

**MINUTES
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH
ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION
OF
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**

**In session and assembled at the
SARDIS ASSOCIATION BUILDING
Varney, Pike County, Kentucky
September 8, 9 and 10, 2000**

Elder Thomas J. Dials - Moderator

Elder Hobart Hamilton - Assistant Moderator

Brother Archie Prince - Clerk

Elder Thomas Jason May - Assistant Clerk

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**SARDIS ASSOCIATION
OF
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**

THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION TENDERS THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO
BROTHER RALPH W. E. VARNEY, JR. FOR THIRTY NINE YEARS OF GRACEFUL AND
DILIGENT SERVICE AS CLERK OF THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION.

MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU IS OUR PRAYER AND MAY HIS
GLORIOUS SUNSHINE LIGHT YOUR REMAINING DAYS UPON THIS EARTH. MAY OUR
LOVE BE EXTENDED TO YOU AND MAY YOU HAVE MANY JOYFUL AND HEALTHY
DAYS.

Thomas J. Dials
Elder Thomas J. Dials, Moderator

Hobart Hamilton
Elder Hobart Hamilton, Assistant Moderator

Archie Prince
Brother Archie Prince, Clerk

Thomas Jason May
Elder Thomas Jason May, Assistant Clerk

PROCEEDINGS
of the
ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
SARDIS ASSOCIATION
OF
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

FRIDAY
September 8, 2000

The Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ, assembled in the Business Room of the Sardis Association Building at 180 Brushy School Road, Varney, Pike County, Kentucky, with our host, the Turkey Creek, Apple Orchard and Little Rosie Churches, on Friday before the second Saturday in September, 2000.

About the hour of 9:00 a.m. our Moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, came to the Stand, welcomed the congregation and announced the Arrangements. Brother Tommy asked everyone if they have thanked God for allowing us to be here. We should thank him for each and every brother, and thank him for Jesus. There is love in the Sardis Association and the other associations. The Lord will help us through.

Elder Billy Williamson came in the opening, having been chosen last year as alternate for this years Introductory Sermon and sang "Jerusalem, My Happy Home." He preached life's struggles will be worth it all. He stated Satan can not dwell in God's presence. We must come together in one mind and one accord. We are surrounded with such great wisdom. One day it will be worth it all having weathered the storm. It will be worth it all when the Great I Am says go down and get my children. Before Christ died he said, I'm going away but I'll send you a comforter. Let's all join our mind and heart together and reason in the Lord. Christ said, "I am the way." Let us all work in one mind and one accord.

Elder Billy then led in prayer.

Elder Lacy Walters came to preach the Introductory Sermon singing "I Can Almost See Heaven From Here". Brother Lacy preached that it is by the Grace of God that we are here. Our blessings come from God out of Heaven. He stated only God in Heaven knows how little he felt and he hoped he could get in touch with the Great I Am. He went on to say you must get in touch with Jesus; you must repent. It is one thing to hear the low still voice. You must take heed to it. Turn to God while you can. You must be born of the Spirit of God. You must get scared and call upon this man Jesus. You can if you want to, but you must want to. The Lord knows all about us. The Lord went away a long time ago. This same Jesus will come back again. He will come back to get the Church. He will get the ones that have the seal. The Lord knows them that are his.

The Lord has a place over there. If our children are not there, we won't know about it. There is a part about man that will never die. There is an inward man and an outward man. Greater is he that is inside. Put all your trust in Jesus and he will take care of you. One morning we are going to Canaan's fair land. You can go if you want to. If you don't, you will go to that lake where you won't want to be. To escape the second death you must be born of the Spirit of God. Brother Lacy stated he always prays for the Lord to let him say something with the power from on high. You pray that God's will be done and we won't have any problems. There is one over in Heaven that loves you. No one loves you as much as Jesus.

The Sardis Association delegates and a large delegation from our Corresponding Sister Associations remained in the Business Room for the Work of this Association and, as is our custom, the many non-delegate Brethren, Sisters and friends were dismissed to assemble in the Preaching Room to hear the preaching of:

Elder Curtis Caroll, Union Association
Elder David Lester, Old Friendship Association
Elder Claren Williams, Old Indian Bottom Association
Elder Willis Tolliver, Philadelphia Association
Elder Jimmy Dye, New Salem Association

The delegates having assembled themselves in order, Elder Thomas J. Dials, our Moderator, called to seats the delegates from our Churches sent to represent them in this Association and the delegates sent by our Corresponding Sister Associations.

Brother Tommy asked Elder Hillard Newsome, Clerk of the Northern New Salem Association, to open the services. Brother Hillard came to the stand in the most humble way. He stated he was glad this world is not our home and life is so good to live for Jesus. He stated he is glad we are going to a home away from these troubles. The Light that shines won't bring salvation, but if you take heed to that Light the Lord will save you. We have work to do, so go to the Lord for everything. Brother Hillard's remarks were short but full of the Spirit.

Elder Chuck Hall of the New Salem Association led in Prayer.

The Sardis Association then proceeded as follows:

(1) Our Moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, came to the Stand and said if you can't feel the Lord with us then you should go out to the creek bank and pray. When God blesses us we prosper. Love overcomes jealousy and envy. Continue in love. Let God lead us. Brother Tommy was blessed to explain to the congregation how we are bound together by the Spirit. He stated he hopes God's Spirit will go through us and pull us together.

(2) The Moderator appointed a Committee on Finance to receive contributions sent to the Association by the several Churches as follows:

Brother Jimmy Blackburn
Elder Gary Adair
Elder Jerry Thompson

(3) The Moderator called for the Letters from the Sardis Association Churches to be handed in to the Clerk and for the contributions to be handed in to the Committee on Finance.

(4) Having reviewed the Letters received from the Churches for regular form and order, the Letter from the Turkey Creek Church was read, and upon regular move and second, all Letters were received, the delegates seated and the Queries and Requests were referred to the Committee on Arrangements. The Rebecca Church failed to submit a letter of correspondence.

(5) The Committee on Finance reported \$4,865.00 received from the Churches as reported in the Statistical Table and, after turning this amount over to the Treasurer, was discharged.

(6) The Moderator appointed a Committee to arrange the preaching for Friday night and Saturday consisting of one delegate from each Church in the Sardis Association.

(7) The Moderator appointed the following Committee of Tellers to take the vote of the Sardis Association delegates for Officers to serve the Sardis Association for the coming year and instructed the delegates to vote for a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk:

Elder Roy Caudill, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Murl F. Caudill, Old Indian Bottom Association
Elder Monroe Jones, New Salem Association

(8) The beloved Clerk of the Sardis Association, Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. asked the moderator if he could speak. Brother Ralph stated that he had been the clerk for thirty nine years, that he is no longer physically able to continue as the Clerk of the Sardis Association and that he is resigning. By regular move and second the Sardis Association would like to acknowledge the many years of service to this association and to thank him for a job well done.

(9) The Sardis Association then completed its 2000 organization by selecting the following Officers to serve for the coming year and the Committee of Tellers was discharged:

Elder Thomas J. Dials, Moderator
Elder Hobart Hamilton, Assistant Moderator
Brother Archie Prince, Clerk
Elder Thomas Jason May, Assistant Clerk

(10) The Committee appointed to arrange the preaching for Friday night and Saturday reported as follows:

FRIDAY NIGHT

Elder Haston Whitaker, Old Indian Bottom Association
Elder C. W. Turner, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Buddy Carty, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Creed Thomas, Philadelphia Association

SATURDAY

Elder Herbert May, Old Friendship Association
Elder Murl Caudill, Old Indian Bottom Association
Elder Sam Franks, Northern New Salem Association
Elder Monroe Jones, New Salem Association
Elder Ted Robinson, New Salem Association

(11) The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Sardis Association held at the association building on February 1, 2000 were read. Motion by Elder Bobby Scott, Sr. and second by Elder Chester Cochran to receive the report and to approve the recommendations of the Special Meeting that the Rebecca Church be published in disorder because they attempted to disrupt the Sardis Association by mailing out letters to selected churches sowing discord among the brothers. Those minutes are printed as follows:

**THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION
of
OLD REGULAR BAPTIST
180 Brushy School Road
Varney, Pike County, Kentucky**

February 1, 2000

Dearly Beloved Churches of the Sardis Association and
of our Corresponding Sister Associations:

By letter dated December 23, 1999, to every church in the Sardis Association, the Officers of the Sardis Association called for a Special Meeting of the Sardis Association to convene at the Sardis Association Building on Thursday January 6, 2000, at 5:00 o'clock p.m. and requested that each Church select one of it's members as a delegate to represent it at that meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss events and actions taken in recent months by our sister, the Rebecca Church, and to determine what, if anything, the Sardis Association could do to help our beloved sister.

On January 6, 2000, the Special Meeting convened at the Sardis Association Building with twenty eight (28) of the twenty nine (29) Sardis Association Churches represented and determined that Article 15 of the Sardis Association Constitution gives the authority for this meeting.

After discussing the purpose of our coming together, and upon motion and second, our moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, appointed a ten member committee to go talk to the Rebecca Church to see if there was anything we could do and report back on it's findings to this Special Meeting on January 14, 2000. Stating we want the Sardis Association to be in peace, the moderator gave a mission to this committee to work in love and for peace.

On January 8, 2000 this committee, with all members present met with the Rebecca Church at Myrtle, West Virginia, and was recognized but not seated and did not speak because the Rebecca Church, through motion, second, and with objection voted seven (7) to one (1) to withdraw the Right Hand of Fellowship from the Sardis Association.

On January 14, 2000 the Special Meeting reconvened at the Sardis Association Building with twenty four (24) of the twenty nine (29) Sardis Association Churches represented. The report of the committee sent to the Rebecca Church was read and, by motion and second, was received.

After discussion and by motion and second it is:

(1) Recommended that the Rebecca Church be published in disorder and that any member, other than the seven (7) members voting to withdraw, can be received by any Sardis Association Church by recommendation but the seven (7) members voting to withdraw must come back through the Sardis Association through an orderly church of the Sardis Association.

(2) Recommended that the Elders of the Rebecca Church not be used and the members of the Rebecca Church not be seated in any of the Sardis Association Churches or in any of the Sardis Association Corresponding Sister Association Churches.


(3) Recommended that the Report of the Committee sent to the Rebecca Church be sent to the moderators and clerks of the Sardis Association Churches and to the moderators and clerks of the Sardis Association Corresponding Sister Associations with a letter advising them of what has happened.

(4) Recommended that the Report of the Committee and all Minutes of this Special Meeting come before the Sardis Association in September, 2000, for handling by the full association.

This work done and signed at this Special Meeting of the Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ.


Elder Thomas J. Dials, Moderator


Elder Hobart Hamilton, Assistant Moderator


Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Clerk


Brother Archie Prince, Assistant Clerk

(12) Committee appointed to take care of the visiting Brethren and to see that the Stand be supplied with Ministers:

Brother Albert Smith
Brother Gene Taylor
Brother Les McGuire

(13) By regular move and second, the reading of the Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum was omitted.

(14) The Moderator called for the Letters from our Corresponding Sister Associations. The following Letters were read and, by regular move and second, were received, the delegates seated with us in Council and given the right hand of fellowship by our Moderator:

UNION: Represented by the following delegates: Franklin O'Quinn, Jimmy Dale Sanders, Jesse L. Williamson, Robert Clay, David O'Quinn, Ked Adkins, James Gannon, Curtis Carroll, Jerry Newsome, Danny Belcher, Lonnie Staton, Jerry Staton, Perry Layne, John B. Hamilton, Eddie Newsome, A. B. Thacker, Gary Sanders, Roger Coleman, Bill Owens, Paul Coleman, Steve Coleman, Ervin Case, Jacob Deel, Manterville Hall, Bobby Robinson, Vernon Conway, Fitch Reed, Jack Akers, Sollie Miller, Billie May, Floyd Jude, Paul Hogston and Herman West. Letter in the hands of Elder Franklin O'Quinn.

NEW SALEM: Represented by the following delegates: James P. Hensley, John E. Hicks, James Tackett, David Hicks, Norman Conn, Forrest D. Hall, Ellis Holbrook, Woody Pack, Clyde Lewis, Windell Hamilton, Squire Hamilton, Roger Hicks, John Paul Hamilton, Chuck Hall, Clifford Williams, Monroe Jones, John G. Stratton, Hershel Conn, James Waddles, Troy Samons, Gordon Boyd, Bud Bates, Ted Robinson, Hubert Conn, Virgil Ratliff, Billy Bryant, William Slone, Ronnie Hall, James Hamilton, Coy Combs, Burton Ratliff, Ted Burke and John Justice. Letter in the hands of Brother James P. Hensley.

NORTHERN NEW SALEM: Represented by the following delegates: Ezra Thornsberry, Don Lawson, Jay Sammons, John Jude, John M. Elkins, Larry Dixon, C. W. Turner, Buddy W. Carty, Dan Thornsberry, Sam Franks, Raymond Stapleton, Doug McCarty, Roy Caudill, Roy Collins, Lavone Issac, Gary Castle, Arvid Blevins, Amos Reffitt, Don Mullins, Milford Prater, Paul Mathews, Floyd Newsome, Dee Osborne and Hillard Newsome. Letter in the hands of Elder Hillard Newsome.

PHILADELPHIA: Represented by the following delegates: Harlan E. Barney, Lowell Adkins, Walter Morrison, David Gilliam, Ira Adkins, Jr., Luther Ramey, Jr., Creed Thomas, Willis Tolliver, Silas Stumbo, Paul Stapleton, Howard Adkins, Wayne Caudill, Claude Coffee, Robert Taylor, Robert Adkins, John Paul Clark and Charon Gilliam. Letter in the hands of Brother Harlan E. Barney.

OLD FRIENDSHIP: Represented by the following delegates: Leonard Coleman, Danny Hurley, David Lester, George Baker, Kermit Lester, Dave Gibson, A. C. Matney, Monroe Matney, Woodrow Whitt, Austine Salmons, Herbert May, Danny C. Justus, Roger McCoy, Doug Reed, Junior Lester, Josh Justus, Jr., Larry Gibson, Kevin Salmons, Jess Mullins, Shird Mullins, Dewey Matney, Travis Hunt, Eddie Matney and Gary Brown. Letter in the hands of Elder Dave Gibson.

OLD INDIAN BOTTOM: Represented by the following delegates: Leo Slone, Ted Amburgey, Haston Whitaker, Murl F. Caudill, Claren Williams, Aaron Whitaker, Jr., Delmar Jones, Clay Haynes, Marvin Thornsberry, Columbus Parks and Bert Caudill. Letter in the hands of Elder Haston Whitaker.

(15) The Moderator called for Transient Ministers and other members of our same faith and order desiring to take a seat with us and received the following : Buddy Glandon, Charles Jarrell, Sabert Nichols, Dewey Blackburn, Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Frankie Scott, Phillip Brumfield, Richard Staton, Eddie Williamson, Elbert SESCO, William H. Cochran, Joey Evans, Gordon Akers, Eddie Marcum and Larry R May.

(16) The Moderator called for newly organized Churches or other Churches and Associations of our same faith and order desiring to take up correspondence with the Sardis Association. A request was submitted by the Charity Old Regular Baptist Church of Greensboro, GA for correspondence with the Sardis Association. The request, church letter, minutes of the presbytery, and organization of the Charity Old Regular Baptist Church, having been read off of the Southern Home Church, were read.

A move was made by Elder Stanley Campbell, second by Brother Mel Mayhorne to receive the work of the presbytery, receive their letter, grant their request, seat their delegates and give them the Right Hand of Fellowship.

(17) The Moderator appointed a Committee on Arrangements consisting of one delegate from each Church and all the Officers of the Sardis Association, along with the entire delegation from each of our Corresponding Sister Associations, to arrange the business for Saturday's session of the Sardis Association. By regular move and second, this Committee will meet at 3:00 p.m. today.

(6) Read a request from the Little Tavie Church asking that Brother Jerry Runyon have the right to speak to the Sardis Association, as he would like to be back in peace with the Sardis Association. On move by Brother Alvin Thornbury, second by Brother Willie Stiltner the request was granted.

Brother Jerry apologized to the Sardis Association and to our Sister Associations and agreed to live by the rules and regulations of the Sardis Association. Move by Elder Wayne Herald, Jr., second by Elder Chester Cochran to allow the Little Tavie Church to restore Brother Jerry and to give him his credentials at their discretion.

(7) Called for the Sardis Association Treasurer Report. A move and second was made to receive the following report and to give honorable mention to Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. in our 2000 minute:

Balance on hand 8-31-99		\$ 1,451.54
Add 1999 Income:		
Church Contributions	\$ 4,675.00	
Obituary Pictures	\$ 715.00	
Interest Income	\$ 123.09	
Rent Income	\$ 1,430.00	
Advance Coal Royalty	\$ 500.00	
Building Fund Contributions	\$10,527.53	
Food Fund Contributions	\$ 6,150.00	
Miscellaneous Income	<u>\$ 6,549.46</u>	
Total 1999 Income		<u>\$30,670.08</u>
Total Available for 1999		\$32,121.62
Less 1999 Expenses		
Note Payment	\$ 9,600.00	
Minute and Mailing Expense	\$ 4,962.15	
Clerk Expense	\$ 91.00	
Interest Expense	\$ 578.88	
Electric Expense	\$ 2,374.38	
Insurance Expense	\$ 418.00	
Food Expense	\$ 701.00	
Building and Land Cost	\$ 2,565.09	
Building Expense	\$ 1,374.79	
Equipment Cost	\$ 2,464.80	
Miscellaneous Expense	<u>\$ 1,330.47</u>	
Total 1999 Expense		(\$26,460.56)
Balance on Hand 8-31-00		\$ 5,661.06

(8) By regular move and second, it was ordered that Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr. be appointed Treasurer and that Brother Archie Prince be appointed Secretary for 2000.

(9) Received the report of the Building Committee and, by regular move and second, ordered that it be discharged and the Moderator appoint a new Building Committee to be responsible for all use, repair, improvements, maintenance and preservation of the property as follows:

Elder Larry R. May	Elder Jack Robinette	Elder Paul Maynard
Brother Les McGuire	Brother David May	Brother Charles Canada
Brother Donald Joe Evans	Brother Archie Prince	Elder Leon Robinson
Brother Ralph W.E. Varney, Jr.		

(10) By regular move and second, it is ordered that the Clerk superintend the printing of our Minutes, that he have 4000 copies printed and that he be allowed \$300.00 for his expense.

(11) Elder Wayne Herald, Jr. chosen to prepare the Circular Letter for this session of the Sardis Association, came to the Stand and read his letter. By regular move and second, the Letter was received and ordered to be printed in our Minute.

