

• • Proceedings • •
OF THE
Forty-First Annual Meeting
OF THE
Caddo River
Missionary Baptist Association,
Association,

HELD WITH
Mt. Pleasant Church,
Pike County, Arkansas, September 10, 1898.

OFFICERS:

H. T. Howell, Moderator, Ophir.

A. J. Newcomb, Clerk, Ophir.

Next session to be held with Mt. Moriah Church, Hot Spring
County, Arkansas, near Ussery post office, beginning
on Saturday at 11 o'clock a. m. before the
Second Sunday in September, 1899.

Page 1. Eld. W. J. Moncrief should be Eld. W. T. Mun-
crief.

Page 2. C. D. Millsapps should be D. B. Millsapps.


Page 7. H. F. Wasson should be H. L. Wasson.

Page 8. W. B. Millsapp should be D. B. Millsapps

Page 8. H Burns should be E. Burns.

In Statistical Table it should be Sulphur Springs dismissed
instead of 33.

Proceedings.



MT. PLEASANT CHURCH, Pike County, Ark.

The Forty-first Annual Session of the Caddo River Missionary Baptist Association convened with the church at Mt. Pleasant, Pike County, Arkansas, September 10, 1898.

In harmony with its adjournment in 1897 the introductory sermon was preached by J. A. Shackelford and H. T. Howell. Text found in Exodus, 14:15, "Go Forward," listened to by a large and attentive congregation. The sermon was well arranged, full of truth and delivered with great force, the congregation was greatly edified by the discourse, closing with prayer by Bro W. F. Willis.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The body came together promptly at half-past two o'clock p. m., and after prayer by Eld. W. J. Moncrief of the Chickasaw Nation the Association was declared ready for the transaction of business by the moderator, A. Nelson, first calling for various churches, and the following brethren were appointed to read letters:

D. T. Brunson, J. K. Wilcox, J. N. Mason A. J. Newcomb and Al F. Wilson after the letters were read.

Petitionary letters were called for and received; two, one from Liberty church, No. 2, Polk county, Arkansas, with delegates, Bros. J. K. Wilcox and R. G. Brown, one from New Home church, Polk county, Arkansas. Delegates, Bros. A. J. Strickland and Z. A. Hilton. Next the body went into the election of officers, beginning to vote at 4 o'clock p. m., resulting as follows:

For moderator, H. T. Howell, of Ophir postoffice, Montgomery county; for clerk, A. J. Newcomb, of same address; for treasurer, W. F. Willis, of Amity, Clark county. The ballot was taken by W. T. Moncrief, of Indian Territory.

John Taylor, of Kirby, Pike county, and J. R. Hardy, of Red River Association.

The Committee on Divine Services was next appointed, with Bro John Welch chairman

Next called for Correspondence, when Bro. W. M. Stephens was received as corresponding delegate from Red River Association. Next received, Elder J. C. Goss, corresponding delegate from Howard County Association.

Closed with prayer by Elder J. J. Hughes.

SUNDAY MORNING.

The Association came together promptly at 9 o'clock, a. m., and after some good singing the congregation was preached to by Elder J. J. Hughes and C. D. Millsapps. At this hour we heard the gospel in its old tone, closing with prayer by J. A. Shackelford.

Intermission fifteen minutes.

The congregation again came together for preaching at 11 o'clock. The stand was ably filled by Elder H. T. Howell and J. C. Goss. We again had an old-fashioned Holy Ghost sermon, closing with prayer by Clerk A. J. Newcomb. At this hour the seating capacity was crowded to its utmost. After the benediction the people were served to a bountiful dinner served upon the church grounds, and after refreshments they again assembled at the church house for preaching at 3 o'clock, p. m. The stand was filled by Elder J. D. Bates. His discourse was on "The Identity of the Church." The sermon was delivered with much force and listened to by a large concourse of people. Adjourned to meet again for preaching at night. The stand was filled by Elder J. R. Hardy, of Red River Association. Small turnout on account of hard rain. The stand was filled on Saturday night by W. T. Moncrief.

