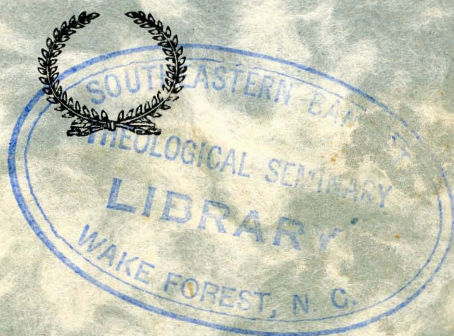
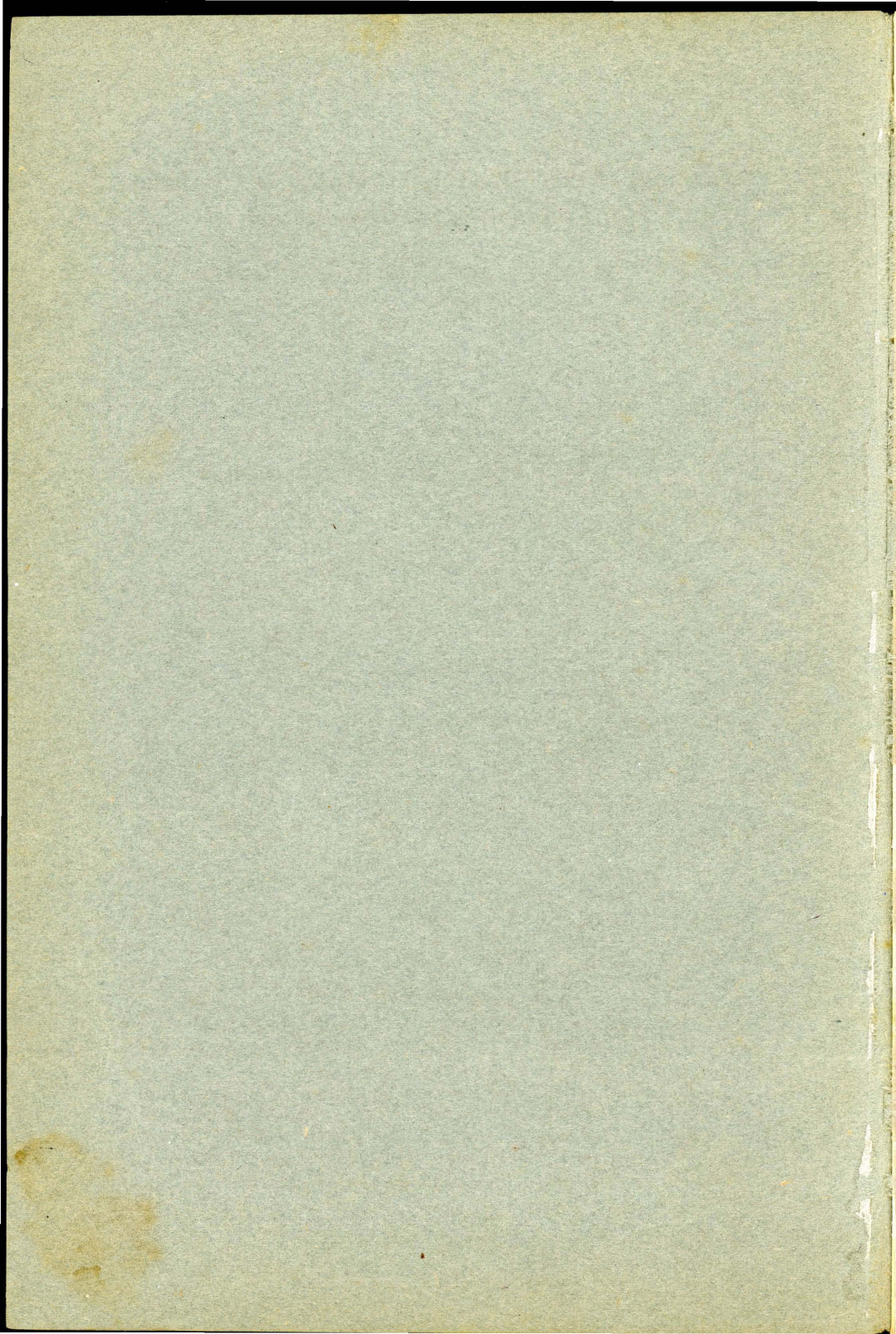


MINUTES  
of the  
Seventy-Seventh Annual Session  
of the  
Alabama River Primitive  
Baptist Association  
Held with  
Rome Church  
Ware County, Georgia, Friday, Saturday and  
Sunday, Oct. 31, Nov. 1st. and 2nd., 1919.



