

NEW PLEASANT RIDGE — (Splungs Free Will Baptist Church) Bro. Clyde Palmer, Deacon, Sis. Clyde Palmer, Sis. Allene Gilliland, Sis. Ruby Pickle.

NEW SALEM — Sis. Dela McPherson, Sis. Jewel Stone, Sis. Maxine McCarley, Alternate Bro. A. B. Harp.

PLEASANT RIDGE — Sis. Vernie Williams, Sis. Carolyn Coons, Sis. Winnie Green, Alternate, Beatrice Harris.

PLEASANT SITE — Bro. G. O. Karr, Bro. Bill Gibbs Bro. Chuler Pearce, Alternate, Sis. Ava Lou Watson.

ROCKY GROVE — Sis. Lessie Winsett, Sis. Thomas, Sis. Thompson, Alternate, Bro. Thompson.

ROCKY TOP — Sis. Linda Frederick, Sis. Brenda Roberts, Sis. Ernest Roberts.

UNION RIDGE — Bro. Melton Harper, Bro. Billy Turman, Bro. Ofie Weaver.

1st FWB SULLIGENT — Bro. Casey Estes, Bro. Clarence Brmingham, Bro. Collie Stanford.

Move we accept report and discharge committee.

Letters were read and motion made to accept all letters and seat delegates except New Hope Church, for further examining.

Visiting delegates seated: Bro. Harvey May, Bro. Ryland, Bro. Grady Hudson.

#### APPOINTING OF COMMITTEES

Business: Bro. O. S. Gardner, Bro. Roy Barnes, Bro. Fermon Wright, with Moderator and Clerk.

Deceased Members: Sis. Lessie Winsett, Sis. Thomas, Sis. Thompson. Temperance: Bro. Gurley Roberts, Bro. Green, Bro. Franks, Bro. Howell.

Sunday School Literature: Sis. Templeton, Bro. Kelly, Bro. Boyett. Appreciation: Bro. Charlie Parmer, Bro. Hall, Bro. Hollis, Bro. Sanderson.

#### INTERMISSION

Song led by Bro. Roy Barnes, "Amazing Grace."

#### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your committee on Finance received \$161.47 minute fund and \$7.00 for Orphans' Home. We have examined Bank Statement and find \$637.63 balance in bank,

J. M. Howell, Chairman.

Received report and discharged the committee.

## REPORT OF ORDINATION COUNCIL

We, your ordaining council recommend we accept Bro. Gurley Roberts into our association and Bro. Howard Simmons and Bro. Hubert Gardner be ordained. Moved and seconded we accept report and retain committee.

Ordaining Bro. Simmons and Bro. Gardner with Bro. O. S. Gardner and Bro. L. V. Collier giving charge. Hand shake by the associational body.

Closing prayer by Bro. L. V. Collier.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Song led by Bro. J. C. Hood and prayer led by Sis. Violet Cooper. Quartet singing by Bro. Collier's Group. Devotional conducted by Bro. Hubert Gardner. Bro. L. V. Collier brought the Communion and Feet Washing Message.

Scripture from the Four Gospel writers and 1st Corinthians Letter. We sang a hymn and went home after a large number took part in the very warm communion service.

#### SATURDAY SESSION

The body was called to order.

# DECEASED MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your committee on deceased members, have found that death has called 13 members from our churches.

Sis. Marvin Winsett,
Sis. Burton Thompson,
Committee.

# TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your committee on temperance, find it commended by the Word of God and would consist of bringing our bodies under subjection of the Holy Spirit.

We recommend that preachers preach more on Temperance. We recommend that all members abstain from all intoxicating beverages.

Bro. Gurley Roberts,

Chairman

# SUNDAY SCHOOL LITERATURE REPORT

We, your committee on Sunday School Literature, recommend that all churches use Free Will Baptist Literature.

J. D. Kelly,

Chairman

Reports were all accepted and committees discharged.

Seating visiting ministers: Bro. Pearl Brown, Bro. O. Z. Johnson, of Jasper Association.

#### INTERMISSION

Song led by Bro. Earnest Roberts, prayer by Bro. Otis Parmer. Devotional reading by Bro. Roy Barnes from Romans 12::1-2. 11:00 o'-clock message by Bro. Grady Hudson, Psalms 23. "Christian Hope." for subject.

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Roll call of delegates, Bro. Ryland reports on Mission work in the State. Love offering for him of \$50.00 was given.

