

MINUTES OF THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH  
ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
NEW RIVER  
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION

Held with the Church at Laurel Fork, Carroll County,  
Virginia, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 6,  
7, 8, 1918.

OFFICERS:

Elder P. G. Lester, Moderator, . . . . . Floyd, Virginia.  
Elder F. P. Branscome, Clerk, . . . . . Laurel Fork, Virginia.

Printed at the  
Messenger of Truth Office  
Laurel Fork, Virginia.  
1918.



CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICE ADDRESSES.

Churches.	Clerks.	Postoffice.
Charity	R. J. Beasley,	Fosters Falls, Virginia.
New Hope.	E. B. Harris,	Dug Spur, Virginia.
W. O. Grove.	H. B. Lester,	Sowers, Virginia.
Panther Creek.	W. G. Thompson,	Star, Virginia.
Fellowship.	M. P. Webb,	Hillsville, Virginia.
Laurel Creek.	P. Colé,	Camp Creek, Virginia.
Concord	J. Henry Cruise,	Snake Creek, Virginia.
Mountain View.	F. T. Sowers,	Terrys Fork, Virginia.
Little Flock.	J. M. Turman,	R. 5, Willis, Virginia.
Harmony.	Floyd Chappell,	Woodlawn, Virginia.
Valley View.	W. M. Lester,	Riner, Virginia.
Mount Zion.	J. B. Howell,	Woodlawn, Virginia.
Wilson's Grove.	H. E. Mayberry,	Snowville, Virginia.
Maple Shade.	J. P. Marshall,	Meadows of Dan, Virginia.
Bethel	Walker Hurst,	Hiwassee, Virginia.
Floyd.	W. C. Lester,	Floyd, Virginia.
Reed Island	James L. Marshall,	Longshoal, Virginia.
Indian Creek.	Wade F. Cox,	Indian Valley, Virginia.
Little Vine.	P. S. Surratt,	Sylvatus, Virginia.
Pilgrims Rest.	J. R. Odell,	Hiwassee, Virginia.
Conners Grove.	D. W. Slusher,	Willis, Virginia.
Pine Grove.	Guy M. Goings,	Woodlawn, Virginia.
Greasy Creek.	M. A. Gardner,	Willis, Virginia.
Laurel Fork.	J. J. McGrady,	Mayberry, Virginia.





PROCEEDINGS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE NEW RIVER PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

*Friday, September 6, 1918.*

1. The association met pursuant to adjournment with the church at Laurel Fork, Carroll county, Virginia, with prayer by Elder P. G. Lester.

2. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. D. Vass, from Eph. 4:5; "One Lord, one faith," etc.

3. After a short intermission the messengers assembled in the church house and were called to order with singing and prayer by Elder R. M. Mabry.

3. Received and read letters from all the churches.

4. Seated Correspondents from Sister Associations as follows: From Indian Creek, Elder J. T. Hurst; From Smiths River, Elder Q. D. Weeks, Elder J. D. Cockram and A. T. Jessup; From Fishers River, Elder R. H. Riggan; From the Mountain, Elders J. D. Vass and P. K. Roberts; From Mayo, Elder D. G. Staples and J. W. Sehen. Elders G. P. Allen and J. D. Easter were present as correspondents from Zion Association, but the propriety of seating them was referred to the Committee on Arrangements, and the correspondence was suspended. From Indian Creek, Salem, Mayo, Staunton River, Abbotts Creek, Contentnea, Kehukee Pig River, Fishers River, Lower Country Line, Mountain and Senter Associations, we received a file of minutes.

5. The Moderator appointed the committees, as follows: Elders H. V. Cole, R. M. Mabry, J. P. Goad, Asa Harris and J. M. Dickerson, with the Moderator and Clerk; a Committee on Arrangements; Brethren Wilcher Bowman, S. B. B.



man, G. B. Mabry, D. M. Webb and W. W. Thompson, a Committee on Preaching; Brethren J. H. Cruise and D. W. Slusher, a Committee on Finance; and Brethren J. H. Wilson and L. A. Jennings, a Committee on Distribution of minutes from Corresponding Associations.

