

1917



MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SARDIS ASSOCIATION
OF REGULAR BAPTISTS



HELD WITH THE

MOUNT HOREB CHURCH
PIKE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

ELDER J. W. SMITH, Moderator.
BRO. J. M. HENSLEY, Clerk.



DAILY NEWS PRINT

MINUTES

FRIDAY SESSION, SEPT. 15, 1916

The Sardis Association of Churches of Jesus Christ of Regular Baptist, met with the Mt. Horeb Church at the school house.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Hi. Maynard. Text, Gal 5th Chapter and 1st verse. "Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, etc."

Opening remarks by Elder J. W. Smith.

Song, "He's Coming Again."

Prayer by Elder Charlie Bailey.

Letters from the different churches called for, read and received, and delegates seated as shown in the statistical table.

The association then organized by re-electing Elder J. W. Smith Moderator, and Elder Hi. Maynard Asst. Moderator, and Bro. J. M. Hensley, Clerk, and Bro. A. H. Varney Asst. Clerk.

Constitution and Rules of Decorum read.

Newly organized churches called for and Long Fork was received at the hands of Elder Will Thornsberry, Samaria at the hands of Elder R. Roberts.

Ordered: That the Moderator make all temporary appointments.

Committee on ministry for Saturday made their report.

1st, Charlie Bailey, 2nd, Dave Stepp, 3rd, L. Preston, 4th, Joe Cline.

2. Committee on Finance, Bros. A. H. Varney and Albert Smith appointed.

3. Committee on Business Arrangements, Bros. Jonah Bevins, Mell Romans, W. M. Lowe, W. S. Brown, R. H. Hall, Charlie Jude, Hi. Maynard, A. P. Bevins, Hi. Robnet, Floyd West, J. H. Simpson, J. B. Weddington, J. A. Cline, Will Thornsberry and Charlie Bailey, with the Moderator and Clerk and visiting brothers from sister associations were appointed.

4. Letters from sister associations called for and none responded. One delegate from New Salem, Elder Hayse Maynard, but no letter.

Transient ministers called for and Elders J. B. Weddington, Mont Williamson, Hi Maynard, Ester Hopkins, L. T. Preston, Joe Cline, Daniel Wilcox, and Sherman O'Brien, came forward and received the right hand of fellowship.

Ordered: That we correspond with New Salem Association.

The following brethren were appointed to write letters to

sister associations: Elder Hi. Maynard write one to new Salem.
On motion the association adjourns until tomorrow, Saturday at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK, SEPT. 16.

1. Opening remarks and prayer by Elder Floyd Kirk.
2. Roll call and delegates present.
3. Committee on Arrangement made their report. Report received and committee discharged.
4. Committee on Finances made their report, which showed a total contribution of \$29.75. Report received and committee discharged.
5. Ordered: That we retain the old Treasurer.
6. Report of appointees in Union Meetings and Associations, reports received and failures excused.
7. Letters to sister associations called for, read and received.
8. Delegates to New Salem appointed, as follows: Elder Ester Hopkins, Bros. Jonah Bevins and Harrison Bevins.
9. Report on ministry for Sunday, 1st Elders Ester Hopkins, 2nd, J. H. Simpson, 3rd, J. B. Weddington.
10. Ordered, that the following churches have Union meetings:
 - Long Fork, Friday before the 4th, Saturday in August, 1917. Elders J. B. Weddington, Hi. Maynard and J. W. Smith, attend.
 - Mary Elizabeth, Friday before the 4th Saturday in July, 1917. Elder Floyd Kirk, J. B. Weddington and Hi. Maynard attend.
 - Mt. Pleasant, Friday before the 2nd Saturday in July, 1917. Elder Floyd Kirk, Hi. Maynard and J. W. Smith, attend.
 - Salem, Friday before the 1st Saturday in August, 1917. Elder Hi. Maynard and J. W. Smith attend.
 - Sidney, Friday before the 4th Saturday in August, 1917. Elder Mont Williamson, Jeff Fields, Mose Howard and J. W. Smith attend.
 - Pilgrims Home, Friday before the 4th Saturday in July, 1917. Elder J. H. Simpson, Floyd Kirk and J. B. Weddington attend.
 - Mount Horeb, Friday before the 2nd Saturday in August, 1917. Elder Ester Hopkins, Mont Williamson, J. H. Simpson and J. B. Weddington, attend.
 - Friendship, Friday before the 1st Saturday in July, 1917. Elder J. H. Simpson, R. H. Hall, S. O'Brian and Mont Williamson attend.
 - Poplar Creek, Friday before the 3rd Saturday in July, 1917.

Elder J. H. Simpson, Ester Hopkins, R. H. Hall and Mont Williamson attend.

Dix Fork, Friday before the 1st Saturday in August, 1917. Elder Mont Williamson, J. H. Simpson and R. H. Hall, attend.

11. Ordered that we have eight hundred minutes printed and that the Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of same.

12. Ordered that we publish Elders Hose Bolden and Robert Elswick in disorder, they being excluded from us.

13. Ordered that Elder J. B. Weddington, A. H. Varney and J. M. Hensley meet with the brethren of the other associations to try to settle matters between them.

