

# MINUTES

OF THE

Third Session and Constitution

OF THE

## Bethel Primitive Baptist Association

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### OFFICERS:

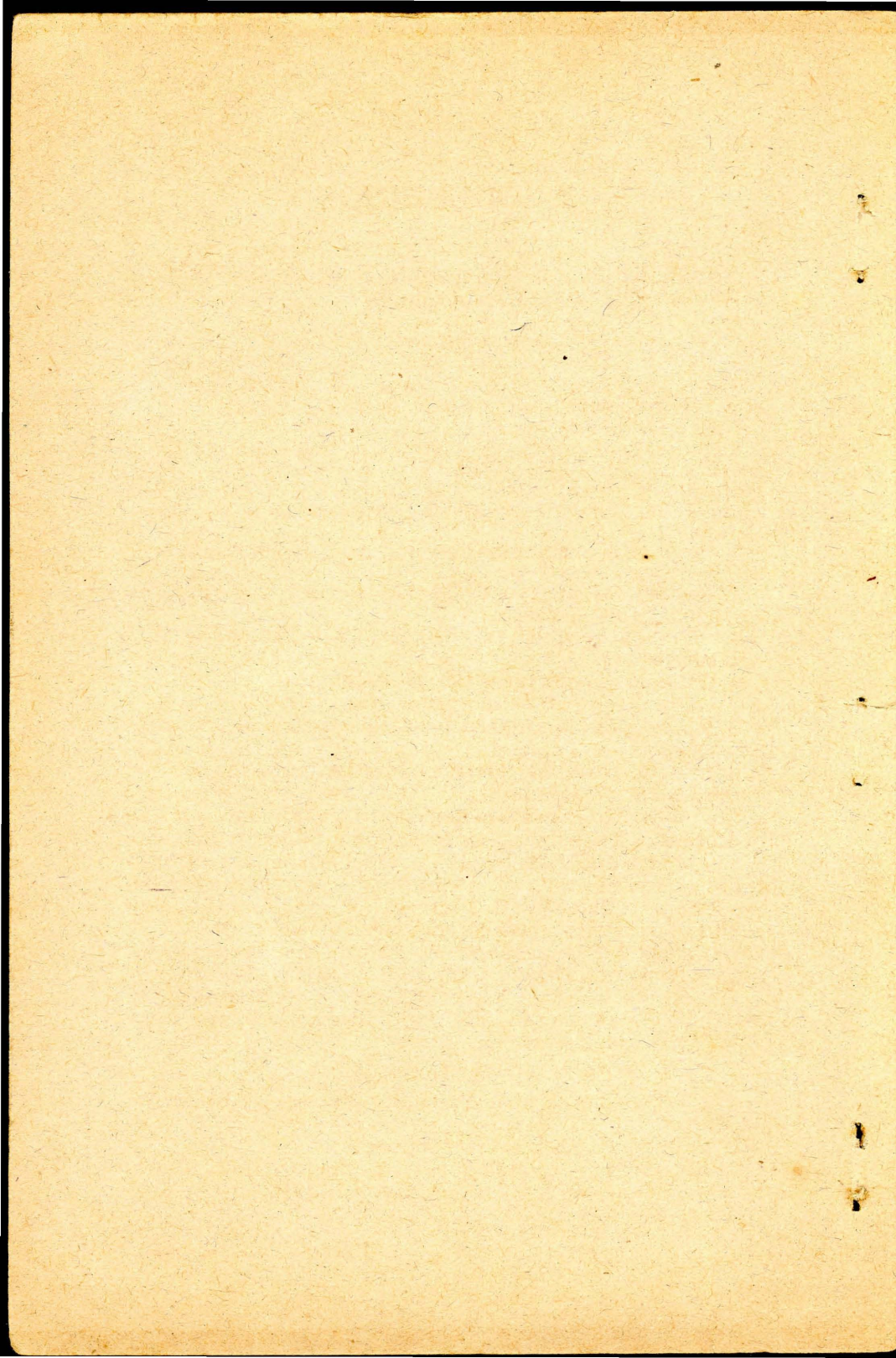
Elder J. M. Bagwell, Moderator, Carrollton, Ga.  
Newman E. Denney, Clerk. Roopville, Ga.

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HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

*Hopewell*  
Bethel, Heard County, Ga.

