

MINUTES
OF THE
Seventy-Third Annual Session
OF THE
TOWALIGA ASSOCIATION
OF
PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS

HELD WITH
Bersheeba Church, Henry County, Ga.

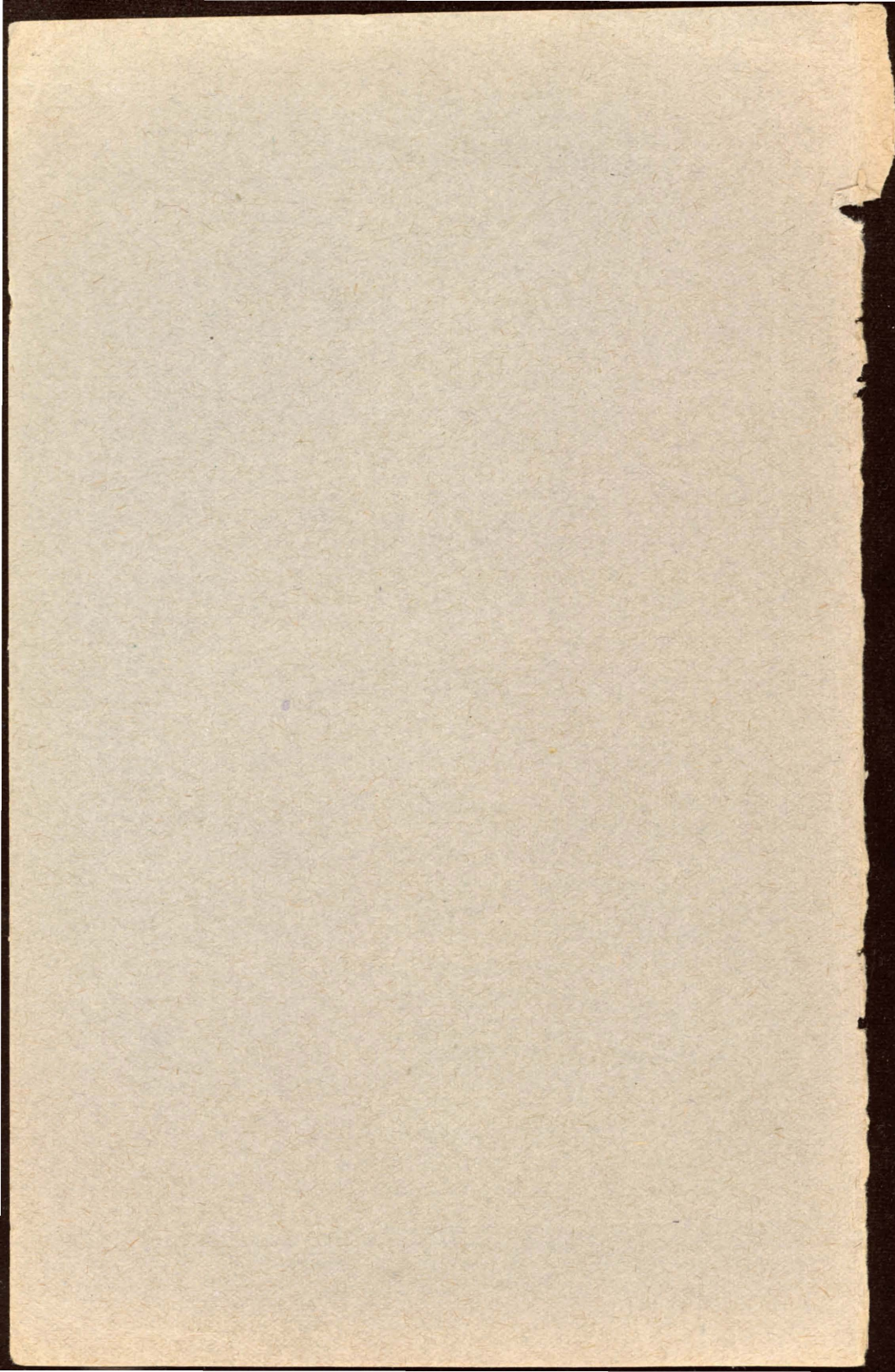
August 31st, September 1st, and 2nd, 1911

ELDER A. C. ELLIOTT, Moderator
McDonough, Ga., D. F. D. 1

W. M. HARTLEY, Clerk
Zebulon, Ga.

Introductory by
ELDER S. G. BATLIFF

"As the Father Hath Loved Me Even So Have I Loved You.
Continue Ye in My Love."



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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

Minutes of the Seventy - Third Annual Session of the Towaliga Primitive Baptists, held with Bersheeba Church, Henry county, Georgia, August 31st, Sept., 1st and 2nd, 1911.