MONDAY MORNING PROCEEDINGS.

The Association came together at 8 o'clock, a. m., and after some good singing the moderator read Psalm 37, after which the congregation engaged in singing Hymn No. 934, of Baptist hymn-book. Fervent prayer by Moderator H. T.

Howell. The Association was then declared ready for the transaction of all legal business.

By motion of J. J. Hughes, speeches were limited to five minutes.

The minutes of Saturday read and adopted.

Next called roll and marked absentees.

Next the various committees reported.

Reports adopted. (See Reports)

Next Missionary report of H. T. Howell was read by clerk and adopted, and the Missionary Board authorized to draw means from the treasurer to pay said missionary expenses.

Next a report of committee on locating a place for building a camp ground was read and adopted, and committee discharged.

Next it was agreed to appoint a building committee composed of the following brethren: A. J. Newcomb, J. N. Wasson, A. F. Wilson, J. H. Peel, R. M. Reece, D. D. Brunson and John Welch. Said committee was empowered to take collections for said building and a deed to the land.

Next, by a majority vote, the Association agreed to meet with Mount Moriah Church, in Hot Spring county, near Ussery postoffice, beginning on Saturday at 11 o'clock, a. m., before the second Sunday in September, 1899; the introductory sermon to be preached by D. B. Millsapps, with W. F. Willis as his alternate.

It was next agreed to continue the Missionary Board. The following are the board: A. J. Newcomb, of Ophir; J. N. Wasson and J. H. Peel, of Manfred.

By agreement the Missionary Board was to pay H. T. Howell \$27.50 for his services as missionary for the year 1898, his work being a fractional part of a month.

By action of the body the clerk was to draw sufficient money from the treasurer to pay all expenses of the printing and mailage.

It was agreed to have 500 minutes printed for distribution.

Elder J. A. Shackelford was appointed as delegate to Red River Association.

Delegates to Howard County Association: Elders A. Nelson and J. D. Bates, and Bro. W. T. Graves.

T. P. Edwards was appointed delegate to the Western Arkansas Association.

Dear brethren, we had a grand and successful meeting—one long to be remembered and never to be forgotten! The parting hand was taken after prayer by J. J. Hughes, while praises and hallelujahs were sent up to the great I Am.

H. T. HOWELL, MODERATOR, Ophir

A. J. NEWCOMB, CLERK, Ophir.

Reports of Committees.

LOCATING COMMITTEE.

STATE OF ARKANSAS, COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY } ss.

We, the undersigned committee appointed by the Caddo River Baptist Association, do designate and locate a place near Bro. J. J. Collier's farm and on his land in Caddo Cove. We find said location accessible, with the very best of cold Chalybeate spring water in abundance, with grounds arranged by nature for a camp ground building, and we unanimously agree as to the place for building our camp ground and ask our association to adopt our report and appoint a building committee. Dear brethren, let us form ourselves into a committee of the whole and push forward this grand enterprise. We do believe that we can make it a great success to the Baptise cause, and the name of Christ will run and be glorified in this end of the earth. We hope that prompt action will be taken.

A. J. NEWCOMB,
J. N. WASSON,
M. A. ROBBINS,
JOAB H. PEEL,
G. M. McLAIN,
Locating Committee.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, the Committee on Finance, find on hand:

For Associational Expenses.....	\$ 25 50
For Home Mission Expenses.....	9 50
From Sunday-School Convention.....	1 30

W. T. GRAVES, Chairman.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses for Last Associational Year.....	\$ 25 00
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Caddo River Baptist Association.

Leaving Cash on Hand from Last Year.....	10 44
Received from Finance Committee this Year for Association- tional Expenses.....	26 80
On Hand from Last Year for Home Mission Funds.....	18 00
Home Mission Funds Received this Year.....	9 50

W. F. WILLIS, Treasurer.

MISSIONARY REPORT.

