

1971 MINUTES
SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Meeting with the Beaver Creek Association
with the First Free Will Baptist Church,
Inman, S.C.

November 11 & 12, 1971

Minutes of the Twenty-Ninth Session of the
South Carolina State Association of Original
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
November 11 & 12, 1971
Rev. Norwood Gibson, Moderator
Rev. Ansel Smith, Clerk

DIRECTORY OF STATE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

STATE OFFICERS:

Moderator Rev. Norwood Gibson, Florence, S.C.
Assistant Moderator Rev. Hoyt Powell, Manning, S.C.
Clerk Rev. Ansel Smith, Lancaster, S.C.
Assistant Clerk Rev. Van Powell, Johnsonville, S.C.
Treasurer Brother Joe Lynch, Scranton, S.C.

FIELD DIRECTORS:

Foreign Missions Rev. Guy Owens, Florence, S.C.
Home Missions Rev. Fred Kirby, Georgetown, S.C.
Superannuation Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Turbeville, S.C.
Christian Education Rev. Paul C. Reid, Johnsonville, S.C.
Church Training Service Rev. Jerry Norris, Spartanburg, S.C.
Promotional Secretary Rev. J.B. Smith, Chester, S.C.
Blue Cross &
Blue Shield Group Leader Rev. William Sealy, Darlington, S.C.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Mr. Herbert Israel, Spartanburg, S.C.1972
Rev. Joe Cagle, Pamplico, S.C.1973
Mr. Lewis Bass Hanna, Hemingway, S.C.1974
Rev. Floyd Seay, Darlington, S.C.1975
Mr. Ira Coward, Scranton, S.C.1976

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Rev. Bobby Bowers, Greenville, S.C.1972
Rev. Paul Reid, Johnsonville, S.C.1973
Rev. A. C. Allen1974
Rev. Ronnie Lee Jones, Johnsonville, S.C.1975
Rev. Guy Owens, Florence, S.C.1976

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE:

Rev. T. E. Bowen1972
Rev. Earl Hendrix1973
Rev. James A. Hucks, Jr.1974

SUPERANNUATION BOARD:

- Rev. Paul Sheehan, Turbeville, S.C.1972
- Rev. Hoyt Powell, Manning, S.C.1973
- Rev. William D. Sealy, Darlington, S.C.1974
- Rev. L. H. Clayton, Spartanburg, S.C.1975
- Rev. Van Powell, Johnsonville, S.C.1976

PUBLIC MORALS COMMITTEE:

- Rev. Joe Cagle, Pamplico, S.C.1972
- Rev. Thomas Bryson, Lancaster, S.C.1973
- Mr. A. C. Allen1974
- Rev. Seldon Bullard, Myrtle Beach, S.C.1975
- Rev. Mike Jones, Hemingway, S.C.1976

CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

- Eastern Conference1972
 - Rev. Hoyt Powell
 - Mr. Weldon Poston
- Central Conference1973
 - Mr. Arris Powell
 - Mr. Louis Bass Hanna
- Beaver Creek Association1974
 - Rev. L. H. Clayton
 - Rev. James Childers, Jr.
- S.C. Conference1975
 - Mr. Creighton Gibbons
 - Mr. Judson Osborne
 - Mr. Dudley Hicks
- Children's Home Superintendent Rev. Paul Sheehan

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:

- Rev. Norwood GibsonS. C. Conference
- Rev. Ansel Smith Beaver Creek Conference
- Rev. Paul ReidCentral Conference
- Rev. Hoyt Powell Eastern Conference

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

- Rev. Norwood Gibson
- Rev. Hoyt Powell
- Rev. Ansel Smith

GENERAL BOARD MEMBERS:

- Rev. Paul C. Reid, Johnsonville, S.C.

**MINUTES OF THE
TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

Meeting with the Beaver Creek Association
with the First Free Will Baptist Church of
Inman, S.C.

November 11, 12, 1971

The meeting was opened by singing, "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" led by Rev. Guy Owens from Florence, S.C.

Devotions were given by Rev. James A. Hucks, Jr. from the Central Conference. He used Psalms 133:1-3 as his text.

The Association was called to order by the moderator, Rev. Norwood Gibson.

The welcome was given by the host Pastor, Rev. Earl Hendrix, of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Inman, S.C.

The response to the welcome was given by Rev. Van Powell, the assistant clerk.

M.S.C. to seat all the delegates that had registered.

For the Moderator's message see Appendix 1.

The moderator appointed the committee on committees: Rev. Sam Truitt, Rev. Carroll Alexander, Rev. Bobby Bowers, Rev. Mike Jones, Rev. James Hucks, Jr.

