

MINUTES

OF THE

**Sardis
Association**

of

**Old Regular Baptist
of Jesus Christ**

Thirty-fifth Annual Session

held with the

SALEM CHURCH

Pike County, Kentucky

SEPTEMBER 7-8-9, 1928

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PROCEEDINGS
of the
THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
SARDIS ASSOCIATION
of
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST

The Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist of Jesus Christ met with the Salem Church, Goody, Pike County, Kentucky, Friday morning, September 7th, 1928, and after singing and prayer the introductory sermon was preached by Elder Hi Maynard from First Timothy, sixth chapter, third verse: "If any man teach otherwise and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness."

Then after a short intermission the delegates assembled at the school house, and after singing and prayer by Elder F. A. Hopkins the association proceeded to business in the following order:

1. Called for the letters from the several churches, which were handed in, read, received, and the delegates seated as shown in the table of statistics, and the queries and requests of the churches referred to the committee of arrangements.
2. The Association then organized by electing Elder Ester Hopkins as Moderator, Elder Jonah Bevins, assistant Moderator and Clerk.
3. Called for newly constituted churches and none responded.

4. By motion the rules of decorum were read by the clerk.

5. Called for corresponding letters from sister associations and received one from New Salem by Elders F. A. Hopkins, Hayse Maynard, J. W. Shepherd, and J. J. Mosley. Letter in the hands of Elder Hayse Maynard. Kyova by the hands of Elders C. Cole, A. J. Merrett, letter in the hands of C. Cole. Philadelphia by the hands of Elders I. R. Gilliam, L. T. Preston, W. H. Maynard, and L. W. Murry, letter in the hands of Elder L. T. Preston. Mud River by the hands of Elders Lenord Oxley and Peter Oest, letter in the hands of Elder L. Oxley.

6. Called for transient ministers and members, and received Elders W. H. Bolling, James Judge, Willie Hay, Willias Blackburn, Hi Maynard, Harvey Spence, who received the right hand of fellowship and took seats with us and aided us in council.

7. On motion agreed that the moderator make all temporary appointments during this Association.

8. Appointed a committee on ministry consisting of one delegate from each church with the entire delegation of the Salem church to arrange the ministry for Saturday who reported the following ministers to preach, to wit: 1—L. T. Preston; 2—I. R. Gilliam; 3—Hayse Maynard; 4—Peter Oest; 5—C. Cole.

9. Appointed clerk and assistant clerk to write corresponding letters to sister associations.

10. Appointed a committee of arrangement consisting of one delegate from each church with the moderators, clerks, corre-

sponding delegates, transients, invited to arrange the business for tomorrow.

11. Appointed a committee consisting of Bros. R. A. Damron, R. B. Preston, and B. H. Bevins to see that peace prevailed at the stand, and to claim the statute limitation on the horse swappers.

12. Adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning, Sept. 8th, 1928, met pursuant to adjournment and after singing and prayer by C. Cole, proceeded to business in the following order:

1. Called the roll and marked the absentees.

2. Called on the committee of arrangements to report, the committee reported, the report received, and the committee discharged.

3. Appointed R. A. Damron and B. H. Bevins as committee on finance who reported from the several churches the sum \$57.95.

4. Called on Secretary and Treasurer to report, who reported all the expenses of the Association met and the sum \$87.30 in his hands.

Balance on hand from last year	\$ 87.30
Received from the churches	57.95

Total on hand	\$145.25
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Disbursements for year 1927:

Total on hands	\$138.80
Wayne County News for minutes	31.50
Clerk's fee	15.00
Typewriting manuscripts	5.00
Total disbursements	51.50

Balance on hand, \$87.30.

5. On motion Elder Willias Blackburn was retained as Treasurer.

6. On motion it was ordered the clerk be allowed \$15.00.

7. Called on those appointed last year to attend union meetings and sister associations to report (who reported generally) that they had attended to the work assigned them but some failures were reported and the brethren failing to attend were excused.

8. The letters to sister associations were read, received, and delegations appointed to attend as follows: To New Salem, Elder Jonah Bevins and Bro. A. J. Case, to be held with the Steels Creek Church, Floyd County, Kentucky, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September, 1928; to Kyova, Elders F. M. Preece, H. C. Eppers, Walis Jackson, Willias Blackburn, Hi Maynard, and Bro. Lee Murphy, to be held with the Zion Church, Wayne County, West Virginia, beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in September, 1929. Letter in the hand of Elder Hi Maynard.

To Philadelphia, Elders Hi Maynard, Ester Hopkins, Bros. R. A. Damron, Louis Smith and B. H. Bevins, to be held with the new Mt. Olive Church, Greenup county, Kentucky, beginning on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1928. Letter in hand of Elder Ester Hopkins.

To Mud River, Elders Ester Hopkins, Hi Maynard, Jonah Bevins, F. M. Preece, J. S. Muncy, and Bro. Lee Murphy, beginning on Friday before the fourth Sunday in August, 1929. Letter in hand of Elder Ester Hopkins.