I traveled 200 miles; preached twenty-four sermons; delivered three exhortations; made thirty-two visits; organized one Sunday-school; baptised one; received three members by letter; held one burial service, and married one couple. Home Mission funds collected, \$5 00. Dear brethren, I find a great destitution where I have labored. H. T. HOWELL, Missionary.

OBITUARY REPORT.

Black Springs—Two died, Bros. P. O. Prouse and J. W. Kirby.

Forest Hill—One died, J. G. Hawkins.

Mount Moriah—One died, Emma Sheets.

Bethel—One died, Patsy Bohanan.

Union—One died, Louisa Brumley.

Mountain Home—One died, Sister Theresa Diggs.

Macedonia—One died, Bro. A. D. Amerson.

Mount Zion—One died, Sister Missouri Wilson.

Bethlehem—Two died, names not on obituaries.

Longview—Three died, Sisters Bell Gilbert and Becky House, and Bro. Dollar.

Liberty Church, No. 1—One died, Bro. G. D. Meredith, who was born in Carroll county, Georgia, 1829, and died April 17. 1898,

ELD. J. J. HUGHES,

ELD. E. BURNES,

BRO. J. W. DILBRECK,

MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Missions, find funds on hand to the amount of \$25.55. We recommend that this body fall upon some plan to place a missionary in our association, that the cause of Christianity may be spread far and wide, and much and lasting good be done in the name of the Holy Christ Jesus.

Respectfully submitted,

M. R. SPEER, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, make the following report; We believe the use of intoxicating liquors are injurious and offensive and would de-throne reason and is not conducted to good government to our nation, church and family circle. Therefore, let us as the people of God, use our influence and bend our best efforts and use our prayers to God that we may get rid of this evil, for we know that God says that "No drunkard shall enter the kingdom of Heaven." May God help us to push forward the temperance cause is the prayer of your committee. Respectfully submitted,

G. A. HILTON,

R. G. BROWN,

D. T. BRUNSON.

DESTITUTION.

We, your Committee on Destitution, desire to make the following report: We find that there is considerable destitution in the bounds of our association. We find the northwest and north part of our bounds are in great need of a missionary, and we do most sincerely urge that something be done to supply said destitution with a missionary. Let us come together as one common brotherhood and make an effort to accomplish these ends. By so doing we would fill a long-felt want.

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. A. SHACKELFORD, Ch'm'n.

STATE OF RELIGION.

We find by hearing the letters read from the different churches that the cause has been prosperous in some parts of our association, but in other parts the cause of Christ has been languishing. This ought not to be, dear brethren. Let us set out with the power God gives us to do a greater work for the Master. For this associational year let us all move forward with one united effort and Zion will move and sons and daughters will be born of God.

Respectfully submitted.

A. J. STRICKLAND,
JAS. S. WALLACE,
J. K. WILCOX.

DUTIES OF CHURCHES TO PASTORS.

It is the duty of the church to administer to the pastor's financial interest, visit him and his family and encourage him all possible in his ministerial labor, urge the deacons of the church to look well to the pastor's welfare, for it is ordained of God that they that preach the gospel shall live of the gospel. Again the Bible says that God does love a cheerful giver. Dear brethren, let us all become aroused to our duty for when we give God repays us in four folds. May God help us to do our duty.

W. H. GUTHREY, Chairman.

DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, make the following report: We find but little on the letters sent up by the churches for us to report. We find three churches calling for the next session of this body to be held with them next year, to-wit: Mt. Mariah, Big Fork and Valley Grove No. 2.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN WELCH,
A. F. WILSON,
P. B. THRASH.

DUTIES OF PASTORS TO CHURCHES.

The pastor should declare the whole council of God, reprove and rebuke with all long suffering, and he should strive to influence every member to fill his station and do his whole duty in the work of the church, and we believe that the Sunday-school is one of the means of teaching the young the truth of the Bible, and by so doing lead them to Christ, which, we are taught, is to take away the sins of the world. He should therefore use all the influence he possibly can to get the churches, over which he has charge, to go forward in

the grand Sunday-school work, and induce the church members to attend prayer meetings, as prayer is the life of the church in all of its branches.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. REECE, Chairman.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That we as an association return thanks to the brethren of Mt. Pleasant Church and community for the kindness that we received from them during our stay among them; also to the moderator and clerk for their faithful services. Dear brethren, this was one of the most successful associations that we have ever had in all the forty-one years that we have been uniting as an association.