The following visitors were recognized: Rev. Ronald Cheech, Rev. Ronnie Shelton, Rev. Roger Reed, Rev. Roger Tripp, Rev. Rufus Coffey, Mr. Fred Green, Rev. & Mrs. E.B. Ledlow, and Rev. & Mrs. Howard Messer.

11:00 A.M. Service—Rev. Guy Owens led us in some inspiring singing, and the morning message was delivered by Rev. J. B. Rice, pastor of the Lockhart Church. He is from the Beaver Creek Association. He used for a text Numbers 21:4-11. His subject was, "Journeying in the Wilderness Toward the Sunrise."

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon devotion was brought by Rev. Bobby Bowers from the Beaver Creek Association. His text was Isaiah 41:6, and his subject was "Cooperation."

M.S.C. to receive the report from the Children's Home given by the Superintendent, Rev. Paul Shehane. See Appendix 2.

M.S.C. to receive the State C.T.S. report given by President Rev. Sam Truitt, Treasurer Rev. Paul Reid, and Camp Director Rev. William Sealy. See

Appendix 3.

M.S.C. to receive a partial report from the credentials committee given by Rev. Mike Jones.

Tabled until tomorrow the constitutional change dealing with changing the mileage from 7 cents per mile to 10 cents per mile for the travel of the Executive Board.

Tabled until tomorrow the amendment to change the constitution by deleting everything that pertains to the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Ins.

M.S.C. to receive the Christian Education Board's report given by Rev. Guy Owens. See Appendix 4.

M.S.C. to receive the Superannuation Board's report given by Rev. Wilburn Beasley, Field Director. See Appendix 5.

M.S.C. to receive the State Promotional Secretary's report given by Rev. J. B. Smith. See Appendix 6.

M.S.C. to receive the report from our Executive Secretary of the National Association, Rev. Rufus Coffey. See Appendix 7.

M.S.C. to receive the National Sunday School Department report given by Rev. Roger Reed as information.

M.S.C. to receive the National C.T.S. report given by Mr. Fred Green as information.

M.S.C. to receive the National Home Missions report given by Rev. E. B. Ledlow. See Appendix 8.

M.S.C. to receive the National Foreign Missions report given by Rev. Guy Owens. See Appendix 9.

M.S.C. to receive the Free Will Baptist Bible College report given by Rev. Rufus Coffey. See Appendix 10.

M.S.C. to receive the Committee on Committees report given by Rev. Sam Truitt. See Appendix 11.

THURSDAY NIGHT

We enjoyed a wonderful fellowship meal in the fellowship hall of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Inman, S.C., and after the meal Rev. Guy Owens, foreign missions board member, showed us some slides of his trip he made to the mission fields.

The singing for the evening service was led by Rev. Guy Owens, and the special singing was done by the Gospel Five, from the Valley Falls Free Will Baptist Church. The Thursday Evening Missions Message was delivered by Rev. E. B. Ledlow from the National Home Missions Office in Nashville, Tenn.

FRIDAY MORNING

The second day's session was opened by singing, "I'm Bound for the Promised Land", led by Rev. Guy Owens.

The morning devotion was given by Rev. Mike Jones. His text was taken

from Isaiah 6:8-9.

M.S.C. to receive the Home Missions report given by the director, Rev. Fred Kirby. Appendix 12.

M.S.C. to receive the State Foreign Missions report given by the director, Rev. Guy Owens.

M.S.C. to receive the State Woman's Auxiliary report given by Rev. Paul Sheehan. Appendix 13.

11:00 A.M. worship service—after a heart warming song service led by Rev. Guy Owens, and special singing by Rev. & Mrs. Earl Hendrix, the morning message was delivered by Rev. Hoyt Powell, who is a member of the Eastern Conference. His text was 2 Kings 2:1-10, and his subject was "A Double Portion of the Spirit."

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Our afternoon devotion was given by Rev. Billy Poteat. His text was Phil. 4:10-11.

M.S.C. to receive the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Ins. report given by the director, Rev. William Sealy. Appendix 14.

M.S.C. to receive the resolution committee's report given by Rev. Earl Hendrix. Appendix 15.

M.S.C. to receive the Public Morals committee's report given by Rev. Seldon Bullard. Appendix 16.

M.S.C. to receive the treasurer's report given by Bro. Joe Lynch. Appendix 17.

M.S.C. to take yesterday's tabled business off the table.

M.S.C. to delete from the constitution the articles dealing with Blue Cross & Blue Shield Ins.

M.S.C. to amend the constitution article 7 point 1 to read: Members of the Executive Committee shall be reimbursed their travel expense at the rate of ten cents per mile to and from not more than two committee meetings per year.

The above move was amended that it be retroactive to cover this year's travel also.

M.S.C. to receive the Executive Committee's report on evangelizing our State Appendix 18.

