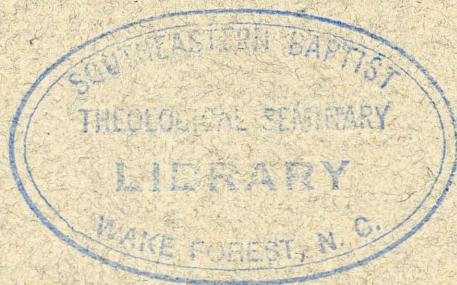


MINUTES OF THE EIGHTY-SECOND
ANNUAL SESSION OF THE

Alabaha River Primitive Baptist Association

...

HELD WITH RAMAH CHURCH,
Pierce County, Georgia, Friday,
Saturday and Sunday, October 31,
November 1 and 2, 1924



OFFICERS

Elder W. M. Hyers, Moderator, Patterson, Ga.
J. O. Waters, Clerk Blackshear, Ga.

MINUTES of the Eighty-second Annual Session of the Alabama River Primitive Baptist Association.

HELD WITH RAMAH CHURCH, PIERCE COUNTY, GEORGIA
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31,
NOVEMBER 1 AND 2, 1924.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder J. P. Mikell, of our body. Matthew 6:12-13.

After thirty minutes intermission the delegates assembled in the house. The Association was called to order by the former moderator. Prayer by Elder W. M. Hyers, of our body.

1. Read letters from eighteen churches, minuted their state and enrolled delegates' names.

2. Elected Elder W. M. Hyers moderator, and J. O. Waters clerk by ballot.

3. Read the Decorum and invited ministers of our faith and order to seats with us.

4. Appointed committees as follows: On Preaching and Finance, R. W. Bennett, R. A. Griffin and W. D. Griffis together with delegates from this church.

5. On Business, R. Davis, B. A. Thornton and S. L. Youmans, together with moderator and clerk.

6. To write corresponding letter, Walter Bennett.

7. Adjourned until Saturday morning, 9 o'clock.

SECOND DAY—SATURDAY

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder B. A. Thornton of our body.

1. On motion, called for petitionary letters.

2. Called for correspondence from sister associations. Received from the Ochlocknee Association Brethren J. R. Willis, R. C. Lastinger; from the Union Association J. B. Coon, J. C. R. C. Lastinger, W. R. Guthrie and J. R. Morgan; from the Pulaski Association a pack of minutes; from the Suwanee, no tidings.

3. Called for marked letter and agreed to hold our next session with Bethlehem Church, Pierce county, Ga.

4. Called for Corresponding Letter, which was received.

5. THE CORRESPONDING LETTER:

We, the Alabama River Primitive Baptist Association, now in session with Ramah Church, Pierce County, Georgia, to the Associations with whom we correspond send Christian love and greetings. Dear and beloved brethren: Through the love and mercies of God we have been blessed to meet again in an associational capacity. Our churches are all represented and re-

port peace, with some minor exceptions. Our correspondence is small. We earnestly desire a continuation of your lovely correspondence. Our next session, the Lord willing, will be held with Bethlehem Church, Pierce County, Georgia, near Patterson, A. C. L. R. R. Till then, dear brethren, farewell—Walter Bennett, Committee.

6. Returned correspondence as follows: To the Suwanee Association, to convene with Shady Grove Church, Levy County, Florida, five miles from Trenton, Elder B. A. Thornton, B. A. Griffin and S. M. Bennett, commencing Saturday before the 4th Sunday in September, 1925.

To the Union Association, to be held with Old Union Church, Lanier County, Georgia, commencing on Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in October, 1925, M. O. Knox, A. M. Stewart, Elder J. T. Minchew, Elder B. A. Thornton and I. F. Roberson.

To the Ochlochnee Association, to be held with Sardis Church, Colquitt County, Georgia, 10 miles east of Moultrie, Georgia, commencing on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1925, Elder G. H. Fowler and J. W. Eunice.

To the Pulaski Association, to be held with Little Flock Church, Turner County, Georgia, at Clovervale, 7 miles west of Ashburn, Georgia, Elder G. H. Fowler, Elder B. A. Thornton and J. J. Meeks, commencing Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1925.

To the Mt. Enon Association—church not known— Elder W. D. Bryant.

