

Minutes
OF THE
Sixty-Eighth Annual Sesssion
OF THE
TOWALIGA ASSOCIATION
OF
Primitive Baptists

Held With the Church
Forest, Clayton County, Ga.

SEPTEMBER 4, 5, 6, 1906.

ELDER W. T. GODARD, Moderator,
MILNER, GEORGIA.

W. M. HARTLY, Clerk,
ZEBULON, GEORGIA.

Introductory by
ELDER W. T. GODARD.

1906
E. N. MILLS & BRO., PRINTERS,
GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

"Jesus Wept."

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• ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Read letters and record Messengers' names
2. Elect Moderator and Clerk.
3. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Appoint a committee to arrange Divine Service.
6. Call for correspondence.
7. Appoint some brother to write corresponding letters.
8. Call roll and read decorum.
9. Appoint correspondents.
10. Appoint union meetings.
11. Appoint time and place for next Association.
12. Appoint brethren to preach next introductory sermon.
13. Appoint brethren to write circular letters.
14. Call for circular letters.
15. Call for corresponding letters.
16. Call for contributions.
17. Say how many minutes.
18. Fix Clerk's compensation.
19. Call for miscellany.
20. Read minutes.
21. Adjourn.

MINUTES

Of the Sixty-eighth annual Session of the Towaliga Association of Primitive Baptists held with the church at Forest, Clayton county, Georgia, September 4, 5 and 6, 1906.

Introductory preached by Elder W. T. Godard.

One hour and a half intermission, when Messengers and Correspondents met in the house after singing, prayer was led by Bro. J. W. Derrick.

1st. Read letters and Recorded Messengers' names.

2nd. On motion elected Moderator and Clerk by ballot which resulted in the election of W. T. Godard as Moderator and W. M. Hartley, Clerk.

3d. Invited visiting ministers and brethren to seats. Received Elder T. Lord of the Union Association, also Eld. Sikes.

4th. Appointed committee on Divine Service. to-wit: Brethren T. G. Preston, Homer Vaughn of the body together with the Messengers of Forest church.

5th. Called for correspondence. Received from Brushy Creek Elders G. W. Phillips, J. A. Sutton, Brethren D. T. Paulk, F. Y. E. Paulk, J. A. Royal with a number of sisters. From Little River, Elder L. M. Ball, R. T. Evans, H. M. Berry, J. Madison Ball, J. W. Dinning, with a number of sisters. From Blue Ridge, Bro. John Sweeny and minutes.

6th. Appointed Bro. J. F. Taylor to write corresponding letter and Bro. J. M. F. Barron to write circular letter.

7th. On motion disposed of calling roll and reading Decorum.

8th. Appointed Correspondence. Brushy Creek, Elder, J. L. Hays, J. A. Wright, W. T. Godard, Brethren W. P. Persons, J. T. Cason.

Little River, Elders Dan Henderson, T. M. Whatley, Brethren J. W. Derrick, J. P. Vaughn, D. Lites, W. T. Gardner, J. M. F. Barron, R. W. Davis, J. F. Willingham, Homer Vaughn.

To Blue Ridge, package of minutes.

Powells Valley, Package of minutes.

Tennessee, package of minutes.

9th. Appointed union meetings, to-wit: First District, Mt. Moriah, beginning Tuesday after fourth Sunday in July next. Second District, Liberty Pike, beginning Friday before Fifth Sunday in July next.

10th. Appointed the next session of this body to be held with the church at Flat Rock, Pike County, beginning Friday

before the first Sunday in September, 1907.

11th. Appointed Elder Dan Henderson to preach next Introductory, Elder J. L. Hayes as alternate. The Association then took recess until 8 o'clock Wednesday morning.

3. p. m., preaching at the stand by Elders J. A. Sutton and F. Lord.

WEDNESDAY MORNING—8 O'CLOCK.

The Association met and after singing, and prayer led by Elder F. Lord, of Ocilla, proceeded to business.

1st. Called for circular letter by Bro. S. S. Thompson, which was adopted.

2nd. Called for corresponding letter by Bro. Taylor, which was adopted.

