

Sabbath in March, to hear the report of the committee and adopt the Articles of Faith, etc., and so complete its organization.

REV. ALEX. BRELAND, Moderator.
J. A. DAVIS, Clerk and Treasurer.

Washington Missionary Baptist Association met back with Washington Church on Saturday, the 14th day of March, as per adjournment. Heard the report of committee and taking up each article separately and carefully with the exception of a very few amendements and alterations, the Constitution, Articles of Faith, Gospel Order, Objects and Powers of the Association and Rules of Decorum were adopted as came from the committee.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolved that the Clerk be authorized to write up a form of Associational Letter and have same spread on the minutes.
2. That each member of this Association endeavor to work up all the interest possible with other churches in behalf of this Association.
3. That the Clerk have five hundred minutes printed, and that he superintend the printing of the same.
4. That we now adjourn to meet with Mount Pisgah Church on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, A. D. 1914.

REV. ALEX. BRELAND, Moderator.
J. A. DAVIS, Clerk and Treasurer.

P. S.—I have been delayed in getting some statistical matter from some of the churches, hence the delay in getting the minutes out.

J. A. DAVIS.

CONSTITUTION

We the Church of Jesus Christ, having been regularly baptized upon a profession of faith, being convinced of the necessity and utility of a combination of churches of the same faith and order, do agree to unite ourselves into an Association upon the following principles:

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1st. We believe in one only true and living God; and that there is a trinity of persons in the Godhead: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one and the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

2nd. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God; that they are of divine authority; that they contain the whole of the divine will and purposes as revealed to man, and that they are the only standard of divine truth, and the only and sufficient rule of faith and practice.

3rd. We believe in the fall of Adam and in him all his posterity; the total corruption of man's moral nature, and in man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.

4th. We believe in the everlasting love of God to His people, in the eternal and unconditional election of all His spiritual children to grace and glory.

5th. We believe by the everlasting covenant grace is treasured up in Christ to insure the regeneration, sanctification, preservation and preserverance of all God's people so that none of them shall be finally lost.

6th. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them.

7th. We believe that there is one mediator between God and man—the man Christ Jesus, who by the ~~sanctification~~ *Satisfaction* he has made to law and justice, in becoming and offering for sin, hath forever redeemed his people from under the curse of the law that they might be accepted in the beloved.

8th. We believe that good works are not meritorious, that they are the fruits of faith and follow after justification; and that it is the duty of all believers to perform them from a principle of love.

9th. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and the happiness of the righteous and punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

10th. We believe that the New Testament Church as set up and given by the Lord Jesus Christ to be the only gospel church, and it should be preached with power and the Holy Spirit by God's called ministry to all nations.

GOSPEL ORDER

1st. We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers who have given themselves to the Lord and to one another in brotherly covenant to keep a Godly discipline agreeable to the New Testament.

2nd. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only head and law-giver of His Church, and that the government is with the body, the church, and it is equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3rd. We believe that baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper are gospel ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in His Church until His second coming.

4th. We believe that immersion only is baptism, and that believers in Christ are the only proper subjects, and that foot-washing is an example practiced by Christ and His Apostles, and that it is our duty to practice it.

5th. We believe that none but regularly baptized church members by immersion have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

6th. We believe that it is the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of their faith, to submit to the ordinance of the gospel and to give themselves as members to the visible church.

7th. We believe it to be the duty of every church to expel from her communion every member that is immoral in conduct or that holds doctrine contrary to the scriptures.

OBJECTS AND POWERS OF THIS ASSOCIATION

1st. This Association acknowledges and maintains that each church is an independent body, and possesses the sole right to exercise and control its own affairs; and therefore, this Association has no right or power to interfere with the internal rights and privileges of churches composing her body, but may withdraw from any church which may hold false doctrine or tolerate immoral practices.

2nd. The objects of this Association shall be to promote fellowship and harmony among the churches, to inquire into any difficulties between the churches and remove them if possible; to give the churches the best advice they can in difficult matters, when solicited, and in general to advance the interest of the Redeemer's kingdom in any way they may deem practicable.

3rd. With regard to benevolent institutions of our country, we believe it to be the inalienable right of every association, of every church, of every individual member of a church to support them or not to support them, according to their own views of duty, and to the dictates of their own consciences; and this right shall never be called in question in this Association, and any motion whereby this right is called in question shall be instantly ruled out by the moderator as being unconstitutional.

4th. This Association may maintain a friendly correspondence where convenient with other religious bodies of the same faith order.

5th. The Association may appoint any person or persons, by and with their consent, to transact any business they may deem necessary.

6th. The Association may adjourn to any time and place they think proper.

7th. The Association shall keep a record of its proceedings, and have them printed when necessary.

8th. The Association shall have a fund and appoint a treasurer to take charge of it, who shall account to the Association for all moneys which shall come into his hands for the use of the Association.

9th. The Association may form its own by-laws and regulate its own proceedings in such a manner as they may think expedient.

RULES OF DECORUM

1st. This Association shall be composed of messengers chosen by the churches to which they respectively belong, and shall be styled the Washington Missionary Baptist Association.

2nd. Such messengers shall be members in good standing, and no member under church censure shall be allowed a seat in this Association.

3rd. They shall produce letters certifying to their appointment by their respective churches, and stating their number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed by letter, expelled, deceased, during the preceding Association year, with the total number in fellowship, and such other statistical matters as the Association may suggest.

4th. This Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen annually by a majority of the members present. Said Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot, and shall fill their respective places if present, at the succeeding Association until a new election takes place, and while in office shall discharge the duties ordinarily incident to those offices.

5th. If new churches desire to be admitted into this Association, they shall petition by letter and messengers, and if orthodox and orderly, shall be received, and the Moderator shall recognize them by giving their messengers the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the body.

6th. Each church shall be entitled to three messengers, and no more, who shall be entitled to seats in the body and to vote.

7th. This Association shall neither answer nor debate any query on gospel doctrine, except it be to merely explain the articles of faith of this Association.

8th. Every motion made in order and seconded shall be reduced to writing if requested by any member, and shall be considered by the Association, except it be withdrawn by the mover before discussion.

9th. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded in the minutes, unless so ordered at the time.

10th. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each point separately.

11th. Only one member shall speak at the same time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the subject properly in debate, cast no reflection on the Association or any member thereof, and shall not be interrupted while speaking.

12th. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

13th. The Moderator shall have the privilege of speaking on any subject in debate, the chair being previously filled. He shall rise from his seat to put the question to the body.

14th. The Moderator shall decide questions of order, but appeal from such decisions may be taken to the whole body, which shall decide without debate.

15th. A majority of the members present shall be necessary to carry any motion or proposition, and the Moderator shall not be allowed to vote as other members, only in case of a tie.