

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**Seventy-Eighth Session**  
**OF THE**  
**VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**HELD WITH**  
**Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church**  
**October 17, 18, 1958**



**OFFICERS**

REV. J. B. LEDLOW, Moderator ..... Fayette, Ala.  
R. H. YERBY, Sr., Clerk ..... Rt. 6, Fayette, Ala.

The next session of this Association will be held with Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, beginning on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1959, Rev. S. F. Lee to preach the introductory sermon - Rev. A. L. Warren to be his substitute.

# VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## PROCEEDINGS

Of The Seventy-Eighth Session of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association, Held With Union Chapel F. W. B. Church,  
October 17, 18, 1958

The Association was called to order by the former moderator, Rev. R. P. Ritch. After a short song service the moderator read a scripture lesson from Phil. 2:1-11.

Prayer by Rev. R. P. Ritch. After a few appropriate remarks Bro. Ritch introduced the new moderator, Rev. J. B. Ledlow.

The new moderator declared the association in session for business. The congregation gave a rising vote of appreciation for the former moderator.

The following credential committee was appointed by the moderator: Bro Dewey Jordan, Bro. A. M. Wallace, and Bro. Pascal Yerby. This committee was instructed to examine the letters, list the delegates and turn the list in to the clerk.

The moderator then appointed the following business committee: Rev. R. P. Ritch, Rev. Gurley Roberts and Rev. S. F. Lee, and asked all persons having any business to bring before the body to present it to this committee.

The moderator called on Rev. Wilburn Beasley to conduct a devotional service. Song by Rev. R. P. Ritch.

Rev. Beasley read a scripture lesson from Phil. 4:1-4, basing his discussion on verse 1. After this interesting devotion the congregation spent about 10 minutes in a testimony service which was enjoyed by all. Song by Rev. Roy Barnes.

At 11 o'clock Rev. J. B. Ledlow brought a very inspiring message, using as his text Acts 4:13. Prayer by Rev. A. L. Warren. Dismissed one hour for dinner.

## AFTERNOON

Song directed by Rev. R. P. Ritch. The moderator read a lesson from Psalm 127th Chapter.

A report from the credential committee was called for. The committee gave an oral report and turned the letters and list of delegates over to the clerk.

The moderator appointed Bro. W. H. Clearman and Sister Euell Lewis as reading clerks and they read the letters from the various churches.

By move and second the letters were received and delegates seated.

The delegates we listed as follows:

BELK—Sisters Cordelia Williams, Iva Newman and Lucille Collins.

DAVIS CHAPEL—Bros. Edd Sanford, John D. Moore, Jr., and Sister Lucy Gray.

FAYETTE—Sister Euell Lewis.

FRIENDSHIP—Represented by letter.

LIBERTY—Bros. R. T. Mixon, F. E. Dubose, Sr., Thomas Hankins, Sisters Loree Butler, Ida Belle Perkins, Wilma Mixon, Ellie Jenkins and Elizabeth Yerby.

MT. HARMONY—Bros. Addie Barnes, Bob McReynolds and Sister Helen Robertson.

## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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MT. PLEASANT—Bro. W. M Cooper, Sisters Ora Cooper, Linda Chandler and Oneita Hopper.

MT. WILLING—Bro. and Sister Jeff McDonald, Sister Robert Gosa.

PINEY GROVE—Bro. Boyce Fuller and Sister Rosa Nell Robertson.

SPRINGFIELD—Bros. William Mason, Charlie Hollis, Aubrey Hall and Sister Cora Mason.

TAYLOR SPRINGS—Rev. J. J. Barnes.

UNION CHAPEL—Sisters Lucille Bradford, Delia Yerby, Bros. Tommie J. Yerby and Murry Graves.

VERNON—Sister Lucille Yerby, Bros. Roy Crossley and Clyde Motes.

The moderaor called for corresponding delegates. The following came forward and while Bro. Dewey Jordan directed a song the right hand of fellowship was given them.

