

PROCEEDINGS

**Eighty-Ninth Annual Session
Ochlocknee Association**

Of Old Line Primitive Baptists

HELD WITH

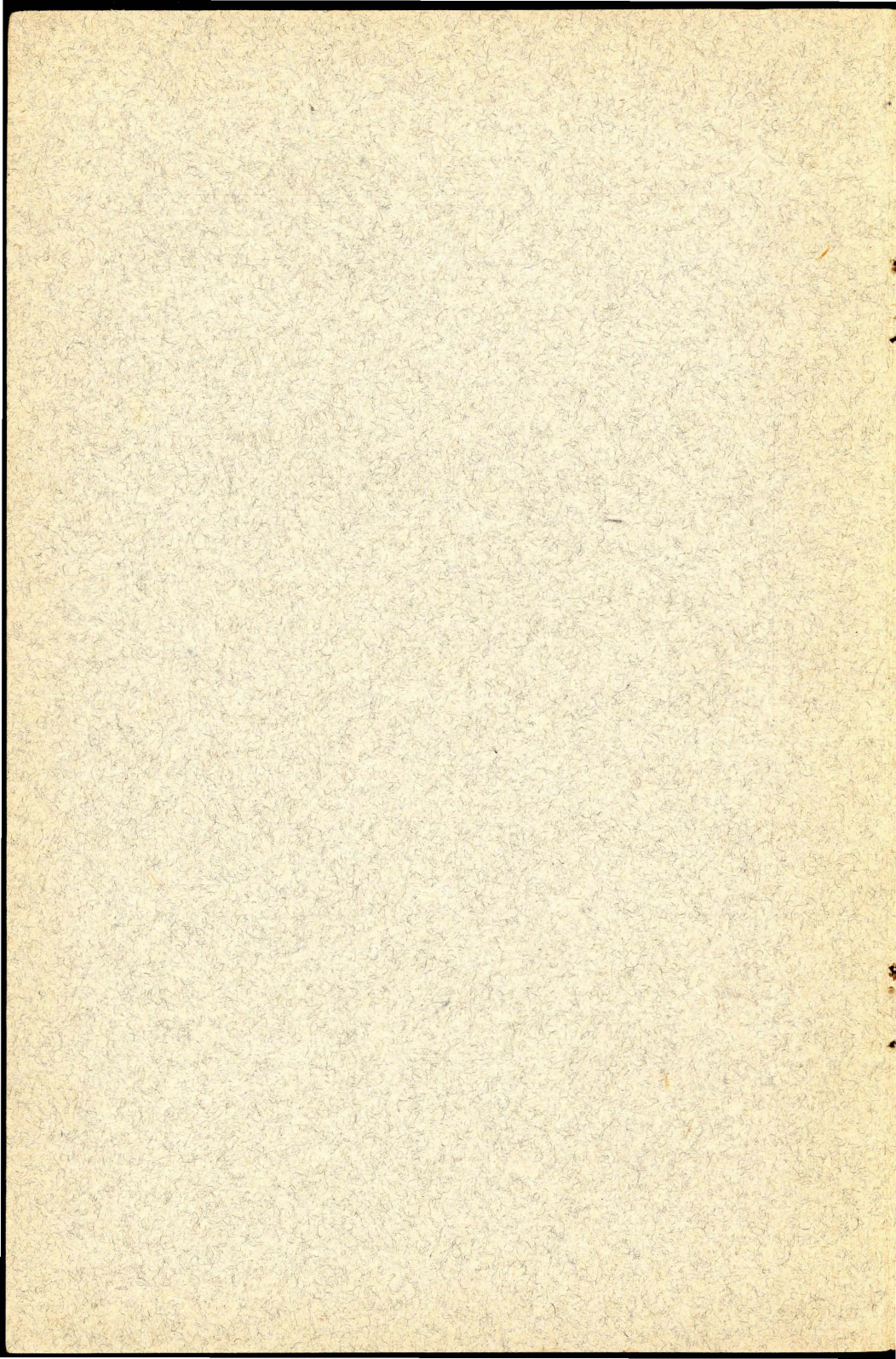
Bethel Church, Brooks County, Ga.

October 23d, 24th, and 25th, 1915.

OFFICERS:

ELDER E. R. RHODEN,
Moderator

ELDER J. W. GARDNER,
Clerk



Proceedings of the Ochlocknee Association.

The Eighty-Ninth Annual Session of the Ochlocknee Primitive Baptist Association convened with Bethel church, Brooks county, Ga., on October 23rd, 24th, and 25th, 1915.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder A. A. Knight, of the Union Association. Prayer by Elder E. Lindsey.