(12) It is ordered, by regular move and second, that we correspond with the Union Association, New Salem Association, Northern New Salem Association, Philadelphia Association, Old Friendship Association and Old Indian Bottom Association; that our Clerk prepare the Letters of Correspondence and File of Minutes; and that Brethren to attend these Associations as delegates be appointed as follows:

UNION: When convened with the host Churches at the Union Association Building, Ash Camp, Pike County, KY, beginning on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 2000: Kenneth B. Jude, Bobby Scott, Sr., Bob Justice, James Blackburn, Thomas J. Dials, Berlin Thornsby, Gordon Akers, Willie Stiltner, Billie Brumfield, Leon Robinson, Henry Jude, Eddie Marcum, Ron Hamilton, Earl Robinette, George Jude, Marion Duncan, James Barney, Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr., Bobby L. Scott, Liburn Staten and Eddie Williamson. Letter in the hands of Elder Thomas J. Dials.

NEW SALEM: When convened with the host Churches at the New Salem Association Building, Minnie, Floyd County, KY, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September, 2000: James Blackburn, Berlin Thornsby, Thomas J. Dials, Wayne Herald, Jr., Bobby Scott, Sr., Kenneth B. Jude, Bobby L. Scott, Eddie Marcum, Earl Robinette, George Jude, Billy J Robinson, Condor Maynard, David Robinson, Chester Cochran and Ron Hamilton. Letter in the hands of Elder Wayne Herald, Jr.

NORTHERN NEW SALEM: When convened with the Little Rebecca Church, Plymouth, OH, beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in August, 2001: Chester Cochran, Marion Duncan, Gary Adair, Hobart Hamilton, Jim Cochran, Thomas J. Dials, Lester Cochran, Wayne Herald, Jr., Clyde Brown, Ron Hamilton, Jerry Thompson, Jackson Holbrook, Johnny Adair, Jr., Roy Hayden, Condor Maynard, Richard Staton, George Jude, Hubert Glandon, Dewey Blackburn, Berlin Thornsby, Glen Dixon and Billie Brumfield. Letter in the hands of Elder Hobart Hamilton.

PHILADELPHIA: When convened with the Friendship Church at the Philadelphia Association Building, Worthington, KY, beginning on Friday before the second Saturday in August, 2001: Clyde Brown, Archie Prince, Kenneth B. Jude, Eddie Marcum, Bobby Scott, Sr., Henry Jude, George Jude, Hobart Hamilton, Thomas J. Dials, Dewey Blackburn, Berlin Thornsby, Ron Hamilton, Jerry Thompson, Condor Maynard, Edward Smith and Wayne Herald, Jr. Letter in the hands of Elder Bobby Scott, Sr.

OLD FRIENDSHIP: When convened with the Little Dove Church, Hurley, VA, beginning on Friday before the fourth Saturday in August, 2001: Berlin Thornsby, Jerry Thompson, Thomas J. Dials, Chester Cochran, Marion Duncan, George Jude, Kenneth B. Jude, Hobart Hamilton, Ron Hamilton, Eddie Marcum and Condor Maynard. Letter in the hands of Elder Berlin Thornsby.

OLD INDIAN BOTTOM: When convened with the Doty Creek and Lone Valley Churches at their permanent association site at Pine Top, Knott County, KY, beginning on Friday before the first Saturday in September, 2001: Joe Evans, Berlin Thornsby, James Blackburn, Willie Blackburn, Thomas J. Dials, Chester Cochran, Lester Cochran, George Jude, Hobart Hamilton, Archie Prince, W. H. Cochran, Eddie Marcum, Roger Bevins, Condor Maynard, Ron Hamilton and Bobby Scott, Sr. Letter in the hands of Elder Joe Evans.

(13) Read the Letter of Condolence from our Sister, the Northern New Salem Association, and, by move and second, ordered it be printed in our Minutes.

(14) A Request from Sidney Church was read concerning errors which caused their total membership numbers to change being reflected in their letter to the association. By regular move and second, the request was granted.

(15) Read Requests from Dix Fork, Bethany, and Narrows Branch Churches (Elizabeth Church request was acknowledged but not read because it was very similar to Narrows Branch Church's request) asking that Item (15) of our 1999 Minute be replaced with Item (17) of our 1998 minute in the 2000 minute.

After a brief discussion a move by Elder Leonard Sesco, Jr., second by Elder Billy Williamson to send the request back and keep what we have now was met with an objection filed by Elder David Crigger. The vote of the delegates showed 51 for the move and 36 for the objection. Therefore, the requests were rejected.

Item (15) of our 1999 Minute reads as follows:

“It is a sin for anyone to put away their wife or husband for any cause except for fornication and marry another. In regards to going behind one's experience or receiving one in the Church with more than one living companion, we say that each Church shall be the sole judge to the validity of one's experience. Churches should not be forced to receive members, however, that would destroy the body. (Receive should be interpreted to include all means of receiving members.)

(16) Read the Request from the Sardis Church asking the Association to print Special meetings in our Minute starting in our 2000 Minute. By regular move and second the request was granted.

(17) By regular move and second it is ordered that advice given in item 17 of our 1999 Minutes be reprinted as follows:

(17) (a) Read a Request from Elizabeth Church asking that, if the Sardis Association does not believe the points of Doctrine and Practice listed in Item (23) of the 1998 Minute then answer the Request of Rebecca Church.

(17) (b) Read a Request from Rebecca Church asking that answer be made to their questions concerning Points of Doctrine and Practice and Bible Study Schools made last year (Item (23) , 1998 Minute) because diligent search of the referred to documents did not fully answer their question.

Elder Tommy Dials, our Moderator, read his suggested answer to the Request on Points of Doctrine and Practice. On move by Elder Steve Robinson, Jr, second by Brother Harvey White the Moderator's answer was accepted and ordered to be printed in our Minute, as follows:

The Sardis Association has had much discussion about several doctrinal questions. This disagreement has eroded the fellowship and friendship of brothers in the Sardis and of other correspondents. The association must reach a Bible Decision to keep this difference from destroying the fiber that holds us together. Please consider the following as a answer to the following questions:

1. WHEN DOES A MAN RECEIVE THE LIGHT?

Isaiah 59:20. And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord.

Isaiah 59:21. As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the Lord; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.

Isaiah 60:1. Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

Isaiah 60:3. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

So God is going to send a redeemer to light up the world and men.

St. Luke 1:76. And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways.

St. Luke 1:77. To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

St. Luke 1:78. Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

St. Luke 1:79. To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

We now see that God sent Jesus into the world as the light to die on the cross and break down the middle wall of partition so we the Gentiles might have a opportunity to see the light. The light will be given to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death; while a sinner we are in the shadow of death and are in darkness so the light was given to the ones in darkness to find the way.

St. John 1:1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

St. John 1:2. The same was in the beginning with God.

St. John 1:3. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made

St. John 1:4. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

St. John 1:5. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

St. John 1:6. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

St. John 1:7. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light; that all men through him might believe.

St. John 1:8. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

St. John 1:9. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

So we see that John the Baptist came to bear witness of the true Light that will light every man.

St. John 3:19. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

St. John 3:20. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

St. John 3:21. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

When you are in the world you are in darkness because your works are not of God, But he that obeys God and comes to the truth receives the light. Jesus said John 9:5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

Saul was on his way to Damascus with letters that if he found any of this way, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. As he got near Damascus there was a light from heaven shined round about him and it blinded him and he said Lord what would you have me do and he told him what to do and he is now Paul; abiding in Gods way. The light changed Saul and it will change men and women today if they will come unto the light.

II Corinthians 4:6. For God; who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Old Baptist has always preached that the light will shine to our children but will they take heed to it.

II Peter 1:19. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.

2. IS THERE FAITH BEFORE YOU JOIN THE CHURCH?

This is another question that has caused us some confusion and below are some scriptures about faith:

Hebrew 11:1. Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrew 11:2. For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Hebrew 11:3. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Romans 3:22. Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference.

Romans 3:23. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:24. Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus;

Romans 3:25. Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

Romans 3:26. To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Romans 5:1. Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ;

Romans 5:2. By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 12:3. For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

II Corinthians 5:8. For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Galatians 3:22. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

II Peter 1:1. Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Savior Jesus Christ.

II Peter 1:4. Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

II Peter 1:5. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

II Peter 1:6. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. IS THERE A TRAVEL FROM NATURE TO GRACE?

Isaiah 1:11. To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the Lord; I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

Isaiah 1:12. When you come to appear before me, who hath required this at you hand, to tread my Courts?

Isaiah 1:13. Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and Sabbath's, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.

Isaiah 1:14. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

Isaiah 1:15. And when you spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea when ye make many prayers, I will not hear; your hands are full of blood.

Isaiah 1:16. Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes, cease to do evil;

Isaiah 1:17. Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

Isaiah 1:18. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Isaiah 1:19. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.

Isaiah 1:20. But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.

II Peter 1:5. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

II Peter 1:6. And to knowledge temperance; an to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

II Peter 1:7. And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brother kindness charity,

II Peter 1:8. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ,

II Peter 1:9. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off; and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

II Peter 1: 10. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

II Peter 1:11. For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

II Peter 1:12. Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.

So Brothers we can see the scriptures support a travel from nature to grace and men and women must put these additions on in order to receive an entrance into the everlasting kingdom.

4. ARE SCRIPTURE WRITTEN TO SINNERS?

Brethen, consider these scriptures:

Luke 13:1. There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

Luke 13:2. And Jesus said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans because they suffered such things?

Luke 13:3. I tell you Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

Luke 13:4. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?

Luke 13:5. I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent ye shall all likewise Perish.

How many times did Jesus tell them except you repent you will perish or where I am you cannot come? These unrepented people are sinners to say there is no scripture to sinners that all the Bible is written to the Church is just not sound doctrine.

James 4:7. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:8. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Now, Brethren tell me is not this scripture to sinners?

St. Matthew 9:11. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?

St. Matthew 9:12. But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, they that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.

St. Matthew 9:13. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

St. Mark 2: 17. When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I come not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

There are so many Scriptures to sinners or unrepented that it would take a big book to hold them.

St. John 3:16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

St. John 3:17. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Now, who is the world? There is a big difference between the church and the world. You are not in the Church until you repent and are born again . Then Gods adds you to the Church. Then you are chosen out of the world.

5. IS THERE NO REPENTANCE UNTIL YOU JOIN THE CHURCH?

Ephesians 1:13. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.

Brethren: the Bible says the Grace of God that bringeth salvation has appeared to all men teaching them that denying ungodliness and worldly lust that they should live righteously in this present world. According to these scriptures somewhere after you become the age of accountability you will receive a calling and you will hear the Gospel of your Salvation then and after you believe will you be sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise. The Prodigal Son is a type of a child becoming the age of accountability leaving Fathers house going out into the world and seeing his lost condition and receiving a calling out in the field and saying there is bread to spare at Fathers house and making the decision that we all must make, becoming sorry and making his journey back home where his Father puts on him a white robe, puts shoes on his feet, puts love in his heart and receives him home.

Isaiah 55:6. Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Isaiah 55:7. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

According to these scriptures a man or woman must seek the Lord and call upon him and forsake his wicked ways, then and then only will He pardon his sins. Matthew says no man putteth a piece of new cloth into an old garment for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment and the rent is made worse, neither do men put new wine into old bottles thus the bottles break and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish, but they put new wine into new bottles and both are preserved.

Acts 8:18. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

Acts 8:19. Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:20. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

Acts 8:21. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

Acts 8:22. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

Acts 8:23. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.

Acts 8:24. Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

Brethren: You see that Peter told Simon that he had to repent and pray to God that the thoughts of his heart might be forgiven him.

Revelation 3:20. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Brethren: The Lord is always knocking at sinners hearts but sinners have to hear and obey his voice before he will enter in.

(17) (c): As for Bible Study Schools, the Moderator advised the Churches to abide by the old established Order given in 1938 as shown in the "Orders and Advice Book" at page 21, Article Third.

" We will not fellowship open Communion and Sunday Schools taught or conducted through sectarian literature, as we believe that the only ordained medium by which men and women are taught is by God-sent men preaching under the demonstration of the Holy Ghost. Therefore, we strictly oppose any and all so called auxiliaries of the Churches. Also, we denounce the use of what is known as erected alters or Mourners Benches, as we have neither example or precept of such in the New Testament Scriptures".

(18) Read the Request from the Turkey Creek Church asking to adopt an official Certificate of Ordination to give to ministers and deacons when ordained. In addition provide the ministers and deacons with a card they can present at hospitals or wherever it may be required to obtain entrance to see patients. By regular move and second the request was granted and the clerks were charged with finalizing the documents.

(19) Read the Request from the Dix Fork Church asking the Association to add to item (19) page 18 of our 1999 Minutes concerning the request from Pilgrims Home Church asking for advice on "acceptable places and waters other than in our creeks and rivers", that it not be interpreted to mean inside pools and baptisteries. A move by Brother Jimmy Cochran, second by Brother Lester Cochran to grant the request was met by an objection filed by Elder Joe Evans. The vote of the delegates showed 33 for the move and 47 for the objection. Therefore the request was denied.

(20) By regular move and second, the report of Brethren called in Associations; Union, Communion and Memorial Meetings was omitted today.

(21) Read the request from the Pilgrims Home Church asking to host the Association in 2001. By regular move and second the request was granted. By regular move and second it is ordered that all Sardis Association Churches help with the Association.

It is requested that all donations for food be sent no later than June, 2001, to:

Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr.
P. O. Box 746
Pikeville, KY 41502

The Sardis Association Building is located on KY Route 881 at 180 Brushy School Road, Varney, Pike County, KY. Follow US Route 119 from Pikeville, KY, toward Williamson, WV, for about 12 miles to the foot of Bent Mountain and turn left onto KY Route 881 for about 10 miles to the large Sardis Association sign on the left and onto Brushy School Road. If traveling from Williamson, WV toward Pikeville, KY on US Route 119, the distance is about 16 miles and turn right onto KY Route 881.

(22) A simple "Thank You" does not begin to say how very thankful the Host Churches, and the entire Sardis Association, feel in our hearts for each and every Brother, Sister, and friend who gave their time, energy and money to prepare for, take care of and clean up after this Association. The list of names would be long and tears of joy would stain every one. Only God can reward you for the love you gave us.

Also, we wish to say "Thank You" to Hannah Lumber Company and Everett Hannah for his long support of the Sardis Association and for providing the mutton and pork this year, which was dressed by our good friend, Lacy Blackburn; to another good friend, Chris Meade for the very welcome ice; to Chief Phillip Smith and EMT Jimmy Easterling for the extremely comforting fire truck emergency medical assistance stationed at the building; and to Neal McGuire of the Pepsi Cola Company for assisting with drinks and cups.

(23) By regular move and second, the reading of the Minutes before the Association arises was omitted and it is ordered that these Minutes be signed by the Officers of the Sardis Association.

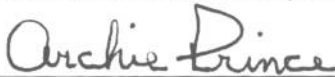
(24) On motion from Elder William Adair, Sr, second by Brother Jimmy Letterly, it is ordered that the Sardis Association adjourn to reconvene at the Sardis Association Building at our regular meeting time, the Friday before the second Saturday in September, 2001.

(25) The Sardis Association was closed with preaching by Elder David Lester of the Old Friendship Association, who then led in prayer.

(26) This work done and signed by the Sardis Association of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ.


Elder Thomas J. Drals, Moderator


Elder Hobart Hamilton, Assistant Moderator


Brother Archie Prince, Clerk


Elder Thomas Jason May, Assistant Clerk

LETTER OF CONDOLENCE
TO OUR
SISTER THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION

We your Sister, the Northern New Salem Association, wish to extend to you our Sister the Sardis Association our deepest sympathy in the loss of your beloved Elders, Brothers and Sisters since your last gathering.

May their memory comfort you in all your tomorrows, as we wait for the glorious day, in which we hope to meet them in a land of pure delight where angels sing. Heaven sweet Heaven.

Clerks,
Bro. Newsome
Bro. Turner

STANDING ITEMS

Item 1. Item 14 of our 1975 Minutes is reprinted, without the preamble, as follows:

Sardis Association
of Old Regular Baptist

September 13, 1975
Dingess, West Virginia

Brethren:

In answer to the Query from the Dix Fork Church asking, "Does the Sardis Association believe in Sisters wearing pants, slacks or shorts?" We, as an Advisory body, say:

To answer this query in the affirmative would be interpreted by some Brethren too liberally and they would say we have laid down the gate and opened the doors to anything and everything.

To answer this Query in the negative would be interpreted by some Brethren too strictly and they would say we have shut the door on everything and Committees would flow from Church to Church like water. We believe the Sardis Association should advise the Churches to advise their members, both Brethren and Sisters, to dress soberly and modestly and to conduct themselves in a manner that becometh a Child of God. We believe that each Child of God will adorn themselves in a manner that they can easily be identified from the world. We feel the Bible, the infallible Word of God, sets forth and the Spirit will teach us how we should dress and conduct ourselves.

We believe, and the Association has so stated in the past, that each Church in the Sardis Association holds the key to its own door and is the sole judge of the conduct of its members as long as they follow the orthodox principles of religion and keep up a Godly discipline according to the rules of the Gospel as laid down in the Scriptures. In fact, Article 3 of our Constitution guarantees that the Association shall not infringe on any internal right of the Churches.

Elder Wayne Herald

Brother Ralph W. E. Varney, Jr.

Brother James M. Ray

Item 2. The Association, by regular move and second, said that if a Sister has cut her hair, she should be asked to let it grow out; if she fails to do so and cuts her hair again, she will be excluded.

Item 3. It is ordered that we advise our Ministers of our Churches not to marry anyone having a living husband or wife unless they bring scripture evidence for putting their husband or wife away. (1929 minute)

Item 4. It is ordered that we advise our Churches not to allow their Ministers to preach with any Minister who has two living women. (1919 minute)

Item 5. It is ordered that requests for Union, Communion and Memorial meetings be published in our Minutes.

Item 6. By motion and second, it is ordered that Obituaries of our deceased Brethren and Sisters that are in good standing with the Churches at the time of death be printed in our Minutes. Also, friends of the Churches that are recommended by the Churches be printed in a separate section of our minute. These are to be presented to the Clerk at the end of the Association. A charge of \$15.00 will be made for a picture with the obituary, except that pictures of an Elder or his wife will continue to be printed free.

Clerks Note: Please note the above order - it is incumbent upon the churches in the Sardis Association that they be the screen and recommending body of Obituaries of Friends to be printed in our minutes and identify the same (by note or otherwise) to the Clerks when the Obituary is turned in. Each Church Moderator is further required to screen and approve any Obituary of a Friend of the Church and to reject any Obituary that has language that is offensive to the Sardis Association.