By move and second they were seated to aid in any business that might come before the body.

Corresponding Delegates:

Jasper Association—Rev. and Mrs. O. Z. Johnson.

Progressive Association—Rev.. A. J. Lambert.

State Line Association—Rev. Roy Barnes. Rev. L. V. Collier. Bro. Roy Franks and Bro. J. D. Kelley.

Mt. Marriah Association—Rev. J. E. Tilley and Bro. Lee McAdams.

N. E. Miss. Association—Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Rev. M. H. Hollis, Rev. P. J. Kettelman and Bro. John Stembridge.

Liberty No. 2 Association—Rev. F. C. Barber.

Short talks were made by Rev. Roy Barnes and Rev. O. Z. Johnson, Rev. J. E. Tilley Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Rev. L. V. Collier and Bro. Lee McAdams.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Committee on Committees—Rev. Clarence Barnes. Rev. A. L. Warren and Bro. R. T. Mixon.

Devotion—Bros. E. D. Sanford, H. E. McDonald and Bruce Adams with the deacons of Union Chapel Church.

The moderator called for new Ministers There were none present.

Bro. Dewey Jordan directed a song service while the committees were preparing their reports.

The moderator called for the report of the committee on committees.

We recommend the following committees:

Queries and Resuoltions—Rev. Gurley Roberts, Bro. W. M. Cooper, Sisters Loree Butler and Lucile Collins.

Sunday Schools—Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Bro. Charlie Hollis, Sisters Rosa Nell Robertson, Lucile Bradford and Lucile Yerby.

Temperance—Rev. B. T. Alexander Rev. Robert Collins, Sisters Wilma Mixon and Elizabeth Yerby.

Finance—Bros. Addie Barnes, R. T. Mixon, William Mason and Mode Chaffin.

Deceased Members—Bros. Jack McDonald, A. M. Wallace and Tommie J. Yerby.

Respectfully submitted,  
R. T. Mixon, chairman.

The report was adopted and committee discharged.

# VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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## AFTERNOON

Song directed by Rev. R. P. Ritch. The moderator read a lesson from Psalm 127th Chapter.

A report from the credential committee was called for. The committee gave an oral report and turned the letters and list of delegates over to the clerk.

The moderator appointed Bro. W. H. Clearman and Sister Euell Lewis as reading clerks and they read the letters from the various churches.

By move and second the letters were received and delegates seated.

The delegates we listed as follows:

BELK—Sisters Cordelia Williams, Iva Newman and Lucille Collins.

DAVIS CHAPEL—Bros. Edd Sanford, John D. Moore, Jr., and Sister Lucy Gray.

FAYETTE—Sister Euell Lewis.

FRIENDSHIP—Represented by letter.

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## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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MT. PLEASANT—Bro. W. M Cooper, Sisters Ora Cooper, Linda Chandler and Oneita Hopper.

MT. WILLING—Bro. and Sister Jeff McDonald, Sister Robert Gosa.

PINEY GROVE—Bro. Boyce Fuller and Sister Rosa Nell Robertson.

SPRINGFIELD—Bros. William Mason, Charlie Hollis, Aubrey Hall and Sister Cora Mason.

TAYLOR SPRINGS—Rev. J. J. Barnes.

UNION CHAPEL—Sisters Lucille Bradford, Delia Yerby, Bros. Tommie J. Yerby and Murry Graves.

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State Line Association—Rev. Roy Barnes. Rev. L. V. Collier. Bro. Roy Franks and Bro. J. D. Kelley.

Mt. Marriah Association—Rev. J. E. Tilley and Bro. Lee McAdams.

N. E. Miss. Association—Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Rev. M. H. Hollis, Rev. P. J. Kettelman and Bro. John Stembidge.

Liberty No. 2 Association—Rev. F. C. Barber.