1st. Read letters from eleven churches and minuted their state.

2nd. Elected Elder E. R. Rhoden, Moderator; Elder J. W. Gardner, Clerk.

3rd. Adopted minutes of last year, as course of business.

4th. Read the Decorum.

5th. Invited Brethren and Sisters of our faith and order to seats with us.

6th. Called for petitionary letters.

7th. Appointed Committees as follows:

On Preaching and Finance—Brethren B. B. Olive, J. I. Baker, and D. Clark, together with the messengers of this church.

On Business—Brethren G. J. Chitty, F. M. Renfro, J. R. Taylor, together with the Moderator and Clerk.

On Deceased Ministers—N. E. Chastain.

8th. Called for correspondents, and received:

From the San Pedro Association.

From the Pulaski Association, A. A. Turner, D. W. Taylor.

From the Union Association, Elder A. A. Knight.

From the Flint River Association.

From the Alabama Association, J. O. Walters, D. L. Yoeman.

9th. Called for petitionary correspondence.

10th. Appointed Elder E. Lindsey to write corresponding letter.

11th. On motion, adjourned until Monday Morning, at 8:30 o'clock.

Prayer by Elder A. A. Knight.

Monday Morning.

The Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder D. W. Taylor.

1st. Called the roll.

2nd. Renewed the call for correspondents, and received:

From the San Pedro Association, J. J. Williams.

From the Pulaski Association, Elder J. T. Strawder.

From the Union Association, Elder Henry Parrish.

From the Alabama Association.

From the Flint River Association.

3rd. Extended invitations to visitors and received as follows:

From the San Pedro Association.

From the Pulaski Association, M. W. Webb.

From the Union Association.

From the Flint River Association, T. H. Hester.

From the Alabama Association.

4th. Called for report of business committee, and it reported as follows: We your Business Committee, examined the corresponding minutes and find nothing to object to.

5th. Returned correspondents as follows: To the San Pedro Association, to convene at Mt. Nebo church, one mile east of Day-town, one mile southwest, on the L. O. P. & G. Ry., to convene on Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1916; L. Johnson, W. L. Dean and J. J. Giles.

To the Union Association, to be held with Way Fair church, 6 miles south of Stockton, on the A. C. L. Ry., 2 1-2 miles north of Mayday, on the G. S. & F. Ry., on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1916; G. J. Chitty, L. Johnson, Elder

E. Lindsey, Elder E. R. Rhoden and J. W. Gardner.

To the Flint River Association, to be held with Providence church, 5 miles east of Meigs, on the A. C. L. Ry., to convene on Saturday before the first Sunday in November, 1915; J. W. Strickland, J. R. Lewis, B. H. Hancock, Elder W. H. Godwin, J. W. Gardner.

To the Alabama Association, to be held with New Prospect church, Pierce county, Ga., 4 miles west of Trudie, Ga., on the A. C. L. Ry., to convene on Friday before the first Sunday in November, 1915; Elder E. R. Rhoden, F. M. Renfroe, L. Johnson.

6th. Call for corresponding letter, read and adopted.

7th. General Meeting to be as follows:

The First District: The first Fifth Sunday in 1916, with Mt. Zion church, 5 miles west of Coolidge.

The Second District: The second Fifth Sunday in 1916, with Sardis church, 3 miles north of Berlin on the V. M. & W. Ry.

8th. Called for circular letter. By motion, adopted letter of last year.

9th. Appointed J. W. Gardner to write next circular letter.

10th. Called or report on Finance. The Committee reported as follows: "We your Committee on Finance submit the following: We find \$49.25 as contribution from the churches. We recommend that the sum of \$31.00 be spent for the printing of the minutes and the Clerk's services, and \$18.25 to be divided among the visiting ministers and correspondents. We recommend that 700 minutes be printed, 500 for the churches and 200 for the correspondents.

B. B. OLIVE,

J. I. BAKER,

11th. Called for report on deceased ministers. Read and adopted.

12th. On motion adjourned to meet at Bethesda church, 9 miles west of Moultrie, on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1916. Prayer by Elder E. Lindsey.

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.

J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

Resolution of Thanks.

Resolved that we tender our heartfelt thanks to our Brethren and Sisters of Bethel church and friends for their kindness and care during our stay among them, and we pray that God may abundantly bless them according to His tender mercies.

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.

ELDER J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

Memorial.

Again it has pleased the Giver of every good and perfect gift, to remove from our midst our beloved brother, William Singleton, age 55 years. Died February 1st, 1915, united with Primitive Baptists at Bethel church, July 31st, 1886. Commenced preaching about 15 months before his death, with rapid growth. While we regret the loss of our brother, we feel that our loss is his eternal gain, and we bow in humble submission to His will, who doeth all things well.