Item 7. "We the Sardis Association, advise our Sister Churches that it is not our practice to use sisters or double-married men in any function of the ministry, including leading prayer, in any of our Church services."

SUNDAY

September 10, 2000

At about the hour of 10:00 a.m. our moderator, Elder Thomas J. Dials, came to the stand and expressed how thankful he was for everyone and everything. Brother Tommy announced the arrangements for the service and requested that we remember the sick and our children in prayer. He read the prayer list, and expressed his love for all.

Elder Chuck Hall of the New Salem Association came to the stand to preach the introduction, and sang "Not Afraid". Brother Chuck stated that it was a privilege to be here and that he was very nervous. He thanked God for saving him, and leading him to this old family. Brother Chuck said he wanted to see people repent. He asked, what is better than old time salvation? Giving Jesus the praise he stated that Jesus must be worshiped in spirit and in truth. Brother Chuck preached we ought to want to please God above everything. "Behold I lay in Zion a stone, a tried stone," God said and everyone needs to get on that stone. Come and be born again; take a run to Jesus and he will lead you to Heaven's land. Young people look unto Jesus not drugs and the things of this world. Walk in the way, walk about Zion. The Father in heaven is worthy of our praise. Brother Chuck ended his preaching by proclaiming, Praise God above all things today!

He then led in prayer

Elder Danny Belcher of the Union Association came to the stand stating that he is thankful that God draws strength from weakness. If the Spirit comes yo me it will be God's will and if it comes it will accomplish what God wants. If you ask the Lord to feed you, he will. When growing up you depend more on yourself. But when you get older you depend more on the Lord. We must let the Lord lead us. There is no sin in Jesus. Man makes mistakes. There are two men in the race; the inner man and the outer man. The inner man is made perfect by Jesus. Brother Danny told of riding a horse when young. When he would get out of the sight of his father he would ride the horse fast; he wanted to have the control. He wanted to depend on his own strength and speed when young. He preached that when he was young and playing with other young people as a team it seemed the ones picked to play were the ones with the strength and speed. When he got older he had to depend on Jesus. He had to turn his life over to Jesus. You must lay down the things in this life. You must have Faith. Faith is dead without works. Man has something to do. We can see the wind move trees. The Spirit of God moves men. The Holy Ghost moves men. Jesus went away, and when he went away he sent us a comforter. You must not only believe; you must try the spirits to see if they are of God. When you go to do good, evil is present. Satan gives reason not to do good when you try. "Is not all eyes turned to Israel"? Is not the prophesy of the Bible being fulfilled? You need to get Jesus while you have life. You need to get him in your soul. You must repent and be born again and you must trust in God. Brother Danny preached from St. John Chapter 20 verses 24 thru 29 where Thomas doubted that the disciples has seen the Lord and said he would not believe except he see in his hand the print of the nails, and thrust his hand into Jesus side. Then came Jesus, the door being shut, and stood in the midst of them. When Jesus appeared and spoke; then Thomas believed. Jesus knows our every thought. We all had a dark heart. Come, whosoever will, "O taste and see the Lord is good".

Brother Danny preached that when a young boy he played with his mother's salt shaker while she was out of the house. He wanted to be in control. He thought because he was strong and fast that he could throw the salt shaker and catch it. After a few tries he failed to catch the salt shaker and it fell to the floor and broke. He picked it up and put it back in the cupboard. He said he ran out the front door before his mother came back in the house. He then ask, Are you running from the Lord? Draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to you. In a little while his mother called for him and he knew he was in trouble. He preached you can not buy or bargain your way into Heaven. You must cry mighty unto the Lord. You must come to the end of your own strength. You must depend upon the Lord to save you.

God loves his own workmanship. God breathed into man and he became a living soul. Brother Danny said when out in the world he began picking at other people and that he is now ashamed that he did that. He knew he broke the salt shaker but couldn't believe that he threw it and missed it.

Jesus will come when people least expect it. This is the best family he ever found. He said he went away from his house fast but when his mother called he went back to his mother slow. He ask, have you gone away from the Lord? You must be obedient to God's word. Ye must have faith. God hears everything. He knows everything.

His mother asked if he broke the salt shaker and he lied and said no. He was afraid of the punishment. If you don't obey God, you will be punished. His mother knew he had lied. God knows everything we do because he is our creator. He knows all about us. We are required to do what God wants us to do. His mother whipped him; not because he broke the salt shaker, but because he lied. A few weeks later he asked his mother how she knew he broke the salt shaker and she said he forgot to clean up the salt.

Jesus loves even the world. You have no promise of tomorrow. Even hearing all you hear today, satan has already put a doubt in your heart. He said he is now in the Spirit and believes, without a doubt, that he will go to Heaven, but when the Spirits departs and he is again in nature, doubt will return but he has a "hope" to cling to. The Spirit keeps us. The Spirit removes doubt. Jesus said let us fulfill all righteousness.

Elder Hobart Hamilton, our Assistant Moderator, followed him preaching that God never forced a man or woman to serve him, but he is looking for volunteers. He said, from the bottom of his heart, he wants to thank everyone for their prayers, support and help received during the time his son has been recovering from injuries received in a car accident. He stated he knows the prayers that went up did make a difference. The voice from heaven is greater than any voice ever heard. He told of waiting by his sons bedside and that he felt God was with him. Go to God with a contrite spirit, in the right way and he will bless you.

As Jesus walked upon this earth and passed by, the people went out to seek him. God sent an angel to trouble the pool where many lay waiting to get in the water to be healed. A man that had been there thirty and eight years hoping he could get ahead of everyone else. He was the volunteer who was there. There is no time period on repentance. When your heart gets right, God will save your soul. The world can see God's Church and can see what makes us different. Christ asked the man will thou be made whole? We go out and sin and realize we are in trouble. Cry for mercy. God is a merciful God unto us. If you have faith God will hear over in Heaven. God has been so good to us.

He preached that if his son had died, he would have been lost. God will not let you die without you knowing of the judgement.

The man talked to Jesus and said that he had no one to help him get into the pool. Call upon Jesus and ask him to forgive you of your sins. Jesus told the man to take up his bed and walk. When God forgives our sins we don't walk in those sins again. Anytime you obey God it is lawful. Follow Jesus and you will get to a better land. Brother Hobart preached of the Resurrection and proved by the word of God that the first resurrection is the birth in Christ. He said some of us must have a rude awakening; that we have an almighty God. God is there for us. He said his son suffers because he did wrong. We suffer for what we do wrong. We have an all merciful God. Brother Hobart thanked God for his son's mind being good. He preached that when he was called to preach that he will never be satisfied as long as sinners are out in the world. Get something you can feel from God out of Heaven. Try God and see that he is good. God will make a way. Thank God for this Old Regular Baptist family. The lord commanded men and women everywhere to repent. May God Bless you.

Elder Thomas J. Dials, our beloved Moderator, came forward and stated that God is good to us and has blessed us today. We must get ready. Jesus says come. We need Jesus. The Lord deserves the credit for the way things happened. The Lord loves you more than we can love you. The Church this weekend has been like a city set on a hill. You must have faith and you must add to that faith. Brother Tommy said he remembered the time when he was out in the world and how he shed tears. He realized the time when he disobeyed more than his mother. The good Lord above will take care of you. God will show us our mistakes. He said when young he picked up bad things. He had to come back through the Vail. Jesus is the door, Jesus is the way. You have to get sincere and have to move out. You must give yourself over to the Lord. You must drink of the water coming out of God's throne. Brother Tommy preached how wonderful it is to dwell in peace. We are in the evening of time. We have a ruler in Heaven. He said his mother ruled him when he was young. You must give up everything in this world; you must forsake all things. He spoke of the story of Naaman.

Brother Tommy said he is glad of the love in this old Baptist family today. If there is one desiring to hear from heaven they must become obedient to God. He believes if you are doing good you must do better. You must move out. It takes more than being good to get to Heaven. You must be born again. You must be obedient.

He preached that he is glad his mother taught him to not want too much. He is glad for Mother Jerusalem. He is glad for God. You must move out on the promise, you better move out. You must become obedient. He is glad for what he felt this weekend.

The little man. Zaccheus, moved out and made preparations to see Jesus. He climbed the tree. The devil will tell you that you haven't been that bad. If you feel God's presence, continue to pray. It takes God's Spirit to pull us together.

Elder Sabert Nichols then led in prayer and the service was dismissed by Elder Lacy Walters.

Your Clerks

CIRCULAR LETTER

Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters, of the Sardis association;

Having been chosen by the delegates, of the 1999 session of the Sardis Association, to write the circular letter for approval at the 2000 session of the Sardis Association, I will by the Help of the Lord try to fulfill my obligation. I know this letter will be examined by many Bible readers, who have prayed for wisdom and understanding, therefore; I am beginning to feel that this will be a great challenge for me to attempt, for that reason, I am looking to the Lord to help me with this undertaking. God being my witness, I can truly say, I feel the least among my brethren.

Many subjects have come to my mind, that I should write about, and I have been praying to God, to give me what he wants me to write, because if I try to do this on my own, it would not accomplish that which would please God, and it would not go where he pleased to send it. The subject that keeps coming to my mind is **Love**. I know this has been written about many times by the brethren, in previous letters over the years but; I feel we are living in the last days, and it is needful once again for me to write on this because; the scripture says, in the last days the love of many shall wax cold. And as we look around, even among us, we see this scripture being fulfilled every day.

Brethren: Love is to be compassionate, to have affection, to be a friend, it is not what you say, but it is what we show, and do to our brothers and sisters. I could tell you all the days of my life I loved you but, if I didn't show my love, or put it in action, it would not accomplish anything. A scribe came to Jesus one day and asked him; which is the first commandment of all, and Jesus answered him saying; The Lord our God is one Lord, and thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy Soul, with all thy mind, and all thy strength, this is the first commandment. And the second, is to love thy neighbor as thyself. Jesus said **There is no greater commandment** than these. Jesus said a new commandment, I give unto you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, by this shall all men know that **you are my disciples, if you have love, one for another**. Brethren; I feel that Love is the first fruit a child of God will bear, and don't think that the world is not watching us because they surely are.

The Apostle Paul said, Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. So you see brethren if a man or woman is a child of God, he will have Love in his heart. **Charity is Kind; charity envieth not; charity is not puffed up, does not behave itself unseemly, not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth, charity never fails**. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

Now how do we get love or charity in our hearts? The scripture teaches us that it takes a new birth to get these in our hearts. Jesus told Nicodemus, except you be born of the water and of the spirit, you cannot even see the Kingdom of God. Brethren; it is born in us when we experience that new birth. John said, Whosoever is born of God, is Born of Love, for this is the Love of God that we keep his commandments and his commandments are not grievous, for whatsoever is born of God, overcometh the world. Now listen to this; **we know we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren, he that loveth not his brother abideth in death.** So brethren, greet one another with a Holy kiss and when we part from each other don't leave talking about one another. There are seven things that are abomination unto God: a proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, **and he that soweth discord among brethren.** Brethren; Paul said in Galatians; For all the Law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. Be careful sometimes we can strain at a gnat and swallow a camel.

Now; if we have been born of the spirit of God what kind of life should we live? Paul said, how shall we who are dead to sin, live any longer therein and another scripture says; whosoever abideth in him sinneth not; **whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.** Another scripture says; Whosoever is born of God does not commit sin, for his seed remaineth in him, therefore; he cannot commit sin. I know this is talking about the inward man but; as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God, and the Spirit does not lead in the ways of the devil. **The footsteps of a good man are ordered of the Lord.**

Brethren; I know I must close this letter because; I don't want to get to lengthy but, I wanted to stress the importance of our love one for another. Jesus said; the words that I have spoken, the same shall judge you in the last day. **James said; he that showeth no mercy, shall be judged without mercy, for mercy rejoices against judgement.** I never did believe we have the power to look in another mans heart, we look on the outward appearance but; God has the power to look in our hearts. Brethren; be careful the scripture says it would be better to have a millstone around our neck, and be cast into the sea, than to offend one of God's children. My prayer is; that I will meet every one of you on the other side, when this life is over. You can go to heaven if you want to on the terms of the gospel, Jesus tasted death for every man. God bless you, be thou faithful until death, there is a Crown laid up for all that love and serve him, whom the Lord, the **rightous judge**, will give us in that day. I love the scripture in Psalms 116:1-2 *I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.* Psalms 66:20 *Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me* Many times brethren; as I wrote this letter tears have come in my eyes, I write this from my heart.

I love you.



Written by your Brother in Christ, Elder Wayne Herald Jr.

UNION AND COMMUNION MEETINGS

AND

MINISTERS TO ATTEND

APRIL, 2001

SOUTHERN HOME: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Ministers called: Joe Evans, Frank Sheppard, Billie Brumfield, Gene Johnson, Thomas Jason May and Henry Adair.

LITTLE ROSIE: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Bobby SESCO, Albert Cable, Hobart Hamilton, Leonard SESCO, Richard Staton, Elbert SESCO and Wayne Herald, Jr.

OKEECHOBEE: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening. Ministers called: Doug McCarty, Garland Deel, Albert Hamilton, Ricky Ackers, Odes Williams, Johnny Newsome and Stanford Branham.

MAY, 2001

SALEM: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion 3:00 p.m. following the regular Saturday service. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Teddy Honaker, Jason May, Tommy Ellis and Don Little.

TURKEY CREEK: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 3:00 p.m. Ministers called: Elbert SESCO, Windell Hamilton, Ted Robinson, Leon Robinson, and Paul Maynard with Moderator attending.

JUNE, 2001

APPLE ORCHARD: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Jr., Billy Joe Robinson, Jerry Estep and Leonard SESCO, Jr., with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

ENON: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday at 4:00 p.m, after business meeting at 3:00 p.m.. Ministers called: Bobby Scott, Sr., Windell Hamilton, Sabert Nichols and Richard Staton.

ELIZABETH: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday. Ministers called: Ben Scott, Raymond Smith, Kenneth B. Jude and Jimmy Chapman.

MUNCY VALLEY: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Danny Runyon, Hobart Hamilton, Joe Evans, Jack Robinette, Henry Jude, Jerry Thompson and Elbert SESCO.

PILGRIMS REST: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday following Regular Church Service. Ministers called: Harold SESCO, Bobby SESCO, Paul Maynard and Dale Williamson.

BUCK CREEK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Berlin Thornsby, Homer Muncy, Jr., John Luxmore, Henry Jude, Vernon Rose, Arthur May, Albert Cable and Richard Staton.

SIDNEY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Homer Muncy, Jr., Ben Scott, Wayne Herald, Jr., Milford Lowe and Floyd Jude.

LITTLE VIRGIE: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 2:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Steve Robinson, Jr., Bobby Sesco, Gary Compton and Joe Evans.

JULY, 2001

DIX FORK: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Monroe Jones, Ked Adkins, Ted Robinson, Herman West and Thomas J. Dials.

SAMARIA: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas J. Dials, Murl Caudill, Wayne Herald, Jr., Chris Watts, Gary Compton and William Adair, Sr.

LEANNAH: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Elbert Sesco and Leon Robinson.

MT. PLEASANT: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Monroe Jones, Don Little and Ellis Holbrook.

LITTLE TAVIE: Second Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Buddy Carty, Sam Franks, A. B. Thacker, Russell Hicks and Danny Carty.

BIG BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 1:00 p.m. Ministers called: John Paul Hamilton, Sabert Nichols, Billy Joe Robinson and Leon Robinson.

MARY ELIZABETH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Monroe Jones, John Paul Hamilton, Ted Robinson and Jason Lowery.

NARROWS BRANCH: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: David Crigger, Hobart Hamilton, Elbert Sesco, Danny Runyon, Berlin Thornsby and Jerry Estep with Moderator attending.

AUGUST, 2001

TABITHA: First Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Billie Brumfield, Tommy Ellis, Richard Staton, Joe Evans, Steve Robinson, Jr., Leonard Sesco, Jr. and Harold Sesco.

ELK FORK: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Jack Robinette, Mark Murphy, Larry Richard May, Steve Robinson, Jr., Billie Brumfield and Thomas Jason May.

BENT BRANCH: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Elbert Sesco, Dee Osborne, Jimmy Dale Sanders, Windell Hamilton, John Paul Hamilton and Leon Robinson.

ROSA: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday afternoon. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Bill Cotton, Leonard SESCO, Jr., Leon Robinson, Elbert SESCO and Danny Runyon.

BETHANY: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Hobart Hamilton, Thomas J. Dials, David Crigger, Harrison Runyon, and Wayne Herald, Jr.

PILGRIMS HOME: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Sunday. Ministers called: Don Little, Roger Hicks, Lacy Walters and Thomas Jason May.

SARDIS: Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Robert R. Clay, Stanley Campbell, Bill Campbell, Berlin Thornsby and Bruce Forsyth.

OCTOBER, 2001

CHARITY: Third Saturday and Sunday. Communion Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: William Adair, Sr., Stanley Campbell, Joe Evans, Danny Runyon and Billy Williamson.

MEMORIAL MEETINGS

MARCH, 2001

OKEECHOBEE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Okeechobee Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: John B. Hamilton, Ellis Amburgey, Charles Jarrell and Ted D. O'Quinn.

APRIL, 2001

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Samaria Church on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Jack Robinette, Leonard SESCO, Jr. and Jerry Thompson with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

MEMORIAL MEETING of all the deceased members of the Sardis Association will be held at the Sardis Association Building on Sunday after the third Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Ministers called: Ellis Holbrook, Creed Thomas, C. W. Turner, Hobart Hamilton and Thomas J. Dials. Everyone bring covered dishes.

CHARITY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Charity Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Bruce Forsyth, Chris Watts, Bill Campbell, Robert Clay, Henry Adair and Billy Brumfield.

MAY, 2001

MUNCY VALLEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Muncy Valley Church on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Joe Evans, William Adair, Sr., Dale Williamson, Tommy Ellis, Chris Watts and Richard Staton.

LITTLE ROSIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of the White family on Sunday following the second Saturday at the Church. Ministers called: Steve White, Larry R. May, Albert Cable, Condor Maynard and Gary Young with the Moderator attending.

ELK FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Elk Fork Church on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Tommy Ellis, Larry R. May, Arthur May and Willie Blackburn.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of the Ratliff, McCoy, Morrison and Blackburn families on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Ernest Cochran, Danny Runyon, Gabe Lowe, Richard Staton and Dale Williamson.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Zella May (Fraley) Harrison at the Church on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton Bobby Scott, Sr., Lacy Walters and Joe Evans.

LITTLE VIRGIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members and friends of the Little Virgie Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Herald Sesco, Bobby Scott, Sr. and Leonard Sesco, Jr.

