

(31st) (1873)

**MINUTES**

Baptist Associations.

OF THE

**Thirty-First Annual Session**

OF THE

**Wetumpka Baptist Association,**

OF THE

**Primitive Order**

HELD WITH

Mount Olive Church, Shelby County, Ala.,

*September 27th, 28th and 29th, 1873.*



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1873.

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## MINUTES.

SATURDAY, September 27th, 1873.

The Introductory was preached by Eld. J. P. Sayers, from the 32nd chapter, 1st and 2nd verses of Isaiah: "Behold a King shall reign in righteousness and princes shall rule in judgment. And a man shall be as a hiding place from the wind and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of waters in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land."

After an intermission of thirty minutes, the delegates assembled at the house; prayer by the Moderator, B. Jowers.

Read the letters from the several churches and enrolled delegates names. See Table.

Elected Benjamin Jowers Moderator and John S. Ogletree Clerk.

Invited visiting brethren in the ministry and corresponding brethren to seats with us.

Appointed the following committees, viz:

*On Preaching*—W. Adcock, J. Baxley, and M. B. Merchant.

*On Arrangement of Business*—J. P. Sayers, L. M. Parker and F. C. Stevens.

*To Write Corresponding Letter*—J. M. Dikes.

*To Examine Corresponding Minutes*—J. W. Kecker, W. Downs and P. P. Salter.

Called for petitionary churches.

Preaching in the evening by Eld. Allen, followed by Eld. J. J. Cleavland, prayer by Eld. J. P. Sayers. Adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning.

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SUNDAY, Sept. 28, 1873.

Preaching this morning by Bro. Carlisle, followed by Brother Whitton. This evening, by brother Jowers, followed by Bro. Dikes.

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MONDAY MORNING, Sept. 29.

The Association met according to appointment. Prayer by Bro. Whitton.

Called for the report of committee on Arrangement of Business, which was read and adopted

Called the roll and read the decorum.

Renewed the invitation to ministering brethren to seats.

Called for the Corresponding Letter, which was read and adopted.

Called for correspondence, and received correspondence as

follows, viz: Hillabee, letter and minutes by her delegates, Elds. R. W. Carlisle, J. J. Cleaveland and Brother C. Cotton. Beulah, no correspondence. Primitive Western, letter and minutes, no messengers. Conecuh River, no correspondence.—Cane Creek, no correspondence.

Returned correspondence, viz: Beulah, Elds. J. M. Dikes, F. C. Stevens, Brethren W. Adcock, John Kelly, J. Baxley, John Upsher, L. M. Parker, M. B. Merchant. Western, letter and minutes. Cane Creek, Eld. J. Little, F. C. Stevens, B. Jowers, J. M. Dikes, Brother J. M. C. Norman. Conecuh River, letter and minutes. Hillabee, Brethren J. M. C. Norman, Whitnull Phillips, Andrew Collins, Elds. J. M. Dikes, J. McLeroy, F. C. Stevens, J. P. Sayers and Bro. J. Baxley.

Appointed union meetings as follows, viz: 1st District—Coosa River, Friday and Saturday before the fourth Sunday in August.

2nd District—Mt. Gilead, Friday and Saturday before 2nd Sunday in August.

3rd District.—Ebenezer, Friday and Saturday before third Sunday in August.

The brethren appointed to examine corresponding minutes, report they find nothing claiming the attention of the body.

Distributed corresponding minutes and received contributions..... \$28 20

From Brethren present..... 5 10

Settled Clerk's fee.

Agreed to have six hundred copies printed and the clerk superintend the printing and distributing of the minutes, and receive \$18 for his services.

Called for miscellaneous business, when Mt. Carmel petitioned for a letter of dismissal, which was granted.

Appointed the next session of our body to convene with Swamp Creek Church, Coosa county, 21 miles north of Wetumpka, and 9 miles southwest of Rockford, at our usual time—4th in September, 1874.

The brethren appointed to occupy the stand from day to day came forward in the order of their names, and seemed to preach with the power and demonstration of the spirit.

