

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY LIBRARY
Wake Forest, North Carolina

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

BETHEL PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

The Church at Hopewell, Heard County, Georgia,
September 8, 9, 10, 1922.

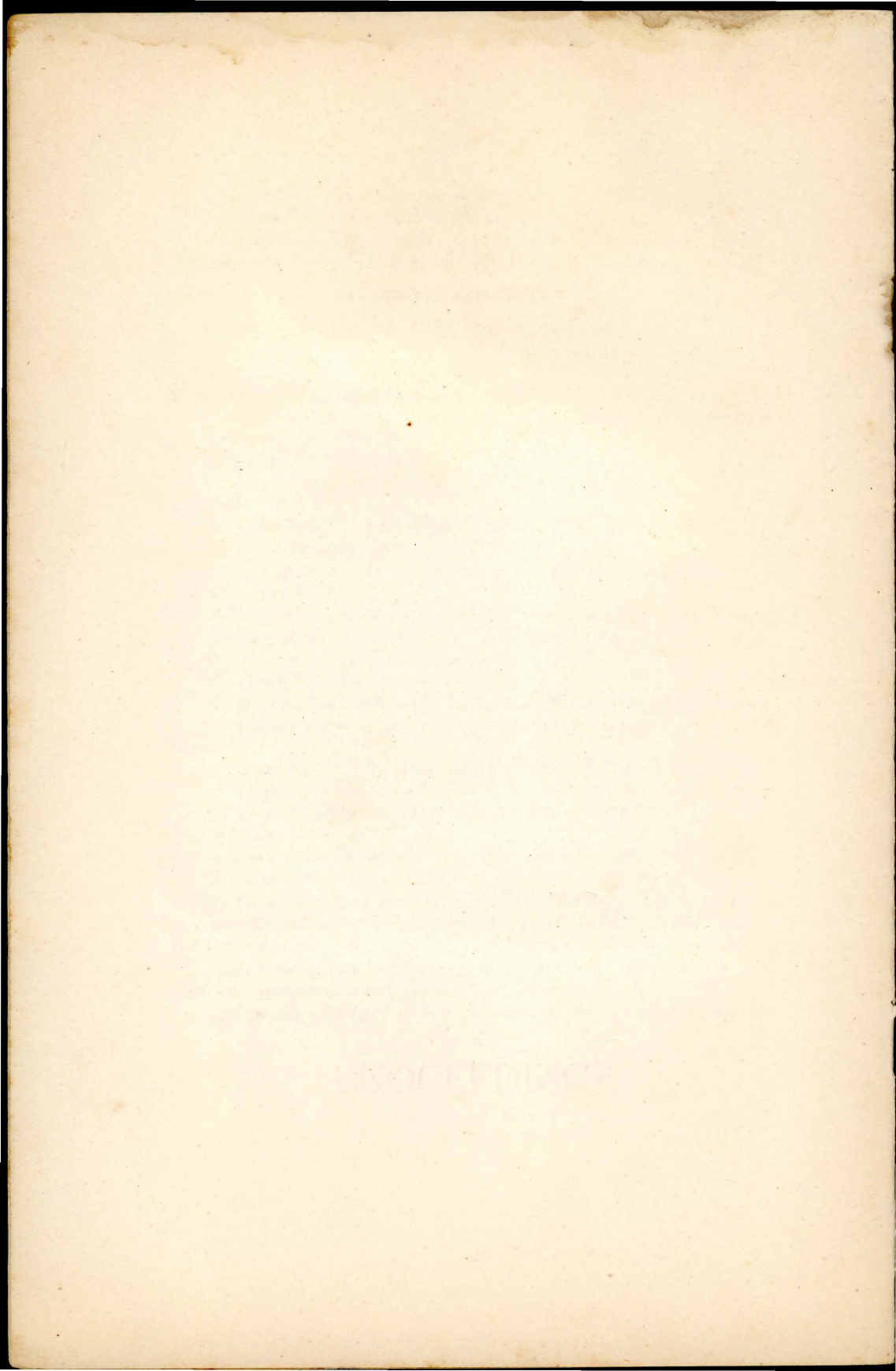
SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY LIBRARY
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Next Session will Convene with the Church at Tallapoosa, Carroll
County, Ga., Third Sunday in October, Friday
and Saturday Before, 1923.