OFFICERS  
ELDER J. T. MINCHEW, Moderator  
ELDER J. P. MIKELL, Clerk,



## Proceedings of the 77th Annual Session of Alabama River Primitive Baptist Association.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder W. R. Acres, of the Pulaski Association, from Esther, 4th chapter, 16th verse.

After thirty minutes intermission, the delegates assembled in the house.

The Association was called to order by the former Moderator, Prayer by Elder J. W. Gardner, of the Ocklocknee Association, and proceeded as follows:

1st. Read letters from nineteen churches, ministered their state, and enrolled delegates names.

2nd. Re-elected Elders J. T. Minchew, Moderator, and J. P. Mikell, Clerk.

3rd. Read the decorum, and, on motion authorized the Moderator to extend an invitation to visiting ministers and brethren of our faith and order to seats with us.

4th. Appointed Brethren A. L. Brannen, Matthew Carter, J. R. Westberry, together with the delegates of this church, Brother J. J. Henderson and Elder J. T. Minchew, a committee on Preaching and Finance.

5th. Appointed Brethren Nathan Brown, J. O. Waters, R. W. Bennett, together with the Moderator and Clerk, a committee on Business.

6th. On motion called for correspondence from the Sister Associations, and received a package of minutes from the Pulaski Association, by Brother J. G. Minchew. From the Suwanee Association a package of minutes by Brother C. H. Fowler. From the Union Association a package of minutes by Brother G. O. Mikell.

7th. Appointed Brethren I. F. Roberson and S. L. Youmans to write the corresponding letter.

8th. Appointed Elders J. A. Osteen and W. D. Bryant on memoriams.

9th. On motion adjourned until tomorrow 8:30 a. m.

### SECOND DAY, SATURDAY.

Met according to adjournment on yesterday, and after prayer by Elder Wm. Moody, of the Suwanee Association, proceeded as follows:

10th. Renewed the call for correspondence from the Sister Associations, and received the following: From the Pulaski, Elder W. R. Acres and Brethren A. A. Turner and T. A. Bozeman. From the Suwanee, Elder Wm. Moody and Brother E. J. Roberts, as visitors. Then the delegates and visitors was

extended the right hand of fellowship by the Moderator, in token of love and esteem of our Association.

11th. Called for the report of the Business Committee which was handed in, read and approved.

#### **REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE.**

We, your Committee on Business, beg to make the following report: We have examined corresponding minutes and find nothing objectionable in them, and recommend the same order of business as appear on last year's minutes.

R. W. BENNETT,  
J. O. WATERS,  
NATHAN BROWN,  
J. T. MINCHEW,  
J. P. MIKELL,

Committee.

12th. Called for marked letters, and took up two; and agreed to hold our next session with Damascus Church, Bacon County, Georgia, 2½ miles Southeast of Coffee, on the A. B. & A. R. R.

13th. Called for the corresponding letter, which was handed in, read and approved.

#### **CORRESPONDING LETTER.**

We, the Alabama River Primitive Baptist Association, now in session with Rome Church, Ware County, Georgia, to the Associations with whom we correspond, sendeth greetings. Beloved in the Lord; thru the kind and tender 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 all report perfect peace and love.

Your ministers came to us laden with the good news of "Salvation by Grace," which causes us to rejoice and take courage that we may be enabled by grace divine to press upward towards the mark of the prize as it is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Dear Brethren: We desire a continuation of your Brotherly Love and Correspondence.

The next session of our body will be held, the Lord willing, with Damascus Church, Bacon County, Georgia, 2½ miles Northeast of Coffee, on the A. B. & A. R. R., commencing on Friday before the first Sunday in November, 1920. When and where we hope to meet with you again, until then dear brethren, farewell.

S. L. YOUMANS,  
I. F. ROBERSON,  
Committee.

14th. Returned correspondence as follows: To the Suwanee Association, to be held with New Hope Church, Alachua County, Florida, three miles north of Lacross, and four miles west of Brooker, on the S. A. L. R. R., Elder B. A. Thornton and Brethern Nathan Brown, Alex Stewart and S. M. Bennett.