J. N. WASSON.

Resolved, That each member of this association pledge themselves to pay ten cents for Home Missions during this associational year. Resolved, Second, That each delegate of the different churches are hereby earnestly requested to endeavor to induce each member of their churches to give ten cents that we may have a uniformity of action, thereby raise a fund for missionary purposes at our next meeting. May the great God incline our hearts to do our Master's will. Respectfully submitted,

D. T. BRUNSON.

A resolution offered by the clerk, hoping that it may meet the approbation of the association.

Dear Brethren: Realizing that there are new fields continually opening up in our State that need to be cultivated by preaching a pure gospel, as the Baptists always do. The rapid development of new towns and communities are amazing. They have sprung up like magic, with large inhabitants. We would not fail to mention our own association, in it will be found considerable destitution and we have heard the cry, "come with the gospel unto salvation and help us." How shall we heed this cry or call for help? This is the question paramount for this body to solve. Dear Brethren, we have had the labor of Bro. H. T. Howell, as a missionary, the fractional part of one month this summer, with good results. See missionary report in our minutes; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, each of us, bend our best efforts to make the missionary work a success. Complying with the resolution offered by Bro. D. T. Brunson. Let us strive to feel the great responsibility incident to such an important work. Let us pray the Lord to roll upon our hearts, the worth and weight of immortal souls. By so doing we will unlog the wheels of Zion and many sons and daughters will be born unto God during this associational year.

Only offered for consideration.

A. J. NEWCOMB, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND POSTOFFICES.

J. E. Long, Boles.

H. F. Wasson, Black Springs.

H. T. Howell, Ophir.

J. J. Hughes, Rock Creek.

J. M. Smith, Rock Creek.

T. B. Burk, Rock Creek.
W. P. Taylor, Kirby.
J. A. Shackelford, Hickory Station.
D. T. Driggars, Hickory Station.
W. B. Millsapp, Hickory Station.
Arch Nelson, Hickory Station.
J. D. Bates, Egger.
A. A. Bates, Waters
Edmund Wright, Luckey.
T. J. Cunningham, Bear
R. W. Pate, Alamo.
D. Bright, Point Cedar.
M. A. Tolleson, Kirby.

LICENTIATES.

H. Burnes, Hickory Station.
Ottas Martin, Hickory Station.
Green Diggs, Hickory Station.
R. C. Fields, Caddo Gap.
W. F. Willis, Amity.
J. R. Motley, Kirby.
D. T. Brunson, Rock Creek.