7. Called for report of Committee on Business, which was adopted: We, your Committee on Business beg to make the following report: We have examined the several minutes from the corresponding associations and find nothing objectionable in them and recommend the same course of business as appears in our last year's minutes. Also we recommend that Rosemary Church be dropped from our body. The trouble which has existed between sister churches has been settled.—R. Davis, S. L. Youmans, Elder B. A. Thornton, Committee.

8. Called for report of Committee on Preaching and Finance: We have received from the several churches \$95.85. We have allotted to our clerk for the printing of the minutes \$40.00, the balance to be distributed between the visiting brethren.—W. D. Bryant, I. F. Roberson, Walter Bennett, R. A. Griffin, W. D. Griffis, Committee.

On motion, the minutes were read and approved, and the Association adjourned to our next time and place. Prayer by Elder G. H. Fowler of our body.

ELDER W. M. HYERS, Moderator.

J. O. WATERS, Clerk.

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday, A. M. Introductory Sermon by Elder J. P. Mikell of our body. Text Matthew 6:10-11 and 12.

Saturday A. M. Elder Banks Lewis of our body, followed by Elder Lester Cole of our body.

Saturday P. M. Elder L. M. Guthrie of the Union Association, followed by Elder O. A. Knight.

Sunday, A. M. Elders B. A. Thornton and W. D. Bryant of our body.

Sunday, P. M. Guthrie and O. A. Knight of the Union Association.

NAMES OF MINISTERS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES

Elder J. T. Minchew, Waycross, Ga. Rfd. 1.
Elder B. A. Thornton, Hickox, Ga.
Elder W. M. Hyers, Patterson, Ga.
Elder W. D. Bryant, Coffee, Ga.
Elder J. P. Mikell, Waycross, Ga.
Elder G. H. Fowler, Blackshear, Ga.
Elder Lester Cole, Nicholls, Ga.
Elder Banks Lewis, Graham, Ga.

NAMES OF CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES

Bea James, W. H. Bowen, Blackshear, Ga.
Bethesda, W. S. Lewis, Jesup, Ga.
Bethlehem, W. D. Griffis, Blackshear, Ga.
Big Creek, Alonzo Griffis, Screven Ga.
Corinth, J. D. Murray, Odum, Ga.
Damascus, A. W. Bratcher, Coffee, Ga.
Elim, J. L. Meeks, Nicholls, Ga.
Mars Hill, J. J. Moore, Hoboken, Ga.
Mt. Pleasant (Ware County) P. C. Colson, Waycross, Ga.
Mt. Pleasant (Bacon County) C. M. Bland, Alma, Ga.
Providence, B. M. James, Manor, Ga.
Ramah, S. R. Jordan, Rockingham, Ga.
Mt. Zion, W. M. Tuten, Blackshear, Ga.
New Hope, R. A. Griffin, Hickox, Ga.
New Prospect, W. L. Mikell, Patterson, Ga.
Rehoboth, Walter Smith, Waresboro, Ga.
Rome, A. M. Boyett, Beach, Ga.
Satilla, J. A. Moody, Screven, Ga.

DECORUM

1. The Association shall open and close with prayer.
2. Those members chosen by the churches of our union shall compose the Alabama River Primitive Baptist Association.
3. The members thus chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, expelled and total number in fellowship since our last session.
4. This Association shall not have power to lord it over God's heritage nor infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches.
5. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the members present.
6. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preserve order, to explain and put questions, and shall have the same right as any other member, provided the chair be filled, but shall not vote unless the body shall be equally divided.
7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association; the minutes shall be read and amended, if needful, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

8. Any church petitioning by letter and delegates for admission into this Association shall be, if found orthodox and orderly, received by the moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to her delegates.

9. Each church shall have the right to send two delegates to the Association, and no more.

10. Every query presented shall be fairly stated in writing and approved by a majority before being taken up.

11. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the Association, unless it be withdrawn by the person who made it, by the consent of the Association.

12. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator in an orderly manner and shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject.

13. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject, and shall not continue his speech for more than ten minutes at a time without leave of the Association.

14. There shall be no talking or whispering in time of debate or public speech, nor reflection cast upon the speaker.

15. When a case is decided by vote, there shall be no more debating on the subject.

16. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave from the Association.