6. Adjourned.

*Saturday, September 7, 1918.*

The association met pursuant to adjournment, with prayer by Elder P. G. Lester.

1. Called the roll of messengers and correspondents.
2. The Committee on Arrangements reported and were discharged.
3. Correspondents to sister associations reported and were discharged.

4. Appointed correspondents as follows: To Pig River, Elders P. G. Lester, H. V. Cole and S. L. Moran; To Smiths River, Elders H. V. Cole and S. L. Moran; To Mayo, Elder J. E. Marshall; To Mountain, Elders D. S. Webb and P. G. Lester; To Indian Creek, Elders J. H. Cummings and L. A. Cummings; To Fishers River, Elder S. L. Moran.

5. Approved the Circular Letter, prepared by Elder J. P. Goad, and appointed Eld. J. E. Marshall to write one for 1919.

6. The Committee on Preaching reported, for Saturday, Elders H. V. Cole, J. D. Cockram, J. P. Goad and Q. D. Weeks; and, for Sunday, Elders P. G. Lester, J. D. Vass and Asa Harris.

7. The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

Received from the churches.....		\$59.65
Balance from last year.....		22 27
Paid for printing minutes and for postage.....	\$25.00	
Allowed the Clerk for his service.....	15 00	
Gave to the Moderator.....	15.00	
Paid to O. L. Hendricks, Special Police (1917).....	10.00	
Balance in Clerk's hands.....	16.92	
Totals.....	\$81.92	\$81.92

8. At the request of the church at Litlevine, Elders F. P. Branscome, D. S. Webb, R. P. Vass, R. M. Mabry, Amos D. Vaughn, J. F. Sumner and R. L. Spencer were made a presby-



tery to ordain B. H. Myers to the ministry, if found qualified.

9. Adjourned to meet with the Church at Charity, Wythe county, Virginia, on Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1919.

ELDER P. G. LESTER, Mod.

ELDER F. P. BRANSCOME, Clerk.

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CIRCULAR LETTER.

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*To the Churches Composing the New River Primitive Baptist Association, and to the Associations With Whom We Correspond, Greeting :*

DEAR BRETHREN : We call your attention to 2 Timothy, 2:15 ; "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." We note, first, that the word of truth is to be divided ; and, second, that it must be *rightly* divided. There is but one class or character of men who can do this, that is, they that are "called of God, as was Aaron." Only such study to show themselves approved unto God, and properly apply their talents, and these are workmen.

We once saw some shingles put on a building. Only the first course should be laid double, but the man who put them on, not knowing the rule, failed to observe this and so needed to be ashamed. Again, we knew of a man who, after laying a porch floor, sawed it off even with the sill, spoiling the floor. This man had need to be ashamed, for the rule condemned him. He had failed to study and, consequently, ruined the floor.

We feel that the minister of the New Testament should study, as does the carpenter, that he may know that the foundation is not the roof of a building, and to know the difference in the size and use of three, six, ten and twenty-penny nails.

Therefore the preacher should know that there are seven spirits of God and that God has more attributes than one. This word of truth teaches the fact and the necessity of regeneration and the spiritual birth, but it teaches more than this. It teaches that God's children, who have been born of the Spirit and have been taught of God, should join the church and be baptized. It teaches more than this. It says, "If thine enemy hunger, feed him."

It teaches that there is a body of Christ, and that Christ is the



head of the body. His children are members of this body. God placed them in the body as it pleased him. All of the different organs (members) of this body have different functions to perform, and every joint supplieth.

If we study to show ourselves approved unto God, we should try, with all our heart, to give to each subject its proper meaning, and to not draw so hard on one subject that it would not let us give to another its full and proper meaning.