To the Union Association, to be held with Pleasant Church, Berrien County, Georgia, six miles west of Ray City, and seven miles east of Nashville, on the G. & F. R. R., Elder J. A. Osteen, Brethern J. H. Strickland, J. O. Waters and C. L. Byrd.

To the Ocklocknee, to be held with Ty Ty Church  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles northwest of Ennis, on the A. C. L. R. R., Elder W. D. Bryant and Brethern J. O. Waters, Randal Davis, John Roberts and J. D. Thornton.

To the Pulaski, to convene with Pleasant Hill Church,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Sycamore, on the G. S. & F. R. R., Elders J. A. Osteen, J. P. Mikell and Brethern J. D. Murry and J. J. Henderson.

15th. Called for the report on memoriams, which was handed in, read and approved.

### **IN MEMORIAM.**

We, your Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, find that the Lord in His Providence has seen fit to call from time to an unbounded eternity our beloved Brother, Deacon Jesse Aldridge, who was a member of Mt. Pleasant, Ware County. A faithful deacon. While his life as a deacon was not so long, yet he was faithful and true to his calling, and the work that was assigned to him.

But alas his race is run, and he has been called home since our last Association. While we, in the death of Brother Aldridge, sustained a great loss, yet we bow in humble submission to His divine will, and can say, "His will, not ours, be done."

16th. Called for the report of the Committee on Preaching and Finance, which was handed in, read and approved.

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PREACHING AND FINANCE**

We, your Committee on Preaching and Finance, beg to submit the following report: Received from the churches \$102.20, and recommend that the Clerk be given \$50.00 for minutes and their distribution, balance to be used to bear expenses of corresponding brethern.

A. L. BRANNEN,  
MATTHEW CARTER,  
J. R. WESTBERRY,

J. J. HENDERSON,  
J. T. MINCHEW,  
Committee.  
17th. On motion the minute was read and approved and  
adjourned to our next time and placé.

ELDER J. T. MINCHEW,  
Moderator.

J. P. MIKELL,  
Clerk.

Prayer by Elder B. A. Thornton, of our body.

**ORDER OF PREACHING.**

Friday Morning—Introductory Sermon, by Elder W. R.  
Acres, of Pulaski.

Friday P. M.—Elder J. W. Gardner, of the Ocklocknee Ass-  
ociation, followed by Elder Wm. Moody, of the Suwanee Ass-  
ociation.

Saturday A. M.—Elder T. J. Dillborn, of our body, follow-  
ed by Brother T. A. Bozeman, of the Pulaski Association.

Saturday P. M.—Elder J. C. Hewett, of our body, fol-  
lowed by Elder W. R. Acres, of the Pulaski Association, fol-  
lowed by Elder W. D. Bryant, of our body.

Sunday—Elder Wm. Moody, of the Suwanee Association,  
followed by Elder J. W. Gardner, of the Ocklocknee Ass-  
ociation, followed by Elder L. M. Guthrie, of the Union Ass-  
ociation, conclusion by the Moderator.

**DECORUM.**

1. This 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 Associations. 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 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 depart 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 of 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 this 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 be hereafter constitute 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 one only 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 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.

#### **CLERKS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.**

Damascus—Geo. Hyers, Coffee, Ga.  
Antioch—C L. Byrd, Winoker, Ga.  
Ben James—W. H. Bowen, Blackshear, Ga.  
Bethesda—A. L. Brannen, Jesup, Ga.  
Bethlehem—W. D. Griffis, Blackshear, Ga.  
Big Creek—Geo. H. Mikell, Screven, Ga., R. No. 1.  
Corinth—J. D. Murray, Odum, Ga.  
Elim—J. L. Meeks, Nichols, Ga.



Mars Hill—J. J. Moore, Hoboken, Ga.  
 Mt. Pleasant (Ware County)—L. J. Strickland, Waycross,  
 Ga.  
 Mt. Pleasant (Bacon County)—A. F. McLain, Alma, Ga.  
 Mt. Zion—J. F. Knox, Blackshear, Ga.  
 New Hope—J. J. Blocker, Hickox, Ga.  
 New Prospect—W. L. Mikell, Blackshear, Ga., R. No. 2.  
 Providence—B. M. James, Manor, Ga.  
 Ramah—S. R. Jordan, Røckingham, Ga.  
 Rehobeth—Walter Smith, Waresboro, Ga.  
 Rome—A. M. Boyett, Beach, Ga., R. No. 1.  
 Satilla—P. J. A. Colson, Screven, Ga.  
 J. P. Mikell, Waycross, Ga., P. O. Box 636, Clerk of the  
 Association.

