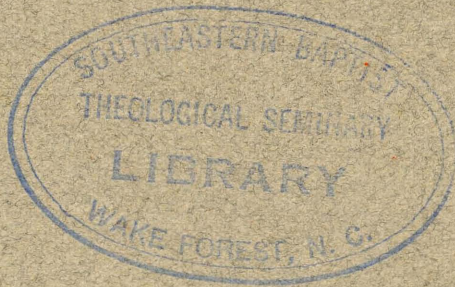


MINUTES OF THE EIGHTIETH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE

Alabama River Primitive Baptist Association

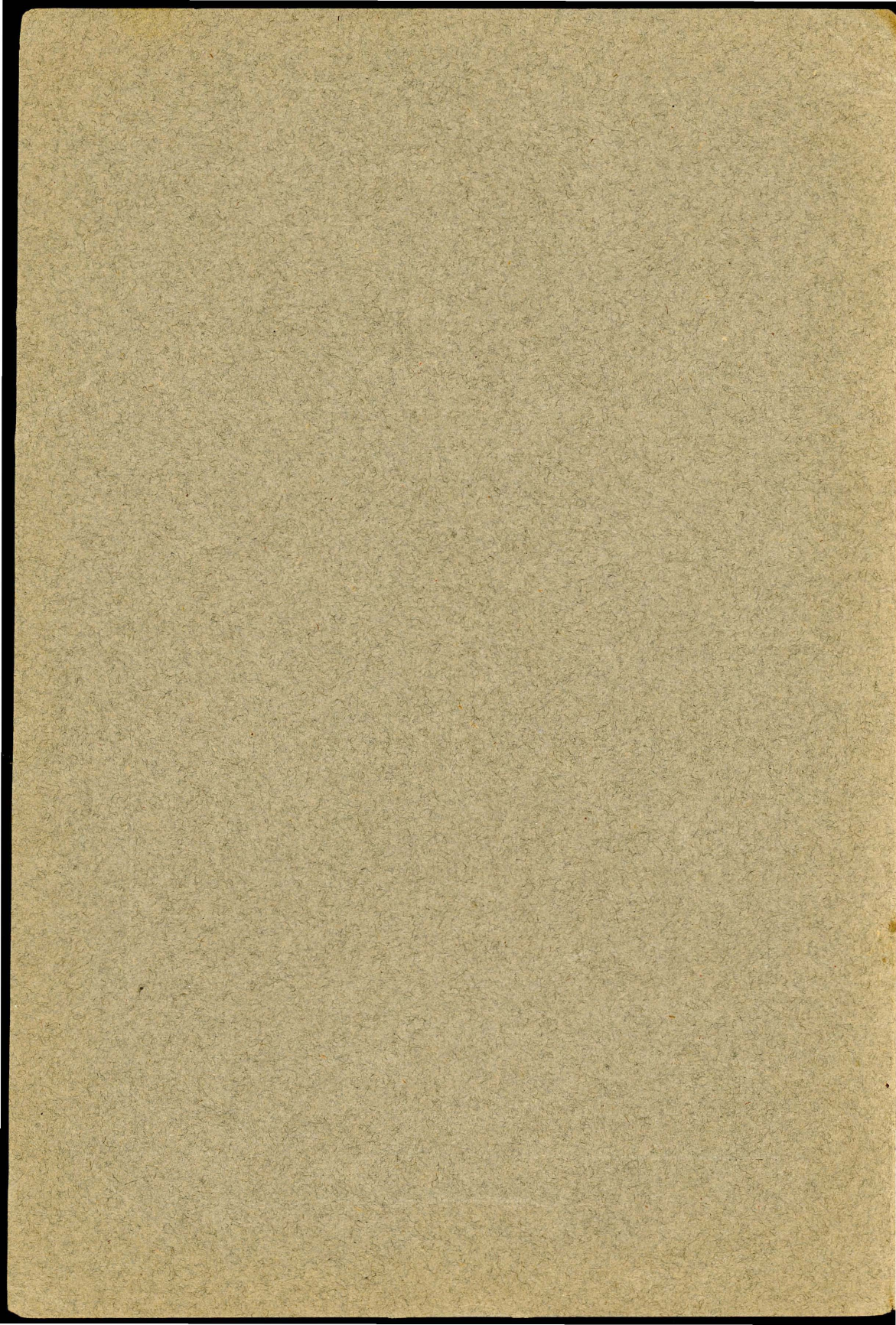
HELD WITH BIG CREEK CHURCH,
WAYNE COUNTY, GEORGIA, FRIDAY,
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER
3RD, 4TH AND 5TH, 1922



OFFICERS

ELDER J. T. MINCHEW, Moderator, Waycross, Ga., R. F. D. 1

J. O. WATERS, Clerk Blackshear, Ga.



MINUTES

OF THE EIGHTIETH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE

ALABAMA RIVER PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH BIG CREEK CHURCH, WAYNE COUNTY, GEORGIA,
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD, 4TH AND 5TH,
1922.