We should make of no subject a hobby, but strive to give to each his portion of meat in due season. We should be careful not to fall into any theory that is not supported by the word of truth. We should make no assertions that we cannot prove by the inspired Scriptures: for in them the man of God is perfect, that is, thoroughly furnished unto all good works (2 Tim. 3:16,17).

Our forefathers were satisfied with the Bible, else they would not have said, in our Articles of Faith, "We believe them (the Old and New Testament Scriptures) to be the written word of God, and the only unerring rule of faith and practice."

So let us ever be found earnestly contending for the faith which was once delivered to the saints; and, while we see through a glass darkly, let us be found striving for the things which make for peace. And let us pray that this peace may be the kind that God will own, while studying to show ourselves approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

The Book of Inspiration is the rule that God has given. By it we are either excused or accused. Let us take heed how we build on this foundation, which is already laid, remembering that hay, wood and stubble will burn. Dear Brethren, farewell.

ELDER P. G. LESTER, Mod.

ELDER F. P. BRANSCOME, Clerk.

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THE PREACHING.

FRIDAY—Elder J. D. Vass preached the introductory and Elder D. G. Staples and Elder S. L. Moran preached in the afternoon. The Clerk did not get texts used in the afternoon.

SATURDAY—1. Elder H. V. Cole preached from Luke, 18:13; "God be merciful to me a sinner." 2. Elder J. D. Cockram preached, but quoted no particular text. 3. Elder Q. D. Weeks preached from Heb. 10:14; "By one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified." 4. Elder J. P. Goad, being sick, did not preach.

SUNDAY—By reason of down pouring rain, Elder P. G. Lester was not present. The other appointees preached as follows: 1. Elder J. T. Hurst (substitute), from 2 Tim. 4:2; "Preach the word." 2. Elder J. D. Vass, from Heb. 13:1; "Let brotherly love continue." 3. Elder Asa Harris, from Rom. 9:21; "Hath not the potter power over the clay," etc.—Clerk.



## MINISTERS AND THEIR POSTOFFICE ADDRESSES.

### ELDERS.

J. M. Jennings, ----- Stephens City, Virginia.  
 Amos Dickerson, ----- Floyd, Virginia.  
 Posey G. Lester, ----- Floyd, Virginia.  
 R. M. Mabry, ----- Route 5, Willis, Virginia.  
 D. Smith Webb, Route 1, Hillsville, Virginia.  
 F. P. Branscome, ----- Laurel Fork, Virginia.  
 Joel E. Marshall, ----- Laurel Fork, Virginia.  
 F. C. Reynolds, ----- Riner, Virginia.  
 John M. Phillips, ----- Indian Valley, Virginia.  
 Aea Harris, ----- Indian Valley, Virginia.  
 H. V. Cole, ----- Simpsons, Virginia.  
 John P. Goad, ----- Route 2, Hillsville, Virginia.  
 J. M. Dickerson, ----- Route 3, Willis, Virginia.  
 \_\_\_\_\_son, ----- Snowville, Virginia.  
 \_\_\_\_\_st, ----- Hiwassee, Virginia.  
 \_\_\_\_\_Vaughn, ----- Route 4, Willis, Virginia.  
 \_\_\_\_\_orton, ----- Hillsville, Virginia.  
 \_\_\_\_\_mings, ----- Bent Mountain, Virginia.  
 \_\_\_\_\_mings, ----- Riner, Virginia.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ass, ----- Fancy Gap, Virginia.  
 \_\_\_\_\_Moran, ----- Terrys Fork, Virginia.  
 R. L. Spencer, ----- Fosters Falls, Virginia.

### LICENTIATES.

James Conner, ..... Route 3, Willis, Virginia.  
 C. M. Turman, ..... Arcola, Virginia.  
 M. A. Lineberry, ..... Shorts Creek, Virginia.  
 John H. Smith, ..... Sylvatus, Virginia.  
 John C. Hollingsworth, ..... Indian Valley, Virginia.  
 Joseph T. Spence, ..... Hiwassee, Virginia.