M.S.C. for the Executive Committee to determine after the State bills have been paid how much money can be sent to each Conference that has an Evangelism Crusade. (Each Conference is to receive the same is they have a crusade.)

M.S.C. that we have our State Paper jobbed out, so we can have a better paper. The pastors pledged \$5.00 per month to help pay for it. (Pledged for their churches)

M.S.C. to receive the nominating committee's report. Appendix 19.

The placement committee report: The next State Associational Meeting will be held Nov. 16-17, 1972 with the Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Conway, S.C. Rev. James Hucks, Jr. is the Pastor.

M.S.C. that each conference elect their own delegate to the National Association, and assist him with the expenses.

M.S.C. for the moderator to appoint a State delegate to the National Association and that the Executive Committee determine after the State bills have been paid, how much the State can assist with the expenses. M.S.C. to lay on the table until next meeting the motion to amend the constitution, Article 4, to elect officers every year. The State Ministers Fellowship will meet February 8, 9, 1972 with the Horse Branch Church in Turbeville, S.C.

APPENDIX I

“Make Full Proof Of Thy Ministry” 2 Timothy 4:5

Introduction: This command of God to make “Full Proof Of Thy Ministry” was first given to a young preacher by the name of Timothy. It was given also for our instruction, and we are as much reponsible to obey this command as Timothy. Let me point out three things about this command.

1. It's a summation of all that is said in the book (2 Timothy), but more particular in the preceeding verses of Chapter 4.
2. It carries with it a sense of urgency. The situation at hand demands immediate action.
3. The importance of the meaning of the words “Full Proof”. I took time to look up this in the Greek to get an accurate meaning of the phrase. Here is what I found. *To carry out fully having a burden for, To entirely accomplish in evidence.*

With a burden for our ministry we are to strive to entirely accomplish it, bearing evidence of our labor. **MAKE FULL PROOF OF THY MINISTRY.**

In this short message I would like to point out three basic and necessary things involved in making full proof of our ministry. All three are found in our text verse. They are: *Persuasion - Perseverance - Proclamation.*

1. *Persuasion* (Watch thou in all things)

The word watch means to be discreet - sober Discerner. We are to soberly (honestly, sincerely) discern (know and understand the prevailing conditions of our time) and be persuaded thereby.

A. We should be persuaded of the times and conditions that are upon us.

- (a) Prevailing tide of Apostacy (2 Thess. 2:3) We learn in this verse that the day of Christ shall not come until there is a falling away. In other words the return of Christ will not take place until there is a wide-spread apostacy. A falling away from the faith. The true doctrines of Christ, Salvation and the Church. Well, brethren, that day is upon us. Even so come Lord Jesus.

(b) The working of antichrist is now evident (2 Thess. 2:3, 7) As a young Christian my concept of antichrist was limited to a man that would one day call himself Christ. To be sure this will happen, but this is not all that is involved. It means any individual, group or organization that teaches error and does not align itself with the doctrines of the Christ of the Bible and His Church. The full age of antichrist is upon us.

(c) The prevailing tide of *Sin* within the Church (2 Tim. 3:1-5) Sin that was once looked on by the Church as being evil, shameful, destructive and soul damming is now practiced within the Church with a mocking approval.

(d) The prevailing tide of light attitude toward the fundamental doctrines of Christ and His Church. (Rev. 3:15-17) Jesus tells us of the day that would come when the Church would be neither hot nor cold. What does this mean? Simply this. The time would come when the professing Church would not be for Him nor would it be against Him. This age of easy believism when liars, harlots, drunks, Bible deniers, and in some cases the devil himself is promised salvation. Brethren the last days are upon us.

(e) The prevailing tide of false teachers. (2 Tim. 4:3) Look anywhere you please in the Word of God and you will find that where Apostacy and heathen worship existed, it was the result of false teachers. In Jer. 5:31 we find the cause of Apostacy of Israel. The prophets prophecy falsely, and the priest bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so. On every hand there are those who preach falsely and do it in the name of Christ and His Church.

B. We need to be persuaded that even in these last days souls can still be saved.

(a) The Gospel is still the power of God unto salvation.

(b) All those who believe will be saved. Our responsibility is to be sure all hear the Gospel. Faith sets off the fuse that ignites the power of God, which results in the new birth. An explosion that will thrust any lost sinner into the realms of eternal glory.

2. *Perseverance* (endure affliction)

A. Prevailing conditions make it more difficult to maintain a stand for fundamental Christianity. But brethren we must endure if we are to make full proof of our ministry.

B. It has never been easy to accomplish a ministry for God. There is a blood stained path through the ages, stained with the blood of the prophets, apostles and faithful martyrs. The greatest blood stained path is the one that led to Calvary; stained by the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Oh! Brethren, He made full proof of His ministry. Heb. 12:2 tells us: “Look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him, He endured the cross, despising the shame.”