3d. Called for contributions. Appointed Brethren R. W. Davis, J. Y. Preston, Homer Vaughn and E. B. Taylor on Distribution.

4th, On motion, ordered twelve hundred copies of Minutes printed and distributed.

5th. On motion, took up collection to compensate Clerk for services.

The Association then closed.

W. M. HARTLY,
Clerk.

W. T. GODARD,
Moderator.

Resolution of thanks by Bro. Preston. Resolved that this body tender thanks to Forest church and the friends around for the gracious hospitality shown us and pray that the Lord will abundantly bless them.

9 o'clock prayer meeting led by Bro. J. P. Vaughn.

10. o'clock preaching by Elder J. A. Wright.

Wednesday afternoon 2 p. m. Preaching by Elder L. M. Ball.

Thursday morning 9 a. m. Prayer meeting led by Bro. E. Oglesby.

10:30. Preaching by Elder T. E. Sikes, of Helena, Ga.

2 p. m. Preaching by Elder G. G. Ratcliff.

The preaching throughout was in power and demonstration of the Holy Ghost.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Towaliga Association of Primitive Baptist to her sister associations with whom she corresponds.

Dear Brethren:—

We rejoice that through the Providence of God that we have again been permitted to meet and worship our God with

you. Our hearts were made to rejoice under the sound of the preaching of your ministering brethren.

Dear brethren, we desire a continuation of your correspondence and to meet with more of you another year. We send brethren whose names appear in the body of our minutes to meet with you. The next session of our body will be held with the church at Flat Rock, Pike county, three miles north of Zebulon on the Atlanta and Fort Valley division of the Southern railway, beginning Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1907.

W. M. HARTLY,
Clerk.

W. T. GODARD,
Moderator.

Dear Brethren:—

We venture to address you one more time by way of circular letter. And for your consideration and ours, we quote from 1st Peter, 2nd verse: "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience, and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus. Grace unto you and peace be multiplied."

The Apostle Peter commends this epistle as we notice from the preceding verse, addressing the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Gallatia, Capadocia, Asia, Bethinia, and calls them the elect of God, and they being scattered throughout all those different regions, does not lessen the fact that they were the elect of God. And we understand too that they were the same elect that our Lord spoke of in the 10th chapter of John, when he calls them his sheep and he tells how and why they are his. He says the Father that is greater than all, gave them to him and we understand the sheep here spoken of are his people in a prospective sense. That the angel upon his advent into the world declared he should save his people from their sins. They are the same elect that Paul had under consideration when he addressed the church of Ephesus. The Apostle puts himself in with them and says, "Blessed be the Lord and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Heavenly places in Christ, according as he has chosen us in him before the world began, that we should be Holy and without blame before him, in love with the precious promises, even that we should be the adopted children of Jesus Christ unto himself according to the good pleasure of his will, that we should be to the praise of his glorious grace and have redemption through his blood and the forgiveness of sin according to the riches of his grace and being his by the law of adoption and he dwelling in us by a living principle of faith in himself, our

eternal salvation is complete in him."

So we see my brethren we are in him because we were chosen in him and he is in us by faith and having that faith that works by love and purifies the heart. That faith that Christ is the author and the finisher of and we have it in us as an anchor to the soul both sure and steadfast. The Apostle Paul encourages us when he addresses his brethren at Rome in these words: "There is therefore now no condemnation for them that are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the spirit." (Rom. 8-1.) The reason for the above expression is that the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made us free from the law of sin and death. From these and other quotations we see that this election is eternal and our inheritance is eternal and incorruptible and fadeth not away, it is made sure, reserved in Heaven for us who are kept by the power of God, ready to be revealed at the last day. Then let us take courage. But in our text for this letter we find there is another election and it is for us in time and it is through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience. So we are set apart for something, we are to glorify God in our bodies and in our spirits which are his. The Lord has commanded his children to come unto him when weary and heavy laden and he will give them rest, and to take his yoke upon them and learn of him and in as much as he learned obedience by the things that he suffered if need be we should suffer for his name sake.