OFFICERS:

ELDER M. T. SHEPHERD, Moderator.....Lamar, Ala.

ELDER J. M. BAGWELL, Clerk.....Carrollton, Ga.



PROCEEDINGS

The Bethel Primitive Baptist Association now in session with the church at Hopewell, Heard County, Ga., September 8, 1922.

After a sweet and comforting talk by Bro. J. B. Ayers, of the New Hope Association, Elder W. P. Merrell then offered prayer and preached introductory sermon from the following text: "This people have I formed for myself, they shall shew forth my praise." Isaiah 43, 21.

After one hours intermission the delegates assembled in the house and was organized by singing and prayer by the Moderator, Elder W. T. Shepherd.

1. Invited visiting brethren to seats with the body.
2. Called for and read letters from the different churches. On motion brother T. Z. Head, from Hillabahatchee, was received without a letter.

3. Elected Elder J. M. Bagwell Clerk by acclamation.

4. By a motion adopted last year's order of business for this session.

5. Called for petitionary churches.

6. Appointed the usual committees:

On Preaching: Brethren R. C. Merrell, J. T. Burson, S. J. Jackson, together with the delegates of this church Brethren J. T. Denney and J. F. Thornton.

On Contribution. Brethren J. C. Brock and C. G. Adamson.

To Write Corresponding Letter. Bro. T. Z. Head.

To Examine Corresponding Minutes: A. J. Adamson, M. L. Robinson.

7. Called for Correspondence from sister Associations:

Yellow River. No tidings.

Marietta. No tidings.

New Hope: Brethren J. B. Ayers, P. A. Hatfield, L. H. Burson, J. W. Partridge, D. H. Rogers, W. H. Rogers, A. D. Loftin and T. S. Copeland.

Cane Creek: Elder T. J. Parish and Brother W. A. Butler.

On motion adjourned to 8:30 Saturday morning.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th

Met pursuant to adjournment, prayer by Deacon R. C. Merrell.

8. Renewed the invitation of brethren to seats with the body.

And renewed the invitation for correspondence.

9. Returned correspondence as follows:

To the Yellow River: Which convenes place and time unknown
Licentiate J. M. Stephenson, with minutes.

To the Marietta: A package of Minutes.

New Hope which convenes with Center church near Felton on
the C. R. R. in Haralson, County Ga., starting on Saturday before
the 2nd Sunday in Oct. 1922: J. H. Burson, J. C. Brock, W. Y.
Moore, M. M. Mulloy, C. M. Denney, R. C. Merrell, T. Z. Head, J. M.
Stephenson, W. A. Denney, J. T. Burson, C. T. Rogers.

Cane Creek: Elders M. T. Shepherd and W. P. Merrell, Brethren
J. C. Brock, W. Y. Moore, M. M. Mulloy, J. H. Burson, S. J.
Jackson, W. S. Whitlock and G.F. Shepherd.

10. Appointed union meetings: 1st District having choice of
time, 1st District at Tallapoosa, Friday, Saturday and 2nd Sunday
in August 1923. 2nd District at Pleasant Grove, 5th Sunday in
August, Friday and Saturday before 1923.

11. On motion appointed the next session of this body to con-
vene with Tallapoosa church commencing Friday before the 3rd
Sunday in October 1923. Location of Tallapoosa church, 4 miles
west of Carrollton on the C. R. R., Carroll County, Ga.

12. Called for report of the different committees and heard
from the same.

13. On motion agreed to have 400 copies of these minutes
printed and distributed in the usual way, after paying for same, to
retain balance of minute funds for his services.