Order of Preaching.

Saturday Morning: The Introductory sermon by Elder A. A. Knight.

Saturday Afternoon: Elders J. J. Williams and S. T. Sheffield.

Sunday Morning: Elders H. W. Parish and T. Strawder.

Sunday Afternoon: Elders D. W. Taylor and Aron Knight.

Monday Morning: Elders J. J. Williams and H. W. Parrish.

Closed by the Moderator.

Address of Ministers.

Elder D. N. Williams, Claxton, Ga.

Elder A. L. Pearce.

Elder E. Lindsey, Tifton, Ga.

Elder E. R. Rhoden, Moultrie, Ga.

Elder J. W. Gardner, Camilla, Ga.

Elder W. H. Godwin, Berlin, Ga.

Licentiates.

L. Johnson, Moultrie, Ga.

Corresponding Letter.

We, the Ochlocknee Association, now in session with Bethel church, to our Sister Associations, with whom we correspond:

Beloved Brethren and Sisters in Christ:—Through the mercies of God we have been blessed to hold another session of our body in perfect peace. Our representation is full. Your ministers come to us in the fulness of the spirit of Jesus, gladdening our drooping hearts. Our next session will be held, the Lord permitting, with Bethesda church, Colquitt county, Ga., 9 miles west of Moultrie, where and when we hope to meet you again. Until then, farewell.

Circular Letter.

He first loved us.

We love Him because He first loved us. This is the testimony of God's holy spirit. We did not love God before He loved us, because our loving Him is the result of His precious love. God loved us when we were His enemies. It was His electing love brought to bear when we were chosen in Christ. He choosed us because He loved us, even before we loved Him. It was a great display of love when He gave His Only Son to come, bleed, and die for His people. God loved us when we were dead in sin. God, who is rich in mercy for His great love where-with He loved when we were dead in sin, hath quickened us together in Christ. The deep, unfathomable love of God underlies the whole plan of salvation. It is the work of love to save His people; when he quickens a poor sinner He sheds abroad His love in his heart and he loves God because God loved him first. God is the first great cause and the last great end in our salvation, and all He requires of His people is to love Him and serve Him. The more we learn of God the more we love and adore Him. All our service should be rendered from a standpoint of love. It seems to me the older I get the greater the mystery that God should so love me as to give Himself for me. And not only this, but His tender, forbearing love has been extended to poor me all down through my life. Why I should be the recipient of such tender mercies, for if justice had been meted out to me, I am sure my case would have been different. God's love is immovable. He loved His people before time. He loved them in time and will love them forever. There is nothing above or beneath that can separate them from His love. Heaven will be peopled with only those whom God loved with an everlasting love. All that God does for us is for our good. We may not be able to see it but even our chastisements are because God loves us and would correct us as His children. Oh, sweet thought, God will never be satisfied until the object of His love

is safely housed in heaven, when there will be no more trials, sad and bitter disappointments. We will then say we loved Him because He first loved us. May God help us to live in love.

Rules of Decorum.

1. This Association shall open and close with prayer.
2. The members who are regularly chosen by the churches in our Union shall compose the Ochlocknee Primitive Baptist Association; two-thirds of which shall form a quorum.
3. Members chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those received by experience and baptism and otherwise, dismissed, excommunicated, restored, and dead, since our last Association.
4. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe on the internal rights of any church.
5. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen of the members present.
6. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preserve order, explain and put questions; he shall have the same right of speech as any other member, provided the chair shall be filled, but shall not vote except the body be equally divided.
7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Association, and the minutes taken shall be read and amended, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises. The Clerk shall also keep a file of the minutes to be presented at each Association, and shall be accountable for all money deposited in the hands of the Association.
8. Any church applying by letter and delegates for admittance, which, upon examination is found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association and manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to its delegates.
9. Every church shall have a right to send two delegates to the Association, and no more.
10. Every motion made and seconded shall claim the at-

tention of the Association, except withdrawn by the person who made it, with the consent of the Association.

11. Every person who speaks must rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted when speaking except when he departs from the subject.

12. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject, without leave of the Association.