Statistical Table.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST-OFFICES.	Baptized.	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	Present Membership	Day of Meeting.	Contributions.
Liberty No. 1.....	A. J. Newcomb, A. Diffee.....	H. T. Howell ..	H. L. Eastman..	Ophir.....	2	1	..	..	..	1	52	3d.	\$1 30
Union.....	James Wallace.....	H. L. Wasson...	James Wallace..	Crystal Springs.	..	4	..	..	..	1	29	1st.	1 00
Valley Grove No. 1.	A. Nelson, J. J. Hughes, D. T. Brunson.....	A. Nelson.....	L. F. Brunson..	Rock Creek ..	..	1	..	..	..	1	29	1st.	1 00
Mt. Pleasant.....	J. C. Aylor, W. T. Graves, D. B. White.....	J. C. Goss.....	W. T. Graves...	Langley.....	7	5	..	1	5	..	38	3d.	1 00
Bethlehem.....	W. J. Taylor, John Cowart.....	J. J. Hughes.....	W. J. Taylor...	Kirby.....	1	..	1	..	..	2	26	3d.	..
Mt. Moriah.....	T. J. Carpenter, W. B. Klzer.....	J. J. Dwiggins..	Johr F. Rucker..	Ussery.....	23	9	5	3	2	3	76	3d.	2 35
Black Springs.....	R. M. Reece, W. H. Guthrey.....	H. T. Howell...	A. Herrin.....	Black Springs..	..	2	10	..	..	2	39	2d.	1 50
Sulphur Springs.....	W. O. Bowen, J. H. Bowen.....	A. A. Bates.....	W. M. Edwards..	Big Fork.....	..	..	33	11	..	..	25	3d.	65
Big Fork.....	J. D. Bates, J. W. Dilbeck.....	A. A. Bates.....	J. F. Loftis.....	Egger.....	16	5	..	1	5	..	73	4th.	2 00
New Home.....	Z. A. Hilton, A. J. Strickland.....	H. T. Howell...	W. H. Hilton...	Board Camp.....	1	2	..	..	..	..	11	3d.	1 00
Forest Hill.....	J. A. Shackelford, E. Burns, T. F. Smith.....	W. F. Willis.....	Z. M. Nicholson..	Hickory Station	1	..	13	..	..	..	32	2d.	1 50
Liberty No. 2.....	R. G. Brown, J. K. Wilcox.....	J. D. Bates.....	J. K. Wilcox.....	Egger.....	..	..	..	1	..	..	24	2d.	1 50
Salem.....	W. D. Ward, B. P. Th ash, A. F. Wilson.....	H. T. Howell...	A. F. Wilson.....	Wilson.....	..	..	3	6	..	..	42	1st.	1 25
Mt. Zion.....	Z. M. Pettitt.....	H. T. Howel...	Z. M. Pettitt...	Plata.....	2	..	..	..	..	1	17	4th.	50
Caney Valley.....	H. T. Howell, W. T. Thornton, Walter Speers.....	J. J. Dwiggins..	S. Z. Moran.....	Rock Creek.....	3	8	1	6	..	..	79	1st.	1 55
Mountain Home...	D. B. Millsapps, John Dr ggers, jr.....	D. B. Millsapps..	W. M. Tackett..	Hickory Station	1	3	1	..	1	1	59	3d.	1 00
Macedonia.....	A. C. McKay.....	Bro Shepard.....	J. A. Johnston..	Oden.....	..	..	..	..	1	..	34	2d.	70
Valley Grove No 2.	G. W. Carpenter, John Cunningham, R. H. Wright.....	T. J. Cunningham	R. H. Wright...	Crystal Springs.	..	..	1	..	..	..	14	4th.	75
Bethel.....	W. F. Willis.....	J. A. Shackelford	S. T. Robertson	Rock Creek.....	2	1	1	..	1	1	59	2d.	1 00
Pleasant Valley...	I. N. Wasson, J. H. Peel.....	J. A. Shackelford	J. H. Peel.....	Manfred.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	2d.	1 00
Long View.....	Eli Rodgers, R. Speer.....	J. E. Long.....	E. L. Beacham..	Holes.....	..	..	4	1	3	..	34	4th.	1 00
Antioch.....	John Welch, Newton Coffman.....	J. A. Shackelford	John Welch.....	Caddo Gap.....	..	4	3	..	..	..	21	2d.	85
Providence.....	T. P. Edwards.....	J. J. Holland...	A. D. Stovall...	Black Springs..	..	..	2	..	..	..	28	3d.	1 00

Rules of Decorum

RULE 1. This Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

RULE 2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

RULE 3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order and shall have the right to call to order at any time.

RULE 4. A member not satisfied with his decision may appeal to the association on the same day, but at no other time.

RULE 5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise on his feet and, obtaining permission, proceed.

RULE 6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.

RULE 7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking unless he depart from the subject, or unless words of personal reflection are used. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the association, unless withdrawn by him that made it.

RULE 8. Every case taken up by the association shall be decided or withdrawn before another can be offered.

RULE 9. When a question is up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the association on the subject, and the members on the affirmative of the question shall signify the same by rising from their seats, and those in the negative shall retain theirs.

RULE 10. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision before the standers resume their seats.