#### EVANGELIST REPORT

One revival was held. Ten churches were visited. Five weeks of Singing schools were held. Received \$331.00.

Accept report of ordaining Council recommending that Bro. Ballard show death certificates of former marriages of present wife before his credentials be restored.

Bro. Bobby Jeffreys, Chairman

# BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

# DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS:

We, your committee on documents and order of business, wish to to make the following report. We recommend that we receive items one through fifteen as laid down in our minutes with an additional items sixteen and seventeen.

Item 1. We recommend that the Clerk be paid \$20.00 and the Moderator \$10.00; Assistant Moderator \$5.00 and the Treasurer \$5.00 for their services and the Clerk superintend the printing of the Association Minutes and distribute them.

Item 2. We recommend that the Moderator preach the introductory sermon; the Assistant Moderator preach the Friday night sermon, and hold communion service with feet-washing.

Item 3. We recommend that the body decide where the next Association shall convene.

Item 4. We recommend that our Friday session convene at 9:00 o'clock.

Item 5. We recommend that no money be paid out of any fund except by order of the Association.

Item 6. We recommend that all pastors explain the value of tithing to various churches.

Item 7. We recommend that we go on record opposing all liquor traffic and legalizing of intoxicating beverages.

Item 8. We recommend that our pastors preach one doctrinal sermon a year in each church.

Item 9. We recommend that each church send a free will offering once each month for the Orphan's Home.

Item 10. We recommend that we have a standing ordaining council of three to work with the moderator and clerk of the association for

1 year. Whose duty it shall be to settle differences that may arise between members of the church, only if the church has failed to settle its own affairs. Also this council is to watch over the ministers and deacons between regular sessions of the Association who may be walking in a disorderly manner.

Item 11. We recommend that the Association grant each ordained minister a card of good standing each year.

Item 12. We recommend we go on record against the integration of the races in our churches and Association, that we will not affiliate with those that do.

Item 13. We recommend that we do not ordain any minister with two living wives, nor his wife with two living men.

Item 14. We recommend that when a deacon without providential reason, absents himself from the meeting of the church, or refuses to support for three months, it is considered a violation of the covenant and sufficient reason for dismission as a deacon.

Item 15. We recommend that any minister for two years failing to represent himself in person or by letter to the association, his credentials will be cancelled.

Item 16. We recommend that each church letter to the association remain the same as were adopted in church conference.

Item 17. We recommend our Friday and Friday Night associational service convene at one church of our association and the Saturday service convene at another church of our association.

Moved and seconded to receive report and discharge committee.

#### APPRECIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your committee, wish to express our deep gratitude to God for the wonderful blessings which He has bestowed upon us during this session. We appreciate the wonderful fellowship we have enjoyed with the host church and community.

We thank the pastor, his wife, and the church members for the good food they prepared and the friendly welcome they extended to all.

John G. Sanderson, Chairman.

Report accepted and committee discharged.

Moved and seconded that we elect officers by standing vote.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Rev. Gurley Roberts	Moderator
Rev. L. V. Collier	Assistant Moderator
Rev. Hubert Gardner	
Lowell Parker	Corresponding Secretary
Hubert Peoples	Clerk & Treasurer
J. C. Hood	
Nominated Rev. Roy Barnes for	Children's Home Trustee
Nominated Rev. Roy Barnes to the	

Appointing Ordaining Council: Bro. Fermon Wright, Bro. O. S. Gardner, Bro. W. C. Shotts, with Moderator and Clerk.

#### NEXT ASSOCIATION SESSION

The next session of The State Line Free Will Baptist Association will convene with the Rocky Top Church on Friday Night before the second Sunday in October 1963.

The second day of the Association as adopted in Item 17 of Documents and Order of Business will convene with the Liberty Church on Saturday before the second Sunday in October 1963.

Visiting Ministers: Bro. W. H. Ryland, Bro. Pearl Brown, Bro. Grady Hudson, Bro. O. Z. Johnson.

#### NAMES OF DEACONS

ANTIOCH - J. T. Satterwhite, James M. Howell, Charles Howell.

BARNESVILLE — Exel Brown, Charlie Parmer, Elsie Alvis, Marvin Young.

COOPER — S. D. Stone, Russell Cooper, Lowell Parker, Redus McKay, Hubert Peoples, Burley Finch.

FAIRVIEW - Ira Tripplett, Sam Carter.

FREE WILL CHAPEL — Roy Franks, Charlie Elliott, Edsel Gideon, Edward Barnes.

