

Minutes of the Brushy
Creek Union of Primitive
Baptist Faith and Order.

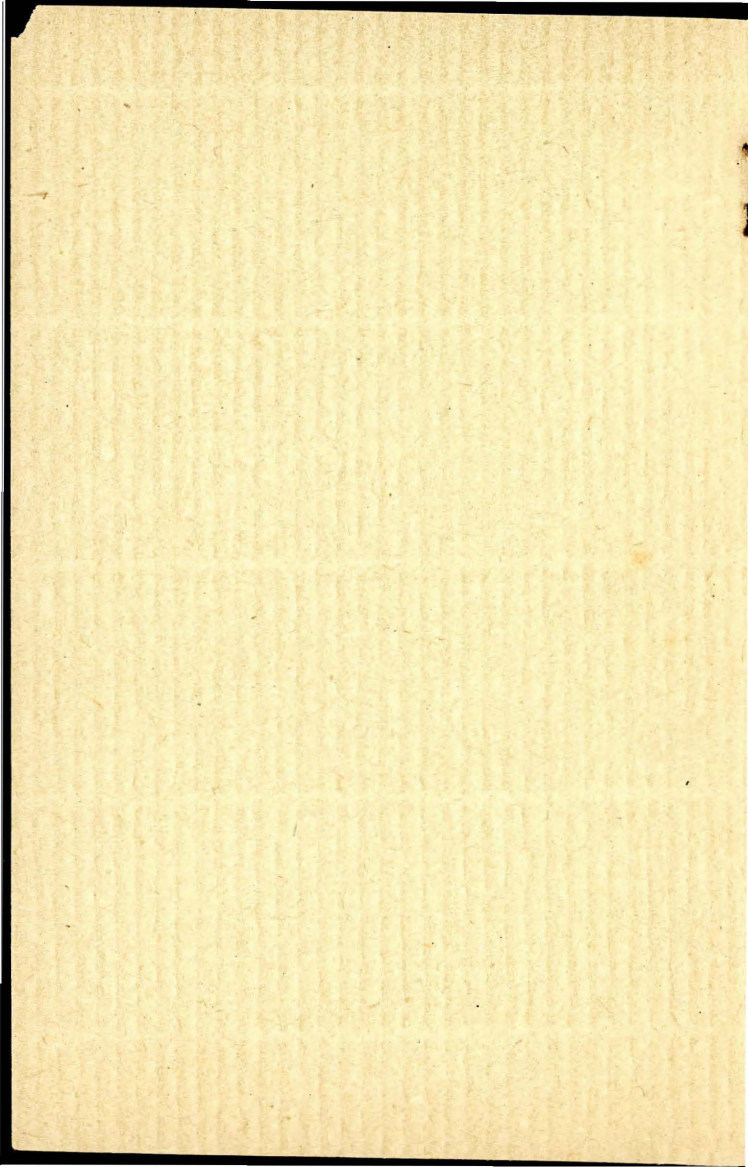


SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION.



SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY LIBRARY
Wake Forest, North Carolina

Held with Willacoochee Church, Irwin
County, Ga., September 13th, 14th, 1907.



MINUTES.

WILLACOOCHEE CHURCH,
IRWIN COUNTY, GA., }
Sept. 13, 1907. }

The Seventeenth Annual Session of the Brushy Creek Union of Primitive Baptists convened this day with the above named church, Elder J. A. Sutton, Moderator, presiding.

By arrangement of the committee, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder W. H. Harden, of the Brushy Creek Union, using for his subject, First Timothy, second chapter, fifth verse: "For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus." Services were closed by the Moderator with a few well chosen remarks.

Intermission of twenty minutes was given, after which the body returned to the house and began business. Prayer by Elder J. A. Wright, of the Towaliga Association.

Called for correspondence received and read letters and messengers' names enrolled from the churches as follows: Willacoochee, Oaky Grove, Mount Olive, Brushy Creek, Turner's Meeting House and Sturgeon Creek.

On motion, the election of Moderator and Clerk followed and resulted in the re-election of Elder J. A. Sutton and G. W. Fletcher, respectively.

Called for petitionary letters—Received one from the church at Henderson's Chapel, which

was, on motion, unanimously voted as a member of the Union.

The Moderator appointed Jacob Dorminy and Daniel Tucker to act in conjunction with the local committee on preaching services.

Called for correspondence from other bodies and received as messengers, Elders J. A. Wright, S. G. Ratcliff, J. L. Hayes, T. M. Whatley and Bro. S. G. Blount from the Towaliga Association.

Called for messengers to visit the Towaliga Association at its next session and Elder W. H. Harden, Bros. D. T. Paulk, E. J. Hogan and Daniel Tucker volunteered to go.