Short talks were made by Rev. Roy Barnes and Rev. O. Z. Johnson, Rev. J. E. Tilley Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Rev. L. V. Collier and Bro. Lee McAdams.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Committee on Committees—Rev. Clarence Barnes. Rev. A. L. Warren and Bro. R. T. Mixon.

Devotion—Bros. E. D. Sanford, H. E. McDonald and Bruce Adams with the deacons of Union Chapel Church.

The moderator called for new Ministers There were none present.

Bro. Dewey Jordan directed a song service while the committees were preparing their reports.

The moderator called for the report of the committee on committees.

We recommend the following committees:

Queries and Resuoltions—Rev. Gurley Roberts, Bro. W. M. Cooper, Sisters Loree Butler and Lucile Collins.

Sunday Schools—Rev. W. D. Glasgow, Bro. Charlie Hollis, Sisters Rosa Nell Robertson, Lucile Bradford and Lucile Yerby.

Temperance—Rev. B. T. Alexander Rev. Robert Collins, Sisters Wilma Mixon and Elizabeth Yerby.

Finance—Bros. Addie Barnes, R. T. Mixon, William Mason and Mode Chaffin.

Deceased Members—Bros. Jack McDonald, A. M. Wallace and Tommie J. Yerby.

Respectfully submitted,  
R. T. Mixon, chairman.

The report was adopted and committee discharged.

## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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The committee on devotion made the following partial report:  
We recommend that Rev. B. T. Alexander conduct a devotional service and Rev. Gurley Roberts bring the message tonight.

The report was adopted.

The moderator called for petitionary letters. None were present.

Called for report of business committee. They gave the following partial report:

We, your business committee report as follows: We recommend that Bro. Euell Lewis be called in question and if found worthy, ordained as a deacon.

This was accepted as a partial report and the committee retained. Song by Rev. R. P. Ritch.

On motion, the business part of the association adjourned until 8:00 o'clock Saturday morning. Prayer by Rev. J. E. Tilley.

### FRIDAY NIGHT

At 6:30 o'clock the congregation gathered at the church.

Song services were directed by Rev. W. D. Glasgow and Bro. Verdo Dubose. Prayer by Rev. W. D. Glasgow.

Special songs by the Bradford Trio.

Rev. B. T. Alexander gave a very interesting devotion, reading from the 5th chapter of 1st Peter. This was followed by a testimony service.

Song "Amazing Grace" by Bro. Verdo Dubose. Special prayer for those in the hospitals by Rev. A. L. Warren.

Rev. Gurley Roberts brought a very inspiring message, reading from the 7th chapter of St. John, beginning with the 31st verse. Text: the last part of the 46th verse. After a few remarks by the moderator the congregation was dismissed. Prayer by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

### SATURDAY MORNING

At 8:15 o'clock the house was called to order by the moderator. Song by Rev. Henry Crawford. Scripture lesson read by the moderator from 2nd Tim. chapter 2. Prayer by Rev. F. C. Barber.

The moderator appointed the following ordaining council to ordain Bro. Euell Lewis as a deacon for Fayette church: Rev. Robert Collins, Rev. A. L. Warren and Rev. Gurley Roberts.

Dismissed 30 minutes for the committees to prepare their reports.

The body re-assembled with singing conducted by Rev. Henry Crawford. Prayer by Rev. A. J. Lambert.

The moderator called for final report of the committee on devotion.

We, your committee on devotion recommend that Rev. A. L. Warren give a memorial devotion just after the report on deceased members, and that Rev. A. J. Lambert bring the message at 11:00 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. Clearman, chairman.

The report was received and the committee discharged.

Called for report of committee to investigate Friendship church.

We, your committee investigated Friendship church and found

## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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it was having regular services, the preacher from Columbus. Miss., holding the services.

Gurley Roberts, chairman.

The report was received and the committee discharged.

Called for report of business committee.

We recommend that a committee be appointed to draw up an order of business governing this body to be printed each year in our minutes.

We recommend that the next session of this association meet with Piney Grove church.