NARROWS BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members and friends of the Narrows Branch Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Ted Robinson, James Tackett, Frankie Scott, Thomas J. Dials, Lacy Walters and Bobby Scott, Sr.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Jobe Blackburn and Trixie Blackburn, his wife, and all the deceased on that cemetery at the old home place on Pigeon Roost Fork of Wolf Creek on the fourth Sunday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Thomas J. Dials, Milford Lowe, Lacy Walters and Wallace Muncy.

BETHANY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Hannah Cemetery on Sunday following the fourth Saturday. All corresponding ministers are invited. Everyone is welcome.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Stanley and Hinkle Cemetery on the Right Fork of Brushy Creek on the fourth Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Don Little, Billy Williamson, Richard Staton and Foster Blackburn.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Cochran Cemetery at Dix Fork on the last Saturday at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Lacy Walters and Berlin Thornsby.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Stanley Cemetery at Dix Fork on the last Sunday. Ministers called: Billy Cochran, W. H. Cochran, Chester Cochran and Berlin Thornsby.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Pigeon Roost Cemetery on Memorial Day at 2:30 p.m. Ministers called: Thomas Jason May, Frank Sheppard, Claren Williams, Tommy Ellis and Mark Murphy.

JUNE, 2001

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Smith Cemetery on the Rockhouse Fork of Big Creek on the first Sunday (June 3) at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Billy Williamson, Dale Williamson, Elbert Sesco, Hobart Hamilton, Richard Staton and Lacy Walters.

SOUTHERN HOME CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Southern Home Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Tommy Ellis, Danny Runyon, Odes Williams, Gary Young and Billy Williamson.

TABITHA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Joe Evans, Tommy Ellis, Billy Brumfield, Steve Robinson, Jr., Leonard Sesco, Jr. and Harold Sesco.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Mary Thompson, husband George, and all the deceased on the Thompson Cemetery will be held at the Pilgrims Home Church on the first Sunday in June at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Leonard Sesco, Jr., Harold Sesco, Elbert Sesco, Dale Williamson and Billy Williamson.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased on the Muncy Cemetery, also Elder Homer Muncy, Sr. and all others buried on the Ruby Muncy Cemetery as well as Sister Garnet (Lowe) Maynard who is buried on the cemetery near the mouth of Lackey Branch. This will be at 10:30 a. m. on Sunday following the second Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Elbert Sesco, Wayne Herald, Jr. and Kenneth B. Jude.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial of Elder Bill Jude, Sister Sally Jude and other family members at the old home place on Wolf Creek on Sunday after the second Saturday at 3:00 p.m. Ministers called: Kenneth B. Jude, Thomas J. Dials, Estel Hamilton, Floyd Jude, Arvid Blevins and Moderator attending.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Glen Lowe and his wife, Mary E. Lowe, at the home on Big Creek on the second Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Elbert Sesco, Windell Hamilton, John Paul Hamilton and Hobart Hamilton.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Robinette Cemetery on the third Sunday (June 17, 2001) at 11:00 a. m. Ministers called: Elbert Sesco, Richard Staton, Leon Robinson, Gary Young, Lacy Walters and Gary Compton.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members on the Howell and Jude Cemeteries in the head of Peter Cave at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Milford Lowe, Kenneth B. Jude and Gabe D. Lowe.

BENT BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Bent Branch Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Don Little, Jerry Estep, Windell Hamilton and Dewey Roberts.

ELK FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the third Saturday on the Gillman Cemetery. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Frank Sheppard, Danny Runyon and Thomas Jason May.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Sardis Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Jack Robinette, Rex Napier, Leonard Sesco, Jr. and Greg Scott.

JULY, 2001

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the church house for all those buried on the Reed Cemetery on the first Sunday. Ministers called: Dale Williamson and Richard Staton, Gary Young, Hobart Hamilton, Elbert Sesco and Condor Maynard. Dinner will be served nearby.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased on the Robinson Cemetery near the Leannah Church at 10:30 a.m. on the Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Leonard Sesco, Jr., Gary Compton and Clifford Williams.

BETHANY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday following the second Saturday at the May Cemetery in the Flatwoods on Marrowbone Creek in West Virginia. All corresponding ministers are invited. Everyone is welcome.

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will give away to a memorial meeting on Sunday after the third Saturday to be held on the Dials Cemetery on the Jack Cassidy Branch of Coldwater Road. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Wallace Muncy, Thomas J. Dials, Ben Scott and Wayne Herald, Jr.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at the Narrows Branch Church for all the deceased on the Julius Scott Cemetery (Blackberry Fork), Hardy, KY, on Sunday following the third Saturday beginning at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Elbert Sesco, Berlin Thornsby, Bobby Scott, Sr., Monroe Jones and Lacy Walters.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of the J. M. Taylor family and will include the Maynard, Fields, Lowe, Taylor, Scott, Blackburn and Nichols families on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Danny Runyon, Dale Williamson, Richard Staton and Moderator attending.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at Pilgrims Home Church on the Sunday after the third Saturday at 6:00 p.m. in memory of John Gilbert Blackburn and his son Willis Raymond (Wig) Blackburn. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Elbert Sesco, Billy Williamson, Lacy Walters and Harold Sesco.

SARDIS CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Adair Cemetery on the fourth Sunday. Meeting begins at the Sardis Church house on Friday before the fourth Saturday and Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Ministers called: Chris Watts, Thomas Jason May, Charles Jarrell, Dale Williamson and William Adair, Sr.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Johnnie Stacy and Rachel Stacy, his wife, and of Cora Stacy, Tan Howell, Ora Howell, his wife, May Jude, Mary Moore, Ralph and Carey Reed, Robert Howell and other family members on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Butler Fletcher, Steve Robinson, Jr. and Thomas J. Dials.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Church for all the deceased on the Fields and Kirk Cemetery on the odd Sunday in July, 2001 at 10:30 a.m.. This will include Elder E. F. (Frank) Fields, his wife, Rebecca, Ellen (Kirk) Moore and Dim Moore, Vina (Fields) Kirk and Andy Kirk, Jean K. Webb, David Fields, Elmer Fields and Mint Fields and others. The cemetery is located about a mile below the Leannah Church. Ministers called: Elbert SESCO, Leon Robinson and Lacy Walters.

ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for Clinton Howard on Sunday after the fourth Saturday beginning at 3:00 p.m. Ministers called: Gabe Lowe, Jr., Clifford Stanley, Milford Lowe, Raymond Smith and Jimmy Chapman.

AUGUST, 2001

ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting in memory of the Cline family on the right hand fork of Gilbert Creek on the first Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Everyone Welcome.

MEMORIAL MEETING of George Lowe, Jane Lowe, Sam Staton, Lora Staton and Joseph Staton on Pigeon Roost Fork of Wolf Creek at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Milford Lowe, Gabe D. Lowe and Wayne Herald, Jr.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Dillon Cemetery on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Steve Robinson, Jr., Hobart Hamilton, Arthur May and Jeffrey Dillon with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

ENON CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting for all deceased members of the Enon Church on the first Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Leonard SESCO, Jr., Danny Runyon, John Paul Hamilton and Hobart Hamilton.

DIX FORK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Dix Fork Church on Sunday following the first Saturday. Ministers called: Bobby Scott, Sr., Lacy Walters, Wallace Muncy and Frankie Scott.

APPLE ORCHARD CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Apple Orchard Cemetery, the Pine Grove Cemetery in Lennox, GA, the Millwood Cemetery in Reddick, FL, the Joe Taylor Cemetery and Joe Taylor family buried at Maher, WV, Bent Ridge Cemetery and Rose Hill Cemetery in Ashland, KY on Sunday following the first Saturday. Ministers called: Clifford Williams, Ted Robinson, Richard Staton, Hershel Huff and Thomas J. Dials with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Blackburn Cemetery at Marrowbone, WV, on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Thomas J. Dials, Wayne Herald, Jr. and Steve Robinson, Jr.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased on the Lowe Cemetery and of Clinton B. Lowe and Marie Lowe that are buried at Maher, West Virginia, at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Clifford Williams, Leon Robinson, Ben Scott and Hobart Hamilton.

LITTLE ROSIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Little Rosie Church on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Elbert Sesco, Bobby Sesco, David Crigger, Larry R. May, Joe Evans, John Jude and Wayne Herald, Jr.

PILGRIMS REST CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on Sunday after the second Saturday for the deceased members of the Church and the community. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m. Ministers called: Danny Runyon, Elbert Sesco, Don Little, Gary Compton and Moderator attending. Dinner will be served.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Sunday in August at 5:00 p.m. at the Turkey Creek Church house for Mary M. Maynard and deceased family. Ministers called: Elbert Sesco, Leon Robinson and Danny Runyon.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elder J. W. Smith and all the deceased members of the Mary Elizabeth Church on Sunday after the Third Saturday. Ministers called: Johnie Bentley, Vernon Rose, John Luxmore and Bill Tackett.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of the McCoy family including Johnny Nichols, Sr., his wife and family, and the Lowe family of Gulnare, KY on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Danny Runyon, Dale Williamson and Gabe Lowe.

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will give away to a memorial meeting on Sunday after the third Saturday to be held on the Dave Jude and Fletcher Cemetery on Peter Cave. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Milford Lowe, Sabert Nichols, Floyd Jude and Thomas J. Dials.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Sidney Church and of Elder W. W. Fields and all that are buried on the Bascom Maynard Cemetery on Peter Cave on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Lacy Walters, Wallace Muncy, Thomas J. Dials and Gabe Lowe, Jr.

BETHANY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Bethany Church on Sunday after the fourth Saturday and the same ministers called in the Communion Service will be used in this memorial meeting.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held at the Henry Taylor Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Ben Scott, Gabe Lowe and Roger Stepp. Dinner will be served nearby. Everyone welcome to bring a dish of their choice.

SEPTEMBER, 2001

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Lackey Cemetery on Sunday after the first Saturday. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Hobart Hamilton, Joe Evans and Albert Cable with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the McCoy Cemetery in the head of Meathouse, about a mile above the Leannah Church, on the first Sunday (Sept. 6) in memory of Shirlen McCoy, his wife, Lucy McCoy, Van Avory McCoy, and others buried on this Cemetery. Also, Elder Dike Blackburn and his wife Ora Blackburn, and daughter Mae Blackburn and all others buried near the mouth of Wolf Creek are included. Ministers called: Clifford Williams, Richard Staton, Wayne Herald, Jr., Milford Lowe and Ben Scott.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting in memory of Brother Ira Robinson and Brother Malcomn Muncy on the first Sunday night at 5:00 p.m. at the Leannah Church. Ministers called: John Paul Hamilton, Richard Staton and Paul Maynard.

BUCK CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the Church for all the deceased members of the Buck Creek Church and the deceased buried in the Maynard Cemetery at Warfield, KY on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Claren Williams, Ellis Holbrook, Monroe Jones and Bobby Scott, Sr.

MARY ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Wallace Jackson, George Fraley, Donnie Lowe, Inis Jackson and others on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, David Crigger, Clifford Williams and Thomas J. Dials.

MEMORIAL MEETING will be held on the Jeff Robinette Cemetery on the third Saturday (September 15) at 4:00 p.m. Ministers called: Billy Williamson, Dale Williamson, Elbert Sesco and Danny Runyon.

BIG BRANCH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting at the church house in memory of Oscar and Nannie McCoy, and their parents and other family members on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: Virgil Fields, Bradley Billiter, Richard Staton and Hurshell Huff.

SAMARIA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the Hannah Cemetery on Sunday after the third Saturday. Ministers called: David Crigger, Berlin Thornsby, Wayne Herald, Jr. and Tommy Ellis with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of Johnnie Jude, America Jude, his wife, their three sons, Ambrose, Matthew and Russell, and other family members on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Floyd Jude, Jack Akers, Milford Lowe and Homer Muncy, Jr.

MEMORIAL MEETING of Ted and Ressie Blackburn will be held at the home of their son, Dewey Blackburn, in Mount Sterling, KY (address not yet available) on the odd Sunday (September 30) at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Greg Scott and Frankie Scott.

OCTOBER, 2001

ELIZABETH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of the Elizabeth Church. Ministers called: Wallace Muncy, Floyd Jude, Clyde Lewis and Raymond Smith.

SALEM CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the first Saturday and Sunday for all deceased members of the Salem Church. Ministers called: Gary Compton, Leonard SESCO, Jr., Jimmy Dye and Ted Robinson with Moderator and Assistant Moderator attending.

TURKEY CREEK CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Turkey Creek Church on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Richard Staton, Johnnie Bentley, Bobby Scott, Sr. and Leonard Hamilton with Moderator attending. Dinner will be served.

MT PLEASANT CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Mt Pleasant Church on Sunday after the second Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Ministers called: Hobart Hamilton, Ked Adkins and Windell Hamilton.

LEANNAH CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all the deceased who are buried on the Scott Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday after the second Saturday. Ministers called: Clifford Williams, Sabert Nichols, Wallace Muncy and Steve Robinson, Jr.

LITTLE TAVIE CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Bob Adkins, Don Lawson, Thomas J. Dials, Raymond Smith and Melvin Fields.

ROSA CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members of the Rosa Church on the third Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Dave Gibson, Raymond Smith, Dale Williamson, Hobart Hamilton, Joe Evans, and Richard Staton.

SIDNEY CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of John Jude and Belle Jude, his wife, Annie Jude and her son T. J. Jude on Sunday after the fourth Saturday. Ministers called: Sabert Nichols, Wallace Muncy, Clifford Williams, Ben Scott and Virgil Fields.

PILGRIMS HOME CHURCH will hold a memorial meeting of all deceased members and friends of the Pilgrims Home Church on the fourth Saturday and Sunday. Ministers called: Windell Hamilton, Hobart Hamilton, Jimmy Dye and Willis Tolliver.

OBITUARIES
of
BRETHREN AND SISTERS

ELDER JOHNIE F. CLINE

With a sad heart and the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of my dear husband, Elder Johnie F. Cline.

Johnie was born October 12, 1924 at Baisden, WV and departed this life on November 6, 1999, making his stay upon this earth 75 years and twenty-five days.

Johnie was the son of the late Elder Floyd Cline and Virgie Davis Cline. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sons, Johnie Cline Jr. and Larry Thomas Cline, Five Brothers: Dewey, Elliot (Bud), Jason, Edward and Elmer Cline and Two Sisters: Liddie Justice and Lenora Solona.

Left to mourn his loss is his loving wife of 53 years, Mona Vivian Scarberry Cline and their children; Paulette Cline, Lanny M. Cline and Cherie Stacy of Baisden, WV, Karen Velez of Naples, FL, Leslie L. Cline of Hazard, KY and Kim M. Buchanon of Dandridge, TN; One Brother: Lawrence Cline of Baisden, WV; Six Sisters: Stella Trent and Opal Sammons of Baisden, WV, Naomi Cline, Mary Cline and Blonnie Dotson of Mohawk, WV and Nealie Cline of North Spring, WV; 14 Grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and a nephew that felt like a brother, whom his Mom and Dad raised, Dennis G. Mounts of Speedwell, TN.

Johnie was a World War II U. S. Army Veteran, and a retired coal miner. He joined the Rosa Old Regular Baptist Church of Baisden, WV on December 24, 1949 and was baptized on Christmas Day, December 25, 1949. He was ordained to preach on June 21, 1952 and was elected Moderator on September 17, 1955.

Johnie loved the Rosa Old Regular Baptist Church and enjoyed every visit from his Brothers and Sisters in the Lord. I can still see him sitting in his special chair on the back porch while quoting scriptures from the Bible. He loved the word of God and believed the Old Time Way. Whenever we would try to disagree with him about the Bible he would always find a scripture to back it up. He traveled many miles to other churches to preach the Gospel, sometimes missing out on the growing up years of our children. But he was working for a home in Heaven, constantly warning sinners of the danger they were facing. He always found time to talk to our children and grandchildren about the Lord. Johnie was given a rose while he lived when his Son-in-law, Johnny Paul Cline was baptized on June 16, 1995 and our Eldest daughter, Paulette Cline was baptized on June 16, 1996. I feel that it was one of the happiest moments of his life. If our other children wish to see their Dad again, they will need to fall out of sin and be born again.

Johnie lost many nights and hours of sleep worrying about the Church and his Brothers and Sisters in the Lord. He loved the Rosa Church and loved peace within the Church. He loved for the Church to grow. When asked questions or advice on the Bible, he was always there to help.

If it weren't for our loving friends who helped during Johnie's stay in the hospital, at home and the help of the Good Lord, I don't think we could have made it through this terrible loss.



I believe he is resting from all his worries and pains and that we will be reunited in that beautiful land called Heaven where parting will be no more.

Often as we watched him there, from our lips there fell this prayer, "God, give us the pain to bear!" let us suffer in his place. Take the anguish from his face; soothe him with Thy Holy Grace.

Then the angels came, and they took his lovely soul away from the torture house of clay. As we prayed they brought release, smoothed his brow with gentle peace, but our pain will never cease.

Ours is now the hurt to bear, ours the anguish and despair, ours the agony to share. When our hearts with grief were stirred, thus we prayed and thus were heard shall we now fail to keep our word?

Was our promise all in vain? Would we call him back again, just to spare ourselves the pain? We are hurt, oh, that is true, desolate and lonely too, suffering as we pledged to do.

Lovely now his life will be, safe through all eternity, always beautiful to see. Now the pain is ours to know, but we prayed to bear this blow, that he need not suffer so.

Written by his loving wife, Mona V. Cline
and Granddaughter, Carla J. Mounts

ELDER SAMUEL D. HENSLEY

I am glad the hope I have within me overcomes the sadness when I think about my dad, my friend, my brother in the Lord.

Elder Samuel D. Hensley was born to Avery and Nona Norman Hensley at Hardy, KY on March 6, 1931 and departed this unfriendly world on December 3, 1999 at 9:17 p.m. He was 68 years old. He was baptized in 1952 and placed his membership at Sardis Old Regular Baptist Church at Delbarton, WV. Shortly after, he moved his membership to Tabitha Old Regular Baptist Church where he was faithful until he died.



Leaving his wife, Geraldine Fouch Hensley, four sons: Alex, Samuel Jr., Avery and James and three daughters: Barbara Curry, Nioka Cline, and Arlene Taylor. He had 21 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. He also left three brothers: Pete, John, and Rush and two sisters; Mary Christene Blevins and Martha Melinda Knox. He also left a host of friends.

My dad and I did not always agree when we talked about the Bible, but I always admired the fact that he stood firm on what he believed. When we talk about Dad, one thing seems to come up, and that is how we failed to realize how much Dad taught us both spiritually and in everyday life until he was gone.

I hope to meet him in that upper and better place that he talked about so much.