17. If any member shall break the rules of this Association he shall be immediately reprovved by the Moderator.

18. These rules shall be read at every Association previous to entering on business.

19. It shall be the duty of the Association to keep up a correspondence with other Associations of the same faith and order that a chain of connection may be preserved among the churches.

20. To give the best advice they can in matters of difficulty, and if the union be broken between any of the sister churches, to inquire into the cause of the breach and use their best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be healed, to withdraw from any church which they judge unsound in faith or immoral in practice until they be reclaimed.

21. To invite any of the ministers to assistance, if necessary.

22. It shall be the duty of the Association to provide for the general union of the churches, and not hold them in union that support any modern missionary, Bible or Sunday School union, society, theological school, either in themselves or in any other person, or in any society that is now or may hereafter be constituted under pretext of circulating the Gospel of Christ, or any secret order, nor will it correspond with any association that supports or is any of the above named societies.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES SUBSCRIBED TO BY THIS ASSOCIATION

1. We believe in only one true and living God; that there are three in the Godhead—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2. We believe the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments are the written word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
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.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.
7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.
8. We believe that the Saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.
9. We believe that Baptism, the Lord's Supper and washing the Saint's feet are ordinances, and believe that the only true mode of baptism is by immersion.
10. We believe that the punishment of the wicked shall be everlasting and the joys of the righteous shall be eternal.
11. We believe that no man has a right to the administration of the ordinance of Baptism and the Lord's Supper except such as are regularly called and come under the hands of the presbytery.
12. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

CHURCHES	COUNTY	MESSENGERS	PASTORS, 1924	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Confession of Faith	D'smissed by Letter	Expelled	Dead	Total Membership	Contributions	Sabbath of Annual Meeting
Ben James	Pierce	S. L. Youmans, J. O. Waters . . .	G. H. Fowler . . .	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	47	\$9.00	3rd May
Bethesda	Wayne	W. S. Lewis, Geo. Murray . . .	W. D. Bryant . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	4.00	3rd July
Bethlehem	Pierce	W. M. Hyers, W. D. Griffis . . .	W. M. Hyers . . .	3	4	0	0	2	1	28	5.50		1st May
Big Creek	Wayne	R. W. Bennett, F. H. Thornton . .	W. D. Bryant . . .	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	69	10.00	1st Oct.
Corinth	Wayne	H. R. McGauley, Floyd Murray . .	W. M. Hyers . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	3.00	3rd Oct.
Damascus	Bacon	Walter Bennett, Randal Turner . .	W. D. Bryant . . .	1	0	2	0	2	0	0	21	5.00	4th Aug.
Elim	Coffee	J. J. Meeks, L. S. Cole	Lester Cole	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52	6.50	3rd Sept.
Mars Hill	Brantley	Matthew Carter, H. L. McCloud . .	J. T. Minchew . . .	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	20	4.75	1st June
Mt. Pleasant	Ware	G. H. Fowler, J. W. Eunice . . .	G. H. Fowler . . .	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	41	4.00	2nd May
Mt. Pleasant	Bacon	A. M. Stewart, Banks Lewis . . .	Lester Cole	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	46	5.00	2nd Oct.
Mt. Zion	Pierce	W. M. Tuten, R. Davis	W. M. Hyers	1	1	0	0	0	1	6	25	6.50	4th June
New Hope	Brantley	B. A. Thornton, R. A. Griffin . . .	B. A. Thornton . . .	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	49	4.25	3rd Apr.
New Prospect	Pierce	M. C. Murray, J. B. Harris	G. H. Fowler	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	36	4.25	4th Apr.
Providence	Ware	E. M. Cribb, R. G. James	O. A. Knight	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	21	2.50	2nd Oct.
Ramah	Pierce	W. D. Bryant, I. F. Roberson . . .	W. D. Bryant	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	60	7.25	2nd Sept.
Rehoboth	Ware	A. H. Johnson, Walter Smith . . .	Lester Cole	1	2	0	0	0	0	4	27	6.00	1st Sept.
Rome	Ware	J. T. Minchew, R. W. Bennett . . .	J. T. Minchew . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	29	6.10	4th Oct.
Satilla	Wayne	J. E. Moody, J. W. Whitaker . . .	W. M. Hyers	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	15	2.25	2nd July
Totals				16	14	5	0	8	7	22	611	95.85	