Appointed Geo. T. Young to write corresponding letter to same Association.

On motion, adjourned until 9:30 o'clock tomorrow morning.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1907.

The Union met as per adjournment on yesterday and after preaching by Elders S. G. Ratcliff and J. A. Wright, of the Towaliga Association, adjourned one hour and fifteen minutes for dinner, after which the body re-assembled in the house and resumed the business of the meeting. Prayer by Elder T. M. Whatley, of the Towaliga Association.

On motion, regular order of business was suspended and called for letters from the churches not handed in on yesterday and received letters and messengers' names enrolled for the churches at Emaus, Hickory Spring and Warrior Creek.

Next meeting of the Union was ordered held with the church at Turners' Meeting House, Tift

county, at the regular time—Third Sunday, Friday and Saturday before, in September, 1908.

Called for corresponding letter to the Towaliga Association; read and adopted same.

Called for minute funds. Collected seventeen dollars and fifty cents; ordered 600 minutes printed for distribution and the Clerk to retain balance of funds, if any left, for his services. Also collected twenty-three dollars and thirty-six cents for visiting ministers.

The following resolution of thanks was introduced by Elder W. H. Harden:

TO WILLACOCHEE CHURCH:

We thank God and praise you all, brethren, sisters and friends for your kindness and hospitality to this body while in session.

On motion, meeting adjourned to time and place fixed above.

G. W. FLETCHER,
Clerk.

J. A. SUTTON,
Moderator.

Corresponding Letter to Towaliga Association.

The Brushy Creek Union of Primitive Baptists to her sister, The Towaliga Association:

DEAR BRETHREN AND SISTERS:

Through the mercies of An All-Wise God, we are enabled to meet and hold this, the Seventeenth Annual Session in peace and love, for which we trust we thank God and take courage.

We desire to acknowledge your loving remembrance through your messengers, Elders, J.

A. Wright, S. G. Ratcliff, J. L. Hayes, T. M. Whatley and Brother S. G. Blount. We assure you we feel very gratefully blessed and much edified by your visits to our bounds.

This message will be borne to you by the brethren whose names will appear in our minutes.

The next session of our Union will be held, the Lord willing, with the church at Turners' Meeting House, Tift County, Ga., on the Third Sunday, Friday and Saturday before, in September, 1908, when we hope to be favored with your presence.

Read and adopted, September 14, 1907.

G. W. FLETCHER,
Clerk.

J. A. SUTTON,
Moderator.

Constitution, Doctrine, and Articles of Faith.

Articles of Constitution.

The following preamble, resolution and articles of Constitution were adopted by the Brushy Creek Union of Primitive Baptists ad its organization in 1891:

Whereas, The several churches of the Primitive Baptist faith and order, to wit: Brushy Creek, Turner Meeting House, Little River, Sturgeon Creek and Hopewell, of Irwin county, Georgia, and Emaus and Oaky Grove of Berrien county, Georgia, being now, as they have been for a number of years, entirely disconnected with associational organizations; and,

Whereas, Certain Primitive Baptists in other localities, whose orthodoxy in doctrine, faith and practice, as far as said churches have been able to divine, is satisfactory, and whose churches occupy full standing associationally, having recently, in a most friendly and Christian like manner, shown their confidence as believers in membership of said churches, manifesting on divers occasions their love and fellowship for same without restraint; and

Whereas, such treatment, coming from the hands of associational brethren—especially since many of these organizations have seen proper to draw the line of demarcation so sharply--having aroused

in the minds of the membership of said churches the tenderest feelings of Christian love and fellowship in return, and in order to be prepared to do even justice to any and all bodies of Primitive Baptists orthodox in doctrine, faith and practice, connected or disconnected with associational organizations, who will suffer them to do so, it has become the desire of said churches to inaugurate a plan by which they may as a body solicit correspondence, receive and welcome such brethren to their assemblies for worship, and through which they may the better exchange the many Christian courtesies due from one to another, so often the source of immeasurable comfort and consolation to believers in Christ; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the chosen messengers and members present of the several churches named in the foregoing preamble, this day assembled with Brushy Creek church, Irwin county, Georgia, That the same be organized, and that the same will hereafter be known as the Brushy Creek Union of Primitive Baptists, and that the said organization is hereby based only and solely upon the following articles of the Constitution, to wit:

ARTICLE I. The Brushy Creek Union of Primitive Baptists, as above organized, shall hold annual session with one or the other of the churches of the Union a general annual Union meeting, the present meeting constituting the first meeting under the Constitution.