LIBERTY — Oneal Childers, Otis Childers,

MT. HOPE - J. D. Kelly, Hubert Cochran, Y. D. Howell.

NEW BETHLEHEM - Troy Duncan, Hicks Hester.

NEW CENTER POINT - Curtis Scott, Aussie Tate, D. L. Brown.

NEW HOPE - Malone Tice, F. F. Terry, Ben Arthur.

SPLUNGE - Delmo Thompson, Clyde Palmer, Burley Jones.

NEW SALEM — Woodrow Gilliland, N. C. McPherson.

PLEASANT RIDGE - Harve Sanderson, Claude Winsett, Delton Giddy.

PLEASANT SITE — Archie Satterwhite, Vester Watson, Paul Nix, F. H. Harbor.

ROCKY GROVE — J. E. Harris, Jim Peoples, J. G. Sanderson, Claburn Thomas.

ROCKY TOP — Burton Frederick, William Frederick, Huey Webb, Leonard Howell.

UNION RIDGE - Johnnie Myers, Troy Clifton, Archie Truman.

1st FWB CHURCH, SULLIGENT — L. G. Boyett, Quinton Boyett, Isiah Hollis.

#### MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

Rev. Roy Barnes	Rt. 1, Vernon, Alabama
Rev. Clevert Berryhill	Greenwood Springs, Mississippi
Rev. Hudson Burleson	Rt. 3, Hamilton, Alabama
	Rt. 4, Hamilton, Alabama
Rev. L. V. Collier	Rt. 2, Hamilton, Alabama
Rev. O. S. Gardner	Rt. 2, Hackleburg, Alabama
Rev. Jimmy Howell	Hackleburg, Alabama
Rev. Bobby Jeffreys	Rt. 1, Hamilton, Alabama
Rev. E. C. Kelton	Rt. 2, Greenwood Springs, Mississippi
Rev. C. D. Paden	Rt. 1, Red Bay, Alabama
Rev. Otis Palmer	Rt. 4, Hamilton, Alabama

CHURCHES	Pastors Ending October 1962	Pastors Ending October 1963	Church Membership	Received By Baptism	Received By Letter or Baptism	Dismissed By Letter	Deceased	Paid Pastor
Antioch	C. D. Paden	Howard Simmons	64	2	0	0	1	203
Barnesville	L. V. Collier	L. V. Collier	93	2	2	3	1	574
Cooper	Gurley Roberts	Gurley Roberts	124	13	4	2	0	1,157
Fairview	O. S. Gardner	O. S. Gardner	104	16	7	0	1	628
Freewill Chapel	Gurley Roberts	Roy Barnes	76	0	0	2	0	839
Liberty	C. D. Paden	C. D. Paden	19	0	1	0	0	115
Mt. Hope	Hudson Burleson	A. G. Lacy	37	3	0	0	0	287
New Bethlehem	Bobby Jeffreys	Bobby Jeffreys	55	1	0	1	0	160
New Center Point	Clevert Berryhill	Clevert Berryhill	87	5	0	4	1	258
New Hope	Booker Tice	Joe Frederick	61	4	0	4	3	223
New Salem	Jerome Spencer	Jerome Spencer	58	0	0	0	0	203
Pleasant Ridge	C. D. Paden	C. D. Paden	87	2	0	4	1	291
Pleasant Site	A. G. Lacy	A. G. Lacy	166	8	1	0	3	487
Rocky Grove	O. S. Gardner	O. S. Gardner	75	2	1	0	1	319
Rocky Top	Jimmy Howell	Jimmy Howell	83	3	4	0	0	288
Splunge	C. C. Berryhill	C. C. Berryhill	19	0	0	2	1	314
Union Ridge	C. C. Berryhill	Howard Simmons	150	0	0	0	0	255
1st FWB (Sulligent)	G. C. Lawrence	Grady Hudson	85	2	0	0	0	2,350