*Resolved*, That this Association tender her thanks to God and her respects to the brethren and friends in the vicinity of Mt. Olive Church, for the kindness and hospitality manifested to us during our stay among them.

Preaching this morning by Bro. Allen, followed by Bro. Cleaveland. Adjourned.

BENJ. JOWERS, Moderator.

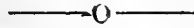
JOHN S. OGLETREE, Clerk.

## CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Wetumpka Association to her sister Associations with whom she corresponds: Dear Brethren, God in his mercy and goodness has permitted us to hold another session of our body. The business has been conducted harmoniously. The brethren who occupied the stand, have seemed to preach with the spirit and the understanding. The correspondence has been quite thin. We desire a continuance of your friendly correspondence. The letters from the churches denote peace and brotherly love. The next session of our body will be held with Swamp Creek Church, Coosa county, 21 miles north of Wetumpka, and nine miles southwest of Rockford, to meet on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1874.

BENJ. JOWERS, Moderator.

JOHN S. OGLETREE, Clerk.



## CONFESSION OF FAITH AND SCRIPTURAL PROOFS

ARTICLE I. We believe in the one true and living God—the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

We prove this from I John, chap. v. verse 7: “For there are three that bear record in Heaven—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one. St. John chap. i, verse 1: “In the beginning was the Word, and the word was with God, and the word was God.” Chap. x, verse 30: “I and my Father are one.” St. John chap. xvii, verse 3: “And this is life eternal that they might know the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou has sent.”

ART. II. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

II Timothy, chap. iii, verse 16: “All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine,” &c. II Peter chap. i, v. 21: “For the prophecy came not in olden time, by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” Hebrews chap. i, v. 1: “God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.”

ART. III. We believe that God elected or chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the World, that they should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

Psalms, chap xxxiii, v. 12: “Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.”—Ephesians, chap. i, v. 4: “According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.” I Peter, chap. i, v. 2: “Elect according to the foreknowledge of God, the Father, through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience and sprinkling the blood of Jesus Christ,” &c. Acts, chap. ix, v. 15: “For he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles and Kings, and the children of Israel.

ART. IV. We believe in the doctrine of original sin and man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.

Romans, chap. v, verse 15: “Wherefore as by one man sin entered in to the world, and death by sin, so death passed upon all men, for that

all have sinned." Romans, chap. 3, v. 23 : For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Rom. chap. vii, v. 14 : "We know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin." Chap. viii, verse 7 : "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God, for it is not subject to the law of God; neither in deed can be." John, chap. vi, verse 44 : "No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me, draw him.

ART. V. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

Romans, chap. x, v. 4 : "For Christ is the end of the law, for righteousness to every one that believeth." II Corinthians, chap. v, verse 21 : "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteous of God in him." I Corinthians, cap. i, verse 50 : "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom and righteousness," &c. Galatians. chap. ii, verse 21 : "For if righteousness came by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

ART. VI. We believe that God's elect shall be called, effectually regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost, and shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

I Corinthians, chap. i, verse 2 : "To them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both these and ours." Titus, chap. v, verse 5 : "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us by the washing of and regeneration and removing of the Holy Ghost." Hebrews, chap. ii, verse 11 : "For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one, for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren.

ART. VII. We believe that baptism, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and the true mode of baptism is immersion.

Mark, chap. i, v. 9 : "And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan; xvi chap. 16th verse : "He that believeth and is baptised. shall be saved." Acts. xxii chap., verse 16 : "And now, why tarryest thou, arise and be baptized;" viii chap., 37th verse : "And Phillip said, if thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest; and he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Verse 38 : "And he commanded the chariot to stand still, and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the Eunuch, and he baptized him." Romans, vi chap. v. 4 : "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism unto death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the father, even so" &c.

NOW THE SUPPER.—Matthew, xxvi chap. verse 5, : "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread and blessed it, and break it, and gave it to his disciples, and said. take, eat, this is my body ;' 27 verse : "And He took the cup and gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, drink ye all of it;" verse 28 : For this is my blood of the New Testament which is shed for many for the remission of sins." I Corinthians, v chap., verse 11 : "If any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner, with such an one no not to eat;" xi chap., verse 29 : "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself not discerning the Dord's body.

