Minutes

OF THE

Annual Session

Virginia Corresponding

Meeting

HELD WITH

The New Valley Old School Baptist Chuhch

HELD AT THE MOUNT ZION MEETING HOUSE NEAR ALDIE, Loudoun County, VIRGINIA, OCTOBER 17, 18, 19,

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Next session convenes with the Frying Pan Church, located in Fairfax County, Virginia, to be held at the Mount Zion Meeting House, Wednesday and Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1963

OFFICERS

THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE Elon College, North Carolina



Proceedings

OF THE VIRGINIA CORRESPONDING MEETING HELD AT MOUNT ZION MEETING HOUSE, OCTOBER 17, 18, and 19, 1962.

The Association convened at 10:30 a.m. standard time. Opened the meeting by singing hymn 534. Prayer was offered by Elder S. R. Boykin. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder W. D. Griffin from Genesis 41:14-16.

The Association was organized by choosing Elder John D. Wood, Moderator, Elder George L. Weaver, Assistant Moderator, Leslie D. Duke, Clerk, and Deacon Arthur L. Carter, Assistant Clerk.

Letters from the several churches were read and a Statistical Table was prepared from their contents to be made a part of these minutes. Moved and unanimously carried that we seat our direct correspondents and indirect correspondents of our faith and order whom we consider in order at home.

Appointed Brothers Dade, Norman, and Carter a Committee to arrange the order of preaching.

Appointed Brothers Duke and Dade a Committee to distribute Minutes of corresponding Associations.

Appointed Brothers Norman, Dade, and Duke a Committee to handle the finances of the Association.

Moved to adjourn the business of the Association until 10:30 a.m., standard time, Thursday. Sang hymn 495.

AFTERNOON SESSION:

Sang hymn 596. Preaching by Elder J. P. Helms from 1 Cor. 15:9, 10, followed by Elder J. R. Lane from Gen. 2:5, followed by singing hymn 141, and benediction by Elder W. D. Griffin.

THURSDAY MORNING:

The Association convened according to adjournment. Opened by singing several hymns. Prayer was offered by Elder W. B. Barnes. We then received correspondence and seated Associations and churches as follows:

Salisbury: Elder W. D. Griffin, Elder Arthur Warren, Sisters Annie Fields, Ethel Holloway, Charlotte Adkins, and Patty Krewatch.

Lexington-Roxbury: Elder W. D. Griffin.

Warwick: No session, Sister Elsie Loeffel.

Maine: Elder Arthur Warren, Deacon Arthur Merigold, Sister Etta Merigold.

Baltimore: No session, Elder W. D. Griffin, Deacon Quincy A. Gladding and Sister Alice E. Gladding.

Associations and churches not in direct correspondence with us were seated as follows:

Sidling Hill Church: Brother Orien Mellott.

Trough Creek Church: Sister Alice Mellott.

Contentnea Association: Elder C. N. Bunn, Elder G. G. Trevathan, Sister W. B. Barnes.

Pigg River Association: Elder J. P. Helms, Elder Cecil Turner, Brothers Gary Akers, Dillard Akers, James Holley, Sisters J. P. Helms, Valsie Akers, and Sister Susie Carter.

Valley View Church: Deacon Willie Graham, and Sister Katherine Martin.

Black Creek Association: Elders S. R. Boykin, W. B. Barnes. Harmony Church: Elder J. R. Lane.

Smith River Association: Elders B. O. Thompson, J. L. Agee. Durham Church: Sister Bessie Clark.

New Harmony Church: Elder O. J. Croker.

South Ouachita Association: Elder J. L. Smith.

Appointed the next session of this Association to be held with the Frying Pan Church at the Mount Zion Meeting House, the Lord willing, Wednesday and Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1963.

It was proposed and adopted unanimously that we hold the sessions of this Association but two days in the future.

Ordered that any member of this Association who may be present at Associations of our direct correspondence be requested to serve as messengers to same.

Ordered that the printing of the Minutes be left with the Clerk and Assistant Clerk of this Association.

A Committee of all Elders and Deacons present was appointed

to examine our Corresponding Letter and report their recommendation on Friday to the Association.