Paid Evangelist	Value of Church Property	Church Improvement	Association and Minute Funds	Home Missions	Children's Home Direct	Ordained Ministers	Ordained Deacons	Number In League	Average In Sunday School	Number of Teachers	Sunday School Superintendents
52	0	0	6.35	0	0	0	3			3	J. M. Howell
75	6,500	6,500	12.00	0	12.50	1	4	30	65	4	Ivan Boyett
120	6,437	1,437	18.36	0	7.00	1	6	60	80	6	Lynwood Clark
183	6,000	400	10.00	0	10.11	3	2	59	59	4	Sam Carter
103	2,000	0	10.00	26.00	60.00	1	4	0	60		L. D. Hall
30	3,500	32	4.00	0	16.00	1	2	0	30	3	O'Neal Childers
50	2,800	300	6.10	6.00	0	1	3	0	40	3	Dorothy Ballard
60	2,000	0	4.00	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	100
86	4,000	405	10.00	0	9.04	2	3	0	55	4	D. L. Brown
50	4,000	0	6.00	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	
0	800	0	6.00	0	2.00	1	2	0	30	4	U. G. Howell
31	5,000	600	10.00	0	0	0	3	0	35	4	Wesley A. Green
120	5,800	800	10.00	0	0	0	4	0	50	3	Iris Mills
50	4,000	0	10.00	0	10.00	3	4	0	30	4	J. E. Harris
124	4,500	100	6.00	0	0	2	4	14	56	4	Burton Frederick
44	2,000	0	8,00	0	25.00	0	3	0	0	0	
77	750	0	12.00	0	0	0	3	0	30	3	Johnnie Meyer
350	10,000	0	10.00	0	140.80	0	3	48	65	5	Isaiah Hollis

Rev. W. C. Shotts	Rt. 4, Hamilton, Alabama
Rev. Marvin Winsett	
Rev. Fermon Wright	Hackleburg, Alabama
Rev. U. G. Howell	Bexar, Alabama
Rev. Hubert Gardner	Hamilton, Alabama
Rev. Howard Simmons	Hamilton, Alabama
Rev. Gurley Roberts	Detroit, Alabama
All the above ministers were present exce	pt Rev. E. C. Kelton.

# CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Amount in bank, October 12, 1962  Amount received as minute & Association Funds	637.63 168.49
TOTAL	
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Paid to C. C. Berryhill (Moderator)	10.00
Paid L. V. Collier (Assistant Moderator)	5.00
Paid Lowell Parker (Clerk & Treasurer)	25.00
Paid fees of State Association	36.00
Sent to Children's Home (Received in church letters)	7.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$83.00	
BALANCE	\$ 723.12

## CHURCH CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

ANTIOCH — Ray Howell	Rt. 3, Hamilton, Alabama
BARNESVILLE — Exel Brown	Rt. 3, Hamilton, Alabama
MT. HOPE — Yancy Howell	Rt. 2, Hamilton, Alabama
FAIRVIEW — Jack Lindsey	Rt. 1, Bexar, Alabama
FREE WILL CHAPEL — Edward Barnes	Box 486, Vernon, Alabama
NEW HOPE — E. M. Tice	Rt. 2, Hamilton, Alabama
NEW SALEM — Ila Howell	Rt. 1, Bexar, Alabama
SPLUNGE — Burley Jones Rt 1,	Greenwood Springs, Mississippi
NEW CENTER POINT — Lester Ford	Greenwood Springs, Mississippi
NEW BETHLEHEM — Velma Jeffreys	Rt. 1, Hamilton, Alabama
PLEASANT RIDGE — Wesley A. Green	Hamilton, Alabama
PLEASANT SITE Hudon Stone	Rt. 2, Detroit, Alabama
ROCKY GROVE — J. E. Harris	Rt. 4, Hamilton, Alabama
ROCKY TOP — Linda Nell Frederick	Hackleburg, Alabama
COOPER — Claudie Rye	Rt. 1, Hamilton, Alabama
UNION RIDGE — Ersel Thompson	Rt. 1, Detroit, Alabama
LIBERTY — Pauline Childers	Rt. 1, Vina, Alabama
1st FWB CHURCH, SULLIGENT — Barba	ra Jean Cook Sulligent, Ala.

# ARTICLES OF FAITH

- 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, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, 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 SIPRIT 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 constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.
- 6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore, inherent 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 of sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior 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, free 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 THE 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 of the water of life freely.
- 12. PERSEVERANCE. All believers in Christ who through grace perservere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.
- 13. GOSPEL ORDINANCES. Baptism, or the immersion of believers in Water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under Gospel; Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.
- 14. TITHING. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ indorsed 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." (1 Cor. 16:2).
- 15. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.
- 16. RESURRECTION, JUDGEMENT, AND 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 unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1. Call the Church to order by the Moderator.
- 2. Call for Peace of the Church.
- 3. Opportunity for members.
- 4. Inviting Brothers and Sisters to seats with us.
- 5. Reading of the minutes of the last Conference.
- 6. Is there any reference?
- 7. Appointment of Committees.
- 8. Any acknowledgements?
- 9. Report of Committees.
- 10. Unified business.
- 11. Unfinished business.
- 12. Distressed members.
- 13. Adjournment.