9. By motion it was ordered that we write corresponding letters to Union and Friendship Associations and Elder Hi Maynard write letter to Union and Bro. R. A.

Damron write one to Friendship. Letters read and delegates appointed.

To Union, Elders Jonah Bevins, Willias Blackburn, and Bro. Lee Murphy, beginning on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1928. Letter in hands of Elder Jonah Bevins.

To Friendship, Elders H. C. Etters and J. S. Muncy, beginning on Friday before the second Saturday in September, 1929. Letter in hands of Elder H. C. Etters.

10. Appointed union meetings with the following churches: Mt. Pleasant, second Saturday and Sunday in July, 1929. Elders Walis Jackson, Willie Hay, Willias Blackburn and Jonah Bevins to attend with Moderator.

Salem first Saturday and Sunday in August, 1929. Elders Ester Hopkins, Hi Maynard, Willias Blackburn, Hayse Maynard, Willie Hay, and F. A. Hopkins to attend.

Mary Elizabeth, third Saturday and Sunday in July, 1929. Elders Jonah Bevins, Ester Hopkins, Hi Maynard and Willie Hay to attend.

Pilgrim Home, fourth Saturday and Sunday in August, 1929. Elders L. T. Preston, Willie Hay, Fineas Adkins and Jonah Bevins to attend.

Apple Orchard, first Saturday and Sunday in June, 1929. Elders Harvey Spence, Hi Maynard, James Muncy, Ester Hopkins, and Jonah Bevins to attend.

Lenah, the second Saturday and Sunday in June, 1929. Elders Ester Hopkins, Jonah Bevins, Willias Blackburn, H. C. Etters, J. S. Muncy and Hayse Maynard to attend.

Rebecca, second Saturday and Sunday in August, 1929. Elders Jonah Bevins,

Willias Blackburn, C. Cole and F. A. Hopkins to attend.

Bent Branch, third Saturday and Sunday in August, 1929. Elders Ester Hopkins, Hi Maynard, Willias Blackburn and Jonah Bevins to attend.

Narrows Branch, fourth Saturday and Sunday in July, 1929. Elders H. C. Etters, Willie Hay, Jonah Bevins and Ester Hopkins to attend.

Dix Fork, first Saturday and Sunday in July, 1929. Elders Jonah Bevins, Walis Jackson, Willias Blackburn and Lewis Smith to attend.

11. Called on committee to report on record of the association, who reported and was given another year to complete the record.

12. By motion the treasurer was ordered to pay the Secretary for having the record of the association typewritten.

13. On motion it was ordered that any who desires obituaries of deceased brothers and sisters that they prepare them and hand them to the clerk at the association.

14. Resolved that we advise ministers of our churches not to marry any one having a living husband and wife.

15. Shall we receive into our fellowship men having more than one wife, or women having more than one husband? Answer, we advise the churches not to receive into their fellowship any such, except those who have put away their companions for the cause of fornication and such cases to have gospel or church evidence of the fact.

16. Resolved that a committee be appointed to go to Wolf Creek church and make investigation as to the standing of

the church, and to find out the cause why it has not lettered up to the Association in the past two sessions. Committee as follows: Elders J. S. Muncy, Pete Dile, James Jude, and Bro. Tom McCoy.

17. Resolved that we have the articles of faith, rules of decorum, and the constitution printed in the minutes.

18. Resolved that we have 1000 copies of the minutes printed and the clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the same.

19. Resolved that our next Association be held with the Narrows Branch church, Hardy, Pike County, Kentucky, beginning on Friday before the second Saturday in September, 1929, and that Elder Hi Maynard preach the introductory sermon, and that Elder Ester Hopkins be his alternate.

20. Resolved that we thank the brethren and sisters of the Salem church and the friends of this community for their kindness and hospitality shown us during the entire session of the Association.

21. Resolved that the minutes be read and signed by the Moderator and clerk, the Association then adjourned to the time and place above mentioned, done and signed by the order of the Association.

ELDER ESTER HOPKINS,
Moderator.
ELDER JONAH BEVINS,
Clerk

SUNDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 9TH, 1928

The brethren appointed to preach on the stand Sunday morning met a well ordered congregation, and proceeded in accordance with the arrangements.

1. Introduction and prayer by Elder J. J. Mosley.

2. Elder Leonard Oxley preached from John, 7th chapter, 28th and 29th verses: Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming in the which all that are in the 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.

3. Elder F. A. Hopkins, St. Luke, 24th chapter, 46th and 47th verses.

4. Elder C. Cole, John, 17th chapter, 4th verse, latter clause: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do, and the association closed by singing songs of praise to our God, and Jesus Christ our Saviour, who has so many times in the past wrought his blessings upon his believing children.

JONAH BEVINS, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experiences we, the Church of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon our confession 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 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.

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

Article 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.

Article 4. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.

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

Article 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.

Article 7. Every church in the union shall be entitled to a representative in the Association.

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

Article 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.

Article 10. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the Association.