14. Read and adopted corresponding letter.

15. Called for new business, Bethany church called for a letter
of dismission, which was granted, also Pleasant Grove asked for a
letter which was deferred until our next session.

16. On motion, a vote of thanks was extended this church
and vicinity for their kindness and hospitality shown us while in their
midst. Then sang a hymn and extended the parting hand, this closed
the seventh annual session of our association.

ELDER M. T. SHEPHERD, Moderator.

ELDER J. M. BAGWELL, Clerk.

ORDER OF PREACHING.

Friday P. M. Sept. 8, Elder J. M. Bagwell of the body.

Saturday A. M. Elder T. J. Parish, of Cane Creek Association, fol-
lowed by Licentiate J. M. Stephenson of the body.

Saturday P. M. Licentiate J. C. Brock, followed by Elder M. T.
Shepherd, both of the body.

Sunday A. M. Elder J. M. Bagwell, followed by Elder T. J. Parish
of the Cane Creek Association.

Sunday P. M. Elder J. M. Bagwell closed by Elder M. T. Shepherd.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Elder W. P. Merrell.....	Roopville, Ga.
Elder J. M. Bagwell.....	Carrollton, Ga.
Elder M. T. Shepherd.....	Lamar, Ala.

LICENTIATES.

B. W. Adamson.....	Fitzgerald, Ga.
J. C. Brock.....	Carrollton, Ga.
J. M. Stephenson.....	Carrollton, Ga.

CORRESPONDING LETTER

The Bethel Primitive Baptist Association to her sister Associations with whom she corresponds, sendeth greetings:

Dear Brethren:

In the Lord this is to inform you that we have held another session of our body, but was somewhat disappointed not getting as much Ministerial correspondents as we were expecting, and we truly hope that our Ministers will come to see us next year, may God direct you to come, is our prayer.

We thank and bless the Lord for the sweet messages that the good Lord sent us this session. Our next session will meet with Tallapoosa Church 4 miles west of Carrollton, starting Friday before the 3rd Sunday in October 1923, where we hope to meet many visiting Brethren and Ministers, till then farewell and the dear Lord bless us all, is our prayer.

ELDER M. T. SHEPHERD, Moderator.

ELDER J. M. BAGWELL, Clerk.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES

1. We believe in only one and living God, and that there are three that bear record in Heaven—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe that God elected or chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world; that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

4. We believe the doctrines of original sin, and a man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

6. We believe that God's elect shall be called effectually regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost and shall persevere in grace and never fall finally away.

7. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper, and washing the saint's feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances and the true mode of baptism is immersion.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joy of the righteous will be eternal.

9. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances only such as are called by God, as was Aaron and came under the imposition of the hands by Presbytery and is in fellowship with the church of which he is a member.

10. We believe that God has ordained good works, that His children should walk in them, and that good works are only such as God commanded in His word and not such as without the warrant thereof, are devised of men out of blind zeal, or any pretense of good intentions.

DECORUM

Article 1. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Art. 2. The Moderator shall invite ministers and members to seats.

Art. 3. The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speech with any other member of the body, provided his seat be filled, but shall have no vote, except there be a tie, then he may.

Art. 4. The general principles of order, as embodied in these words, "Let all things be done decently and in order," and "unto edifying," will be expected and required of each member, visitor or correspondent.

Art. 5. In harmony with these general principles, each brother who speaks on any subject under consideration by the Association, will be expected to rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject.

Art. 6. The Clerk shall keep a regular record of the proceedings of each Association, by carefully preserving a full file of the minutes.

ASSOCIATIONAL CONSTITUTION

Article 1. It is understood and agreed upon by the churches composing this Association, that each church, if it so choose, may send not more than two brethren with a letter certifying appointment, the number baptized during the preceding year; received by letter; excluded or dead; also total membership.

Art. 2. That this Association shall be known as the Bethel Primitive Baptist Association.