By His Family

JOE WINFIELD BLACKBURN

Joe was born on June 7, 1928, on Bent Branch in Pike County, KY. Joe was the seventh child of nine children, born to John and Victoria Sparks Blackburn. Joe passed this life on November 13, 1999 at 6:30 p.m. at his home; not very far from the place he was born. Joe was seventy one years old.

Joe retired from the N&W Railroad after 44 years of employment, interrupted only by his service in the military after the Korean War. Joe was a Disabled Veteran and a Kentucky Colonel.

In addition to his parents, Joe is preceded in death by two brothers; Fred Blackburn and Ray Blackburn and one sister, Louise Compton.

He is survived by his wife, Lois Smith Blackburn. He is also survived by two sons; Larry Joe Blackburn of Cape Coral, FL and Billy Joe Blackburn of Bent Branch, KY and three daughters: Carol Blackburn of Cape Coral, FL, Pamala Robinson of Pikeville, KY, and Shirlena Compton of Bent Branch, KY. In addition, he leaves the following grandchildren: Lisa Lewis, Keshia Jo Blackburn, and Austin Corey Blackburn, and one great-grandson, Kenny. Joe is also survived by two sons-in-law; Mike Robinson of Pikeville, KY and Joey Compton of Bent Branch, KY; one daughter-in-law Sandra Blackburn of Bent Branch, KY.

Joe is also survived by three brothers: John T. Blackburn of Open Fork, KY; Claude Blackburn of Bronson, FL and Donny Blackburn of Ramona, CA. Two sisters; Blanche Justice of Richmond, KY and Lucille Looney of Brownstown, MI.

Joe is also survived by seven sisters-in-law: Barbara Blackburn of Bronson, FL, Madge Blackburn of Open Fork, KY, Joyce Smith of Joe's Creek, KY, Meriam Smith of Paintsville, KY, Wilma Smith of Dry Branch, KY, Jean Smith of Brushy, KY, and Janet Robinson of Brushy, KY. He is also survived by five brothers-in-law: Woody Smith of Brushy, KY, Aubry Smith of Dry Branch, KY and Winston Smith of Paintsville, KY, Hayes Robinson of Brushy, KY and Morris Smith of Joe's Creek, KY.

Joe was a member of the Bent Branch Old Regular Baptist Church. Here Joe had his special place in the Church, and in the hearts of its members. Joe was baptized in the muddy waters of the Bent Branch of Johns Creek by Elders Billy Williamson and Dale Williamson. Although Joe loved all the Elders and Brothers and Sisters in the Church, Dale Williamson occupied a special place in Joe's heart, even prior to Joe becoming a Christian and joining the Church. Joe was baptized on May 18th, which is his wife's birthday. Joe always tried to make Lois' birthday special and I am certain this was the most memorable of all.

Joe will be greatly missed by his family, but they have many precious memories to call upon for comfort.

In addition to those mentioned, Joe leaves behind many special friends and relatives. There are too numerous to mention individually, but J.T. and Ethel Bevins were very special to Joe. He felt he could always count on them. Joe Blackburn will certainly be greatly missed by all who knew him.



Written with sadness, love and hope eternal by his heart broken wife and family

JUDIE BLACKBURN

To the one who suffered greatly, but never wavered in her service and belief in the Lord. She used to say come and see me in my new home, for the Lord has a mansion prepared for me. I don't need one here.

All the countryside probably ate one of her meals. For she was the greatest of cooks.

She was born February 12, 1912 and passed from this earth January 14, 2000. She was the daughter of the late Willie and Sarah Ann Lowe Howard. She was preceded in death by her husband, Tommy Blackburn. She was a great homemaker and a member of the Turkey Creek Old Regular Baptist Church for 50 years.



Survivors include four sons: Lawyer, Willie, Arnold and Tommy Blackburn and one daughter, Ora Robinson. All reside in Turkey Creek, KY. Also, ten grandchildren, seventeen great grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Even though, we miss and love you, Ma Ma Judie, we know you are walking those streets of gold.

Sadly missed by:
Your loving family

BIRDIE TAYLOR BURCHETT

Birdie Taylor Burchett, age 83, of Sycamore Creek of Lower Johns Creek, KY passed away Monday afternoon, August 28, 2000, after a long illness. She died at home surrounded by family and friends.

Birdie was one of nine children born to Thomas and Della Fields Taylor of Heenon, KY. She was preceded in death by her husband, Burgess Burchett.

Birdie is survived by one daughter, Phyllis Coe, of Sycamore Creek, KY and two sons; Dale Burchett of Glasgow, KY and Ronald Burchett also of Sycamore Creek, KY. Birdie was the proud grandparent of six children of whom she often spoke: Brian Lindsay, Mary Genise Burchett-Bower, Richard Burchett, Stephen Burchett, Christopher Burchett, and Jeffery Burchett. Also surviving are two sisters; Pearl Williamson of Varney, KY and Ruth Maynard of Raccoon Creek, KY, and one brother, Thomas Taylor of Bellevue, OH. Birdie has a host of nieces and nephews living both in the immediate area and several other states.

Although she was a homemaker her entire married life, Birdie was also self-employed as an upholsterer of furniture; along with her sister, Ruth for over 25 years; through which she made many friends and acquaintances.

Birdie was an active member of the Bent Branch Regular Baptist Church which she loved and supported, attending services as often as her failing health permitted.

Birdie was loved and respected in her community as being an astute and fair business woman, a loving wife and mother, a friend and advisor to neighbors and relatives, and was a Christian woman, of example to all, who loved her church and her Lord. She will be sorely missed by her friends and loving family.

In the book of Proverbs Chapter 31 we read:

Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household. Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also. Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

Written by family

LINNIE "LINDA" COLEMAN

It is with a grieving heart but also with wonderful memories of our loving and caring mother and wife that we write this obituary. With a strong and certain faith Linnie "Linda" Coleman on January 25, 2000, at the age of 76, slipped from this life into the next to be with our Lord. She was born March 12, 1923 in Baisden, WV, the daughter of Frank and Thursey Cline Perry, who preceded her in death; as did her sister, Addie Dunnigan.



She is survived, and remembered with great love, by her husband and soul mate of over 54 years, Paul Coleman of Varney, WV and her son, Jerry Coleman of Huntington, WV.

Additional survivors include her sisters, Gladys Price, Bunnell, FL and Lillie Lowe, Brookville, IN, and a brother, Wirt Perry, Harrisonville, MO, and a granddaughter, Stephanie Coleman, Huntington, WV.

She was a member of, and greatly loved, the Muncy Valley Regular Baptist Church. We would like to thank all the wonderful friends and members of the Church who have offered their support and comfort to us during this time of loss. Their love, a reflection of our Lord's love, has been a great comfort to us.

Her strong faith allowed her to bravely fight the disease that would eventually take her from us, granting us more time to share our love with her in this life. At the end, in her weakness, the Lord called her home to comfort and strengthen her. There she waits for us to join her. May her faith be an inspiration to all of us, as we seek to serve and follow our Lord. If we believe in our Lord Jesus we will meet her again someday.

Written by
Her family who loved her.

MYRTLE IRENE CURRY

In loving memory of our dear mother, mother-in law and grandmother.

Myrtle Irene (Oney) Curry, 78 of Turkey Creek, KY went home to be with the Lord on January 12, 2000. She was born at Chattaroy, WV on March 15, 1921. The daughter of the late George and Rebecca (Stanty) Oney.

She was preceded in death by husband Edward L. Curry (1985), half brothers; Cecil, Trimble, Gracen, and Walter McCoy; half sister, Trula Burke; brothers, Earl and James Oney; sisters, Opal Muncy and Ruby Burchette.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Turkey Creek Old Regular Baptist Church for almost 50 years.

Survivors include sons; George and Joe Curry and daughters-in law; Jane and Sue Curry of Turkey Creek, KY. Also, five grandchildren: George, Jr., Lisa Marie, Tina Michelle, Joseph Michael and Amy Jo Curry, and five great grandchildren.

If mother could speak to us I am sure she would say, "Live for Jesus, walk with the Lord; Pray and make things right so you will be able to meet God".

So, Mother, It is not goodbye. It's just goodnight until we all meet again. And to us you will never really be gone, but will always be with us in our hearts. Life is made easier knowing you are in the arms of our loving Lord and Savior.

With love and fond memories:

Your Twin Sons, George and Joe, Family and Friends



MARTHA INAS (JACKSON) FRALEY

It is with great sadness that we write this obituary of our dear mother, and beloved wife of sixty-one (61) years. She was born on July 1, 1920, to the late Elder Wallace Jackson and Sarah Ann (Giliman) Jackson, at Hatfield, KY. She passed away at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital on March 9, 2000, making her stay on earth seventy-nine (79) years, seven (7) months and nine (9) days.

On August 17, 1938, Martha Inas Jackson married William Thomas Fraley, and to this union was born eleven children. Two preceded her in death. She leaves three sons: Wendell (Joan) Fraley, Paul (Dianne) Fraley and Donnie (Ruby) Fraley. She also leaves six daughters: Margaret (Oscar) Stepp, JoAnne (Blake) Williamson, Alice Cochran, Peggy (Tennis) Hatfield, Edith Fraley Clark and Betty (Bobby) Robinson.

She leaves twelve grandchildren and four step-grandchildren; also, left are eleven great-grandchildren and seven step great-grandchildren. Also, left to mourn her loss is her stepmother, Acle Burchett; two brothers, Wallace Jackson, Jr. and David Jackson; and two sisters, Patsy Davis and Elsie Fitzsimmons.



Martha (Mom) was preceded in death by her mother and father, three (3) brothers: Tommy, Oscar and Billy Jackson, and four (4) sisters: Hazel Elkins, Myrtle Fraley, Gladys Thompson and Goldie Robinson. Two sons preceded her in death, Lowell Thomas and Tommy Ester Fraley; four grandchildren and a son-in-law, Bob Young.

Martha (Mom) joined the Mary Elizabeth Old Regular Baptist Church on August 24, 1947 and was baptized by Elder L. G. Lowe and Elder S. B. Fraley. Dad joined the Church the same day, and became a Deacon on May 19, 1951. They served in the Church until sickness made them unable to attend.

Mom leaves all her family, the Mary Elizabeth Church members, and all our friends to mourn her loss. Our home is so lonesome without Mom. We miss her so much, and we miss all the love and special attention she gave us when we came to visit her and dad. We had a wonderful home to grow up in, and we will always miss it. We all hope to meet Mom in Heaven some Sweet Day.

Written by her Family,
William T. (Tom) Fraley and Children

ALIENE YOUNG FRANCIS

Aliene was born on August 31, 1928, into the family of Will and Jane Young who preceded her in death. Aliene married James Troy Francis on December 20, 1948 and began her life with him. Aliene was a homemaker and a member of the Pilgrims Home Church. She joined the Church on June 8, 1985 and was baptized by Elders Louie Muncy, Milford Lowe and Frank Newsome.



During the course of their marriage there came a bundle of joy in the form of a daughter, Patricia Jo Francis Little, who they loved so very much and she quickly became the center of their world. Patty married Jeffry Little and this marriage brought forth two wonderful grandchildren to Aliene and Troy whose names are Jason Allen Little and Dakota Lee Little and who live at home with Patty and Jeff at Virgie, KY.

Aliene had four brothers and four sisters: James Timothy Young of Varney, KY.; Willie Eugene Young of Varney, KY; two brothers, Charles Edward Young and Ester Lee Young, left this world at a very young age; Bessie Viola Taylor of Cattlettsburg, KY; Zadie Saunders of Columbus, OH; Dorothy Mae Hashman of Barnsville, OH; and Rozetta McCoy of Pikeville, KY.

There are many memories of our good friend and Sister in the Lord. Good times on warm summer evenings sitting on the front porch talking and laughing, telling stories of things that happened in the pages of our lives. And as the book begins to close in Aliene's life I'm thankful for the time I spent with her and this family. Grateful for the good times and the many things we learned about our past and, perhaps, about our future. I always would joke with Aliene about leaving her porch light on because I knew something would be wrong. But there was a light she left burning in my life and so many, many others.

Aliene was a mother to so many neighborhood kids and was someone you could talk to about anything. A friend who cared for you and about you. I believe Heaven will be just a little bit brighter now, since our Sister has gone on to Glory to be with Will and Aunt Jane and all the loved ones that have gone on before.

Sister Aliene is resting from her labors and in a place where no troubles will ever come.

I believe she would tell us all to come and see her in her new home. There is plenty of room for you there on the front porch where we can talk and give God the praise. Will you come?

Your Brother in Christ,
Brother Dale

ALICE GILLISPIE

With God's help I will try to write a short obituary of my dear wife and loving companion of fifty three years, eleven months, and eight days, having been united in marriage on February 9, 1946.

Alice "Ray" Gillispie was born in Pike County, KY on June 26, 1921. She was the daughter of the late Bradley and Liza "Stanley" Ray. She died at her home on Bent Branch Road, KY on January 17, 2000, making her stay on earth seventy eight years, six months, and twenty two days. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by two sisters, Dixie Kathlene Ray and Easter Ellis and one brother, Elmer Ray.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Bent Branch Regular Baptist Church, having been baptized March 22, 1953 by the hands of Brothers Harrison Bevins and Edwin May.

Survivors: Husband, James E. Gillispie; son, James T. Gillispie, Meta, KY.; daughter, Ernestine Gillispie, Meta, KY; brother Emry Ray, Joe's Creek, KY; four sisters: Alma Tackett, Robinson Creek, KY, Maxine Leslie, Cowpen, KY, Aster Lynch and Lula Ray, both of Joe's Creek, KY, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

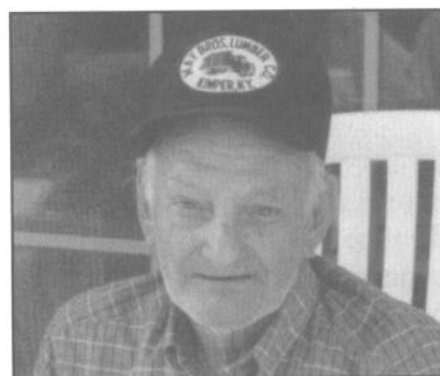
Written by husband,
James E. Gillispie



ROBERT HINKLE

It is with great sorrow that we are writing the obituary of our loving husband, dad, grandfather, and great grandfather, Robert Hinkle. He was born April 8, 1923, and departed from this life into the loving arms of our Lord Jesus Christ November 29, 1999. He was preceded in death by his mom and dad, Tom and Bertha Hinkle, two daughters Jeanette and Brenda Sue Hinkle, three brothers, and two sisters. He had seven sisters and three brothers. He was a retired coal miner. He worked hard to support his wife, Ona Hinkle, and twelve children.

His sisters are Viola Walters, Elzie Stanley, Janie Gillam, Dorothy Walters, Phyllis Maynard, Edna Hinkle, and Marie. Walter Hinkle, Walker Hinkle and Fred Hinkle were his brothers.



His children are: Linda Lou Robinette, the wife of Tony Robinette (deceased), Vernal Odell Hinkle, the husband of Diane Hinkle, Patty Gayle Hinkle, John Lynn Hinkle, the husband of Kathy Hinkle, Frankie Ann Allen, the wife of Freddie Allen, Betty Adams, the wife of Randy Adams, Perscilla Robinette, the wife of Ronald Robinette, Olen Hinkle, the husband of Melissa Hinkle, Bobby Hinkle, the husband of Lisa Hinkle, Mable Adams, the wife of Tony Adams, and two daughters Jeaneffe and Brenda Sue Hinkle (both deceased).

Robert accepted the Lord in October, 1998, at the age of 75. He was sick for two months before he passed away, but he held on to Jesus through it all. He longed to go home to be with our Lord. We are truly comforted knowing that he is dwelling in the joys of our Lord Jesus Christ, and he is where no pain or suffering can enter. He will be dearly missed, but it will be a wonderful reunion when we meet him again. November 29, 1999 this world lost a wonderful man, but heaven gained a wonderful soul.

Robert, we love and miss you dearly. Our hearts are pricked with the pain of losing you, and we long for that day when we'll meet again.

The family of Robert Hinkle

ROBERT HOWELL

By the help of our Lord and Savior and with many tears and sorrow, I will try to write the obituary of our beloved father, Robert Howell, and Brother in Christ who departed this life of suffering from cancer on January 30, 2000 at 6:55 a.m. at Kings Daughter Medical Center in Ashland, KY making his stay on this earth fifty eight years and twenty seven days. Robert Howell was the son of the late Tan and Ora (Reed) Howell, who were both faithful members of the Sidney Old Regular Baptist Church until their death.



To this union was born six boys and four girls. Robert had three sisters: Grethal Howell, Mae (Howell) Jude and Mary (Howell) Staton and two brothers; Arnold Howell and Carmel Howell who preceded him in death.

Survivors include: Dorothy (Howell) Wilson of Hode, KY, Dennie Howell of Pilgrim, KY, Dennis Howell and Buddy Howell of Columbus, OH and lots of nieces and nephews.

Robert was married to Judy Faye (Ball) Howell on August 28, 1970 and to this union there was born two children; Bobby Howell, Jr. of Pilgrim, KY and Tanual Ray Howell of Lovely, KY and five grandchildren.

The Lord knew that you were suffering. He knew that you were in pain. He knew that you would never get well on earth again. It broke our hearts to loose you, but you did not go alone.

For part of us went with you the day God called you home. Our loss is Heaven's gain.

Written by your son,
Bobby Howell

WARN HUNT

With the help of the good Lord, I will try to write the obituary of my uncle and Brother in Christ, Warn Hunt.

Brother Warn passed away April 10, 1998 in the Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital, South Williamson, KY. He was born September 8, 1911, making his stay on earth eighty six years, seven months and two days. He was the first child of the late Perry and Ollie (Nay) Hunt. Brother Warn was a member of the Narrows Branch Old Regular Baptist Church, Hardy, KY and a retired coal miner. He was a member of the United Mine Workers of America.



He was preceded in death by his first wife, Ora (Thacker) Hunt; second wife, Lola (Smith) Hunt; daughter, Lillian Stepp; and brothers, Sessil and Dennis Hunt. Survivors: sons, Clifford Hunt, Huntington, WV, Ralph Hunt, Sidney, KY, Warn Michael Hunt, Tazewell, VA; brother, Jonah Fred Hunt, Bridgeston, NJ, sisters, Nolie Mae Farley, Hardy, KY, Bonnie Scott, Pikeville, KY, Lorette Saunders, Sierra Vista, AZ and Texie Lee Young, Williamson, W.V. Seven grandchildren, several great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews, the entire membership of the Narrows Branch Church.

Brother Warn was a very sick and lonely man for so long, but he won't be sick or lonely in that wonderful country I feel he has gone to.