ART. II. Said meeting shall be composed of the regular chosen messengers of the several churches composing the Union, together with the members of the same in good standing who may be in attendance.

ART. III. Each meeting shall be organized by the election of a moderator, whose duty it shall be to preside over the body during its deliberations, explain and put forth questions, welcome and receive visitors, and perform such other duties as his high office may require; and also a clerk, whose duty it shall be to keep and record in a suitable book for that purpose, a correct minute of all business transacted therein, prepare and have the same published in pamphlet form, and superintend the distribution of the same among the several churches of the Union, and do such other things as the nature of his office requires and may be necessary.

ART. IV. No business shall ever be transacted or ever be entertained by the body in such meetings that either directly or indirectly interferes with the internal rights of each church to self-government leaving that power to be exclusively and absolutely exercised by those bodies alone, according to precept and example laid down in that unerring fundamental constitution of the Church of Christ, the Holy Bible.

Declaration of Doctrine--Adopted in 1892.

The Declaration of Doctrine as understood, taught and believed by this Union, was introduced by Elder W. H. Harden, Elder James Gibbs presiding, which, after some discussion, was unanimously adopted and offered to be spread on the minutes of the Union, to-wit:

Whereas, Many have made inquiry concerning the doctrine as held forth by the Brushy Creek Union of Primitive Baptists, some having charged us with fatalism, and still others with Arminianism, etc.

Therefore, In order that a better understanding may be had of what we believe on these points, we set forth the following statement in connection therewith:

First--That the predestination of God brings in his children a conformity to the image of His son, and results in their eternal happiness and the honor and glory of His eternal name. That sin is the transgression of the law, and is brought forth by the unrestrained violations of men and devils, and they are both accountable and reprehensible beings to God for their disobedience, and thus work out their own destruction.

Second--We believe that eternal life is the gift of God, and that salvation is by grace, and grace alone, through faith, and that we ought not to affiliate with any of the institutions or organizations of men, gotten up or in any way used to do or help to do the work of Christ. All such religious institutions manifest a zeal without knowledge, and are therefore derogatory to the honor and glory of God and dangerous to the peace, happiness and solid unity of the church. Ye are all one in Christ.

Articles of Our Faith.

1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead--the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Deut. 6:4; II Sam 7:22; St. John 1:1.

2. We believe that the scripture of the Old and New Testament is the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice II Tim. 3:16-17; Rev. 22:10.

3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election. Rom. 9:11-16; Eph. 1:4-5-9-11.; I Thes. 1:13

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin. Rom. 5:12:19; Ps. 5:5; Jer. 16:12.

5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability. St. John 6:34; Rom. 7:24; Eph. 2:1.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ. Rom. 4:5-2; Phil. 3:3.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit. Rom. 8:30; Phil. 3:14; Eph. 1:8.

8. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never fall finally away. St. John 10:28-29; II Tim. 1:12.

9. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper, and washing the saints' feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances. We also believe that the true mode of baptism is by immersion. Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 2:38-42; I Cor. 5:10-11-16.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment. Job 14:13-15; I Cor. 15:13-17.

11. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and that the joys of the righteous will be eternal. Matt. 25:31-46; Rom. 2:5.

12. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the above named ordinances only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery. I Tim. 4:14; II Cor. 8:19-20; Acts 6:6.

Table of Churches, Pastors, Messengers and Dates of Meeting

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	Counties	Total Membership	Days of Monthly Meeting	Days of Annual Meeting	Pastor	Postoffice
Willacoochee	J A Mathis, L G Whitley and G E Paulk	Irwin	68 1 S	June		J A Sutton	Fitzgerald
Oaky Grove	J W Griner	Berrien	39 4 S	Sept		R A Lawrence	Tifton
Mount Olive	D R Willis and Henry Sutton	Tift	15 4 S	Aug		W H Harden	Ocilla
Brushy Creek	Daniel Tucker, W F Paulk and Lucius Tucker	Irwin	110 4 S	July		J A Sutton	Fitzgerald
Turners, M H	Thos McMillan, M A McMillan	Tift	47 2 S	Oct		R A Lawrence	Tifton
Emaus	G W Griner	Berrien	36 1 S	Sept		James Gibbs	Tifton
Hickory Springs	D Whiddon, M. C. Mims	Tift	60 3 S	Aug		"	Tifton
Warrior	J J Vickers, T J Deas	Colquitt	12 2 S	Sept		"	Tifton
Hender'n's Chapel	M L Paulk, M Paulk	Irwin	20 3 S	June		W H Harden	Bowen's Mill
Sturgeon Creek	Jacob Dorminy, W G Dorm'y	Ben Hill	57 2 S	July		"	Bowen's Mill