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CHURCHES	NAMES OF MEMBERS	No. in Fellowship	Deceased	Excluded	Dismissed by Let	Restored	Received by Let	Received by Ex	Licensed Min.	Ordained Min.	Church Meetings	Contributions
Charity	Elder R. L. Spencer, William Sueratt and George Williams	47	2	4	1	1	12	4	1	1	4	2.00
New Hope	B. P. McPeak, G. B. Mabry and L. A. Jennings, W. Thompson	141	4	4	1	3	4	2	82	2	4.00	
W. O. Grove	Eld. Amos Dickerson, Eld. P. G. Lester and W. G. Thompson	82	3	1	1	6	2	2	113	2	3.00	
Panther Creek	S. M. Stulwell, C. M. Shoelky and W. G. Thompson	166	3	3	1	4	6	2	166	2	3.45	
Fellowship	Elder R. P. Vass, David Cruise and David M. Webb	88	1	2	1	0	4	0	88	1	5.70	
Laurel Creek	Elder H. V. Oate, Elder J. H. Cummings* and J. F. V. Conner	55	1	1	1	0	0	0	55	1	2.50	
(Concord)	Elder J. W. Williams and J. Henry Cruise	21	1	1	1	3	3	1	21	1	1.50	
Mountain View	Elder S. L. Moran, W. E. Eans, and F. T. Sawers	75	4	4	1	7	2	2	75	2	2.50	
Little Plock	Elder B. M. Mabry, Elder Amos D. Vaughn and C. H. Webb	38	3	3	0	0	11	0	38	3	3.00	
Harmony	Elder D. S. Webb, Elder J. P. Goad and C. H. Webb	27	3	3	0	0	11	0	27	3	2.65	
Valley View	Elder E. C. Reynolds and Elder L. A. Cummings*	57	1	1	0	0	3	1	57	1	1.50	
Mount Zion	O. R. Landreth, * B. Williams and J. B. Howell	27	1	1	0	1	0	1	27	1	1.50	
Wilsom Grove	Elder T. E. Wilson * H. E. Mayberry and A. W. Dehart	66	1	1	1	0	1	0	66	1	2.25	
Maple Shade	Elders F. P. Branscome and J. T. Spence	164	6	6	1	1	4	2	164	6	4.00	
Bebel	Elder G. J. Hurst* and J. E. Dalton	80	2	2	1	1	4	4	80	2	3.50	
Floyd	W. G. Lester and Dr. M. L. Marshall	58	2	2	1	6	4	4	58	2	1.50	
Reed Island	James L. Marshall and Abner D. Marshall	89	1	1	1	1	1	1	89	1	2.00	
Indian Creek	Elder J. M. Phillips* Elder Asa Harris and J. C. Hollingsworth	57	1	1	1	0	1	4	57	1	2.00	
Little Vine	Elder J. F. Stagner, J. W. Surratt and B. H. Myers	48	1	1	0	1	0	2	48	1	2.00	
Pilgrims Rest	No messengers	61	2	2	0	0	0	0	61	2	2.25	
Conners Grove	D. W. Slusher	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0.00	
Pine Grove	C. F. Stone and M. A. Ineberry	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.00	
Greasy Creek	J. N. Akers, E. L. Dickerson and Harvey Howell	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0.00	
Laurel Fork	S. B. Bowman, Wilcher Bowman and N. H. Bowman	10	2	2	0	0	0	0	10	2	0.00	
* Absentees.		740	22	22	6	11	23	23	740	22	1768	\$59.35
Totals.....		1768	22	22	6	11	23	23	1768	22	\$59.35	

CHURCHES

NAMES OF MEMBERS

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No. in Fellowship  
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