#### **MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.**

Elder J. T. Minchew, Waycross, Ga., R. F. D. No. 1.  
 Elder W. P. Munez, Blackshear, Ga., R. F. D. No. 1.  
 Elder H. J. Griffis, Odum, Ga., R. F. D. No. 2.  
 Elder W. M. Hires, Patterson, Ga.  
 Elder B. A. Thornton, Hickox, Ga.  
 Elder J. J. Hays, Atkinson, Ga.  
 Elder W. D. Bryant, Coffee, Ga.  
 Elder T. J. Dilborn, Alma, Ga.  
 Elder J. A. Osteen, Alma, Ga.  
 Elder Simeon Thornton, Blackshear, Ga.  
 Elder J. C. Hewett, Pearson, Ga.  
 Elder J. P. Mikell, Waycross, Ga., P. O. Box 636.

## STATISTICAL TABLE

Church	County	Messengers	Pastor 1919	Baptized	Rec'd by letter	Restored	Conf. of faith	Dis. by letter	Expelled	Dead	Total membership	Contribution	Sabbath of Annual Meeting		
				0	0	0	0	1	0	0	14	\$	1.25	1	
Antioch	Charlton	C. L. Byrd, S. P. Wainwright	B. A. Thornton	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	14	\$	1.25	1	April
Ben James	Pierce	J. O. Waters, S. L. Youmans	J. A. Osteen	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	53	\$	10.50	3	May
Bethesda	Wayne	Geo. Murray, A. L. Brannen	W. D. Bryant	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	15	\$	6.00	3	July
Bethlehem	Pierce	J. S. Thomas, Jno. Moody	Wm. Hires	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	22	\$	5.00	1	May
Big Creek	Wayne	R. W. Bennett, Hansel Tyre	W. D. Bryant	3	2	2	0	0	2	1	72	\$	10.00	1	Oct.
Corinth	Wayne	J. D. Murray, J. R. Westberry	Wm. Hires	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	\$	2.00	3	Oct.
Damascus	Bacon	Wm. Hyes, A. W. Martin	W. D. Bryant	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	16	\$	3.00	4	Aug.
Elim	Coffee	Jno. Roberts, Lester Cole	J. C. Hewett	3	3	0	1	2	1	0	61	\$	6.00	3	Sept
Mars Hill	Pierce	Mathew Carter, G. P. Warren	J. A. Osteen	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	23	\$	5.25	1	March
Mt. Pleasant	Ware	J. P. Mikell, J. H. Strickland	J. P. Mikell	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	37	\$	5.25	2	May
Mt. Pleasant	Bacon	J. A. Osteen, A. M. Stewart	J. A. Osteen	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	47	\$	7.00	2	Oct.
Mt. Zion	Pierce	Randall Davis, Nathan Brown	B. L. Starling	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	36	\$	7.20	4	June
New Hope	Wayne	B. A. Thornton, A. J. Petty	B. A. Thornton	6	0	2	0	0	5	2	51	\$	5.85	3	Apr.
New Prospect	Pierce	Mathew Robertson, D. J. Dowling	B. A. Thornton	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	\$	4.20	4	Apr.
Providence	Ware	G. P. Sowell	J. T. Minchew	0	0	1	1	5	0	0	23	\$	2.10	2	Oct.
Ramah	Pierce	W. D. Bryant, I. F. Roberson	W. D. Bryant	1	0	0	0	3	2	0	50	\$	8.50	2	Sept.
Rehobeth	Ware	Daniel Smith, Walter Smith	J. C. Hewett	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	38	\$	3.00	1	Sept.
Rome	Ware	J. T. Minchew, J. J. Henderson	J. T. Minchew	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	29	\$	8.10	4	Oct.
Satilla	Wayne	Ranson Roberson, Stephen moody	Wm. Hires	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	15	\$	2.00	2	July
Totals				25	11	13	3	16	13	8	639	\$	102.20		