The Introductory sermon was delivered by Elder R. Vickers, of the Union Association. Text: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

After thirty minutes intermission, the delegates assembled in the house. The Association was called to order by the former moderator.

Prayer by Elder H. W. Parrish of the Union Association.

1. Read letters from nineteen churches. Minuted their state and enrollment delegates' names.
 2. Re-elected Elder J. T. Minchew, moderator, and J. O. Waters, clerk, by ballot.
 3. Read the Decorum and invited visiting ministers of our faith and order to seats with us.
 4. Appointed committees as follows: On Preaching and Finance, Elder W. D. Bryant, S. L. Youmans, A. M. Stewart, together with delegates from this church.
 5. On Business: Elders Lester Cole, G. H. Fowler, W. D. Griffis, together with moderator and clerk.
 6. To write corresponding letter: R. W. Bennett.
 7. On Memorials: Elder B. A. Thornton and W. A. King.
- Adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

SECOND DAY—SATURDAY

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder W. D. Bryant of our body.

1. On motion, petitionary letters were called for.
2. Called for correspondence from sister associations. Received from the Union Association minutes by Elder R. Vickers and C. H. Vickers. From the Suwannee Association, pack of minutes by Bro. J. W. Eddy. From the Ochochnee Association, minutes by Elder E. R. Rhoden. All messengers and visitors were received by the moderator extending to them the right hand of fellowship on behalf of our association in token of our love and fellowship for their associations.
3. Called for marked letters, and agreed to hold our next session with Satilla Church, Wayne county, Ga.
4. Called for corresponding letter, which was received.

5. Corresponding Letter: We, the Alabama River Primitive Baptist Association, now in session with Big Creek Church, Wayne county, Ga., to the Associations with whom we correspond, sendeth greetings. Beloved in the Lord, through the love and mercies of an all-wise God, we have been spared and blessed to hold another session of our body in peace and love. Our churches were all represented except one, and report peace with very little exception. Your ministers came to us laden with the good news of salvation by grace and grace alone, seeming to know nothing among us save Jesus Christ and him crucified; which causes us to rejoice, to press onward and upward toward the mark of the prize of the high calling as it is in Jesus Christ, the Lord. Dear brethren, we ever desire a continuation of your brotherly love and correspondence. The next session of our body will be held, the Lord willing, with Satilla Church, Wayne county, Ga., three miles south of Screven, Ga., on the A. C. L. railroad, commencing on Friday before the first Sunday in November, 1923; when and where we hope to meet with you again. Until then, dear brethren, farewell. R. W. Bennett, committee.

6. Returned correspondence as follows: To the Suwanee Association to be held with the church at Prospect in Hamilton county, Fla., thirteen miles from White Springs, G. S. & F. railroad, commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1923: H. R. McGauley, M. C. Murray, S. M. Bennett, A. M. Stewart. To the Union, to be held with the church near Ray City, Ga., commencing on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1923: Elder J. P. Mikell, Elder W. D. Bryant, Elder B. A. Thornton, Randall Davis, J. J. Meeks, Matthew Carter. To the Ochlochnee, to be held with Bethel Church, Brocks county, Ga., twelve miles west of Quitman, A. C. L., railroad, eight miles east of Pavo, Ga., on Georgia Northern railroad, commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1923: I. F. Roberson, Elder B. A. Thornton, Randall Davis. To the Pulaski, to be held with Lebanon Church, Crisp county, Ga., five miles west of Arabi, Ga., G. S. & F. railroad, Saturday before first Sunday in October, 1923: Elder G. H. Fowler, Elder W. M. Hyles, R. A. Watson, M. C. Murray.

7. Report of Committee on Business: We, your Committee on Business have examined the several minutes from corresponding associations and have found nothing new or objectionable in them, and recommend the same order of business that appears in our last years' minutes. G. H. Fowler, Lester Cole, W. D. Griffiths, Committee.

8. Report of Committee on Preaching and Finance: We, your Committee on Preaching and Finance, beg to submit the following report: We find in finance \$102.65. We recommend the printing of eight hundred minutes, six hundred for churches and two hundred for distribution, and have given the clerk \$50 for printing and distribution of minutes, and have the balance for his trouble, and the balance be divided between visitors and ministers of our body. R. W. Bennett, W. D. Bryant, S. L. Youmans, F. H. Thornton, A. M. Stewart, Committee.

9. Agreed by move and second to discontinue memorials on deceased

ministers and deacons. On motion, the minutes were read and approved. The Association adjourned to our next time and place.

ELDER J. T. MINCHEW, Moderator.

J. O. WATERS, Clerk.

Prayer by Elder E. R. Rhoden of the Ochlochnee Association.

ORDER OF PREACHING

Introductory by Elder R. Vickers of the Union Association.

Friday P. M.—Elder E. R. Rhoden of the Ochlochnee.

Saturday A. M.—Elder H. W. Parrish of the Union Association,, followed by Elder J. P. Mikell of our body.

Saturday P. M.—Elder G. H. Fowler, followed by Elder Lester Cole, both of our body.