3. *Proclamation* (Do the work of an Evangelist)

A. An evangelist is a person. God could have chosen angels for his instruments or He could have created a new army of creatures for this task, but instead He chose redeemed people to be His mouthpiece. Isn't it reasonable that

one who has experienced the joy of redemption, makes a more powerful and effective Voice for God, than one who knows nothing of the glory of being cleansed from sin and made to sit in heavenly places in Christ. Brethren we are the evangelist. Oh! What an honor and privilege it is to represent Heaven.

B. The Evangelist is a Proclaimer of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the ages there have been many proclamations of good news which have been helpful to mankind, but none can be compared to the magnitude of the Gospel news. We have the message that tells how lost mankind can be saved from sin, ruin, and hell, and give them a life in Christ and a home in Heaven. Our entire ministry should be directed toward accomplishing our ultimate purpose; Proclaim the Gospel.

Conclusion: As individuals, local churches, conferences and a State organization, we have the responsibility to make *full proof of our ministry*. I believe that I will have to give an account to God for my responsibility as moderator of this State Association. I believe we will all give an account to God for the evangelization of the State of South Carolina. It can not be done by a few individuals, a few churches, or one conference; but it can be done through a State effort. I believe it's time that we got up from our complacency and dropped off the weights of our petty differences and join forces and get this job done for the Glory of God.

This Church that is hosting this convention (First Free Will Baptist—Inman, S.C.) is a testimony to what can be done. It is about six years old and is the result of a concern by God's men and a joint effort to get the job done. This Church is known in town. On our way into town Brother Guy Owens lost the way and we ended up on the opposite side of town. This turned out to be all right though because we found a small snack shop and enjoyed a refreshing cup of coffee. While talking to the operator of the business we inquired about the First Free Will Baptist Church. The response was quick and enthusiastic. He gave us accurate directions to the church and in the conversation he commended on the progress of the work. These people do not attend this church, but they know it is in town. This accomplishment can be multiplied many times and every city in South Carolina can have a Free Will Baptist work for Christ if we, as a State *Make Full Proof of our Ministry*. May God help us do it.

APPENDIX II

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME TO THE STATE ASSOCIATION OCTOBER 1970 - SEPTEMBER 1971

SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE:

CASH RECEIVED: West Columbia Church 43.62
Poplar Hill Church\$ 430.49 Columbia First Church 60.00

Mt. Elon Church	263.90	St. John Church	435.59
Black River S.S.	600.00	Horse Branch Church	1,497.07
Salem Church	420.00	McColl First Church	44.00
New Town Church	360.93	Oates Church	60.00
Camp Branch Church	250.00	East Side Church	43.06
First Church Florence	208.25	Pamplico Church	135.87
Bethany Church	1,144.30	Bay Branch Church	92.10
Conference No. 1	110.00	Sand Hill Church	324.37
Beulah Church	220.00	Tabernacle Church	229.00
Lebanon Church	497.14	First Church Charleston	478.20
Darlington Church	100.18	Cherryvale Church	62.58
Second Conference	57.68	Temple Church	50.00
Hartsville Church	139.12	Faith Church	12.00
Calvary Church	89.10	Grace Church	120.00
Liberty Church	300.00	Gilead Church	320.00
Manning First Church	30.00	TOTAL	\$9,228.55

COMMODITIES: (Estimated Price)

West Columbia Church	\$198.22	Florence First Church (Aux.) ..	67.12
Bay Branch Church Aux.	143.69	Gilead Church	132.50
First Church Columbia	32.39	Calvary Church	238.00
Beulah Church	444.58	Temple Church	65.24
Oates Church	119.90	First Church Hartsville	75.01
Bethany Church & Aux.	10.13	Pamplico Church	56.00
Lebanon Church	104.19	Mt. Elon Church	47.00
First Church Charleston	113.12	Camp Branch Church	65.00
Tabernacle Church	12.39	Mrs. Frankie Ridgeway	21.37
Mrs. Annie Jane Roberson	5.20	Myrtle Beach Mission	89.66
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Mixon	56.78	Mrs. David Gowdy	243.50
Cherryvale Church	33.99	Horse Branch Church	148.20
Mrs. Albert Welch	10.00	East Side Church	76.57
McColl First Church	33.34	Mrs. Stella Ethridge	35.00
Liberty Church	34.00	Kingstree Church	50.00
Mrs. Ila Lee	25.00		

CENTRAL CONFERENCE:

William Hill Church	\$150.00	West Side Church	218.20
Oak Grove Church	140.00	Little Star Church	690.00
Little Bethel Church	121.46	District Auxilliary	26.00
Conference Meeting	255.00	TOTAL	\$1,495.66
Mt. Ariel Church	45.00		