RULE 11. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

RULE 12. No member shall speak more than three times on the same subject without permission of the association, nor more than once until every member who wishes to speak shall have spoken.

RULE 13. The appellation of brother shall be used in the association in addressing one another.

RULE 14. The names of the members shall be called as often as the association may direct.

RULE 15. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

RULE 16. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time; but he shall not vote on any question unless the association be equally divided.

RULE 17. Any member violating these rules may be reprov'd by the Moderator at his discretion; but only on the day that the breach is made.

Articles of Faith.

I. OF THE SCRIPTURES.

We belev'e that the Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a

perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end and the truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

II. OF THE TRUE GOD.

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth: inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. OF THE FALL OF MAN.

We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but by choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

IV. OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who, by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Savior.

V. OF JUSTIFICATION.

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

VII. OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.

We believe that in order to be saved sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience,

to the gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life.

VIII. OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls, by the regenerating spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Savior.

IX. OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. OF SANCTIFICATION.

We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration, and that it is carried on in hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the sealer and comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means, especially the word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.

We believe that such only are real believers and endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. OF THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XIII. OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word; that its only Scriptural officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

XIV. OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of the believer into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is a pre-requisite to the privileges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper; in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XV. OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred, to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

XVI. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

We believe that Civil Government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society, and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the Kings of the earth.

XVII. OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND WICKED.

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in an after death.

XVIII. OF THE WORLD TO COME.

We believe that the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day, Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

Order of Business

FIRST DAY.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Appoint a Preaching Committee.
3. Call for letters from the churches.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Election of officers.
6. Inviting visiting members to seats.
7. Call for correspondence.
8. Appointment of committees.
9. Call for a report from the Committee on Preaching.

SECOND DAY.

1. Call for the reading of the minutes.
2. Roll call and marking of the names of absentees.
3. Call for reports of committees.
4. Call for resolutions.
5. Appointment for next session.
6. Call for treasurer's report.

Report of Sunday-School Convention.

ALPINE, ARK., August 19, 1898.

The Caddo River Baptist Sunday-School Convention met with Union Church at Alpine, Clark county, on Friday at 11 o'clock, a. m., before the third Sunday in August, 1898.

The convention sermon was preached by Eld. A. Nelson; text, Ezek. 33:4, then adjourned to 3 p. m.

EVENING SESSION—FIRST DAY.

The Convention was opened by the president reading the 103 Psalm and prayer.

The constitution was read.

Called for letters from churches and schools. Letters read and messengers names enrolled.

Went into an election of officers for another year. Result: W. F. Willis, president; J. M. Smith, vice-president; W. W. Smith, secretary, and W. P. Ward, treasurer.

Appointed the messengers of Union Church and School, S. T. Moran, and W. H. Anderson preaching committee.

Appointed committee to arrange program for next session as follows: John Howell, S. W. Caldwell, J. H. Wisdom, A. Nelson and Susie Brunson. Appointee S. Z. Moran and J. D. Caldwell to arrange musical class.

After prayer by Eld. S. W. Caldwell adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday.

SECOND DAY—9 A. M.

The Convention was opened by Vice-President J. M. Smith, reading Proverbs 15 and prayer.

Called roll and marked absentees.

Called for reports of Sunday-school superintendents. We had some good reports.

Called for essays by Sunday-school appointment, when Bro. W. H. Anderson delivered one on "The Management and

Benefit of Sunday-School." Also Bro. J. D. Caldwell, subject—"Why We Should Attend Sunday-School."

Called for voluntary essays. Sister N. I. Elms responded. Subject, "The Sunday School," the essay was endorsed and ordered sent to Arkansas Baptist for publication; also, Sister Vonie Walker, subject, "Parental Training," which was endorsed. The committees adjourned to 3 o'clock, p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The convention was called to order by the president, reading tenth chapter of John and prayer by S. T. Moran. Took up annual programme on subjects and essays which were profitably discussed, then heard some good essays.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock, a. m., Sunday.