14. Ordered that our next association be held with the Big Branch Church, Pike County, Ky., beginning Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1917.

15. Any minister who advocates the doctrine conflicting with the 6th article of our abstract of principles as contained in our minutes, is guilty of heresy, and should be dealt with by the church to which he belongs as a heretic.

16. Resolved, that we do advise the churches of this union to be careful, not to receive into their fellowship those who are living in adultery.

17. Resolved, that we advise the churches of this union not to allow or permit any man to the ministry who has more than one living wife, according to the admonishment of the Apostle Paul to Timothy.

18. Ordered that Elder J. B. Weddington preach the introduction next year, and that Elder J. H. Simpson be his alternate.

19. On motion we extend our thanks to the brethren and friends of the Mount Horeb church.

20. Ordered that the clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes.

21. On motion we adjourn to the time and place above mentioned.

ELDER J. W. SMITH, Moderator.

BROTHER J. M. HENSLEY, Clerk.

SUNDAY SERVICES

On Sunday a large and well ordered congregation assembled at the stand, and after prayer by brother Jonah Bevins, Elder J. H. Simpson preached. Text St. John, 7 ch., and 37 vr. "If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink." Then Elder J. B. Weddington, Text. 2nd Timothy, 4th ch. 2nd vr. "Preach the word." Then closed by singing. It was clearly manifested

that the Spirit of God was with the brethren and sisters.

BROTHER J. M. HENSLEY, Clerk.

We, the undersigned committee, that was appointed to meet the brethren of the other association that went off from us, met, and did agree. But finding our brethren and churches in general so bad dissatisfied over the result of the committee that a majority of the committee withdrew from the work that was done, feeling that it was better to save our own brethren than it was to reach out after others.

J. B. WEDDINGTON,
J. M. HENSLEY,
A. H. VARNEY,

COMMITTEE.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experiences, we, the church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon our profession of faith in Jesus Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches, in order to perpetuate a union and communion among us and preserve, maintain and keep the rules and orders of an association, according to the following plan or form of government:

Article 1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, and duly sent to represent them in the Association, who shall be members whom they judge best qualified for that purpose, and producing letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to a seat.

Art. 2. In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their number in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead, since the last association.

Art. 3. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they have any clerical power over the churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any church in the union.

Art. 4. The association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.

Art. 5. The association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Art. 6. New churches may be admitted into the union who shall petition by letter and messenger, (and if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly) shall be received by the association, and manifest by the Moderator giving the right hand

of fellowship.

Art. 7. Every church in the union shall be entitled to a representation in the association.

Art. 8. Every query presented by any church to the association being first debated in their own church, shall be taken up by the association.

Art. 9. Every motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the association, except it shall be withdrawn by the member who made it.

Art. 10. The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the association.

Art. 11. The churches shall send money by the delegates of each church to pay for printing the minutes of the association.

Art. 12. There shall be a record book kept wherein the proceedings of every association shall be regularly recorded by the secretary for that purpose.

Art. 13. The minutes of the association shall be read, (and corrected if need be), and signed by the Moderator, and Clerk before the association rises.

Art. 14. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the union, when they may deem it necessary.

Art. 15. All matters coming before the association shall be decided by the will of the majority.

Art. 16. The association shall have power: (1) To provide for the general union of the churches. (2) To preserve inviolably a chain of communication among the churches. (3) To give the churches necessary advice in matters of church difficulty. (4) To inquire into the cause why the churches fail to represent themselves at any time in the association. (5) To appoint any members or members, by and with their consent to transact any business which they think necessary. (6) The association shall have power to withdraw from any church in this union which shall violate the rules of this association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion. (7) To admit any orderly minister of our order to a seat with us in the association. (8) The association shall have the power to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the churches in the union. (9) That no minister shall be ordained unless forwarded by a church, and it shall require two or more ordained ministers to compose a presbytery for that purpose.

We, the churches of Jesus Christ, of Regular Baptists, are constituted on the following faith, viz:

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Creator of Heaven and earth, and all things that are therein contained.

Art. 2. We believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God who is head and king of His Church.

Art. 3. We believe in the Holy Ghost, the sealer and applier of the redemption purchased by Christ.

Art. 4. We believe in the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are One.

Art. 5. We believe the Old and New Testament scripture to be the infallible word of God, and take it for our only rule of faith and practice, and nothing is to be taken from or added to it.

Art. 6. We believe in the free atonement of Jesus Christ; that He tasted death for every man, and that salvation is to all men and women on the terms of the gospel.

Art. 7. We believe that repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are necessary previous to baptism, and that immersion is the only way of administering the ordinance.

Art. 8. We believe that Christ has but one true gospel church and that will finally persevere through grace to glory.

Art. 9. We believe in the communion of the Lord's Supper, that is the taking of the bread and wine by the church of Jesus Christ in commemoration of the death and sufferings of the Son of God until His second coming.

Art. 11. We believe that Jesus Christ is the first resurrected from the dead and that He lives forever.

Art. 12. We believe in the resurrection of the just and unjust.

