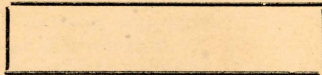


Minutes of the Eightieth Annual Session of the

Choctawhatchee Association

OF PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS



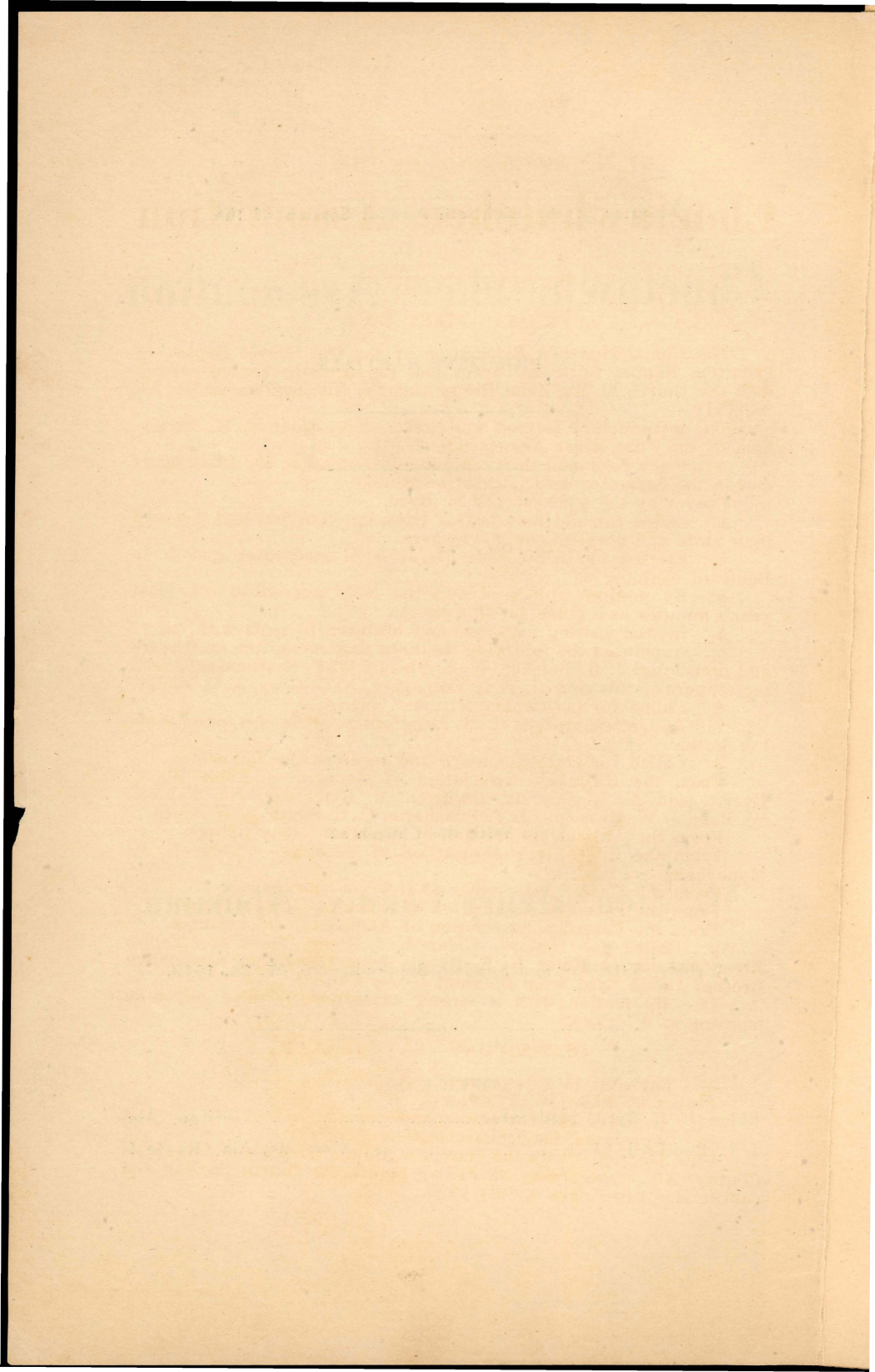
Held With the Church at

Mt. Zion, Henry County, Alabama

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 26, 27, 28, 1919.