Sunday A. M.—Elder E. R. Rhoden of the Ochlochnee, followed by Elder W. D. Bryant of our body.

Closed by the moderator.

NAMES OF MINISTERS AND POSTOFFICES

Elder J. T. Minchew, Waycross, Ga., Route 1.

Elder W. P. Nunez, Blackshear, Ga. Rfd.

Elder H. J. Griffis, Odum, Ga., Route 2.

Elder B. A. Thornton, Hickox, Ga.

Elder W. M. Hyres, Patterson, Ga.

Elder W. D. Bryant, Coffee, Ga.

Elder T. J. Dilborn, Alma, Ga.

Elder Simeon Thornton, Blackshear, Ga.

Elder J. P. Mikell, Waycross, Ga.

Elder G. H. Fowler, Blackshear, Ga.

Elder Lester Cole, Nicholls, Ga.

NAMES OF CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES

Antioch, J. W. Davidson, Winokur, Ga.

Ben James, W. H. Bowen, Blackshear, Ga.

Bethesda, W. S. Lewis, Jesup, Ga.

Bethlehem, W. D. Griffis, Blackshear, Ga.

Big-Creek, R. W. Bennett, Screven, Ga.

Corinth, J. D. Murray, Odum, Ga.

Damascus, R. A. Watson, Coffee, Ga.

Elim, J. L. Meeks, Nicholls, Ga.

Mars Hill, J. J. Moore, Hoboken, Ga.

Mt. Pleasant,, Ware County, J. W. Eunice, Waycross, Ga.

Mt. Pleasant, Bacon County, A. F. McClain, Alma, Ga.

Mt. Zion, W. M. Tuten, Blackshear, Ga.

New Hope, J. J. Blocker, Hickox, Ga.

New Prospect, W. L. Mikell, Patterson, Ga., Route 2.

Providence, B. M. James, Manor, Ga.
Ramah, S. R. Jordan, Rockingham, Ga.
Rosemary, A. V. Holloway, Graymont, Ga.
Rehoboth, Walter Smith, Waresboro, Ga.
Rome, A. M. Boyett, Beach, Ga., Route 1.
Satilla, J. A. Moody, Savannah, 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 to speak 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 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 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 reprov'd 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 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 THE 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 Saints' 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 the 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	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Restored	Confession of Faith	Dismissed by Letter	Expelled	Dead	Total Membership	Contribution	Sabbath of Annual Meeting
Antioch	Charlton	J. W. Davidson, G. H. Fowler	G. H. Fowler	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	14	\$1.25	1 Apr
Ben James	Pierce	S. L. Youmans, J. O. Waters	G. H. Fowler	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	51	9.70	3 May
Bethesda	Wayne	W. S. Lewis, G. W. Murray	W. D. Bryant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	4.75	3 July
Bethlehem	Pierce	W. M. Hyres, W. D. Griffis	W. M. Hyres	0	2	0	0	2	0	2	21	6.50	1 May
Big Creek	Wayne	R. W. Bennett, F. H. Thornton	W. D. Bryant	4	3	0	0	1	0	0	65	10.00	1 Oct.
Corinth	Wayne	J. R. Westberry, H. R. McGauley	W. M. Hyres	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	3.00	3 Oct.
Damascus	Bacon	R. A. Watson, Martin Turner	W. D. Bryant	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	20	4.10	4 Aug.
Elim	Coffee	Lester Cole, J. H. Meeks	W. H. Tomlinson	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	6.00	3 Sept.
Mars Hill	Brantley	Matthew Carter, H. L. McCloud	J. T. Minchew	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	20	3.50	1 Jun.
Mt. Pleasant	Ware	J. P. McKell, J. W. Eunice	G. H. Fowler	0	1	0	1	0	4	1	32	4.10	2 Jun.
Mt. Pleasant	Bacon	A. M. Stewart	Lester Cole	1	0	0	1	1	4	4	43	5.00	2 Oct.
Mt. Zion	Pierce	W. M. Tuten, Randall Davis	W. M. Hyres	0	1	1	0	3	2	1	28	7.40	4 Jun.
New Hope	Brantley	B. A. Thornton, A. J. Petty	B. A. Thornton	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	41	3.10	3 Apr.
New Prospect	Pierce	W. L. Mikell, M. C. Murray	B. A. Thornton	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	32	3.75	4 Apr.
Ramah	Pierce	W. D. Bryant, I. F. Roberson	W. D. Bryant	3	3	0	0	0	2	1	55	9.00	2 Sept.
Rosemary	Candler	J. L. Lanier, Henry Mercer		0	0	0	1	1	3	0	29	6.00	2 Aug.
Rehoboth	Ware	Dan Smith, Leo Bagley		0	0	0	0	3	1	1	28	5.50	1 Sept.
Rome	Ware	J. T. Minchew, W. A. King	J. T. Minchew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	8.00	4 Oct.
Satilla	Wayne	I. A. Moody, W. H. King	W. M. Hyres	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	16	2.00	2 Jul.

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