October 18th, 19th and 20th, 1918



## PROCEEDINGS

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The Bethel Primitive Baptist Association met with the church at Hopewell, Heard county, Ga., Friday, October 18th, 1918.

Introductory sermon preached by Elder T. J. Head of the Yellow River Association. Text, 66 chapter of Psalms, 16 verse, "Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul."

Intermission one hour.

The delegates met in the house and was called to order by Elder J. M. Bagwell, and had prayer by Bro. M. M. Mulloy, and in the absence of the pastor of the church, Elder J. M. Bagwell was elected Moderator of the Association.

1. Invited visiting ministers and brethren to seats with the body.

2. Called for and read the letters from the churches composing this Association.

On motion received Carrollton and Hillabahatchee without letters.

3. Elected, re-elected N. E. Denney clerk.

4. Called for petitionary churches.

5. On motion adopted order of last year's business for this session.

6th. Appointed the usual committees: On preaching, Brethren S. J. Adamson, J. T. Burson, J. B. Word, together with Hopewell's delegates, J. T. Denney and D. H. Rogers. To examine corresponding minutes: Brothers W. Y. Moore and J. T. Spruell. On contribution: Brothers S. J. Adams and J. T. Denney. To write corresponding letters: Elder W. P. Merrell. On motion all elders of this Association shall be members of the body.

7. Called for correspondence from sister Associations and received minutes from the Yellow River, and Elder T. J. Head as a visitor. Next, had prayer by Elder W. P. Merrell of the body, and then adjourned until 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19.

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder W. P. Merrell.

1. Renewed call for correspondents.

2. Returned correspondence to the Yellow River, which convenes at Ivey church, near Duluth, on the Sea-

board Air Line Railroad, commencing on Tuesday after the fourth Sunday in September, 1919: Elders W. P. Merrell and J. M. Bagwell and Brothers W. F. Williamson, J. M. Stephenson, N. E. Denney, D. H. Rogers, J. T. Burson, S. J. Jackson and C. M. Denney.

3. Appointed union meetings as follows: First district having choice of time at Bethel Heard county, Ga., commencing on Friday before the fifth Sunday in August, 1919. Second district at Pleasant Grove on Friday before the fifth Sunday in June, 1919.

4. This body agrees to meet with the church at Bethany, near Tyus, Carroll county, Ga., location 6 miles south of Bowdon, Ga., 12 miles southwest of Carrollton on the Central of Georgia Railroad, commencing on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1919.

5. Read and adopted corresponding letters as prepared by Elder W. P. Merrell.

6. Called for report of committee to examine corresponding minutes. Said committee reports nothing claiming the attention of this body. Call for report of committee on finance: For minutes, \$26.20; for visiting ministers, \$10.75.

7. Called for miscellaneous business. On motion agreed to have 500 copies of these minutes printed and distributed in the usual way.

After paying for same the clerk to retain the balance for his service.

On motion of Elder W. P. Merrell, this body tenders thanks to this church and community for their hospitality and kindness shown us during our stay in their midst.

In as much as J. T. Satterwhite has charged that this Association is in disorder, claiming that this body has received churches from the original Beulah Association, who had never declared against the Morgan heresy. Therefore, we deem it our duty to notify all parties concerned that each church of our Association has declared non-fellowship for all heresies and disorders of the Beulah Association. This read and adopted by the body while in session.

Read and adopted these minutes after prayer by Bro. B. W. Adamson.

Adjourned in peace and love.

#### ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday P. M., Elder W. P. Merrell, followed by M. M. Mulloy.

Saturday A. M., Elder J. M. Bagwell, followed by B. W. Adamson.

Intermission, one hour.

Saturday, 1 P. M., Elder W. P. Merrell, followed by Brothers J. M. Stephenson and S. J. Jackson.

Sunday A. M., Elders T. J. Head and J. M. Bagwell. Prayer by Elder T. J. Head, of Yellow River Association.

Corresponding letter as follows:

October 18, 1918.

The Bethel Primitive Baptist Association, now in session to the Sister Associations with whom we correspond, sendeth greeting:

Dear Brethren:

By the mercies of our God we have been permitted to hold the third session of our body and our correspondence was not as full as we would wish, but we are certain that the Lord was with those that came, for we feel that they came in the fullness of the blessings of the gospel of Christ to our comfort and the glory of God. We desire a continuation of your Christian correspondence.