OFFICERS:

Elder J. J. Byrd, Moderator.....Ariton, Ala.
J. L. Bodiford, Clerk.....Abbeville, Ala., Route 1.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE

Choctawhatchee Association

FRIDAY—FIRST DAY.

The Choctawhatchee Association of the Old School Baptist or Primitive Baptist faith and order met its eighteenth annual session with the church at Mt. Zion, Henry County, Ala., September 26, 27, 28, 1919.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder D. M. Moneyham of the Flint River Association.

After one hour and thirty minutes intermission, the messengers met in the house for associational business.

Prayer by the moderator, J. J. Byrd.

1. Called for and read letters from ten churches and minuted their state and enrolled the messengers.

2. Elected by ballot Elder J. J. Byrd moderator and J. L. Bodiford clerk.

3. By motion with a second the body agreed to take last year's minutes as a guide for this session.

4. Invited visiting ministers and brethren to seats with us.

5. Appointed the following brethren as a committee on finance and preaching: J. G. Belcher, W. J. Vickers, J. F. Scarborough, with messengers of this church, T. Q. Culpepper, A. C. Gray, J. C. Money.

6. Called for petitionary letters. None

7. Appointed brother C. M. Langford to write the corresponding letter.

8. Called for correspondence and received the following:

From the Harmony Association of Georgia — Elder W. T. Evertt, and A. A. Garrett, Brethren M. Blacksher, Jim Faine, J. W. Bass, J. W. Harrison, J. T. Pritchette, C. L. Smith B. D. Jones.

From the Antioch Association of Alabama — no tidings

From the Flint River Association of Georgia — Elder D. M. Moneyham.

From the Upatoi Association of Georgia—no tidings.

From the Patsaliga Association of Alabama — no tidings.

From the Patsaliga Association of Alabama — no tidings.

9. Called for visitors—Elder J. J. Head, from the Yellow River Association Elder B. F. House, from the Bulah Association Brother David Byrd from Pleasant Grove Church.

10. By motion with a second adjourned to meet Saturday morning at 9 o'clock.

SECOND DAY—SATURDAY

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder W. T. Everett.

11. Renewed call for correspondence and visitors.

12. Appointed district meetings as follows:

First District—With the church at Union, at Midland City, Dale County, Ala., commencing on Friday before the fourth Sunday and continuing three days in July 1920.

Second District—With the church at Mt Enon in Henry County Ala., to convene with them on their regular time in August and continue three days 1920.

13. Returned correspondence as follows:

To the Harmony Association of Georgia—Elder T. E. McGowen, Brethren J. D. Belcher, G. W. Knowels. Robert Parish.

To the Antioch Association of Georgia—Elder T. E. McGowen, and minutes.

To the Flint River Association of Georgia—Elder J. J. Byrd, Brethren J. H. Starling, J. L. Bodiford, M. L. Reynolds, H. H. Arnold.

To the Upatoi Association of Georgia—Which is to convene with the church at Bethel Phenix City, Ala., on Thursday after the first Sunday in September 1920.—Elder J. J. Byrd, M. L. Rounnels, W. H. Owens.

To the Conecuh River Association of Alabama—minutes.

To the Patsaliga Association of Alabama—Elders T. E. McGowen Minutes.

14. Called for reading of the corresponding letter which was heard and received.

15. Called for second report of finance committee as follows:

Received for correspondence\$63.50
Received for minutes 18.50

16. By motion with a second that we take \$5.00 dollars from the correspondence money and ad to minute money.

17. Appointed the next session of the association to convene with the church at Pilgrim Rest Church, at Airton, Dale County Ala., to convene on our regular time in September on Friday before the fourth Sunday in September 1920.

18. By motion with a second the clerk was ordered to have 500 copies of these minutes printed and mailed to the different churches and that he have the remainder of the funds for his service.

19 By motion with a second minutes were read and adopted. Final adjournment Sunday at noon.

ELDER J. J. BYRD, Moderator.

J. L. BODIFORD, Clerk.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Be it resolved, That our heartfelt thanks be tendered to our dear Brethren sister and friends around the church at Mount. Zion for their untiring kindness and hospitality shone us while in their midst we pray our heavenly master to bless them with his richest blessings and through the tender mercy of his grace love and kindness keep, guard, guide and direct us through life's unseen path: and when it is ours to die, as die we must, crown us with a crown of eternal basking in the sweet praises of our Heavenly Master.