Since the ruling of this association concernng ordination was left out of our minutes we recommend that it be placed in the By-Laws.

We recommend that Rev. S. F. Lee preach the introductory sermon at the next session of this association and Rev. A. L. Warren be his substitute.

Since Liberty church violated the rules of this association in that of ordaining in their own body, we recommend that this association reprimand the church and suggest that they, together with all other churches comprising this body, abide by the rules thereof in the future.

R. P. Ritch, chairman.

The report was received and committee discharged. The report was re-read and adopted by sections

The moderator then appointed the following committee on order of business: Rev. A. L. Warren, Rev. S. F. Lee, Rev. R. P. Ritch, Rev. Gurley Roberts and Rev. W. D. Glasgow with the moderator and clerk.

Called for report of committee on credentials.

We, the committee on credentials wish to report as follows: After an investigation of the letters of the churches of this association, we find no irregularities.

We have made some investigation of the ministers of this association and found no criticism from their pastorates. We feel the association is due them the very highest respect. We continue to urge a very strong fight against the approaching evils of this age. x

Respectfully submitted,  
D. G. Jordan, chairman.

The report was adopted as read.

## QUERIES AND RESOLUTIONS

We, your committee on Queries and Resolutions, make the following report:

Be it resolved that we tender our heartfelt thanks to Union Chapel church and community for the hospitality and fellowship shown us during this session.

We recommend that we use our young people and young preachers more in the future than we have in the past.

We recommend that each church try to reach all people in their respective communities to get them to attend church. We can do this through prayer and contact with individuals.

Gurley Roberts chairman.

The report was adopted as read.



# VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, make the following report:

We recommend that each Sunday School teacher from each church visit each home that doesn't attend church and invite them to Sunday school.

We find that the Sunday schools are the upbuilding of our churches today.

We recommend that every effort be made to use only christians as teachers and superintendents. We urge all Sunday schools to be represented and take part in our Sunday School Convention.

We recommend that each Sunday school obtain their literature from the Free Will Baptist Publishing House, Ayden, N. C.

W. D. Glasgow, chairman.

The report was adopted as read and the committee discharged.

## DECEASED MEMBERS

We, your committee on Deceased Members report as follows:

Belk—Bro. J. L. Collins and Sister Pearl Shepherd.

Liberty—Bro. Edgar Mixon, Sisters Effie Guyton, Dona Harrison, Laura Price and Hattie Perkins.

Mt. Harmony—Sister Mae Belle Mitchell.

Mt. Pleasant—Sister Louise Crossley.

Mt. Willing—Bros. Thomas R. Lee and Eddie Crews.

Piney Grove—Bro. David Markham.

Springfield—Bro. Mose Pennington and Sister D. C. Hall.

Union Chapel—Bro. Lee Collins.

We feel that in giving up these loved ones that we should realize how close eternity really is, and how much more we should be concerned about the lost.

Respectfully submitted.

A. J. McDonald, chairman.

At this time Rev. A. L. Warren brought a very interesting memorial devotion on deceased members.

Rev. R. P. Ritch was appointed as a member of the executive committee to fill the place of Rev. S. F. Lee, whose time had expired.

Dismissed 10 minutes.

The body re-assembled in the church. Song service directed by Rev. R. P. Rich. Prayer by Rev. P. J. Kettelman.

At 11:00 o'clock Rev. A. J. Lambert brought a very inspiring message, using as a text 1st Peter 3:2; subject, "The Second Coming of Christ."

Dismissed until 1:00 o'clock for dinner. Prayer by Rev. Henry Crawford.

## AFTERNOON

Songs were directed by Rev. Robert Collins and Rev. A. J. Lambert. Prayer by Bro. Lee McAdams.

The church letters from Friendship and Taylor Springs were received and read.

By move and second Taylor Springs' delegates were seated and Friendship's letter was received without delegates.

Called for report of committee on Temperance.