Art. 13. We believe in the final punishment of the wicked and the eternal happiness of the righteous.

RULES OF DECORUM

Article 1. The association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

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

Art. 3. Only one member shall speak at the same time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.

Art. 4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech, except by the Moderator, till he is done speaking, and shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who spoke before or make remarks on his slips or

failures and imperfections, but shall verily state the case and matter as nearly as he can, so as to convey his light or idea.

Art. 5. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without liberty obtained from the association.

Art. 6. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the association without liberty obtained from it.

Art. 7. No member of the association shall have the liberty of laughing during the sittings of the same, nor whispering in time of public speech.

Art. 8. No member of the association shall address another by any other title or appellation than that of Brother.

Art. 9. The Moderator shall not interrupt a member until he gives his own idea upon the subject, except he break the rules of decorum.

Art. 10. The names of the members of the association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as often as the association requires.

Art. 11. The Moderator shall have same privilege of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled, but shall have no vote unless the association shall be equally divided.

Art. 12. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break any of the rules shall be reproved by the association as they think proper.

Art. 13. But three members shall take a seat in the association from each church.

Art. 14. No person shall speak more than five minutes at the same time without liberty obtained from the association.

Art. 15. These rules of decorum shall be read by the Clerk at the commencement of every association.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

1. Mont Williamson Varney, W. Va.
2. J. E. Taylor Jarad, Ky.
3. J. W. Smith Rural, Ky.
4. H. M. Runyon Oppy, Ky.
5. Hi. Maynard Myrtle, W. Va.
6. Epp Ward Inez, K.
7. J. L. Dotson, Jamboree Ky.
8. Isom Sloane Deiorne., W. Va.
9. Evans Sluss Pilgrim, Ky.
10. Floyd Kirk Pilgrim, Ky.
11. Moses Howard Pilgrim, Ky.
12. L. T. Preston Catlettsburg, Ky.
13. Ruben Hall Matewan, W. Va.

14.	Will Thornberry	Canada, Ky.
15.	J. B. Weddington	Williamson, W. Va.
16.	J. H. Simpson	Majestic, Ky.
17.	A. G. Blankenship	Majestic, Ky.
18.	Joe McCoy	Edgerton, W. Va.
19.	Charley Bailey	Thacker, W. Va.
20.	David White	Holden, W. Va.
21.	W. H. May	Canterbury, W. Va.
22.	Ester Hopkins	Williamson W. Va.
23.	Ransom Smith	Chattaroy, W. Va.
24.	H. H. White	Catlettsburg, Ky.
25.	R. Roberts	Vulcan Mingo County, W. Va.
	Daniel Wilcox	Edgerton, W. Va.
	Sherman O'Brien	Edgerton, W. Va.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF LICENSED MINISTERS

1.	Floyd West	Catlettsburg Ky.
2.	Jeff Stanley	Catlettsburg, Ky.
3.	Bev. West	Canada, Ky.

FORM OF CHURCH LETTER

We, the Regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ, called
 church, now in session,
 sendeth greeting to the Ministers and Messengers that may com-
 pose the Sardis Association when convened with the
 church, county, on
 Friday before the third Saturday in September, 19.....

Our dear Brethren, we are in peace with each other and our
 present condition is as follows: Since our last association we
 have received by Baptism; Letter; Re-
 stored; Recommendation; Dis-
 missed; Excluded; Died;
 Our total number is; out of whom we have chosen
 our beloved, to-wit:

.....
 and, to bear this let-
 ter and to represent us in the association.

By order of the church.

..... Moderator.

..... Clerk.

Clerk's address

..... P. O.
 County, State.

TABLE OF CHURCHES

NAMES OF CHURCHES	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	Received				Dismissed			TOTAL
		By Baptism	By Letter	Restoration	Recommendation	By Letter	By Exclusion	By Death	
Mt. Pleasant	J. Bevins, H. Bevins, A. Smith	13				7			41
Mary Elibzaeth	Mel Romans, J. C. Smith	4						1	29
Big Branch	No Delegate			1		2			65
Brushy Fork	W. M. Lowe							2	69
Dix Fork	W. S. Brown, R. Crigger, George Stanley	2							11
Mt. Horeb	R. H. Hall, Joe McCoy, John Gooslin	3	1		2	1	2		21
Wolf Creek	C. Jude, P. Cline, Floyd Kirk	2							21
Rebecca	J. H. Maynard	4					3	1	42
Bent Branch	A. P. Bevins, Paton Blackburn	4			1		1	1	22
Pilgrims Home	Lafe Burris, Hi Robnet	3	2		2		2	1	29
Friendship	F. West, H. White, A. Johnson							1	16
Poplar Creek	J. H. Simpson, W. Dotson, C. Rice	7		1		1	12	1	36
Salem	A. H. Varney, H. Smith, J. Gooslin	16							26
Pleasant Home	H. M. Runyon, Letter lost								43
Sidney	J. Cline, D. Stepp, Peter Diles	16	3			3	1		60
Long Fork	Will Thornberry, F. Thornberry	8					1		7
Samaria	Ri Roberts	28				1	9		18
		110	6	2	5	15	31	8	556