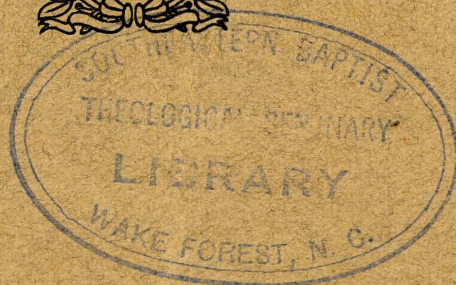


Minutes of the Eighty-first
Annual Session of the

Alabama River Primitive Baptist Association

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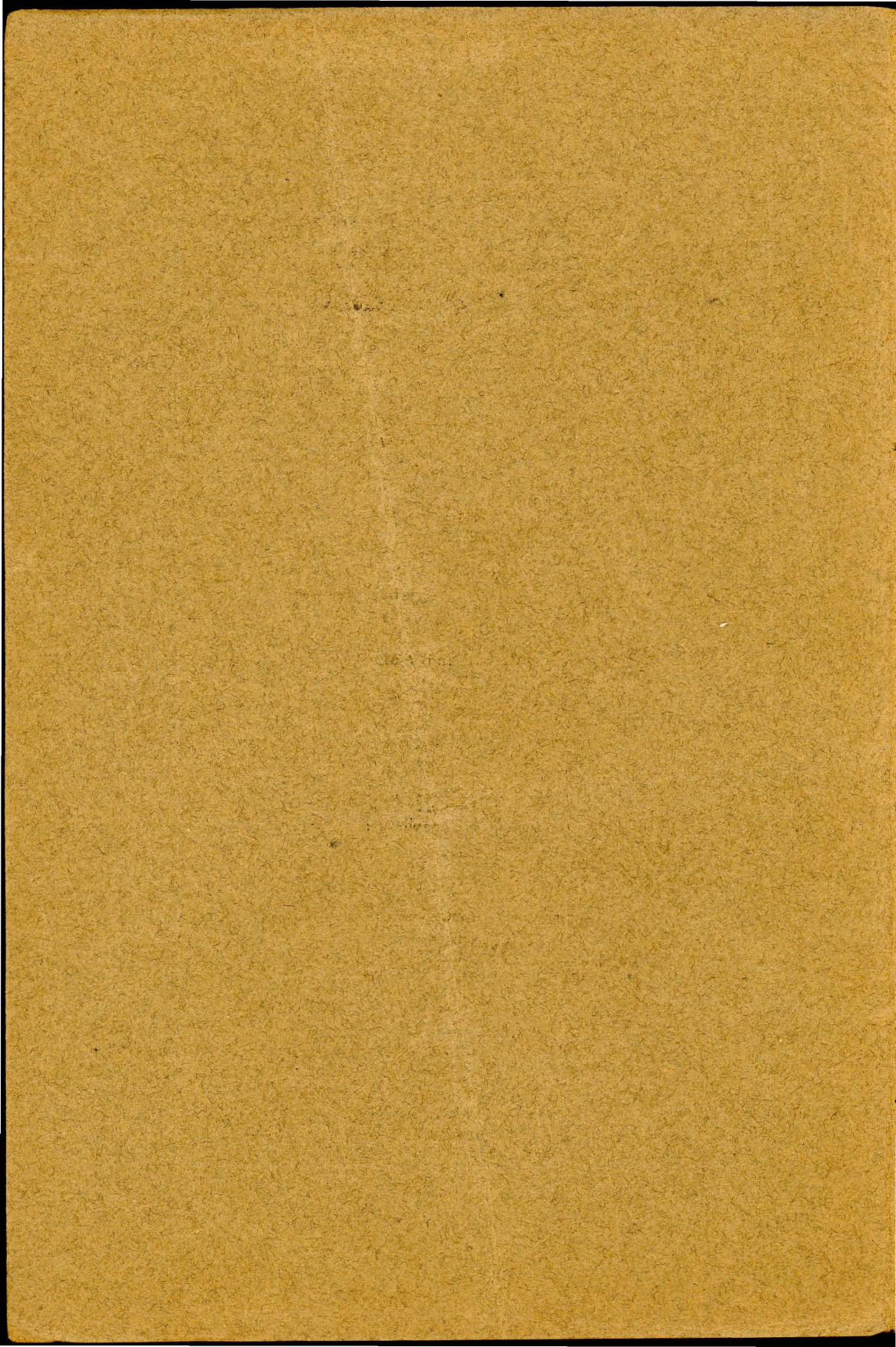
HELD WITH SATILLA
CHURCH, WAYNE CO.,
GEORGIA, FRIDAY, SAT-
URDAY AND SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 2-3-4, 1923



OFFICERS

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

J. O. WATERS, Clerk Blackshear, Ga.



MINUTES of the Eighty-first Annual Session of the Alabaha River Prim- itive Baptist Association.

**HELD WITH SATILLA CHURCH, WAYNE COUNTY, GA.,
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, NOV. 2-3-4, 1923**

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder W. M. Hyers, of our body. Text: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

After 30 minutes intermission the delegates assembled in the house. The Association was called to order by the former moderator.