Art. 3. It is understood that no church, on becoming a member of this Association, parts with, or surrenders any of her rights, privileges, duties or responsibilities given her by the Great Head of the church, and made binding on her in the New Testament.

Art. 4. It is further understood that all disciplinary power and rights, pertaining to membership or fellowship in the church, belongs exclusively to the church or churches and that this Association shall not assume the right to dictate, to advise, nor in any way interfere with the internal right of the churches.

Art. 5. Any church of this Association can withdraw at pleasure, either by letter, or without it; but in either case, it will be expected that said church first give notice to the Association of her desire to withdraw.

Art. 6. Any church may be dropped from this Associational compact by request of two or more churches; but this, or any other act of the Association shall not itself be regarded as officially impairing or breaking church fellowship among the churches of this union, nor members of churches. We regard all matters touching church fellowship as belonging exclusively to the church or churches, and requiring their official action to make it valid.

Art. 7. This Association shall not form any alliance, correspondence or relation with any institution, secret or otherwise, except to correspond with other Primitive Baptist Associations, the churches of which are known to be of the same faith and order with the churches of this Association.

Art. 8. Churches petitioning for membership will be admitted on giving satisfactory evidence of their being the same faith and order with the churches of this Association.

Art. 9. It shall be the only object of this Association to meet for the worship of God, and shall be opened and closed with prayer and to receive correspondence and to return correspondence with sister Associations of the same faith and order of this Association.

Art. 10. Visiting brethren of the same faith and order with the churches of this Association known to be in good orderly standing with their churches at home, may be invited to seats with the body, and members of churches of this body may have their names enrolled as correspondents to other associations, but none shall be allowed to vote but brethren sent by the churches.

Art. 11. Correspondence with sister Associations may be suspended at the direction of the body.

Art. 12. This Association shall have no other articles of faith than that which each church already has.

Art. 13. The pastor of the church where this Association meets shall be the moderator of the body. The Clerk shall be elected by the body.

Art. 14. This Association may adjourn to any time and place she may think most advisable.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH	COUNTY and STATE	PASTORS	CLERKS	MESSENGERS	Rec'd. by Exp. and Bap.	Re'ed. by Confession of Faith.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total Membership.	Sunday of Meeting.	Contributions.
(First Dist.)														
Carrollton P. B. C.	Carroll, Ga.	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	M. N. Todd....	Eld. J. M. Bagwell, J. C. Brock	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	17	1	12.00
Tallapoosa	Carroll, Ga.	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	Allen Barnes....	M. M. Mulloy, J. A. Meigs....	1	0	4	1	1	2	0	35	2	2.00
Emmaus	Carroll, Ga.	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	N. E. Denney..	T. S. McLendon, R. C. Merrell	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	24	4	43.00
Bethany	Carroll, Ga.	Eld. M. T. Shepherd	F. M. Fuller....	F. M. Fuller, S. J. Jackson....	4	0	3	0	3	1	0	44	1	12.50
Bethel	Heard, Ga.	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	J. E. Burson..	J. T. Burson	0	0	0	1	5	0	1	36	3	4.00
(Sec. Dist.)														
Hopewell	Heard, Ga.	Eld. M. T. Shepherd	J. C. Bentley..	J. T. Denney, J. F. Thornton..	0	0	0	0	8	2	0	31	2	2.00
Valley Grove	Heard, Ga.	Not Represented ...												
Canaan	Heard, Ga.	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	J. N. Arnett....	T. A. Barnes, J. W. Arnett.....	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	13	3	1.50
Pleasant Grove....	Heard, Ga.	Eld. M. T. Shepherd	G. A. Hous....	A. J. Adamson, C. G. Adamson	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	38	3	2.75
Hillabahatchee ...	Randolph, Ala.	No Pastor		T. Z. Head										
Mt. Carmel	Randolph, Ala.	Eld. M. T. Shepherd	J. H. Smith....	M. L. Robinson, J. H. Smith....	0	0	0	0	3	7	0	23	4	1.00