13. There shall be no talking or whispering in time of public speech, nor reflection cast on the speaker.

14. Whenever a case is decided by a vote, there shall be no more debate on the subject.

15. No person shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Association.

16. This Association is in favor of preaching the gospel, the circulation of the Scriptures, and the advantages of education, and recommends temperance and morality in general, but to her members in particular; notwithstanding she is opposed to all modern institutions of men, such as Missionary, Bible, Tract, and Sunday School Societies together with Baptist State Conventions and Theological Schools and such like, because their connection with the Church of God is unauthorized by the Scriptures. As such we cannot fellowship them, or admit to our church privileges any person who is therewith connected in any wise, believing all such to be speculative in their nature and fruitful sources for corrupting the church. In relation to Free Masonry we recommend to our brethren who may already be attached to that fraternity to immediately withdraw therefrom, and when brethren leave the church and join that fraternity, they are not such as follow after the things that make for peace and things wherewith one may edify another. Rom. 14:19. And as such, unless they manifest a suitable repentance, and immediately withdraw therefrom, and make suitable acknowledgments, shall be rejected from the fellowship of the church.

17. We recommend to the churches composing this body to receive members who went off with the Missionaries and all other Baptists at the time of their separation from us, providing they bring satisfactory evidence of a legal baptism with a suitable confession of faith, and not otherwise in disorder, and not to receive any who have been baptised by them since said separation only by experience and baptism.

18. This Association holds that if the union be broken be-

tween any of the churches and the breach cannot be healed, to withdraw from them that may be deemed unsound in faith or immoral in practice until they be removed.

19. To invite visiting brethren from Sister Associations, and ministers, of our faith and order, to seats with us.

20. To keep a correspondence with other Associations of the same faith and order, so that a chain of communication may be preserved throughout the denomination.

21. If any member shall break the Rules of this Decorum, he shall be reproved by the Moderator.

22. These Rules shall be read at every Association prior to entering on business.

23. The Rules of this Decorum may be altered or amended at any time by a majority of three-fourths of the Association.

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.

J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

Articles of Faith.

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

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the words of God by inspiration, and is our 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 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 not finally fall away.

9. We believe that baptism and 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 that the only true baptism is by immersion.

10. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous shall be eternal.

11. We believe that no minister has the right to the administration of the ordinances only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of the hands by the presbytery.

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

ELDER E. R. RHODEN, Moderator.

J. W. GARDNER, Clerk.

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2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the words of God by inspiration, and is our rule of faith and conduct.
3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular judgment.
4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.
5. We believe in man's duty to recover himself from the state he is in by nature, by his own will and effort.
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the atoning sacrifice of Christ.
7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated, and accounted by the Holy Spirit.
8. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and be finally saved.
9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper, and wearing the sash, are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES	CLERK AND HIS POSTOFFICE	PASTOR	NAME OF MESSENGERS	Exper. and Bapt'm	Received by Let.	Rec'd Conf. Faith	Restored	Dismissed by Let.	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Meeting Days	Contributions	Sunday of Annual Meeting
Pleasant Hill	G. W. Taylor, Moultrie, Ga.	E. R. Rhoden	E. R. Rhoden, G. W. Taylor	0				2			22	3	4.50	3 June
Bethel	Abe Ingram, Barney, Ga.	E. R. Rhoden	J. W. Gardner, W. C. Singleton	4	2					1	36	2	5.00	1 Sept.
Sardis	Benj. Baker, Ellenton, Ga.	E. R. Rhoden	G. J. Chitty, J. I. Baker	3	2			3	2		61	4	7.00	4 Sept.
Live Oak	J. M. Clark, Doerun, Ga.	E. R. Rhoden	J. J. Giles, J. R. Taylor	3			1		3		53	1	5.15	1 Aug.
Harmony	S. M. Chapman, Barwick, Ga.	J. A. Chitty	T. M. Massey, F. M. Renfroe	1			1	3	1	3	65	4	4.50	4 Aug.
Mt. Zion	H. M. Chastain, Coolidge, Ga.	S. T. Sheffield	T. S. Barrow, D. Clark						2		40	1	3.00	1 Sept.
Bethsaida	J. H. Rooks, Doerun, Ga.	J. W. Williamson	L. Johnson	2	1		1	1	1	2	27	3	6.00	3 Sept.
Pleasant Grove	L. H. Avera, Moultrie, Ga.	W. H. Godwin	N. E. Chastain, J. W. Strickland	1	1			2			55	2	3.50	2 Sept.
Mt. Pisgah	J. R. Lewis, Ochlocknee, Ga.	J. W. Williamson	O. J. Beasley, J. R. Lewis	2			1		3	1	26	1	4.00	1 July
Bethlehem	L. J. Renfro, Quitman, Ga.	J. L. Harris	B. B. Oliff, L. J. Renfroe	1						1	23	2	2.50	2 Oct.
Ty Ty	J. Z. Paulk, Tifton, Ga.	J. H. Hall	E. Lindsey, W. T. Dean	3				2	2		43	2	4.10	2 Sept.
Total				20	6		4	13	14	8	451		49.25	