We beg to make the following report:

In as much as the Bible warns of the danger of the use of in-



## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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toxicating drinks, and because of its widespread use, especially among our ruling officers and the mothers of our children, as well as youth, it becomes the major contributing cause of the moral decays of our present generation. The most deplorable fact of all is, that church membership now at an all time record with a clear majority of the votes that could vote out liquor and could enforce any laws, if our church people would only practice, preach and vote dry. We very earnestly beg all the people of our churches to not only refrain from its use but to oppose its traffic in all places.

Respectfully submitted,

B. T. Alexander, chairman.

The report was adopted as read.

### FINANCE

We, your committee on Finance make the following report:

After collecting the minute funds from the various churches, we find a total of \$118.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Addie Barnes, chairman.

The report was adopted as read.

Rev. A. J. Lambert gave an oral report on the Children's Home, urging everyone to give liberally to the support of this worthy cause.

The moderator called for a report of the ordaining council.

We, the ordaining council, after prayer, have examined Bro. Euell Lewis from Fayette church and deem him worthy to be ordained as a deacon.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Robert Collins, chairman.

At this time the council came forward and ordained Bro. Lewis as a deacon of Fayette church.

Song by Rev. A. J. Lambert while the congregation extended the right hand of fellowship to Bro. Lewis and wife.

The moderator appointed the following corresponding delegates:

Jasper Association—Rev. Gurley Roberts and Rev. B. T. Alexander.

State Line Association—Rev. A. L. Warren and Rev. Gurley Roberts.

Progressive Association—Rev. B. T. Alexander.

Mt. Marriah Association—Rev. W. D. Glasgow and Rev. Robert Collins.

N. E. Miss. Association—Rev. R. P. Ritch and Rev. J. B. Ledlow.

Liberty No. 2 Association—Rev. R. P. Ritch and Rev. J. B. Ledlow.

The following delegates were appointed to the State Association: Sister Boyce Fuller, Sister Gurley Roberts, Sister Dewey Jordan, Sister A. L. Warren, Sister Julia Fay Thompson, Bro. Bruce Adams, Bro. Jeff McDonald, Bro. Addie Barnes, Bro. Tommie J. Yerby, Bro. J. D. Moore, Bro. R. T. Mixan and Bro. Houston Ham.

By move and second the association elected the following officers for another year:

Moderator—Rev. J. B. Ledlow.

Assistant Moderator—Rev. Gurley Roberts.

Clerk-Treasurer—R. H. Yerby, Sr.

The association adjourned to meet with Piney Grove church on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1959.

Closing song "Blest Be The Tie That Binds." Prayer by Rev. S. F. Lee.

## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance from 1957 .....	\$ 39.49
Minute Funds .....	118.00
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Total .....	\$157.49
Paid Out:	
Moderator and Clerk .....	\$ 30.00
State Association .....	26.00
Minutes .....	66.45
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Total Expense .....	\$122.45
Balance on hand .....	\$ 35.04

### LIST OF DEACONS

Belk—L. D. Williams, Britt Belk, Jessie Overton, R. H. Yerby, Jr., Grady Newman.

Davis Chapel—John D. Moore. Sr., Raymond Gray, E. D. Sanford.

Fayette—A. M. Wallace, John Williams, Reece Henderson, Grady Kennedy, Euell Lewis, Jack Kelley.

Liberty—Henry Harrison, Henry Perkins, Chelsea Poore, Lee Mixon, Ed Collins.

Mt. Harmony—S. L. Cash, S. G. Johnson. B. C. Guin, Odus Robertson, Erbie Robertson, Titus Barnes.

Mt. Pleasant—J. G. Adair, Raymond Pennington.

Mt. Willing—A. J. McDonald, J. D. Shelnut, E. B. Lee, H. E. McDonald, J. W. Garrison.

Piney Grove—Orlander Shelnut, Elvada Markham, C. E. Roberts. G. W. Chaffin, Mode Chaffin.

Springfield—Dempsey Langley, D. G. Jordan, Haley Wright, Claud Hollis, J. A. Harper.