Children press on and live to meet Dad in that city God has prepared for all of us that serve him to the end. There will be no sickness, hospitals or doctors needed up there.

Written by his niece and sister in Christ:
Barbara Williamson

ALICE NEWSOME LITTLE

Alice Newsome Little, age 84, of Penny Road, KY went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, August 9, at the Appalachian Regional Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility in South Williamson, KY following an extended illness.

She was born in Pike County, KY on December 19, 1915, the daughter of the late John and Virgie Roberts Newsome. She was united in marriage on December 19, 1932 to Floyd Little, who preceded her in death on April 21, 1993. To this union was born twelve children; six boys and six girls. One son, Jack Little, and one daughter, Clara Little passed away in infancy.



Survivors include five sons: Frank Sherman Little of Penny Road, KY, Earl Little and Delbert Little both of Robinson Creek, KY, Milford Little and Jerry Little of Bartley Hollow, KY.

Also, surviving are five daughters: Ruby Burke of Bartley Hollow, KY, Beverly Tackett of Jonancy, KY, Helen Sesco of Meta, KY, Peggy Mullins of Virgie, KY and Mildred Bentley of Pikeville, KY. Four sisters also survived: Martha Hamilton of Branham's Creek, KY, Luevernie Shores and Artie Adkins both of Pikeville, KY and Arizona Charles of Zebulon, KY.

She left behind a brother, Harvey Newsome of Elwood, KY. She will be missed by twenty grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Mom gave her heart to the Lord in September, 1955. She placed her membership at the Robinson Creek Regular Baptist Church. She filled her seat at Church until she became unable to attend due to bad health. Even when she was in the nursing home, she continued to hold up her hand to praise the Lord when I would sing songs of Zion to her. Now Mom can sing with the angels.

I miss Mom every day but I know she is without pain and sorrow and someday I'll join her.

Written by:

Her loving daughter, Helen Sesco

ELMER LITTLE

It is with much weakness in our hearts that we will try to write the obituary of our dear sweet daddy, Elmer Little. Daddy passed away on December 31, 1999, at Buchanan General Hospital following a long illness.

Daddy was born on June 4, 1933, making his stay on earth sixty six years. He was the son of the late Grant and Lulu (Justus) Little of Hurley, VA. He was one of thirteen children. Survivors include three brothers and five sisters.

He married Geneva Whitt on December 2, 1952. They were blessed with seven children, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, all of whom he loved very much.

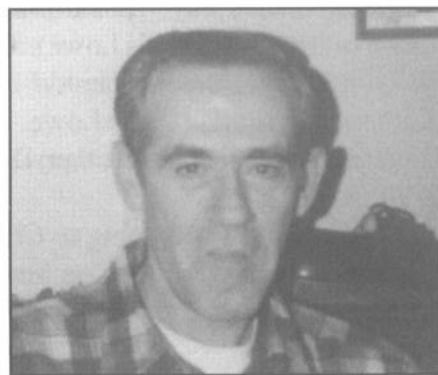
Daddy was preceded in death by one son, Jeffary. Two brothers and two sisters preceded him in death.

He is survived by daughters Melissa Justice and Melinda Harvey and sons: Larry, Randy, Ricky and Bradley Little. He is survived by grandchildren: Erica Justice, Amanda Hunt, Jeffrey Justus, Tonya Little, Brittany Little, Joshua Harvey, Paige Harvey, Ethan Little and Samantha Harvey, and great-grandchildren: Dylan Harvey, Jared Justus and Logan Justus.

Daddy worked hard for over twenty years as a coal miner. He was a hard worker and a devoted father and husband.

Daddy was baptized the first Sunday in September, 1968. He was a member of the Old Regular Baptist for over 30 years. Daddy loved going to Church even though it was sometimes hard after he became ill, but he attended faithfully until Jesus called him home.

Daddy, you are missed every hour of every day and by the grace of God we will see you again someday.



In loving memory

Daughters; Melinda and Melissa

FRANCES HOPE (ROMANS) LOWE

In loving memory, I write the obituary of my mom, Frances Hope (Romans) Lowe. On November 9, 1999 she passed away at the age of 83. She was born on August 2, 1916, the daughter of Melvin B. and Carrie (Stepp) Romans.

She was also preceded in death by brothers: Leonard Romans, Sidney Romans and John Romans and sisters: Alice Stepp, Jane Booten Hankins, Gladys Romans, Lula Walker, Sarah Runyon, Ida Bevins and Allie Windell. She was a homemaker and a member of Mary Elizabeth Old Regular Baptist Church at Hatfield, KY. She was baptized by Elder Ernest Cochran and Elder Grover Adkins.



She was married to Woodrow Lowe on September 14, 1939. To this union was born one daughter, Janice Faye Blackburn (husband James H. Blackburn), and one son, Danny Woodrow Lowe (wife Kathy Harris Lowe). Grandchildren are Tammy Faye (Blackburn) Hope (husband Terry W. Hope III), Daniel Brandon Lowe, James Michael Blackburn, Joshua Woodrow Lowe, and Katherine Priscilla (Kate) Lowe.

Survivors include brother, Kermit Romans of Hatfield, KY and sister, Lena Bevins of Pikeville, KY.

My mom loved going to Church. She went all over the Church house shaking hands. This picture of mom was made on her eighty-third birthday. Mom's songs are "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" and "Just One Rose."

Sadly missed and loved forever by her daughter, Janice Faye Blackburn.

LUNA ELIZABETH LOWE

With loving memories and the inspiration of God I will fulfill a request from my aunt and sister in God, Edith. To put into words that will honor Grandma's life, and be pleasing to her family and most of all God.

Luna Elizabeth Lowe, eighty seven years old of Hatfield, KY went to rest January 25, 2000. She passed away at the Appalachian Regional Hospital in South Williamson, KY. Born June 1, 1912 to the late George W. and Euna Vista (Lowe) Runyon. She was joined together in marriage September 13, 1929 to Forest Lacy Lowe. They both became members of Mary Elizabeth Old Regular Baptist Church at Hatfield, KY.



Grandpa Lacy passed away early in life, in 1963 at age fifty five on their wedding anniversary. She was a widow longer than she was married, but with help from God she pressed on.

Unto this union that God joined together they had eight children, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, who passed away at age three. Surviving are sons: Bill Lowe of Salem, SC, Thomas Sherman Lowe and Wallace Harold Lowe both of Hatfield, KY. Surviving daughters are: Betty Lou Edmiston and Rebecca Jane Marcum both of Hatfield, KY, Edith Joyce Wellman of Lenore, WV and Bonnie Jean Teeters of Delbarton, WV. One surviving sister is Louise Clark of Turkey Creek, KY.

God blessed her with twenty four grandchildren, thirty three great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by eight brothers and four sisters, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Grandma had prepared for her death back in the winter of 1956, when she repented, which is required at the hands of all men and became baptized. My only memories of Grandma are the days she lived for the Lord. Her humbleness and patience was a light that shined before all her family, friends, or any one who came to visit.

Her last four years here on earth she was confined to a chair. She never complained and always had a smile on her face. She loved for the little children in the family to visit so she could watch them play. I remember when I was a boy, spending nights with her and Harold; she always read the Bible before bedtime. I am glad that God blessed her to watch my baptism into the Mary Elizabeth Church. Because it was a dream I had that came true. The memories of her will always be in my heart, with the seeds she and Grandpa Lacy planted during my childhood.

Grandma's funeral service was at 11:00 a.m., January 27, 2000 at the Mary Elizabeth Church with Elders Wallace Muncy, Richard Staton, and Hobart Hamilton officiating. Burial was at the T.S. Lowe Cemetery at Hatfield, KY. Grandsons served as pallbearers.

Grandma, may you rest in peace with Grandpa and little Mary Elizabeth until that Great Trumpet sounds.

Written by Grandson, George W. Edmiston

MAUDIE PAULEY LOWE

It is with sad hearts but many happy memories that we write this obituary of our beloved mother and grandmother Maudie Pauley Lowe. She was born on June 25, 1901 and passed from this life September 29, 1998. She was born in Martin County, KY, the daughter of Ambrose and Ellen Fields Pauley. She was married on June 8, 1919 to William Harvey Lowe, who preceded her in death on March 7, 1978. To this union was born eight children: Elva, Thelma, Nelvia, Burley, and Janive, who survive, and the twins Nona May and Linda Ellen, and Emalea who died in infancy.

Maudie was a treasure to her family and a lifelong example to everyone who knew her. She is remembered for her good nature and her delicious cooking. No one ever left her house hungry and no one ever had to make a reservation to be welcomed. Mama and Daddy loved company and everyone was always welcome. Although the world would say she and Daddy did not have much in the way of material things, they were the richest people we know in happiness and the love and values they instilled in their family. After Elder Harvey's death on March 7, 1978, Maudie lived several years with her children in Marion, OH before it became necessary for her to go into a nursing home where she could get the special care she needed. Even though some of us lived far away, we visited her as often as we could. In her last years, Mom lost most of her eyesight and hearing and usually did not even recognize who we were; she never lost her sweet spirit. Even when she could not walk, she and her wheelchair made almost constant trips up and down the halls of the nursing home smiling and saying, "Howdy," to everyone she passed.

When she left this life on September 29, 1998, at the age of 97, our loss was heaven's gain.



After visitation in Marion, Ohio and visitation and funeral at the Pike County Funeral home, family and friends accompanied her body to the Lowe Cemetery in the head of Big Branch, where she was buried beside Daddy. Mommy had a saying, "Blessed are the dead that the rain falls upon." A gentle rain fell as we followed her body from the funeral home and laid her to rest.

WILLIAM LOWE, JR.

In loving memory of my dear husband and with a sad and lonely heart I will attempt to write this obituary. Junior was born October 7, 1933 and departed this life on January 11, 1999. He leaves to mourn his death a loving wife, Janice Mullins Lowe and one daughter, JoAnn Lowe Reed and husband Rick Reed. He also leaves two sons, Billy Lowe and his wife Tammy Lowe and his other son, Michael Lee Lowe. Also, left to mourn his passing are grandsons: Keith Lowe, William Chad Lowe, Ricky Reed, Jr. and Justin Reed. And left are one granddaughter, Sarah Ann Lowe, two great grand children, Brayleigh Lowe and Mackenzy Lowe.



He was a loving husband, Father and Grandfather. He was a deacon of the Narrows Branch Old Regular Baptist Church of which he served well during the time God blessed him to be there with his Brothers and Sisters of whom he loved so well. Brother Junior is missed by the members of the Church very much and by the moderator, Elder Bobby Scott, who not only served with Brother Junior in the Church, but worked with him as carpenters in this area and had a special love for him. When Brother Junior and Brother Bobby met it was always with a special feeling even back before Brother Junior belonged to the Church, when Brother Bobby would hold meetings at the home of Brother Junior's mother and the seed of the Lord was being sown even back then. Brother Junior labored hard on the New Association Building of the Sardis Association along with Brother Bobby Scott and several others, to see that the Association had a place to meet each year and was very proud of the work accomplished on the building.

He always made a special effort to make everyone, who came to the Narrows Branch Old Regular Baptist Church, feel welcome and was pleased to see his sisters, family, grandchildren and kin walk in the front door along with friends whom he had invited to come and be with us. He took his duties as Deacon very serious and tried to do what he thought God would want him to do in serving the church. He worked physically on the building to see that it was kept up and helped with the remodeling of the whole building. You will always be able to look at the Church and the Association Building and see the work of Brother Junior's hands that labored so hard because he loved the Lord and wanted to please Him.

My dear loving husband was looking for a beautiful home not made with hands but given by the God himself where he could rest for a season until God will call his body from the tomb to be with him for ever in Heaven with the Angels. I am waiting to see him one day and he will always remain in my heart as long as God permits me to live on the earth but thanks be to God that the "Best is yet to come" and we can be together again where parting is no more. Sleep on my dear husband and I will meet you again.

Written by his loving wife: Janice Mullins Lowe
Assisted by Elder Bobby Scott, Sr.

FREELIN MARCUM

With the help of my Jesus, I will try to write the obituary of my dear Brother, Freelin Marcum who was born June 9, 1937. He was a member of the Mary Elizabeth Old Regular Baptist Church for four years; he was baptized May 24, 1996.

He was married to Ethel (Burnett) Marcum for 44 years before God called him home to be with him. Freelin was a faithful member until he got sick. But I believe our lost is Heaven's gain. I believe I will meet him when God comes again.

He was a loving brother and a good husband, and a father of two sons he raised as his own. We all love and miss him so much. It is lonesome without him. I will meet him in Heaven some sweet day.

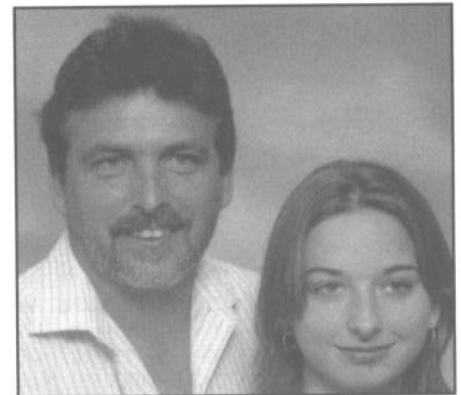


Written for Ethel his wife

By his brother, Ransom and his sister-in-law, Jean

LARRY ALLEN MARCUM

With the help of the Lord, I will try to write the obituary of my little brother, Larry Allen Marcum, of Sparr, FL. Larry was born January 7, 1964 and departed this life October 28, 1999 from injuries sustained in a tragic semi-tractor trailer accident that also claimed the life of a co-driver. Larry was preceded in death by his father, Joseph C. Marcum, and his mother, Georgia A. (Maynard) Marcum. Larry was 8 years old when mommy had to leave us. He wanted so much to remember her more than he did. Larry also leaves behind to mourn a beautiful daughter whom he loved more than she will ever know. She was the apple of his eye. He always told me how he loved her. Larry named his little girl after the mommy he barely knew, Georgia Ann Marcum, of Ocala, FL. If daddy could talk to you now he would tell you to repent and serve the God that he loved and served and the One his daddy and mommy served. If you get God in your life, when this life on earth is ended, a real life in eternity will begin.



Larry also leaves behind five brothers: Thomas (Marcia), Wayne (Linda), Jacob (Sylvia), all of Bonifay, FL, Carl (Debbie) of Ocala, FL, and Eddie (Della) of Garrett, KY and nine sisters: Sue Hukill, of Ocala, FL, Betty Swearingen (Dan) of Summerfield, FL, Mae Nichols (E.J.) of Sparr, FL, Connie Faye Coblentz (Mel) of Williston, FL, Romaine Sanders (Rick) of Ocala, FL, Nancy Hillard (Gene) of Anthony, FL, Georgia Josephine Harrison (Joe) of Ocala, FL, Darlene McCloed (Ralph) of Williston, FL, and Teena Hale (Richard) of Morriston, FL, also many nephews and nieces mourn his absence.

Larry "Rainman" as he was known on the CB radio, was an OTR driver for the last six years. Previously he had been a carpenter. His death was so sudden. It has been a nightmare for us these last few months that seem like years. Brother Larry gave his hand to become a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church in January, 1994 at the Southern Home Church.

He placed his membership in the then called Star of Bethlehem Church, now called Crystal Springs Church. Shortly before his death he had requested his letter to be sent to the Southern Home Church for the reason of convenience but was killed before the work could be acted upon. Brother Larry truly loved the Lord and His Church. His short-lived life in serving God brought gladness to all who knew him. He always wore a big smile and offered a warm handshake to all he met. Larry was a shining light to the many drivers who were blessed to know him. He was never ashamed to confess Christ as his Savior. His truck wore the slogan, "Trucking on Faith".

I want to say to the many loved ones and friends Larry left behind, always pray for yourselves and your loved ones. But most of all repent and be born again so you can live your life that your loved ones can have a hope that you have eternal life and not eternal death. Do this for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Written with a broken heart by Larry's brother, both in flesh and in Christ our Lord and Savior.
Brother Eddie Marcum

RAYMOND MAYNARD

With heavy hearts and by the help of the Lord, we will try to write the obituary of our brother in Christ, Brother Raymond Maynard. Raymond was born on November 13, 1943, the son of the late Condor Maynard and Easter Elizabeth Caines Maynard, and departed this world on August 24, 2000; making his stay on earth 56 years, 9 months, and 11 days. Raymond has four brothers and two sisters: James Maynard of Justiceville, KY; Vernon Maynard of Varney, KY; Ledna Parsons and Ruth Maynard of Varney, KY. Two brothers preceded him in death, Vergil Maynard and Oscar Maynard.



Raymond married Betty Sue Stanley Maynard on June 22, 1968 and into this union there was born two sons, Vergil Edward Maynard, who precedes Raymond in death; and Timothy Ryan Maynard.

Raymond joined the Old Regular Baptist and was baptized on March 31, 1991 and took his membership to the Pilgrim Rest Church. Raymond was a wonderful brother and worker for the Lord, but Raymond received another calling to serve the Lord and was ordained as a deacon in December 1999, where he served with honor until his death.

Raymond was a disabled coal miner known and respected by everyone in the industry. Raymond also served his country fighting for our rights in Vietnam and returned home in 1968. Left to mourn are his companion for 32 years, Betty Maynard; his late son Vergil's wife, Renea Tucker Maynard, who loves this family and stayed by this family's side in all their tribulation. Raymond's youngest son, Timothy Ryan and Stephanie Osborne Maynard; and one beautiful granddaughter, McKenzi Dawnelle Maynard.

His surviving brothers, James and Vernon Maynard and their families; his sisters, Ledna Parsons and her family; and Ruth Maynard and a great host of nieces, nephews, friends, family, and brothers and sisters in Christ.

Raymond was always trying to help someone everywhere he went, both on the job and at home. Raymond was my good friend and brother in the Lord for many years. He loved to raise his garden and took special care to raise enough for friends and neighbors.

Every year he would call to see if you wanted something from his garden and you were always welcome to whatever Raymond and Betty had. In my mind I can't help but seeing Raymond in a beautiful garden where everything grows perfect and Raymond standing with outstretched arms and a big smile welcoming us to come and be with him in a land of sheer delight, one without sorrows or pain. Raymond, we will join you and Vergil some sweet day.

Your Brother in Christ, Elder Dale Williamson
By the help of the family

RELL S. MAYNARD

It is with much sadness we attempt to write the obituary of our dear father, Rell S. Maynard of Turkey Creek, KY. He was born on February 12, 1919 in Pike County, and passed away on December 23, 1999, making his stay here on earth eighty years, ten months, and one day. He was the son of Levi and Nancy (Smith) Maynard. He was married to Mary (Young) Maynard in 1940. Dad was preceded in death by his parents, wife Mary, two grandchildren, two son-in-laws, four sisters and three brothers. He is survived by six children: Condor Maynard, Clifford Maynard, and Vergil Maynard of Turkey Creek, KY, Tommy Dale Maynard of McCarr, KY. Reta Ann Pinson of Sidney, KY and Nancy Ellen Yates of Huddy, KY. He is also survived by twenty-one grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren, and seven step-grandchildren.