THIRD DAY—9 A. M.

The convention was opened by Bro. W. M. Stephens, reading eighty-fourth Psalm and prayer.

Called for resolutions, when the following were read and adopted:

No. 1. Resolved, That the next session of this body be held with Caney Valley church, in Pike Co., Ark., beginning on Friday at 11 o'clock a. m. before the first Sunday in August, 1899.

No. 2. Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the brethren and sisters of Union Church and vicinity for their kindness and hospitality; also to our worthy president and secretary for their faithfulness during this session.

Called for report of committees when the following were submitted and adopted:

PREACHING COMMITTEE.

Friday night. Text, John 6: 27. W. F. Willis, J. J. Diggins.

Saturday, 11 o'clock a. m. Text, Matt. 7: 13. J. L. Mitchell, S. W. Caldwell.

Saturday night. Text, 1. Cor. 13: 13. J. J. Diggins, J. H. Hall.

Sunday, 11 o'clock a. m. Text, Rom. 6: 29. J. H. Hall, J. J. Diggins.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE.

Convention sermon by J. J. Diggins.

I. Should we as Baptists elect teachers of different faith to teach in our Sunday-schools? J. K. Mitchell.

II. Why did Christ send the twelve and the seventy on their mission without scrip or purse? D. T. Brunson.

III. Why did Christ command his disciples to take their scrip and purse on the enlarged commission? J. J. Diggins.

IV. The influence of prayer in the family. S. Z. Moran.

V. Is it the duty of the church to keep a weekly prayer-meeting? S. W. Caldwell.

VI. What proof is there that Noah was 120 years building the ark? J. J. Hughes, Sr.

VII. Is baptism essential? If so, what to? D. D. Brunson.

VIII. By whom was John the Harbinger first called John the Baptist? J. M. Smith.

IX. What does the dry bones in the valley represent as seen by Ezekiel? W. W. Smith.

X. Is it prudent for a church member to take strong drink as a beverage? W. H. Anderson.

XI. Essays. Subjects of their own choosing. Misses N. I. Elms, Julia Martin, Vertie Fulmer, Nada Hollingshead and Mrs Fannie Brunson.

A. NELSON, Chairman.

Took up collection for minutes, result \$1.05 which was turned over to the treasurer.

Called for report of treasurer; he reported \$1 30 for minutes fund.

Read and adopted the minutes of the session after which we took the parting band with tears and had prayer by Eld. J. H. Hall, of Okalona and adjourned to meet with Caney Valley church on Friday, at 11 o'clock, a. m., before the first Sunday in August, 1899

W. F. WILLIS, President.

W. W. SMITH, Secretary.

STATISTICS.

Churches--Messengers: Caney Valley. W. W. Smith, J. D. Caldwell. Salem, W. P. Ward, J. C. Marble. Valley Grove, J. D. Bright, Anna Brunson. Mt. Mariah, Mollie Bright, J. K. Mitchell. Union, John Howell, A. J. Walker, W. H. Wisdom.

Schools--Bethel: Messengers, W. H. Anderson, F. E. Matthews; Superintendent, T. L. Mathews; No. scholars, 46. Valley Grove: Messengers, Susie Brunson, Katie Arnold; Superintendent, J. J. Hughes, sr.; No. scholars, 60. Caney Valley: Messengers, Nora Smith, P. A. McLain; Superintendent, S. Z. Moran; No. scholars, 56. Union: Messengers, M. F. Caldwell, N. I. Elms, Vassie Walker; Superintendent, W. M. Howell; No. scholars, 6. Mt. Moriah: Messengers, J. F. Rucker, J. T. Bright; No. scholars, 48. Amity: Messengers, R. L. Fulmer, Nada Hollingshead; Superintendent, C. O. Benthorn; No. scholars, 8. Total scholars, 350.

Constitutional Members--J. M. Smith, A. Nelson, W. B. Williams, S. W. Caldwell, S. Z. Moran, J. J. Dwiggin, T. L. Mathews, J. H. Hall, W. F. Willis.