ART. VIII. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and that the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

Matthew, xxviii chap. 26 v : "And the Angel answered, and said unto the woman, fear not ye, for I know that you seek Jesus which was crucified;" 6 v : "He is not here for he has risen, as he said;" 7 v : "And go quickly and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead" Acts, xxiv chap. 15 v : "There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust;" xvii chap. 31v : "Because he hath appointed a day in which



we will judge the world in righteousness, by that man whom he hath ordained, whereof he hath given assurance unto all men in that he hath raised him from the dead." John, v chap. 58, 59 vs: "Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming in the which all that are in their graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation."

ART. IX. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances only such as are called of God, as was Aaron, and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery and in fellowship with the Church of which he is a member.

Leviticus, viii chap. 1 v. "And the Lord spake unto Moses saying, take Aaron and his sons with him." Hebrews, v chap. 4 v: "No man taketh this honor unto himself but he that is called of God, as was Aaron." I Timothy, iv chap., 14 v: "Neglect not the gift that is in thee which was given thee by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of presbytery." Acts. xiii chap. 2, and 3 v: "The Holy Ghost said separte me Barnabas and Saul for the work thereunto I have called them, and when they had parted, and prayed and layed their hands on them they sent them away."

ART. X. We believe that God has ordained good works that his children should walk in them, and that good works are only such as God hath commanded in his Word, and not such as without the warrant thereof are devised by men out of blind zeal or upon any pretence of good intentions.

Ephesians, ii chap. 10 v: "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath ordained that we should walk in them." James i chap. 18 v: "Show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works." Romans, x chap. 3 v: "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." Titus iii chap. 5 v: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us by the washing, of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost."

ART. XI. We believe that washing the Saint's feet was ordained by Christ to be done by his children in a Church capacity until his second coming.

John, xiii chap. 5 v: "After that he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples feet, and wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded." 14 v: "If I, then your Lord and master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one anothers feet." 15 v: "For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done unto you."—I Timothy, v chap. 10 v: "Well reported of for good works, if she have brought up children; if she have lodged strangers; if she have washed the saints feet; if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work."

1st DISTRICT.	COUNTIES.	DELEGATES NAMES.		Meetings	Contributions,	Total	Dead	Restored	Excluded	Dism'd by Letter.	R'd on Con of Faith	Rec'd by Letter.	Baptised.
		Ordained Ministers thus*	Absentees thus†										
Pethel, .....	Baker, .....	W. Downs, J. W. Kecker, .....		2	50	443			2	1			
Enon, .....	Perry .....			4	50	445			1	4			
Swamp Creek, .....	Coosa .....	J. P. Sayers* P. P. Salter, .....		4	50	445			1	4			
Coosa River, .....	Elmore .....	W. B Noble, W. S. Parrish, .....		2	10	282				2			
2nd DISTRICT.				2	50	120				1			
Bethlehem, .....	Macon, .....	M. B. Merchant, B. G. Atkinst, .....		4	50	243				2			
Chaney Creek, .....	Elmore, .....	W. Adcock, John Kelly, .....		3	70	155			1	4			
Salem, .....	Coosa, .....	B. Jowers* Andrew Collins .....		4	50	243				2			
Bethel, .....	" .....	John S. Ogletree, Whitnull Phillips, .....		3	50	155				1			
Fish Pond, .....	" .....			3	50	121				2			
3rd DISTRICT.				3	50	121				3			
Mt. Olive, .....	Shelby, .....	J. M. Dikes, * John Upsher, .....		3	00	128				3			
Ebenezer, .....	" .....	J. Baxley, J. McLeroy, * .....		3	00	142				3			
Mt. Zion, .....	" .....	F. C. Stevens, * J. W. Herren, .....		3	50	120				3			
Mt. Carmel, .....	St. Clair, .....	T. P. Watson, J. M. C. Norman, .....		3	50	121				2			