ORDER OF PREACHING.

Friday morning—Elder D. M. Moneyham.

Saturday morning—Elder T. J. Head, followed by Elder W. T. Everett.

Saturday evening—Elder B. F. House, followed by Elder J. J. Byrd the moderator.

Sunday morning—Elder A. A. Garrett, followed by Elder B. F. House.

Closed by the Elder J. J. Byrd the moderator.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Elder J. J. Byrd, Airton, Ala.

Elder M. E. Petty, Midland City, Ala.

Elder T. E. McGowen, Clayton, Ala.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Choctowhatchee Association of the Primitive Baptist Faith and Order, to Her Sister Associations With Whom She Corresponds, Sendeth Greetings

Dear Brethren in the Lord—It is once more through the tender Mercies and kind providence of an allivis with the frivelage of assembling ourselves together in an Associational Capasity with a goodly number of our corresponding Brethren from different sections representing their churchs and associations in peace and love, for which our hearts have been made to rejoice and feel to know of a truth that it was good to be here and desire to ask a continuance of their lovely greeting.

Dear Brethren let us lay aside every weight and the sin that doth so easily beset us and let us run with patience the race that is set before us looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

How good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity Brethren visit us as often as you can and pray for us that we may meet together in many more such meetings.

Farewell in the Lord.

J. J. BYRD, Moderator

J. L. BODIFORD, Clerk.

GOSPEL ORDER.

Article 1. The churches composing this association may be represented by messengers from their repective churches bearing a statement certifying their appointment together with the number baptized and received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and died since our last association, and we desire that each church will name three messengers they desire to transact business for them in the association.

2. We declare that each church is a sovereign fully clothed by the Great Head of the Church with authority to execute gospel discipline and cannot transmit its business to any other body for consideration and final judgment. Therefore, we, as an association, declare we will not receive from any church disciplinary questions to be discussed or adjusted.

3. The association when convened shall be governed and ruled by a proper and regular decorum.

4. The association shall have a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen by suffrage of the members present.

5. New churches may be admitted into this union, who petition by letter and messengers, and shall be received and its reception manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the association. The best method for effecting that purpose shall be at the discretion of the association.

7. The minutes of the association, when printed, shall be regularly filed by the clerk, and by him shall be kept for the use of the association, and shall endeavor to have said book present at each association meeting.

8. Amendments to his plan of government may be made at any time by a majority of the union when they may deem it necessary.

9. If any church in the association shall ask for a letter of dismission the request may be granted provided she is in full fellowship with sister churches in the association.

RULES OF DECORM.

1. Every motion seconded shall command the observation of the body if not withdrawn by the member who made it.

2. Every person wishing to speak in the association shall first arise and address the Maderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject or use unbecoming language.

3. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the body.

4. Any person laughing or whispering in time of speech shall be reproved by the Moderator.

5. Every person speaking in debate shall adhere to the subject and not cast reflections on any who have spoken before him.

6. No member shall absent himself from the body without leave from the Moderator.

7. The names of members shall be enrolled and called over when called for by the body.

8. The Moderator shall have the right of debate on filling the chair; but shall not vote, except in tie, nor shall he move or second.

9. The Clerk shall keep a regular record of the proceedings of the body, and keep a regular file of same; and have it at each meeting of the body.

10. No motion or second shall command the observation of the Moderator except by rising.

11. The minutes of the proseedings shall be read and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the association rises.

THINGS WHICH OUR CHURCHES DO NOT FELLOWSHIP

It is and has been the sense of the churches composing the Choctawchee Association since their organization not to hold in fellowship members who endorse or affiliate with the modern mission enterprise such as boards, conventions, church missions, theological schools, Sunday schools, or any human society as auxiliary to the church of God, or Free Masonry or any other secret order or unscriptural religious society that does now exist, or may hereafter exist, founded upon the wisdom of men.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in the one true and living God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

2. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the 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, of 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 fall finally away.

9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are the ordinances of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and that immersion is the true mode of baptism, and that washing the saints' feet is a duty enjoined by Christ on all followers, and should be attended to in the church until his second coming.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

11. We believe the judgment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

12. We believe that no person has any right to administer ordinances but such as have regularly called and come under the hands of a presbytery.