Continued services as follows: Elder J. L. Smith entered the stand and spoke from Matt. 23:37; followed by singing 276, and preaching by Elder W. B. Barnes, from 1 Peter; sang hymn 340. Benediction by Elder J. D. Wood.

AFTERNOON SESSION:

Sang hymn 307. Preaching by Elder G. G. Trevathan, no announced text; followed by Elder C. N. Bunn, Matt. 11:25-28. Followed by Elder S. R. Boykin, failed to get text. Benediction by Elder J. L. Smith.

FRIDAY MORNING:

Association convened according to adjournment. Opened meeting by singing hymn 360. Prayer was offered by Elder George Weaver. The Committee appointed to distribute Minutes reported same had been attended to. Appointed Deacon Arthur Carter to write the Corresponding Letter for the next session.

Appointed Leslie D. Duke to serve a two year term on the Old Baptist Home Fund. Adopted Committees' recommendation of acceptance of Corresponding Circular Letter as read; the same to be made a part of our Minutes. Continued services as follows: Sang hymn 386, followed by preaching by Elder Cecil Turner from Eph.; followed by Elder B. O. Thompson from 1 Cor.; followed by Elder J. L. Agee; no announced text.

AFTERNOON SESSION:

Sang hymn 375, followed by preaching by Elder Arthur Warren from Isa. 54:13 and John 6:45; followed by Elder O. J. Croker from Isa 53. Benediction by Elder Arthur Warren.

STATISTICAL TABLE

MOUNT ZION—Sister Mabel Farnie, Clerk, Leesburg, Va.; Elder J. D. Wood, Brother C. A. Hylton, Deacon C. W. Norman Brother Garner, Brother B. K. Smith, Sisters Wood, Fries and Norman. Meets fourth Sunday of each month; our membership is 11, having lost one and received one since our last meeting; contribution \$35.00.

NEW VALLEY—Deacon L. D. Duke, Clerk, Charlestown, W. Va.; messengers, Brother Roger Dade, Sister Martha Howser Mildred Duke, Eunice Craig, and Alethea White. Meets third Sunday in each month at the New Valley and Broad Run Meeting House. Seven members, having lost two by death; received none since our last meeting; contribution \$35.00.

FRYING PAN—Deacon Arthur L. Carter, Clerk, 435 N. Main St., Manassas, Va.; messengers, Deacon Carter, Elder George L. Weaver, Sisters Ida Green, Adlade Fertney, Meets second Sunday in each month; seven members; received none; lost none since our last meeting; contribution \$35.00.

CIRCULAR LETTER

The churches composing the Virginia Corresponding Meeting while in session at the Mount Zion Meeting House October 17, 18, and 19, 1962, send greetings in the Lord to our correspondents and sister churches:

Dear Brethren:

It has long been the custom of the brethren of the various churches when they meet in an associated capacity, to send greetings to their brethren of other churches and Associations, and give an account of their faith and order, that there might be a mutual thanksgiving for the evidences of God's mercy and longsuffering among them.

When we remember that we are as brands plucked from the burning, and that it is wholly of the mercy of God that we are not as those who are blown about with every wind of doctrine, but are firmly embedded in that which the Lord teaches, we walk softly as becometh those who receive so great a blessing.

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We cannot boast as if we have received a reward, but must humbly acknowledge our poverty and our unworthiness in receiving such great things, which are beyond the reach of mortal men themselves.

So our present theme will be centered around the questions of the Apostle to the Corinthians: "For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what has thou that thou hast not received? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hast not received it?"

The very foundation of God's dealings with us, is his grace and mercy, which are prompted by his great love for us; and this is apparent throughout all his dealings with us, and our relations with him. In our penury we have received bountiful gifts. We were dead in sin, and unworthy of his notice, but he made known his great love towards us. We need not remind our brethren that our salvation and redemption comes this way. And it would seem that the weight and importance of it would keep us mindful of it, to the exclusion of any thought of pretense or boasting.

But we deal with realities, we do become exalted, we do sometimes boast, as we and many of our brethren in the scriptures prove. Even the apostle who wrote the above to the Corinthians, was given a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet him, lest he become exalted above measure; and that he might learn that only the grace of God was sufficient for him in all things; and that, though he was weak, God was strong.