Dad joined the Old Regular Baptist Church on August 21, 1960. He was baptized by the hands of Shirley Farley and Arlen Harrison. At this time he placed his membership with the Elizabeth Church where he was a faithful member until he became ill and unable to drive. Dad still attended church when he was able.

Rell was a faithful husband and a good father as well as grandfather. He was a kind and good neighbor to all who knew him. I know dad is at peace in heaven where there's no more sickness or pain. He is rejoicing with mom, the angels, and all his loved ones that have passed before him. Dad will be missed by us all but never forgotten. He will always be in our hearts.

To all the children and loved ones he left behind; we no longer have a place that we can call home to go back too, it is just an empty house. Just think of the mansion that Jesus has prepared for us if we just accept him as our Lord and Savior. If we do so we all can rejoice with mom and dad again and never have to say good bye again. He will sadly be missed by brothers and sisters of the Mary Elizabeth Church and all who knew him.

Written by Nancy Yates (daughter) and Eva Gail
Maynard (daughter-in-law)

GRACE PAULEY

Sister Grace Pauley wanted me to write her obituary, so with Gods help I will try to write about a sweet and humble sister and neighbor. She was born July 14, 1906 to the late Henry and Dolly Smith Varney. She married Joseph Pauley in 1924.

To this union was born twelve children. Seven children and her husband preceded her in death. Three babies and three sons: Freddie, James Earl, and Billy and one daughter Betty Jean Burgett. Several brothers and sisters also preceded her in death.

Surviving children include; Mitchell Pauley who lived with his mother and took care of her. One daughter, Esteleen Jordan, and three sons: Gifford and Paul Pauley of Michigan and Clifford Pauley of Summerset, KY. One brother Monroe Varney. Several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They will all miss her, but she is resting now from her troubles and sorrows.

Sister Grace joined the Salem Old Regular Baptist Church at Goody, KY in 1925, and was baptized by Elder Hi Maynard and Brother Ernie Runyon. She later brought her membership to the Narrows Branch Church where she was a faithful member until she got to sick to attend church. She belonged to Church for 75 years. What a great witness this is. When Elder Bobby Scott, Sr. and others went to visit her, she always wanted singing and prayer. Sister Grace truly preached her own funeral, and now she is resting under God's alter, for on September 17, 2000, God sent an angel to the A. R. H. Hospital to get her sweet soul and take it to rest until the great day of God almighty, when all of God's children shall rise from their graves and go flying up in the air to rest and rejoice forever and ever. Rest on Sister Grace for we shall meet again.

Your sister in hope, Janice Bogar



INA (LOWE) PAULEY

We have all met people in our life that we have grown to love from the very introduction. Life gives us a special blessing when we have the privilege to meet one of God's Mothers, whom he has blessed with the ability to cherish, care for, love, and spread love to everyone she meets. Ina (Lowe) Pauley was such a person with the touch, caring and motherly love that we all could feel just by visiting her humble home. Sister Ina was born on August 18, 1911 to Fountain B. and Musie (Parsons) Lowe. Her brothers and sisters are Abner Lowe, Burgess Lowe, and Mary Lowe who preceded her in death, Judy Duty and Lyda Hamilton. Sister Ina married Lacy Pauley September 29, 1933 and to this union were born Earl Clayton, who precedes her in death, Paul Dean, Donald Eugene, Lyda Ellen, Leon, Lacy Jr., Henry Fountain, James Harvey, Randolph, and Pauline.

Sister Ina labored long hours to help raise her family and provide them what she could.



She worked as a teacher for many years and worked on the farm to provide food. She enjoyed her garden so much that she would talk about what needed to be done and how the children and grand children would enjoy the canned food that she would prepare for them. Sister Ina was baptized into the Buck Creek Old Regular Baptist Church on August 20, 1966. An interesting story occurred on that day. This summer consisted of some very hot, dry days; so dry that there was no water in the creeks for the baptism. Every effort was made to back up a hole of water but all efforts were to no avail. The Brothers and Sisters gathered by the creeks edge, and sang songs, waiting on the water to back up. A dark cloud moved over the head of the hollow and it rained so much up there, that in a few minutes the little hole was full and sister Ina was then baptized. God sent the spiritual water for her to drink and the natural water for her to be baptized in.

During the thirty-three years that she belonged she looked forward to each third Saturday and Sunday so she could go to the Buck Creek Church. She was a faithful member and even when she was not really able would expect me to pick her up and take her to Church. Sister Ina looked forward to the Lowe Cemetery meeting were her family was buried.

Sister Ina loved the Lord and she let her light shine to all of us that was permitted to meet her. *Revelation 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus, 14:13 And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.*

Sister Ina's physical condition was getting more difficult for her to tolerate and on December 24, 1999 the Lord let her go to slept in his arms. Sister Ina is now resting and we are left with our memories of her love and affections that she shared with us.

The ones that knew her will sadly miss her. She has gone to a better rest and in the morning of the Eternal Day her soul will unite with her body and she will go to Heaven, her long sought place of eternal rest.

Written by:

Her family and Brother Tommy Dials with Love.

HALLIE CLINE PERRY

Our dear mother, Hallie Perry of Gilbert, WV was born April 27, 1909 and was called to Heaven on January 17, 2000 making her stay on earth ninety years, eight months, and twenty days. She was preceded in death by our wonderful father, Uley Perry, who died January 28, 1993, a son, Thurman, and a daughter, Betty, both of whom died in their childhood. She was the daughter of the late Perry Cline, a Moderator of the Rosa Regular Baptist Church for many years, and of Octavia Cline who died when our mother was but a young girl. She was also preceded in death by three brothers: Ezra, Everett and Delbert Cline, and by three sisters: Gracie Chapman, Lucy and Vinnie Cline.



Mom is survived by sons: Dr. Simon Perry and Huey Perry of Huntington, WV, Mervil Perry of Man, WV, and Winston Perry of Gilbert, WV and by daughters: Kathleen Punturi of Mt. Clemens, MI, Garnet Van Horn of Robinson, IL and Drema Ferrell of Man, WV. She is also survived by fourteen grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted by Elder James Gannon, Elder David Crigger, Elder Jerry Thompson and Elder Hubert Glandon.

I cannot describe the grief and sorrow that we felt when mom died. She was a remarkable mother and grandmother who loved us and from whom we drew courage and strength in times of trouble. Her faith in God was without question or doubt. She felt that God had given us a very clear message of what was right and wrong and she strived to walk this path from the time she joined the Rosa Regular Baptist Church at the age of twenty seven

After our dad died, we were concerned about her living alone, but she loved the home place and would not give up "housekeeping". She would often tell us not to worry, that she was not alone; that God was always with her. In her later years, one of her greatest joys was going to the Dix Fork Old Regular Baptist Church where she and my father had taken their membership around 1974. She loved people and they responded to her openness, her warmth and her honesty. As a dear friend wrote to me "I believe your mother was a great influence in the lives of not just your family but many others"!

The day of my mom's funeral, her large loving family had gathered in the old home place, crying and not knowing how to handle our great loss and trying to comfort each other, when two of her little great grandchildren began to plunder with an old family Bible that lay on the bottom of a shelf in the living room. A picture of my mother and father fell from the Bible. A grandson-in-law bent to pick it up and place it back in the Bible when he noticed that mom had written on the back of it. The message was dated February 18, 1996, and was written to my dad. It read: I love you, honey and do I miss you all the time. Nothing will ever take my love from thinking of you and as long as I live I'll be thinking of you. I believe we will be together in that good place that is Heaven that we talked about so much. I love you and will never forget you as long as I live here on earth. Love mom, that you called me so many times--mom, as you would say so many times. Bye now, wife Hallie". And on the side she had written: "To all my children, love Mom". And at the bottom, she had written: I didn't do a very good job--hope you all may read this some time. love, Mom". Though some may say this was just a coincidence, we believe that we were meant to find this and read it just at the time that it fell from the Bible.

Mom, we will love you forever and hope to see you in that good place that is Heaven!

Written by your daughter, Drema

THURSEY PERRY

Thursey Perry, 91, of Varney, WV died January 15, 1995 at the Appalachian Regional Hospital. She was born November 12, 1903 in Baisden, WV. She was the daughter of the late Sherman and Peggy Bailey Cline. She was preceded in death by her devoted and loving husband, Frank Perry; daughters, Addie Dunigan and Linnie Coleman and granddaughter Peggy Nester.

She was a loving mother and homemaker, and a devoted member of the Rosa Regular Baptist Church of Baisden, WV having joined in the early 1940's.

Survivors are daughters: Gladys Price, Bunnell, FL; Lillie Lowe, Brookville, IN; a son, Wirt Perry, Harrisonville, MO; fourteen grandchildren and twenty seven great grandchildren.

She is sadly missed by her family, who remember her with love.



In faith we believe she is reunited with her loving husband, Frank, in the presence of our Lord Jesus. So, if we believe in and follow our Lord Jesus we will see our mother, dad, and grandmother again in Paradise.

Written by: Paul Coleman and family

BESSIE ELLEN ROBINETTE

Mom was born on October 25, 1908 the daughter of the late Thomas Jefferson Francis and the late Mary Hatfield Francis. She died January 26, 2000 at her home following a lingering illness.

As a young woman she met and married Ferrell Allen on December 12, 1925 and to this union was born five children. Her surviving children are, two daughters; Elon Smith, of Varney, KY and Hattie Peters of Springfield, OH. The children preceding her in death are a daughter, Lois Robinette of Varney, KY and sons; George Thomas Allen of Roseville, MI and Donnie Allen of Varney, KY.



In later years, after the death of her husband, she met and married Toby Robinette. There were no children born to this union but she became a stepmom to Raymond, Reford, Elmer Lee, Junior, Irvine, Ralph, and Jettie Robinette.

Mom is also survived by eleven grandchildren: Janet Sue Williamson, Eddie Robinette, Carolyn Sapp, Randall, Mitchell and Johnny Smith, Robbie Allen, Pam Allen, Kristy Hall, Kelly and Steven Peters. Surviving also are nine great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren with one grandchild preceding her in death.

Mom had seven brothers and sisters to precede her in death. The brothers were; Jake, Delmon, Asbury, and Troy Francis and the sisters were: Dixie Walters, Sophia Robinette, and Easter Francis.

Mom felt the calling grace of God around 1950 and devoted her life to the Lord. After being baptized she placed her membership with the Church of Jesus Christ called Pilgrims Home Church of the Old Regular Baptist at Varney, KY. For many years she enjoyed the sweet communion she had with God's children there. On warm summer days, her children playing outside, were comforted by mom's distinct voice as the Church lifted God's name up in songs of love. Her voice blended with others guiding beautiful melodies to echo through the hills of Brushy Creek.

In the mid to late 1920's, Mom and Dad owned and operated The General Store at Varney, KY. There the community could purchase things needed on the farm and in the home. Times were hard and through the store government commodities were offered to families which needed temporary relief. Because she knew everyone, she was asked by government workers, to refer to them those "in need" that they may assist in meeting the needs of the community.

Around 1931 Mom became the postmaster of the Varney, KY Post Office, a station named for its first postmaster, Lark Varney, who was buried just up on the hill by the post office where Rye Straw stream meets the stream of Brushy Creek. During her over forty years of tenure there, she would meet and be blessed to share the lives of the citizens of Varney. There they would work out of the depression, hold each other and pray together in the 1940's as the community saw its young men leave and go to war to ward of a tyrant's desire to control the world. Again in the fifties, she would hand a letter to the sons of moms, requesting their "call to arms" to fight in what came to be called the Korean War.

Again, in the mid 1960's she, with other parents, come together in prayer as letters were received drafting the young men into the military to fight what came to be the Viet Nam War. With her assistance, through these years a delicate line of life was maintained. Mothers, with pen in hand, would draft precious words and post their letter to a son across the sea. She served the community there 41 years.

During her time as postmaster she followed strict ethical guide lines to ensure her neighbor's mail was handled in the highest regard protecting each neighbor's confidentiality as well as the security of their mail. She would pass these same standards to her daughter, Lois who assumed the position of postmaster and held it for twenty years. After the loss of dad, Mom was determined to provide a wonderful home and education for the two children at home. She worked hard laboring in the garden and the office to make sure this was accomplished.

Besides her children, she dearly loved her daughters-in-law, Emogene and Rozetta as well as her sons-in-law; Landon, Kelsie and Bill, who enriched her life so very much.

She also loved her Church and before becoming ill she loved to travel with friends to other churches always having a wonderful time. Later, after illness began to afflict her, she enjoyed sharing these ventures with younger members of the Church. She, along with her brother, Jake, often expressed joy in seeing, during the early 1980s, many new members come into the church of which several were added to the ministry.

She is sadly missed by; her brothers and sisters of the Church; her many friends and neighbors; her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and certainly those great-great-grandchildren who come to love her as "Ma Ma Bee".

As nights of sickness turned to months Elon faithfully cared for Mom every moment she could. We had a great desire be with her as much as possible. Though we miss her dearly we have a great joy knowing that though she is absent from us, she now is present with the Lord and others she has missed for many years.

Written by her daughters: Hattie Peters and Elon Smith
Assisted by: Brother Billy Williamson

JOHNIE ROBINSON, SR.

With wonderful thoughts and precious memories, we write the obituary of our dad, Johnie Robinson, Sr. Dad was born February 21, 1907, a son of the late Matilda and James Robinson. His father in Heaven called him home March 28, 2000. He was blessed ninety three years, one month and seven days to live on God's footstool.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Georgia Hanners Robinson, two children, five brothers and three sisters.

Survivors are two sons; Woody and his wife, Maureen of Pikeville, KY, and Johnie and Deborah Robinson of Ypsilanti, MI. Also, one daughter; Minta and Irvin Maynard of Pikeville, KY, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Maureen, Woody's wife is now deceased. She died May 29, 2000. He is survived by one sister; Bessie Lowe of Williamson, WV.

Dad was retired from the Huron Valley Humane Society, Ann Arbor, MI.



Dad was a member of the Apple Orchard Regular Baptist Church. He didn't get to attend his home Church often due to his residing in Ann Arbor. He attended the Ypsilanti Regular Baptist Church often. He loved to go there to Church and fellowship with the brothers and sisters. They were all so good to him.

We, the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have wonderful memories of Dad which each of us will always cherish.

He will always be in our hearts and on our minds because we loved him so much.

Written with love,
His Family

ANNA RUNYON

Anna Runyon, age 86 of Elkton, MD, formally of the Delbarton, WV area, departed from this life January 16, 2000 at her resident. She was born January 23, 1913, the daughter of the late Floyd and Sarah Curry. She was preceded in death by her husband Delmus Runyon.

She was a member of the Sardis Old Regular Baptist Church in Delbarton, WV.

In 1962 she moved to New Castle, DE. She worked at various jobs retiring in 1973 from the Housekeeping Department of the Wilmington Hospital in Wilmington, DE. After retirement, she moved to Elkton, MD. She enjoyed reading, watching TV and traveling to visit family living out of state, often by bus.

Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by eight brothers: Monroe Curry, Boyd Curry, Lloyd "Doc" Curry, Wilburn "Wib" Curry, Ance Curry, Woodrow Curry, Grover Curry and Virgil Curry; three sisters: Jane Murphy, Lucinda Blankenship and Fannie Sipple; three sons: Harold Ray Runyon, Floyd Runyon and Virgil Runyon and three grandsons.

She is survived by a sister, Edna Vinson of Delbarton, WV; three sons: Glen Runyon of New Castle, DE, Robert Runyon Burdett, NY and Fred Runyon of North Augusts, SC; three daughters: Lorraine Hastings of Wilmington, DE, Gayzola Nunnery of Marquett and Anna Faye Brown of Swannanon, NC and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Services were held January 22, 2000 from the McCrery Memorial Chapel, Wilmington, DE with interment at Gracelawn Memorial Park in New Castle, DE.

She will be greatly missed by all.



Written by:
Glen and Carol Runyon, Son and Daughter-in-law

MARY SHEPPARD

It is an honor to be able to write the obituary of Sister Mary, she was such a special person. Sister Mary was born March 26, 1903 at Myrtle, WV. She was the daughter of the late Francis Marion and Nanny Maynard Preece. She departed this life May 11, 2000. She married A. A. Sheppard on February 14, 1920; to this union was born six children. She was preceded in death by her husband, Elder A. A. Sheppard, and two sons; William and Alvin Jr. She was also preceded by brothers: John, Francis Marion (Bud), Jr., Harold, Henry and Orland (Hi) Preece and sisters; Emma Hall and Brookie Stapelton.



She is survived by daughters; Audrey Horn and Nancy Benjamin of Grove City, OH and Mabel Maynard of Delbarton, WV and a son, James L Sheppard of Oakwood, VA. Also, she is survived by sisters Dixie Vance of Day Star Road, WV and Esta Evans of Elk Creek, WV. Also left behind are grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a host of family and friends.

Sister Mary gave her life to the Lord as a young woman. Her daughter told me, "Mom was eighteen years old when she was baptized and became a member of the Rebecca Church." She was ninety seven at her death, so she served the Lord for about seventy-nine years faithfully. Sister Mary was a light and an inspiration to us all. She would come to Church on a walker until the last few years when her failing health required her to have to stay with her son in Virginia or her daughter in Ohio. She was a very precious person; she loved everyone and was always calling everyone honey. She truly loved the Old Church and wanted everyone to be at peace with each other. I feel our loss is heavens gain.

Written by a sister in Christ, Nellie Farmer

ARTHA (TOOTSIE) SMITH

Artha was born February 29, 1927 and the Lord called her home November 8, 1999 making her stay with us seventy two years. She was the daughter of the late Kennie and Elzie (Curry) Reed. She was also preceded in death by three brothers.

She leaves to mourn her loss a son Albert (Judy) Smith; three grandchildren: Dawn, Joshua and Amie, two great-grandchildren, two brothers and five sisters who are: Gc and Leroy Reed, Sallie Mullins, who has since passed, Francis Lockard, Mary Cochran, Rebecca Runyon and Goldie Webb.



Artha was a homemaker and a member of Turkey Creek Old Regular Baptist Church. Once again we would like to express our gratitude to everyone who has shown such kind deeds during our time of need. We believe Tootsie is resting in peace with the Heavenly Father. "Miss me: But let me go." When I come to the end of my road, and the sun for me has set, I want no rites in a gloom filled room, why cry for a soul set free, miss me a little but not far long, and not with head bowed low.