Union Chapel—W. H. Clearman, C. S. Collins, Carlos Bradford, S. Y. Shelton, James Maddox.

Vernon—J. L. McNeese, L. A. Crowder. M. D. Turner, Jay Y. Turner, Edgar Turner, Loyd Turner, Pascal Yerby.

Executive committee: Rev. R. P. Ritch, 3 years; Rev. E. W. Graves, 2 years; Rev. Gurley Roberts, 1 year.

### NAMES OF DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. W. T. Springifeld, Rev. W. B. Taylor, Rev. W. R. Turman, Rev. Tom Butler, Rev. J. R. Robertson, Rev. M. D. McGee, Rev. J. R. Baker, Rev. W. B. Crawley, Rev. A. J. Brown, Rev. S. M. Perkins, Rev. T. G. Harrison, Rev. D. G. W. Hollis, Rev. J. W. Porter, Rev. T. M. Lollar, Rev. C. A. Chaffin, Rev. G. B. Taylor, Rev. J. A. Tate, Rev. E. A. Palmer, Rev. J. A. Isbell, Rev. M. E. Carpenter.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	Members Received	Members Dismissed	Members Deceased	Total Members	No. in S. S.	No. in League	No. in Ladies Auxiliary	Ordained Ministers	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelist	Paid Children's Home	Paid Missions	Paid Old Age Ministers	Minute Funds	Paid For Improvements	Total Paid Out	Value of Church Property
Belk	Rev. A. L. Warren	R. H. Yerby Sr. Rt. 6, Fayette, Ala.	1		2	158	60	35		1	\$ 675.00	\$ 110.00	\$120.00	\$10.00	\$17.27	\$ 10.00	\$ 6.50	\$ 971.16	\$ 12,000.00
Davis Chapel	Rev. F. C. Barber	J. D. Moore, Jr. Rt. 4, Fayette, Ala.	3			60	50				307.65	75.00			11.43	10.00	374.00	788.43	4,000.00
Fayette	Rev. J. B. Ledlow	Mrs. Euell Lewis Rt. 5, Fayette, Ala.	10	4		100	110	51	30	2	3,336.52	115.00	349.74		9.81	10.00	473.36	7,424.22	45,200.00
Friendship	Rev. Paul Ketteman	Mrs. W. H. Lewis Steens, Miss.				75					89.00					10.00		99.00	4,000.00
Liberty	Rev. L. V. Collier	J. E. Collins Rt. 2, Vernon, Ala.	6		5	225	100			1	710.50	100.00	10.00	25.00		10.00	15.07	973.09	8,000.00
Mt. Harmony	Rev. Roy Barnes	Titus Barnes Millport, Ala.		3	1	199	40				360.00	100.00	10.00		10.00	10.00	475.20	935.20	10,000.00
Mt. Pleasant	Rev. Perkins	J. G. Adair Vernon, Ala.	5		1	66	30				287.50	78.00				5.00		370.50	6,000.00
Mt. Willing	Rev. W. D. Glasgow	Cly F. May Rt. 2, Winfield, Ala.		2	2	205	57			1	325.25	100.00			5.00	10.00	22.50	538.45	3,500.00
Piney Grove	Rev. Gurley Roberts	J. M. Chaffin Guin, Ala.	5	7	1	129	50			3	312.25	65.00			4.70	10.00	151.08	543.03	5,000.00
Springfield	Rev. Roy Barnes	J. A. Harper Vernon, Ala.	9	3	2	258	44	35			636.42	173.48	72.00			10.00	190.79	1,133.69	6,250.00
Taylor Springs	Rev. Clarence Barnes	Mary Ann Barnes Beaverton, Ala.				30				1	60.60				1.50	3.00		64.50	1,500.00
Union Chapel	Rev. Henry Crawford	Earnest Haynes Rt. 6, Fayette, Ala.	3	2	1	110	60			2	615.00	100.00	60.00	42.41	13.68	10.00	36.80	885.93	7,000.00
Vernon	Rev. R. P. Ritch	Mrs. Clyde Motes Vernon, Ala.	3	2		157	75	40	8	3	1,958.85	100.00	63.64	20.16	10.94	10.00	895.23	3,120.78	30,000.00
Total			45	23	15	1772	683	161	38	14	\$9 674.54	\$1,116.48	\$745.38	\$97.57	\$84.33	\$118.00	\$2,318.95	\$17,832.04	\$142,450.00



## VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

### NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRESENT MINISTERS

REV. S. F. LEE .....	Rt. 1, Guin, Ala.
REV. E. W. GRAVES .....	Vernon, Ala.
REV. W. D. GLASGOW .....	Vernon, Ala.
REV. T. J. ADAIR .....	Vernon, Ala.
REV. A. L. WARREN .....	Vernon, Ala.
REV. GURLEY ROBERTS .....	Rt. 7, Fayette, Ala.
REV. J. J. BARNES .....	Rt. 1, Beaverton, Ala.
REV. ROBERT COLLINS .....	Kennedy, Ala.
REV. FRANK COLLINS .....	Guin, Ala.
REV. CLARENCE BARNES .....	Beaverton, Ala.
REV. R. P. RITCH .....	Vernon, Ala.
REV. H. E. COBB .....	Fayette, Ala.
REV. B. T. ALEXANDER .....	Rt. 8, Birmingham, Ala.
REV. J. B. LEDLOW .....	Fayette, Ala.

### PROCEEDINGS OF LEAGUE AND S. S. RALLY

The League and S. S. Rally of the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association met with Union Chapel church June 29, 1958 at 10:00 o'clock a. m.

The house was called to order by the moderator, Rev. Robert Collins Song by Bro. W. H. Clearman, "Praise Him, Praise Him." Prayer by Rev. W. D. Glasgow. Song, "I Want to Know More About My Lord." Scripture lesson by Rev. Robert Collins, Psalms 4th chapter.

The moderator called the roll of the churches and Piney Grove nad Union Chapel represented with programs.

Song by Rev. W. D. Glasgow: "A Soul Winner for Jesus." Special songs by Bradford Trio: "Somebody Tued Me." "I Want To Tell It."

Piney Grove church gave a very interesting program. Song by Miss Shelnut: "This World Is Not My Home." Song by Bro. W. H. Clearman: "Oh, I Want To See Him."

11:00 o'clock message by Rev. Gurley Roberts, scripture 23rd Psalm. Song by Rev. Glasgow: "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms." Song by Rev. Graves: "Never To Say Goodby."

Union Chapel church rendered a very interesting program. Rev. Glasgow was appointed to make a talk in the afternoon.

Officers were elected for another years as follows:

Moderator, Rev. Gurley Roberts; Clerk, Pascal Yerby; S. S. Evangelist, Rev. Roberts.

The convention voted to meet with Piney Grove church for its next session the Secondd Fifth Sunday in 1959. Song, "Hallujah. We Shall Rise." Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Clarence Barnes. A fine lunch was enjoyed by all.

The house was called to order by the moderator. Song by Bro. Clearman: "Where The Soul Never Dies." Prayer by Rev. Claud Hollis. Song "Heavenly Sunlght," by Bro. Hollis. Special song by Cholette Clearman: "Whenever You Pray." Song by Bro. Clearman. "The Blood That Stained The Old Rugged Cross."

Message by Rev. Glsagow: subject "Young People and the Bible," scripture, 1st Tim. 4:12.

Announcements, closing song by Rev. Henry Crawford: "From The Cross To The Crown."

Rev. Robert Collins, Moderator,  
Pascal Yerby, Clerk.



# VERNON FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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## CONSTITUTION

1. This association shall be known as the Vernon Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, being composed of ministers, deacons and delegates from the different churches forming the same. All having full power to vote on all questions which come before the association. Each church being entitled to three delegates for the first 50 members and one additional delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, in addition to ministers and deacons.