Thus we find Peter strengthening his brethren after he was made aware of his weakness; and we find Paul doing the same out of the depths of his experience. The true minister of the things of the Lord is taught in the school of grace, and learns his weakness by actual experience, and also his only source of strength, that he may strengthen his brethren; and on occasion reprove and rebuke with all longsuffering and doctrine. These things are food for the children of God, and they grow in the grace thus manifested.

Though these brethren composed the Church at Corinth, being sanctified in Christ Jesus, and called to be saints, and had received the grace of God, for which the apostle expressed his thanks, saying, "I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Christ Jesus," yet there were contentions among them, envy, strife, and divisions, which made manifest their carnality, and their walk as men. Paul and Apollos were only their ministers, even as the Lord gave to them. Some among them affected wisdom, but to such Paul said, "Let him become a fool, that he may be wise." And said also, "... let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come: all are yours; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's."

Thus, required to be faithful as a steward, Paul brings them again to recall from whence they had received their call and sanctification; and to consider the truth which was in their hearts, as to the source of all their blessings. How startling is the truth of Peter's query when it is brought home: "If the righteous scarcely be saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

"Who maketh thee to differ from another?" the apostle wrote. And he might have answered by asking, Who called you out of darkness into light? Who shined in your hearts? Who revealed to you that Jesns was the Christ? Who is it that shall confirm you to the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ? Who? Yes, who brought you into the knowledge of the glorious truth as it is in Jesus, and distinguished you as a light in darkness?

Then he asked, "What hast thou that thou hast not received?" And he would have answered by asking, Is there anything pertaining to Jesus, the church, your hope, your joy, that you did not receive solely by the grace of God? You know there is not! then why do you glory as if it were your own doing? Why do you act one toward another as if these things were of yourselves,

giving you advantage one above another?

These are things which sometimes bring us abruptly to see ourselves in a true light—when they are applied in our souls with power; and bring us to confess our faults and short-comings one to another, and to walk in true humbleness. When such is the case, we are glad to be blessed to be a little one among the brethren.

The apostle said of these Corinthians, "For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" The carnality that is in each of us, when it takes form as manifested among those brethren, is the cause of divisions and strife. Without it such would not be. The carnality in brethren causes them to follow men, and this same carnality causes men to want others to follow them. Without a following, no new thing would get far. So it behooves us, as we are given to be concerned in these matters, to prayerfully consider this or that; before we lend support to anything that would break the fellowship and peace of those we love.

The same Spirit that gave rise to the language of our text, also caused the following to be recorded a thousand years before: "These six things doth the Lord hate, yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, an heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren." A faithful steward will declare these things to his brethren.

We value your love and fellowship, brethren, and are glad to have your correspondence; and we are glad to have all of you who were able to visit us this year. May the God of all grace ever keep us mindful that it is by His grace that we are what we are; and keep us little in our own feelings, that we may behold the image of Christ in our brethren.

—JOHN D. WOOD

LIST OF MINISTERS PRESENT

Elder John D. Wood
Elder George L. Weaver
Elder J. P. Helms
Elder Arthur Warren
Elder C. N. Bunn
Elder W. B. Barnes
Elder S. R. Boykin
Elder Cecil Turner
Elder J. R. Lane
Elder B. O. Thompson
Elder G. G. Trevathan
Elder J. L. Agee
Elder J. L. Smith

LIST FOR DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO BE MAILED TO THE VARIOUS CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Delaware River-Letha Blackwell, Clerk, Lafayette St., Rosa Acre	es,
	20
Delaware-R. S. Jarmon, Clerk, 14 Kells Ave, Newark, Del	20
Salisbury-Wm. S. Adkins, Clerk, Rt. 50, Mardella, Md	20
Lexington-Roxbury-W. W. Bellinger, Duannesburg, N. Y	
Warwick-Elder A. J. Slauson, 46 Cedar St. Kingston, N. Y	
Maine-Mrs. S. S. Bartlett, Clerk, Damariscotta Miils, Maine	5
Covenanted Church of Canada—Elder George Ruston, Dutton	
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