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

Article 12. There shall be a record book kept wherein the proceedings of every Association shall be regularly recorded by the Secretary for that purpose.

Article 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.

Article 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.

Article 15. All matters coming before the Association shall be decided by the will of the majority.

Article 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 member 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 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.

Article 2. We believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, who is Head and King of His Church.

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

Article 4. We believe in the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

Article 5. We believe in 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.

Article 6. We believe in the free atonement of Jesus Christ; that He tasted death

for every man, that salvation is to all men and women on the terms of the Gospel.

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

Article 8. We believe that Christ has but one true Gospel Church, and that it will finally persevere through grace to glory.

Article 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.

Article 10. We believe that feet washing is an ordinance of Jesus Christ, and ought to be observed and kept up by His Church until His second coming.

Article 11. We believe that Jesus Christ is the first resurrection from the dead, and that He lives forever.

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

Article 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.

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

Article 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.

Article 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 as nearly as he can so as to convey his light or idea.

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

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

Article 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.

Article 8. No member of the Association shall address another by any other title or appellation than that of brother.

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

Article 10. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and called over as often as the Association requires.

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

Article 12. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break any of the rules

shall be reproved by the association as they think proper.

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

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

Article 15. These rules of decorum shall be read by the clerk at the commencement of every association.

Names and addresses of ordained ministers:

Jonah Bevins, Goody, Ky.
Ransom Smith, Hardy, Ky.
E. F. Fields, McClure, Ky.
Wayne Cline, Piso, Ky.
F. M. Preece, Holden, W. Va.
A. J. Maynard, Williamson, W. Va.
A. A. Sheppard, Holden, W. Va.
Ester Hopkins, Williamson, W. Va.
Hose Bolling, Piso, Ky.
J. E. Taylor, Jarad, Ky.
J. H. Brown, Crigger, Ky.
W. Blackburn, Varney, Ky.
Simeon Johnson, Canterbury, W. Va.
F. A. Canterbury, Canterbury, W. Va.
Andy Runyons, Canterbury, W. Va.
James Jude, Laura, Ky.
J. S. Muncy, Sprigg, W. Va.
Charley Jude, Laura, Ky.
Joe Cline, Portsmouth, Ohio.
Wallace Jackson, Couder, Ky.
Hi Maynard, Williamson, W. Va.
Heenan Maynard, Jarad, Ky.
Ernest Runyon, Canada, Ky.
M. L. Varney, Varney, Ky.
H. C. Eppers, Thacker, W. Va.

JEMIMA E. MUNCY

Sister Muncy was born April 13, 1856. Her father and mother were Stephen and Polly Maynard, Pike County, Kentucky, was united in marriage about 54 years ago to Elder J. S. Muncy, and to this union there were five children born, and all five surviving her.

She united with the Baptist church about 49 years ago and was baptized by Elder Elias Stepp, and took fellowship in the old Union Church, Martin County, Kentucky. About 10 years ago she brought her fellowship to the Sardis Association, where it remained in the Narrows Branch at the time of her death, August 7, 1928, and her funeral was attended by Elder Jonah Bevins, Ester Hopkins, and Hi Maynard.

Sister Muncy was a faithful sister, always insisting on the brethren to visit her home and preach and pray, and we all miss her here below, but we believe she is resting from labor and that when Jesus comes again He will bring her with Him in Glory.

We know old Bro. Muncy feels sad alone but God knows best.

Children prepare to meet mother in that great reunion where there will be no sad farewells nor tears nor death.

HI MAYNARD.

STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches	Delegates	Recd. by Exp. and Baptism	Restored	Received by Letter	Received by Application	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Total Membership	Meeting Time	Church Contribution	Deceased
Mt. Pleasant—	J. M. Hinsly, A. Smith	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	2 1/2	\$ 5.00	1
Big Branch—	J. E. Taylor	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	3	3.25	1
Apple Orchard—	S. Maynard, W. M. Nicols	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	3	2.50	1
Mary Elizabeth—	M. B. Ramons, W. J. Jackson	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	3	4.25	1
Salem—	B. H. Bevins, R. A. Damron, R. B. Preston	3	0	0	0	0	0	37	1	8.65	1
Bent Branch—	R. Bevins, W. F. Lowe	1	0	0	0	0	0	27	3		
Dix Fork—	G. H. Stanley, R. J. Criger, J. G. Thornsby	3	0	0	0	0	0	23	1	6.65	1
Narrows Branch—	J. S. Muncy, L. Murphy, L. Smith	7	0	0	0	0	0	15	4	10.15	1
Pilgram Home—	A. J. Case, T. Ray, Pat SESCO	0	0	1	4	88	4	13.00	4	2.00	4
Rebecca—	F. M. Preece, A. Evins, W. M. Mullins	1	1	0	0	5	44	2	2	2.00	1
Lenah—	Pete Diles, T. McCoy	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	2		
Sidney—	No letter nor delegates	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	4		
Wolf Creek—	No letter nor delegates	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	3		
TOTAL								426		\$57.95	