The very first command to his children is to take his yoke upon them and learn of him. Learn what? Learn obedience to his will, and the promise is, and I will give you rest. And he has also promised us in wearing his yoke we shall find rest in our souls. What is this rest? It is peace, it is love and it is joy, and more than all else to us.

For if we are risen with him we shall also suffer with him. For the trials of our faith, is much more precious than gold that perisheth though it be tried by fire, we are to gird up the loins of our minds and be sober and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto us and as obedient children not fashioning ourselves according to the former lust in our ignorance. For we know we were not redeemed from our vain conversation with corruptible things such as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. Then let us brethren be admonished by the Apostle and see to it that our souls are purified through unfeigned love of the brethren. Now may his people everywhere forbear one another in love and that they love one another with a pure heart fervently and so fulfill the law of Christ, for love is the fulfillment of the law for the flowers that

cheer us, and the hope that strengthens us and the blessings that comfort us are strewed all along the path of ebedience to which we are elected unto in love.

S. L. THOMPSON.

DECORUM.

1st. The churches composing the Towaliga Association shall not be confined to any set rule as to the specified number of messengers they shall have in the body, but shall have the right to name in their letters as many as they may chose, and in addition all orderly male members of any of the churches being present shall be entitled to seats in the body as Messengers of their churches, with all the rights and privileges of the same.

2d. The Messengers thus assembled shall be denominated the Towaliga Primitive Baptist Association.

3d. For the purpose of historical information and statistical edification, the churches are requested to state in letters, the total number of members in fellowship, the number received by baptism, by letter, by confession of faith. The number dismissed, excluded and dead since last session; also the time of their meeting, their pastoral supply, and the amount of money contributed for ministers, and other purposes, together with any other information they deem appropriate for the edification of the saints and the glory of God.

4th. This Association shall have no power to answer queries, give advice, or dictate to the churches in any case, or to lord it over God's heritage, nor any power by which she can directly or indirectly infringe on the iternal rights of the churches, or censure and try any church or member in reference to faith and practice, or determine upon the validity of gospel ordinances. These things shall rest entirely with the churches; but henceforward our annual meeting shall be only for the purpose of hearing from each other, and for worship of God and the mutual comfort and edification of the saints. To this we reserve the privilege annually the first week in September, or at such other time as may be agreed upon with any church that may invite us, having due regard to priority of claims and the good of the cause. To protect our own stand while in session from heresy and dishonor; to recognize and invite any visiting Primitive Baptist minister or lay brother to worship with us, that we may deem proper; to request the brethren of our own body to visit other churches or bodies in our behalf, with whom we may desire to cultivate Christian fellowsihp; to publish a minute of our proceedings.

5th. Each session of the body shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be duly chosen according to the rules herein-after prescribed, and who shall hold office until a re-election.

6th. Any orderly member of any church belonging to this body when convened, being present shall be eligible to election

as Moderator and Clerk, or to sit on any committee appointed by the same.

7th. In all elections or questions that may be necessary to determine by vote, the vote shall be taken by churches, each church being entitled to three votes for any number of members less than one hundred, and one additional vote for every fifty or fraction thereof above the first hundred; but the Messengers of each church as a body may divine her vote as they see proper.

8th. All elections or questions coming to a vote shall be determined by a majority of the votes cast, and it shall be the duty of the minority to acquiesce in the decision thus reached.

9th. If new churches desire to be admitted into this union, they shall petition by letter and Messengers, and if vouched for or recommended by one or more sister churches, or the Presbytery constituting them, as orthodox and orderly, they shall be received by the voice of the body and manifested by the Moderator giving the Messengers the right hand of fellowship.

10th. Any motion or resolution introduced, clearly inconsistent with the above rules, shall be promptly ruled out of order unless withdrawn by the mover.

11th. Any Messenger being ruled out of order by the Moderator shall have the right of appeal to the body on the question of order, and if sustained shall be allowed to proceed but if not, shall take his seat.

12th. Our meetings being held in the name of Christ, and the worship of God, each Messenger is expected to observe due and proper order therein.

13th. It will not be considered good order for any Messenger whose name has been enrolled as such, to abruptly break off or absent himself from the association without leave.