Prayer by Elder W. D. Bryant of our body.

1. Read letters from eighteen churches, and minuted their state and enrolled 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. M. Hyers, W. D. Bryant and A. M. Stewart, together with delegates from this church.
5. On Business: W. D. Griffis, W. A. King, Elder B. A. Thornton, together with moderator and clerk.
6. To write corresponding letter: Matthew Carter.
7. Adjourned until 8 o'clock Saturday morning.

SECOND DAY—SATURDAY

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by Elder W. M. Moody, of the Suwannee Association.

1. On motion, petitionary letters were called for.
2. Called for correspondence from sister associations. Received from the Suwannee Association, minutes by Elder W. M. Moody and Bro. W. O. Crews. From the Union Association, minutes by Bro. G. M. Mobley. From the Mount Enon Association, minutes by Elder M. L. Gilbert. From the Ochlochnee Association, Bro. P. B. Hall.
3. Called for marked letters, and agreed our next session, with Ramah Church, Pierce county, Ga.
4. Called for corresponding letter, which was received.
5. Corresponding Letter: We, the Alabaha River Primitive Baptist Association now in session with Satilla Church, Wayne County, Ga., to the Associations with whom we correspond, sendeth greetings. Beloved in the Lord, through the love and mercies of all-wise Gods, 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 and love. Your ministers came to us laden with the good news of salvation by grace and grace alone seeming to know nothing save Jesus Christ and him crucified which causes us to rejoice and to press onward and upward toward the mark of the prize of the highcalling as it is in Jesus Christ, the Lord. Our correspondence is not as full as we desire. We desire a continuation of your lovely correspondence. We will hold our next session with Ramah Church, Pierce County Ga., the Lord being willing, 33 1-2 miles from Mershon, Ga., A. B. & A. railroad, eight miles north of Blackshear, Ga., A. C. L. railroad, commencing on Friday before the first Sunday in November, 1924, so farewell brethren till we meet again. Matthew Carter, Committee.

6. Returned Correspondence as follows: To the Suwannee Association to be held with Antioch Church, St. Lucie County, Fla., commencing Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1924, 2 miles South of Vero, on the East Coast railroad: Elder B. A. Thornton, J. W. Wainwright, R. A. Griffin. To the Union Association to be held with the church at Refuge Church, Atkinson county, Ga., two and one-half miles north of Pearson, Ga., A. C. L. railroad, commencing on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1924: A. J. Petty, M. O. Knox, Walter Smith, J. W. Wainwright. To the Ochlochnee Association Church not known: J. O. Waters, Matthew Carter, Elder W. D. Bryant. To the Pulaski Association to be held with New Bethel Church, Wilcox county, Ga., one mile south of Pitts, Ga., S. A. L. railroad commencing on Saturday before first Sunday in October, 1924: L. H. Youmans, A. M. Stewart, H. R. McGauley, Elder W. M. Hyers. To the Mt. Enon Association Church not known: Elder B. A. Thornton, S. M. Bennett, R. A. Griffin, on motion agreed to petition correspondence with the Flint River Association to be held with church not known, commencing Saturday before the first Sunday in November, 1924: G. W. Bennett, J. W. Wainwright.

7. Report of Committee on Business: We, your committee have examined the several minutes from the corresponding associations and have not found any thing new or objectionable in them and recommend the same course of business as appears in last year's minutes. Elder B. A. Thornton, W. A. King, W. D. Griffis, Committee.

8. Report of Committee on Preaching and Finance: We, your Committee on Preaching and Finance beg to make the following report: We find in finance \$97.60. We recommend the printing of 800 minutes, 600 for the churches and 200 for distribution, we give the clerk \$45 for the printing and his services and recommended the rest be divided among visitors and correspondence. Elder W. M. Hyers, A. M. Stewart, J. E. Moody, Elder W. D. Bryant, J. A. Moody, Committee

On motion the minutes, we read and approved the Association adjourned to our next time and place.

ELDER J. T. MINCHEW, Moderator
J. O. WATERS, Clerk.

Prayer by Elder M. L. Gilbert of the Mt. Enon Association.

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday A. M.—Introductory Sermon by Elder W. M. Hyers, of our body.

Saturday A. M.—Elder W. M. Moody of the Suwannee Association, followed by Elder Lester Cole of our body.

Saturday P. M.—Elder M. L. Gilbert, of the Mt. Enon Association.

Sunday A. M.—Elder W. D. Bryant, of our body, followed by W. M. Moody, of the Suwannee Association, closed by the moderator.

NAMES OF MINISTERS AND THEIR POSTOFFICE

Elder J. T. Minchew, Waycross, Ga., R. F. D. 1.

Elder W. P. Nunez, Blackshear, Ga.

Elder H. J. Griffis, Odum, Ga., R. F. D. 2

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.

Elder R. A. Thomas, Waycross, Ga.

NAMES OF CLERKS AND POSTOFFICE

Ben 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, 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), 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.

Rosemary, A. V. Holloway, Graymount, 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 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 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 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.