Introductory by Elder S. G. Batliff, John 15th, 14 verse, "As the Father hath Loved Me Even so have I Loved You. Continue ye in my love.

After one hour for refreshments the Ministers, Messengers and Visitors met in the house and were called to order by the Moderator, Elder A. C. Elliott, and after singing a song of praise, prayer was led by Brother W. M. Blackwell, of the Little River Association.

1st. Read letters from the churches and enrolled Messengers' names.

2. Went into choice of Moderator and Clerk. On motion, Elder A. C. Elliott was put in nomination for Moderator by acclamation, when he was elected without a dissenting voice. Second, then W. M. Hartley was nominated and elected by acclamation as Clerk.

3. Invited visiting Brethren of our faith and order to seats in the body, when Elder J. H. Thompson of Primitive Association of Texas, was received as a visitor.

4. Called for Petitionary letters. None.

5. Appointed committee on Divine Service, to-wit: Elder D. Henderson, D. A. Castelaw, Jeff Tingler of Bersheeba church and W. F. Lewis and R. W. Davis of the Body.

6. Called for Correspondence when Elder S. J. Blackwell and Brethren W. M. Blackwell and Jas Pool, two young Sisters Pool, daughter and grand daughter of Brother Jas. Pool and Miss Fannie May Blackwell, daughter of Elder Blackwell, were cordially received into the body.

7. On motion appointed Brother T. G. Preston to write Corresponding letter.

On motion, adjourned to 8 A. M., Sept. 1st.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST.

Association met pursuant to adjournment.

1. After singing song of praise, prayer was led by Elder R L. Barron of this body.

2. Called roll. Omitted reading Decorum.

3. Appointed correspondents to Little River Association, to-wit: Elders A. C. Elliott, D. Henderson, Brethren G. B. Stephens and J. B. Bell.

4. Appointed Union Meetings as follows; First District at Sandy Creek church beginning Tuesday after the Second Sunday in July.

For Second District at Flint River church, beginning Tuesday after the Fourth Sunday in July 1912.

5. Appointed the next session of this body to be held with the church at Friendship, Wilkinson county, near the Central Railroad, Claymont Station, beginning Friday before First Sunday in September 1912.

6. Appointed Elder A. C. Elliott to preach next introductory with Elder R. L. Barron as Alternate.

7. Appointed Elder Dan Henderson to write next circular letter.

8. Called for circular letter by Elder J. F. Taylor, which was read and adopted and ordered printed.

9. Called for corresponding letter by Brother T. G. Preston which was read, adopted and ordered printed.

10. Appointed committee on distribution of funds sent up for Associational purposes, to-wit: T. G. Preston, J. B. Bell and J. C. Hayes.

11. Ordered one thousand minutes printed and distributed. A goodly sum was volunteered for Clerk service.

12. Read and adopted resolution of thanks to Bersheeba church and community by Elder R. L. Barron.

13. Read minutes. After singing and extending the right hand to each other with much rejoicing the body adjourned to meet at Friendship at the time and place set forth above.

A. C. ELLIOTT, Moderator.

W. M. HARTLEY, Clerk.

ORDER OF PREACHING

August 31st, 11 A. M.,—Introductory by Elder S. G. Batliff.

August 31st, 3 P. M.,—Preaching by Elder J. L. Hayes.

September 1st, 9 A. M.,—Prayer Service conducted by

Brother Jas. Pool.

September 1st, 11 A. M.,—Preaching by Brother W. M. Blackwell and Elder J. A. Wright.

September 1st, 3 P. M.,—Preaching by Elders R. L. Barron and Dan Henderson.

September 2nd, 9 A. M.,—Prayer Service conducted by Brother W. J. Hartley.

September 2nd, 11 A. M.,—Preaching by Elders S. J. Blackwell and A. C. Elliott closing with much rejoicing and hand shaking.

September 2nd, 3 P. M.,—Preaching by Elder E. Oglesby.

NOTE BY CLERK

The meeting began in Love and the preaching all through the meeting was a unit, telling of the wondrous Love of God manifest for poor lost and ruined sinners. There was not a jar or discordant vote during the whole session. May it ever be thus.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

Whereas, we have for three days been engaged in the worship of God—as we trust—together with Bersheeba, our sister church, and have as we feel been blessed with the sweetness of full Fellowship in his Love.

And, Whereas, this, the Seventy-third annual session of the Towaliga Association, has been so abundantly provided for at the festive board on the grounds and so royally and hospitably entertained in the homes of the Brethren and Sisters of Bersheeba church and friends in the community.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the thanks of this body be tendered them for their many kindnesses shown us during our stay among them and pray that the blessings of God may rest upon them, and that He in His mercy and love may bring their children lovingly to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, our Lord. That the cause of the Zion of our God may be strengthened and builded up in their midst.