14th. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speech as other members, provided the chair be filled.

15th. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and approved by the body, and signed by the Moderator before adjourning.

16th. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer,

17th. Amendments to these rules may be made at any time by a majority of the union voting by churches when they deem it necessary, provided such amendments do not compromise the sovereignty of the churches, nor have a tendency to give this body undue power or jurisdiction over them.

Articles of Our Faith and Scriptural Proof.

Article 1. We believe in one only and true living God, and a Trinity of persons in the God-head: Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Proof: Duet. 4:39, Isa 45:16, Mark 12:32, John 1:1-14, Col. 1:15-17, Phil 2:6-8, 1 John 5:7, John 17, John 10:30.

Art. 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. Proof: 2 Tim. 3:16-17, 1 Pet. 1:19-21, Rev. 22:18-19.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of Eternal and Personal Election of a definite number of human race, chosen by Christ before the foundation of the world that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love. Proof: Eph. 1:4-6, 2 Thess. 2:13, John 15:16, 1 Pet. 1:2, Ibid. 2:9.

Art. 4. We believe in a Covenant of Redemption, ordered in all things and infallibly ure, ever existing between God the Father and God the Son. Proof: Isa. 89:2-4, Sam. 23:5, Zach. 9:11, Luke 1:72, Heb. 13:20 1 Pet. 18:20, Rev. 5,9.

Art. 5. We believe in the fall of man and the communication of Adams corrupt nature to his posterity by ordinary generation, and their impotency to recover themselves from the fallen state they are in by sin and wicked works by their own free will and ability. Proof: Gen. 3:6-24, Rom. 5:12, Ibid 3:19, Ps. 51:5, Ibid 58:3, Cor. 15:22.

Art. 6. We believe that all chosen in Christ shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and be effectually called, regenerated and born again, and that all thus born again are justified in the Spirit of God alone by the righteousness of Jesus Christ imputed to them and received, by faith. Proof: John 1:27-29, 1 John 3:9, Eph. 1:4, 2 Tim. 1:9, John 6:27.

Art. 7. We believe that all the saints of God thus called by the Holy Spirit and justified by the righteousness of Christ shall be preserved in Grace and none of them finally fall away so as to be lost. Proof: Jas. 2:22, Rom. 5:1, Ibid 8:37-39, Col 3:3, John 10:28-29.

Art. 8. We believe in the doctrine of the resurrection both of the just and unjust and a general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous will be eternal, and the punishment of the wicked everlasting. Proof: John 5:18-29, Acts 17:31, 1 Cor. 15:21-23, Rev. 30:12-15. Matt. 25:46-46

Art. 9. We believe that the Church of Christ is a local body of professing and baptised believers who have gained Christian fellowship with each other and have given themselves up to the Lord and to one another, and have covenanted together to keep house for God agreeable to the rules of the gospel, and should therefore be kept organically separate and distinct from and independent of the world and institutions, and is the highest and only ecclesiastical authority known to the Word of God. Proof: Matt. 16:18-19, Eph. 1:22, Ibid 3:10, Ibid 5:24-27, Col. 1:8, Matt. 18:17, Eph. 2:19-22, 1 Cor. 6:4, Acts 15:4, John 15:18-19.

Art. 10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Great Head of the Church, and her only law giver; that government is with the church itself and is the privilege of each member. that the discipline cannot be legally extended beyond her own Scriptural jurisdiction, and is intended for the reclamation or expulsion of those members who may be disorderly either in principle or practice and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory and the peace and unity of the church. Proof: Matt. 18:19, Col. 1:18, Acts 11:26 Col. 1:24, Eph. 5:23.

Art. 11. We believe that water baptism, the Lord's Supper and washing the Saints feet are ordinances of the Lord and are to be administered by the authority of the church until His second coming. Proof: Mark 1:4, John 3:2-5, Acts 8:38, Ibid 9:18-28, Matt. 26:26-23, Mark 14:22-24, Luke 22:19-20, Acts 2:42, John 13:1-17, 1 Tim. 5:10.