The next session of our body will convene (the Lord willing) with Bethany church, Carroll county, Ga., 12 miles southwest of Carrollton, Ga., on the Central of Georgia Railroad, and six miles southeast of Bowdon, on Bowdon and Bremen Railroad, on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1919. Come, brethren, and worship with us.

ELDER J. M. BAGWELL, Moderator.

NEWMAN E. DENNEY, Clerk.

## ASSOCIATIONAL CONSTITUTION

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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 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 of 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 clerks shall be elected by the body.

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

## ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES

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1. We believe in only one true 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 wholly and without blame before Him in love.
4. We believe that the doctrine 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 saints 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 of God, as was Aaron and came under the imposition of hands by Presbytery and 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.

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## DECORUM

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- 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.

In as much as Elder J. T. Satterwhite has charged and circulated among the Baptists that this Association is in disorder, claiming that we have received churches of the Original Beulah Baptist Association, who have never declared against what he claims or calls the Morgan heresy: Therefore, we deem it our duty to put a notice in these minutes repudiating the charge, for each church of this Association has declared against all heresies and disorders of the said Beulah Association.

Read and adopted by the body.

ELDER J. M. BAGWELL, Moderator.

N. E. DENNEY, Clerk.

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**ORDAINED MINISTERS**

Elder W. P. Merrell - - - - - Roopville, Ga.  
Elder J. M. Bagwell - - - - - Carrollton, Ga.  
Elder M. T. Shephard - - - - - Damar, Ala.

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**LICENTIATE**

J. C. Brock - - - - - Carrollton, Ga.



CHURCHES	COUNTY and STATE	NAMES OF DELEGATES	Rec'd. by Ex. & Bapt'n							Contributions	CLERK'S NAME	CLERK'S ADDRESS	PASTOR	PASTOR'S ADDRESS		
			Rec'd. on Confession	Received by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership						Time of Meeting	
Carrollton, P. B. C.	Carroll Ga.	Elder J. M. Bagwell, J. C. Brock	0	1	0	0	0	3	16	1	\$3.00	J. C. Brock	Carrollton, Ga.	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	Carrollton, Ga., Route 8	
Tallapoosa	Carroll Ga.	J. A. Gray	5	0	0	0	0	0	30	2	3.00	J. M. Lee	Carrollton, Ga., Route 8	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	Carrollton, Ga., Route 8	
Emmans	Carroll Ga.	C. M. Denney, W. C. Shadinger	1	0	0	0	2	0	16	4	2.00	W. C. Shadinger	Carrollton, Ga., Route 8	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	Carrollton, Ga., Route 8	
Bethany	Carroll Ga.	J. B. Word, S. J. Jackson	2	0	3	0	2	0	138	1	3.00	F. M. Fuller	Bowdon, Ga., Route 1	Eld. M. T. Shephard	Damar, Ala., Route 1	
Bethel	Heard, Ga.	J. T. Burson, W. Y. Moore	0	0	0	0	2	0	65	3	4.00	J. T. Burson	Roopville, Ga., Route 3	Eld. J. M. Bagwell	Carrollton, Ga., Route 8	
Hopewell	Heard, Ga.	J. T. Denney, D. H. Rogers	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	40	2	2.00	N. E. Denney	Roopville Ga., Route 2	Eld. M. T. Shephard	Damar, Ala., Route 1
Valley Grove	Heard, Ga.	Not Represented														
Cannan	Heard, Ga.	W. F. Williamson J. W. Arnett	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	23	3	1.85	J. N. Arnett	Franklin, Ga.	Eld. M. T. Shephard	Damar, Ala., Route 1
Hillabahatchee	Randolph, Ala.	G. W. Drummond, T. Z. Head	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	22	3	1.25	J. W. Veal		Eld. J. M. Bagwell	Carrollton, Ga., Route 8
Pleasant Grove	Heard, Ga.	S. J. Adamson, G. W. Prather	1	5	0	0	1	2	0	36	3	1.00	G. A. House	Glenn, Ga.		
Mt. Carmel	Heard, Ga.	W. E. Scars	1	0	2	0	0	2	3	36	4	2.00	J. H. Smith		Eld. M. T. Shephard	Damar, Ala., Route 1
P. B. C. Lanett	Heard, Ga.	J. J. Jordan, T. L. Crouch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37	4	2.00	J. J. Jordan	Lanett, Ala.		