2. This body shall be considered an advisory council, having no authority over the internal affairs of the churches unless they depart from the Treaties of Faith and practice of Free Will Baptist. This association shall have authority over all ministers in the matters of doctrine, character, etc. In case any minister in this association depart from and teach doctrine not in keeping with the Treaties of Faith and practice of Free Will Baptist the same shall be dealt with by the association as it may deem proper according to the teaching of the Bible.

3. When a church desires that one of its members should be licensed or ordained to preach the Gospel, it requests the association to examine, by council, such member. The examination for license should refer to the piety, doctrines and convictions respecting the work of the ministry, and the reputation for character and ability of the candidate. The examination for ordination should include all that is required for license, and also satisfactory examination respecting the life and labors of the candidate. No preacher shall be accepted or ordained in this association as a preacher who has more than one living wife.

4. All questions of doctrine and general interest shall be settled by a majority vote of the association and the decision shall be final.

5. The officers of the association shall be moderator, assistant moderator and clerk-treasurer, who shall be chosen at each session by a majority vote of the delegates present. The officers shall be chosen at the close of each session to take office at the beginning of the next session.

6. The association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon at the previous session and shall not adjourn finally until all business matters are transacted.

7. Churches wishing to become members of this association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.

8. We agree as churches of this association to use our best influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as Temperance cause, Sabbath Schools, Missionary work, etc.

9. No member of this association shall be eligible to serve as moderator for more than two consecutive sessions unless no other member be competent to serve in that capacity.

10. Any member of this association who shall be guilty of circulating reports of any nature or aiding in circulating any report that is untrue on a brother minister, that is circulated to injure his

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moral reputation and religious influence, the same shall be dealt with by the association. Any minister of this association who is known to be guilty of using intoxicating spirits by drinking as a beverage, which is calculated to destroy his influence and usefulness, the same may be dealt with by the association as it may deem proper, according to the teaching of the Bible.

11. The association shall in all cases in the transaction of all business brought before it, be governed by a majority of all delegates present and any church or delegate failing or refusing to do so, is and shall be considered by the association as being out of order. Each member is to be a party to the enforcement of same.

12. The moderator shall receive \$10.00, the assistant moderator \$5.00 and the clerk \$15.00 for their services.

13. The clerk shall superintend the printing of the minutes after each session of the association.

### BY-LAWS

1. The association shall be called to order and presided over by the officers elected at the last session.

2. The association shall be opened with devotion by the previous moderator and closed by prayer.

3. The officers shall be chosen by a majority of delegates present, at the close of each session to take office at the beginning of the next session.

4. A credential committee shall be appointed at the beginning of each session who shall receive and examine the letters and list the delegates and turn them over to the clerk with any recommendations they may wish to make.

5. The delegates shall be seated at a designated place in the assembly and a majority shall rule in all cases.

6. The moderator shall not be entitled to vote except in case of a tie and then he shall cast the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on any question, after others have spoken, provided he shall appoint someone to the chair while he is speaking.

7. Only one person shall speak at a time and he shall rise and address the moderator and after recognition by the moderator shall proceed.

8. No person shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject under discussion or use words of personal reflection.

9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without the authority of the association nor more than fifteen minutes.

10. No persons shall laugh or talk during discussions.

11. No person should absent himself from the association without permission of the moderator.

12. The moderator shall appoint all committees. Each committee to consist of from three to five members.

13. Any minister of the association who fails to represent in

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person or by letter for a period of two years without a reasonable excuse, his name shall be dropped from our list of ordained ministers.

14. All ordinations shall be done by the association.

### 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 Saviour and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

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, 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, inherit a fallen nature or 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 which 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 as 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 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.

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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 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 ministered to all true believers.

14. Tithing. God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23-23), and the apostle Paul said "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him" (1 Cor. 16:22).

15. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments 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."