Art. 12. We believe that none but regularly ordained ministers have the right to administer these ordinances, that professed believers in Christ who in the judgment of the church are true Christians are the only proper subjects of baptism, and immersion is the only proper mode, that none but regularly baptized and orderly church members have a right to commune at the Lord's table. Proof: Heb. 5:4, John 8:27, 1 Tim. 4:14, Titus 1:5, Acts 6:5, Ibid. 13:2, 3.

ORDAINED ELDERS.

W. T. GODARD, Milner, Ga.
J. A. WRIGHT, Zebulon, Ga.
J. L. HAYES, Mansfield, Ga.
A. J. BROWN, Statesboro, Ga., R. F. D. 4.
DAN HENDERSON, McDonough, Ga., R. F. D. 3
A. C. ELLIOTT, McDonough, Ga., R. F. D. 2.
S. G. RATLIFF, Griffin, Ga.
T. M. WHATLEY, Orchard Hill, Ga.

LICENTIATES.

J. M. F. BARRON, Milner, Ga., R. F. D. 2.
W. M. REYNOLDS, Augusta, Ga.
J. P. VAUGHN, Jackson, Ga.
J. F. TAYLOR, Barnesville, Ga.

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Statistical Table of the Churches.

Churches.	County	Post Office	Names of Messengers	Baptized	By Letter	By Confession	Restored	Excluded	Dis. by Letter	Dead	Total	Minute fund	Ministers Fund	Time of meeting.	Pastors.
1 Concord	Jasper	Monticello	W. P. Person, John Cason, C. M. Faulkner	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	\$2.00	\$10.00	3	Henderson
2 Flat Rock	Pike	Zebulon	W T Godard, W M Hartly, M S Williamson	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	41	1.00	5.00	4	Godard
3 Forest	Clayton	Forest Park	R. W. Davis, D. Lites, T. J. Stephens.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70	1.50	5.00	2	Ball
4 Hebron	Jonesboro	Jonesboro	A. V. Mann, T. M. Brown; C. O. Oneal.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	16	.50	2.00	3	Godard
5 Philippi	Bullock	Portal	A. J. Brown	1	3	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	27	1.00	2.00	2	Brown
6 Ozias.....	Henry	McDonough	A. C. Elliott, J. F. Willingham, J T Hindon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	94	2.00	80.00	3	Elliott
7 Mt. Nebo.....	Glascock	Mitchell	By letter .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44	1.00	2.00	2	Hays
8 Union	Monroe	Barnesville	J. F. Taylor, E. B. Taylor.....	1	1	2	.....	1	.....	2	32	1.00	4.00	1	Wright
9 New Hope.....	Upson	Yatesville	J. H. Blount.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	40	1.00	1.00	3	Wright
10 Lebanon.....	Henry	Hampton	J. W. Derrick, W. M. Autry, G. G. Simms	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	37	1.00	2.00	1	Henderson
11 Bethel	Butts	.....	J. P. Vaughn, J. T. Bennett, G. C. Vaughn	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	35	1.00	3.00	3	Whatley
12 Flint River.....	Upson	Thomaston	J. B. Brown, J. M. Vining.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4	49	1.00	2.00	2	Wright
13 Sandy Creek.....	Butts	Flovilla	T G Preston, T W Edwards, R D Leverett	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	77	2.00	8.00	2	Elliott
14 Ochmulgee.....	Jasper	Aldine	J. T. Goodman.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	17	.50	5.00	2	Henderson
15 Liberty	Pike	Milner	J A Wright, T M Whatly, J M F Barron...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	79	1.50	10.00	4	Wright
16 Friendship	Wilkinson	McIntyre	M. Sheppard	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	27	1.00	2.00	2	Godard
17 Beulah.....	Spalding	Griffin	R. W. Hamil, G. G. Head, S. G. Ratcliff	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	1.00	2.50	2	Whatley
18 Mt. Moriah.....	Newton	Mansfield	J. L. Hays, P. D. Leach.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	1.70	4.00	.....	.....
18 Bersheba	Henry	Locust Grove	D Henderson, D A Castellow, W H Speer	7	3	.....	1	.....	.....	3	73	1.50	4.00	.....	.....

Elliott
Henderson