## RULES OF THE PREACHERS

- 1. All ministers wishing to become members of the Association will be required to go before the Credential Committee with a recommendation from the church from which they are a member, and also be called upon to present their credentials for examination and answer satisfactory such questions as may be asked of them.
- 2. Any minister who behaves himself unbecomingly to his high and exalted calling shall be reported by the Credentials Committee to the Association who shall deal with him.
- All members will be required to strictly adhere to the teachings of the Free Will Baptist, according to the Articles of Faith.
- 4. All ministers will be required to support and stand by all boards and committees appointed by the association and to do their utmost to make them a success.
- 5. No minister shall speak slanderously or cast personal reflections upon another minister that will hurt his influence or ministerial standing.
- 6. All ministers are requested to make an annual report of the work done by him and submit the report to the Association at the regular session.
- 7. Any minister who draws his letter from the church from which he belongs automatically cancels his credentials until he joins some other church.
- 8. No minister shall receive any members in the different churches of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association, except by a move and second in the different churches.

# CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by Faith in Christ and adopted the Word of God as our rule and 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 appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity in the world, from the sanctions of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages and to provide things honest in the sight of men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations to the study of scripture, secret prayers, family doctrines and social worship and by self-denial, faith and good works, endeavor to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ;

We will not forget the assembling together for church conference, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the gospel, nor fail to pray according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor and all of its benevolent work;

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness and watch over one another in love, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the gospel;

We will everywhere hold the Christian principles sacred and Christian obligation 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 enterprise, support the mission, the success of the Sabbath Schools and evangelistic effort for salvation of souls and 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.

# RULES OR DECORUM

- 1. This Association shall open and close by singing and prayer.
- 2. The officers elected at the previous session shall begin their administration at the opening of each regular session.
- 3. Only one person shall speak at a time. He shall arise and address the Moderator and when recognized he shall proceed.
- 4. No person shall be interrupted while speaking, by anyone except the Moderator, and not by the Moderator unless he breaks the rules of order.
- 5. The person speaking must adhere to the subject in question and shall not use words of personal reflection.
- 6. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association, and not more than five minutes each time.
  - 7. No member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speaking.
- 8. No person shall address another except by the appellation of Brother or Sister.
  - 9. No member shall absent himself without leave of Moderator.
  - 10. The names of all ministers, deacons and delegates shall be en-

rolled by the Clerk and called as often as deemed necessary by the Moderator.

- 11. Every member of this body must vote for or against every move that comes before it; those failing to do this shall be reprimanded by the Moderator.
- 12. Any person knowingly breaking any of the rules shall be reproved by the Moderator, according to directions of the Association.
- 13. We recommend that each church in this Association have as many as two Sunday services each month.

#### CHURCH RULES

- 1. We agree as members of the State Line Association of the Free Will Baptist, to cooperate in every move for the betterment of our denomination and the extension of God's Kingdom through the word.
- 2. We agree to meet in conference, quarterly, or oftener, if necessary to transact business of the church.
- 3. The Moderator shall be chosen by the sufferage of the church in the absence of the pastor; the Moderator shall observe good order and explain all questions before he takes the vote of the church on them and shall have the liberty to speech as any other, but not vote unless there be a tie, when he shall give his deciding vote.
- 4. It shall be the duty of all members to fill their seats in the conference and bear their part of the expenses.
- 5. No member shall leave their seat during conference without permission from the Moderator.
- 6. No member shall arraign another before the church for any grievance without first taking gospel steps. See Matt. 18:15-17.
- 7. All members brought before the church by motion and second and in gospel-like order, shall be attended to by the church unless withdrawn by mover.
- 8. Any person wishing to speak shall arise and address the Moderator, and if two arise at the same time, the Moderator shall decide who shall speak first, and no member while speaking shall cast any reflections on any person, but shall adhere strictly to the subject without permission from the church, and not more than five minutes at a time.
- 9. It shall be the duty of all church members to be present at all church meetings, to vote on any questions that may come before the church who desires to obtain the minds of the whole church.
- 10. If any member remains silent during the transaction of any business of the church, and afterward complain of what was done, the same shall be deemed disorderly, and the members so offending shall be dealt with accordingly.
- 11. The members of the church shall not talk about one another slanderously, not shall any report of circulation that may arise with any church member, but shall make it known to the one the report is against, and no one else, and any member doing otherwise shall be dealt with accordingly.
  - 12. We agree to do all our business by a majority of the members.