R. L. BARRON.

MINISTERS ORDAINED

J. A. Wright, Zebulon, Ga.

J. L. Hayes, Mansfield, Ga.

A. C Elliott, McDonough, Ga., R. F. D.
Dan Henderson, McDonough, Ga., R. F. D.
E. Oglesby, McDonough, Ga., R. F. D.
S. G. Batliff, Flovilla, Ga.
J. M. F. Barron, Milner, Ga., R. F. D.
T. M. Whatley, Orchard Hill, Ga., R. F. D.
J. F. Taylor, Barnesville, Ga.
Robt. L. Barron, Zebulon, Ga.

MINISTERS NOT ORDAINED

W. H. Taylor, Jackson, Ga.
Ellis Daniel, Thomaston, Ga., R. F. D.
Geo. D. Godard, Moultrie, Ga.
J. L. Hendon, McDonough, Ga.
J. P. Vaughn, Jackson, Ga.

CORRESPONDING LETTER

The Towaliga Association to her sister Associations with whom she corresponds, sends greeting: Through the Providence of an Allwise and covenant keeping God, we are permitted to hold this, the Seventy-third Annual Session of our body. Peace and Fellowship. We feel to have been greatly blessed by your visiting us and your preaching has been both edifying and instructive to us. Brethren we desire your presence with us and pray God that you may be blessed in coming among us. We have appointed Brethren, whose names will appear on our minutes to visit you. The next session of our body will meet with Friendship church, Wilkinson county, on the Central railroad near Claymont Station, beginning Friday before First Sunday in September 1912. Brethren continue to visit us and pray for us and may the God of all grace be with you and keep you under the shadow of his wings.

A. C. ELLIOTT, Moderator.

W. M. HARTLEY, Clerk.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Dear Brethren and Sisters:—According to previous arrangement the time has arrived for me to address you by way of a circular letter. I feel my unfitness and unworthiness to so do, but in order to proceed I will call your attention to the 52nd chapter of Isaiah and the 1st verse: Awake, Awake, put on Thy Strength O Zion, put on thy Beautiful, O, Jerusalem, the Holy City, for henceforth there

shall no man come into thee, the uncircumcised and the unclean. I understand that this old prophet was directed by God and told to speak to a people that were prepared to hear by the power of God. And I understand that the word teaches what God has commanded his children to do, that he has given them the ability to do through the power of the spirit. Now he says, Awake, Awake, put on thy strength O, Zion. The people he had made alive in the Spirit of God. But they had fallen asleep, not natural sleep, but showed no signs of life. Inaction in the Spirit life. Showed no interest pertaining to the welfare of Zion, and no marked distinction between them and the world. Now, Brethren, I fear that this is our condition, that we have fallen asleep on the promise of Eternal life through Jesus Christ and his love. The strength of eternal salvation is the Lord from Heaven, for thus saith the Lord, Ye have sold yourselves for naught and ye shall be redeemed without money. Now the redeemed of the Lord are made heirs of salvation through the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Now put on thy Beautiful garments of love, charity and forbearance, letting your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which art in Heaven. The letting is on our part. Brethren, God shines in and we are to shine out. We have been taught of the afflictions of God's children by disobedience. The enemy is making every effort upon the written word of God by trying to teach it so as to meet the approval of the natural ear and mind. But if we enter upon the Hills of Zion, upholding the principles of the church we must occupy that position that is above the world and that taught by the world. For the word says, God is a spirit, and if we worship him we will worship in Spirit and in truth.

O, Jerusalem, the Holy City. Brethren, the old prophet makes it clear the church should live upon the mountain wearing those beautiful garments of Righteousness, holding fast to the faith that was once delivered to the Saints. Let us pray God to uphold us that may be able by his help to keep the old church with the principles of the teaching of God's word. Then we can feast upon the mountain of Jerusalem where we can dwell in love and fellowship and in the full fruition of the Spirit of our God. For henceforth there shall no man come unto thee, the uncircumcised and unclean.

What a happy thought that the church may attain through Jesus to that altitude where the devil and

his angels will no more come unto thee. The church, for it is established upon the rock Christ Jesus. Brethren, may we so live that we may win God's approval and He will smile upon us, and that our churches may shine so as to have an influence that will draw all of God's little children to him. So I will close. Brethren pray for me, one feeling so unworthy.

Yours,

J. F. Taylor.

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 choose 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 respective 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 may 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 eternal 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