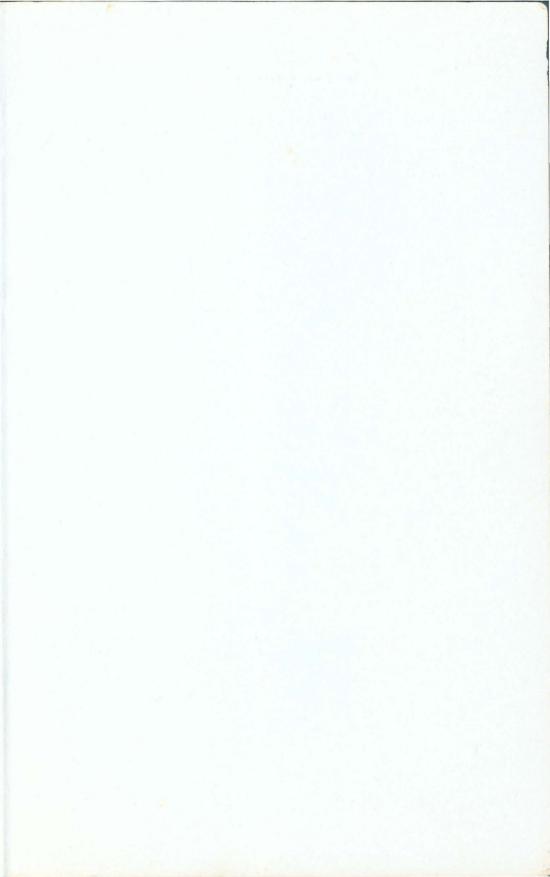
    13. These rules shall be read at opening of each conference.
- 14. Any member or minister of the church who talks about his brother or sister slanderously, shall be dealt with according as the church sees fit.

# CONSTITUTION

- 1. This Association shall be known as The State Line Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama and Mississippi.
- 2. The Association shall be composed of ministers, deacons and delegates of different churches forming the same.
- 3. All ministers and churches wishing to become members of this body must willingly submit to Articles or Faith, Constitution, and Rules of same.
- 4. Each church in the Association shall be entitled to three delegates for the first hundred members or fraction thereof, and one delegate for every additional fifty members.
- 5. The Association shall have a credential committee of three members who shall be appointed by the Moderator at the convening of each regular session, whose duty it will be to examine all church letters and applications for membership of both churches and ministers and make report of the same to the body.
- 6. Officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at each regular session.
- 7. This Association shall meet on Friday and Saturday before the Second Sunday in October of each year and shall not adjourn until all business is transacted.
- 8. The Constitution and By-Laws may be altered or amended by a majority vote of any regular meeting and approved by that body and published in the minutes with notice that it will be acted upon at the next meeting.
- 9. No ministers deacons or delegates shall be seated in this body unless they agree to stay throughout the session unless they are providentially hendered.
- 10. Each church represented in this Association shall be required to bring annually 5 per cent capita as an Associational fund for the purpose of printing the minutes and Associational expenses.

# FORM OF CHURCH LETTER

State of Alabama, County of
This is to certify that our beloved
is in full fellowship with us and is thereby dismissed from us when
joined in some other church. This done by order of church in Con-
ference at and
signed by order of same.
This day of, 19
, Moderator
, Clerk
CHURCH LETTER TO ASSOCIATION
State of, County of
We, the Church of Christ, of the Free Will Order of
Church, send greetings to the Ministers and
Messengers and Delegates, composing the
annual session of the State Line Free Will Baptist Association.
We send as delegates
whom we deem worthy to sit with you in your deliberations. Ou
statistics are as follows:
Received by confession, by letter, by restora
tion, by recommendation, dismissed by letter
died, expelled, No. of Deacons
Names
We send as Minute fund \$; Associational fund \$
Orphans' Home \$; Sent direct to Orphans' Home \$
United Program \$; No. Ordained Ministers; thei
names and post offices:
Former pastor; present pasto
; His Address
Total Membership; Active; Value of Church
property \$; improvements done on church \$
paid pastor \$; paid Evangelist or helper \$
missions \$; Number in Sunday School
Supt; No. Teachers
No. in League
We petition for the Association to meet with us at
Church.
, Moderator,
, Clerk.
Clerk's Address



M. L. HOLLIS, Amory, Mississippi