For this journey we all must take, and each one must go alone, it's all part of God's plan a step on the road home, and when you are lonely and sick at heart, bury your sorrow in doing good deeds, Miss me! But let me go. In loving memory.

Written with loving memories, her sisters and brothers.

MINNIE LUCILLE (PINSON) SMITH

It is with a heart full of love and a lifetime of dear memories that I attempt to write the obituary of my precious mother, Minnie Lucille (Pinson) Smith. Mom went to rest in the arms of her Lord at approximately 4:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 1, 1999 at her home.

She was born March 20, 1935; she was the eldest daughter of the late Alton and Opal Pinson of Sidney, KY. She was also preceded in death by three brothers: Charles F., John O. and James H. Pinson.

She is survived by her husband of forty five years, Charles Curtis Smith, with whom she joined her life on April 24, 1954; one son and daughter-in-law, Charles Randall (Susan) Smith of Georgetown, KY; two daughters and sons-in-law, Bonnie (Dennis) Blackburn of Sidney, KY, and Tammie (Randall) West of Canada, KY; three grand-daughters: Suzanne Zumwalt and Jessica Smith of Georgetown, KY and Amber Blackburn of Sidney, KY; one grandson, Jacob West of Canada, KY. Surviving brothers are: Billy H. Pinson of Hatfield, KY, Wilson Gene and Donnie Pinson of Canada, KY and Lonnie D. Pinson of Hardy, KY. Surviving sisters are: Lois Stanley of Vermillion, OH and Sharon Thacker of Belfry, KY, many nieces and nephews and a host of friends.



Mom dedicated her life to her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and was added to the body of believers at the Dix Fork Old Regular Baptist Church on the Third Sunday in April, 1963. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother and lived before us a wonderful example of a Christian servant.

God granted Mom sixty four years, eight months and ten days on this earth. Many are the lives she touched along the way. Her gentle spirit and genuine love for her family, friends and neighbors shone forth in everything she did. She was blessed with a heart overflowing with Christ's goodness.

Mom had a desire for Heaven to be her eternal home and spoke often of one day living where Jesus is. During the last year of her life God granted her steady health and multiple joys. She was physically able to regularly attend many of her sister churches as well as her own and we believe He gave her a glimpse that her day of departure was at hand.

We miss Mom deeply and daily grieve her passing, but we have a blessed hope of meeting her one day soon on the shores of Home. What a glorious reunion we will have over there.

Funeral services were held at the Dix Fork Old Regular Baptist Church at 11:00 AM, Saturday, December 4, 1999. Ministers of the Regular Baptist Church Conducting services were Elders Ernest Cochran, Lacy Walters, Berlin Thornsby and David Crigger. She was interred in the Varney Cemetery on Dix Fork Road at Sidney, KY. Nephews served as pallbearers. Rogers funeral Home at Belfry was in charge of the arrangements.

Written in loving memory by:
Her husband, children and grand children.

BILL WALTERS

On a beautiful Sabbath day on April 30, 2000, God called the name of Bill Walters to come and rest from his labors. Bill had been traveling on a road of pain and sickness for a very long time, and the Lord in His goodness and mercy gave Bill a home of peace and happiness on that Sabbath after-noon in the Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Bill's toiling and troubles were over, and our loneliness and emptiness had just begun. We thank God for our wonderful memories, and we realize that now we must prepare to go to be with Bill.

Bill began his stay upon God's footstool on November 15, 1929. He was born to Gladys and George Walters and was one of ten children. Bill's sisters are Betty Lou, Nancy, Barbara, and Etta Sue who also is resting with God. Bill's brothers are Brad, J.S., Wendle Wilkie, George Clinton, and Zack who also is resting from his labor.

On November 29, 1953, Bill married Ruby Robinette and began his life as a husband and as a father with the birth of his sons. His children and their families are Danny, who rests with the Lord, his wife, Glenda and their children, Angie and Daniel; Mike, his wife Connie and their children, Stephen and Derick; Bill, Jr., known as Bill-Do; Andrew, his wife Kim and their daughter, Brandi.

"God hath not promised skies always blue, flower strewn pathways all our lives through. God hath not promised sun without rain, joy without sorrow, peace without pain." God has promised eternal life for those who believe, repent, and are born again, and on November 14, 1999, Bill was baptized and started really living his life. Now that he had that well of "Living Water" springing up to everlasting life, Bill began his preparations for leaving this world. We feel that his ex-change was a happy one, and even though our hearts will always be heavy, we thank God that our loved one chose the good part that will never be taken away. We said good-bye to "Old Man Bill", but it is only for a little while. When Jesus calls His saints to Him, the Walters family will have a glad, reunion day again. Go rest high on that mountain, Bill, until we meet again.

In hope of life through Christ Jesus,
The family of Bill Walters



BRENDA GAIL WHITE

It is with much sadness and a broken heart, I will with the help of the Lord try to write the obituary of our loved one and my wife, Brenda Gail White. She was born July 14, 1956, and went home to be with our Lord Savior Jesus Christ on July 14, 2000, making her stay here on earth forty four years. Brenda passed away on her birthday.

She was the daughter of the late John H. and Emma Hatfield Anderson. She was also preceded in death by one sister, Ruby Sue (Sissy) Hubbard of Hardy, KY.

Survivors include husband; Alonzo White, daughter; Susie (John) Baisden of Chattaroy, WV, stepsons; Steve (Ann) White of Borderland, WV and Brian White of Chattaroy, WV.



Also, included are brother; Johnny Hue (Christine) Anderson of Hardy, KY, Sister; Linda Lou (Johnny) Smith of Indian Mound, TN, three grandchildren: Stephanie and Zachary White of Borderland, WV and Savannah White of Varney, WV and a host of friends.

Brenda gave her life to Jesus Christ on March 10, 1998 and was baptized on March 15, 1998 at Turkey Creek Old Regular Baptist Church by Elder Elbert Sesco and Elder Danny Runyon. Brenda joined the Salem Old Regular Baptist Church at Goody, KY and she loved the Church and all of her brothers and sisters there. Often we would be driving by and she would say, "I love my little Salem family". Sister Brenda was stricken with cancer four and a half long years. She often told me that she didn't want anybody to go down to the Devil's Hell. As time went by, I could see her faith getting stronger in Jesus Christ.

Brenda knew the power of God. Sometimes she would ask me to call the brothers of the Church to pray for her. She knew the pain would be better. There were times that I would call them without her knowing, but she always knew because she began to feel better. She helped me with my faith watching and listening to her. She told me so many times "tomorrow will be a better day" and she was right.

I thank God for my brothers, sisters, family and friends. I know they love her. Just a simple phone call from them would make her feel so better. Watching her faith in God has helped me so much. I thank God for her. I know that I was blessed to have her and I thank God for the precious memories that I had with her. She was always thinking of something to do or some way to help someone else. She loved her grandchildren: Stephanie, Savannah and Zachary so much. They would come to see her almost every day and sometimes twice a day. Brenda always kept cats so the children called us Mamaw and Papaw Kitty.

Brenda wasn't able to go attend Church the last few months before her passing. Brothers and sisters of the Old Regular Baptist would come to our home to have Church, sing and have prayer. This really helped her so much. She would always feel so much better. I thank God for each and everyone of them.

Brenda told me that when the Lord forgave her of all of her sins she would have a job to do for him. I believe that she did it the best that she knew how. I really believe God was pleased with her good works. I was at her bedside when she passed away. Dear God please help me finish this obituary, thank you Lord. I believe she saw Heaven's Gates; for the beautiful smile on her face looking toward heaven. I know she saw where she would be spending eternity. I thank the good Lord for showing me this. It has helped me so much; something I will always remember. She believed until the day that she died that if it was God's will she could have walked out of that hospital.

Brenda's sister, Ruby Sue (Sissy), went with her to the hospital for four and a half long years. We did not know that Sissy was sick, also. The Lord took Sissy home three months before Brenda's passing. Brenda's sister, Linda Lou, lived in Tennessee. She would neglect her family and her job to come here and stay for months at a time before Brenda's passing. I thank the good Lord for both of them. Brenda's daughter, Susie, helped her mother so much. She would do all of Brenda's running, never complaining. She was so good to me and Brenda. I thank God for her. My sons, Brian and Steve was a blessing to me and Brenda because she knew they both loved her from their hearts and would do anything they could for her. I thank God for that. Steve's wife, Ann, was a blessing to us and still is. I thank God for her. I believe that God sent her to this family. There wasn't anything Ann wouldn't do for us. I believe that she would have traded places with Brenda if she could. That love only comes from God.

Brenda loved everyone that she got aquatinted with and I believe they loved her also. I have received so many cards, letters and telephone calls since Brenda's passing. Some of them have been from people I don't even know. We all loved her so much. She was a light to me. Our loss is heaven's gain. God loved her much more than us, so Sister Brenda sleep on. I believe that one day we will meet again. Weeping may endureth for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. Rest in peace.

Written and deeply missed by:
Her broken hearted husband and family.

MARSHALL WILLIAMSON

By the help of the Lord we will try to write the obituary of Marshall Williamson. A Pop Paw to all who knew him. Marshall was born on June 29, 1911 into the family of the late Caudill Williamson and Vicie Jane Francis Williamson and left this world on August 24, 2000. Making his stay on earth eighty nine years, one month, and twenty five days.

Marshall had four brothers and two sisters: John B. Williamson, George Williamson, K. H. Williamson, Jonah Ester Williamson, Vada Williamson Muncy and Cordelia Williamson Stanley. Of the family that Caudill and Vicie began only two remain. Brother K. H. Williamson and Sister Vada Muncy both of Varney, KY. Marshall married Mary Young Williamson on April 14, 1928 and they began a wonderful life of love together. Into this union there were eight children born: David Williamson, Lois Williamson Robinette, Bennie Lee Williamson, Mary Marie Williamson Robinette, James Clinton Williamson, Barbara Williamson Ratliff, Vera Faye Williamson Walters and Betty Jean preceded Marshall in death.



Marshall joined the Old Regular Baptist in 1938 and was baptized at the hands of Lark Lowe and Willie Nichols. Marshall was a member of the Cedar Bottom Church and an Ordained Minister in the Union Association. Marshall retired from the N&W railroad in 1974. Marshall loved all of us the same and we all called him Pop Paw. When you took a wife or was given in marriage he became your Pop Paw too. If you came to visit more than once or sometimes only once you also called him Pop Paw.

Left to mourn his passing are his companion of seventy two years, Mary Young Williamson, David and Rosie Williamson and family of Ypsilanti, MI., Tobie and Lois Robinette and family of Ypsilanti, MI, Bennie Lee (John) Williamson and Bessie Jane and family of Varney, KY, James Kenneth and Mary Marie Robinette and family of Varney, KY, James Clinton and Irene Williamson and family of Hatfield, KY, Gary and Barbara Ratliff and family of Varney, KY, Lonnie and Vera Faye Walters and family of Varney, KY. Twenty eight grandchildren, forty one great-grandchildren, seven great-great-grandchildren, one brother K. H. Williamson, one sister Vada Muncy and a host of nieces and nephews, friends, and neighbors.

As I grew up with this family I was taught of life of love and the importance of Family. Even though we did not always agree on all things there was such wisdom Pop Paw left us. As the years go by we will understand more about it. There were such riches he left us, no not silver or gold but riches that can't be bought or sold. Treasures that we can dig into once and a while as we go through this life to sustain us until we join him again.

We all remember him as a strong man and I remember as a child thinking him to be a big man. But as I got older I remember what the word of God says about it. Be bold as a lion but gentle as a lamb. There is a time for all things. A time to plant and a time to pluck up that which has been planted. God gave us a wonderful Dad and a great Pop Paw. A man with love for everyone and it's time for us to return him to the Lord.

I want to thank this family for giving up so much of their life so that Debbie and I could have a little corner of Mom Maw and Pop Paw's world. Also, I would like to thank all those who gave a helping hand during Pop Paws sickness and a special thanks to Barbara and Vera and their families for the sacrifices they have made and the patience their companions have shown over this long period of time. Lonnie; I thank you from the bottom of my heart for loving Pop Paw so much and caring for him. I know of the sacrifice and we all thank you but God will reward you some day. Not trying to single out any one because Pop Paw loved his son-in-laws and daughter-in-laws the same. I know Pop Paw would have us to love one another and care for one another and get ready to go. For we know not the hour or the day when God will call but he will call, so be ready.

Written by the help of the Lord,
Your grateful grandson and Brother in Christ,
Dale

OBITUARIES
of
FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH

RUBY SUE HUBBARD

It is with a very sad and broken heart, but with precious memories we will try, with the help of the Lord, write the obituary of our beloved sister in the Lord and loved one, Ruby Sue "Sissy" Hubbard. She was born on November 28, 1952 and went to be with the Lord on March 24, 2000.

She was the daughter of the late John H. and Emma Hatfield Anderson. Left to mourn her passing are: husband Mickey Hubbard, Son's Allen (Teresa) Hubbard and Shawn (Jennifer) Hubbard, one granddaughter Makayla Hubbard, Sisters Brenda (Alonzo) White and Linda (Johnny) Smith, brother Johnny (Christine) Anderson, nieces, nephews and a host of family and friends. She was a homemaker and a member of Blue Springs Freewill Baptist Church, where she was very faithful and active in God's work. Sissy's light shined to the church, the community, and to anyone who knew her. Sissy was one of the most caring and loving people I ever knew. She always looked for the good side of everyone. She always focused on the needs of others, not her own. Sissy was a very plain person. She never met a stranger. It was such a blessing for me to have known her and I thank God for that.



Sissy's baby sister, Brenda, who was my wife, was diagnosed with cancer. Sissy was always there for her. She never missed a doctors appointment. She went with us for four and a half years. She was so much help to me also. When I would get weak in faith, Sissy would always remind me that here wasn't anything to hard for our Lord and Savior to do. Holding up God's power, we must trust in him, she would tell me this and I thank God for Sissy's presence in our life. She was a light to me.

Sissy was too sick to go to Brenda's last two doctor's appointments. Sissy also had cancer, us not knowing her condition was bad, she kept it to herself. I believe that she did not want her family and friends to worry about her. She focused on her sister Brenda and family. Sissy's husband Mickey was so understanding in every way. He would always bring Sissy to my house and pick her up after returning from the doctor. Mickey never complained, not one time. I know that to most people, this would have been a burden, but I know that we wasn't. That is how God's children work. I thank God for brother Mickey.

Brenda only lived about three months after sissy passed away. I believe our loss of both of them was heavens gain. Now they are together again, singing with the angels, where no pain, sickness, or tears will ever enter that city. Someday I hope to meet them again where the circle will not be broken. They were both survivors, and they survive today. We just have to look for the signs that tell us they are near, when the flowers bloom in spring, when the summer rained drip down on our cheeks, when a warm breeze catches our breath. They will survive in our thoughts, in our songs and in our prayers.

If we could see them now in heaven and how happy they are, we wouldn't bring them back to this world of sorrow if we could. Rest in peace until we meet again.

Written and deeply missed by the family of Ruby Sue Hubbard

WAYNE MAYNARD

With heavy hearts and deep sorrow, we will try to write the obituary of a loving husband and father. Wayne Maynard age 77 of Varney, KY was born in Pike County, KY on December 4, 1921. He was the son of the late Robert and Jesse Cline Maynard. Wayne left this world to be with Jesus on October 27, 1999. He was preceded in death by three brothers Tennis, Elmer, and Andy Maynard. He leaves behind one sister, Mozolla Reed.

Daddy joined church October 22, 1990 and loved going. He would go every Sunday when his health would permit, and lots of times he would go when he really wasn't able to. Daddy died on a Wednesday and that Sunday was Communion. He had told Brother Bill Maynard that he was going to try to go but he did not make it. (DADDY, WE WILL HAVE THAT MEETING OVER IN HEAVEN SOMEDAY, WHICH WILL BE OUR BEST MEETING, FOR OUR LORD JESUS WILL BE THERE.)



Daddy leaves behind six children: Wayne Eugene, Dwight, Carol, Darell, Peggy, and Sandi; eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Daddy was a kind and loving husband to Betty Stanley Maynard, who in turn was good to him. I do not believe dad would have lasted as long as he did if mommy hadn't took such good care of him. They had a special relationship together. He was a coal miner, electrician, World War II veteran and farmer. He loved to work in the garden and he would say he liked to watch things grow. We miss seeing daddy working in the garden, hearing him whistle, singing church songs, sitting on the porch, feeling his loving arms around us, and joking with us all. These are just a few of the things that made him the good man he was.

My dream about Daddy: While daddy was in ICU about a week before he died I had prayed and prayed to the Lord that he would somehow make it home again as he had so many times before. I felt in my heart he would not. That night when I came home I had a dream that I was trying to find him. I searched the house and finally found him out back working. I said, "Daddy, you are not able to do that hard work any more", and he started to bleed. He was covered in blood from his head to his feet. I was crying to the Lord to help me save him. My brother, Gene, appeared and I cried for him to help me lift him up. Daddy just said, "It is alright baby, I'm fine now". I believe the Lord was showing me daddy's work was finally over and he was washed in the blood of the Lamb. I will mourn and grieve your absence, your love, strength and wisdom until I leave this earth. Loving you forever and always, Sandi.

We all have our good memories of daddy and the hope that we will see him again one day over in the Glory Land and I know that he is there awaiting us. Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

Written by the family.

ROBERT LEE ROBINSON, SR.

Robert Lee Robinson, Sr. was born September 19, 1925 in Martin County, KY. He was the son of the late Oliver and Edna (Burgett) Robinson.

He was a member of the Turkey Creek Freewill Baptist Church at Turkey Creek, KY. He was a retired Coal Miner, and a member of the United Mine Workers of America.

Papaw was a strong man, strong in spirit and in love for his family. He was strong in our eyes and in our hearts. Papaw was a Christian for many years. A man with enough faith to move a mountain and in our hearts enough love to heal all wounds. His smile was as bright as the sun and his laughter echoes in our hearts now and forever.

Papaw lived 74 wonderful years. He was happily married for forty nine years to our Granny, Ora Robinson. They had two children Betty Jo (Robinson) Hampton and Robert Lee Robinson, Jr., who grew up and married and gave them five wonderful grandchildren listed oldest to youngest: Paula Sue Hampton and Sharon Kay (Hampton) Blevins the daughters of Woodrow and Betty Hampton. Timothy Robert Robinson, Angela Renee Robinson and Deborah Elizabeth Robinson (Deceased) the son and daughters of Robert Lee and Rebecca Robinson; who grew up and gave him three wonderful great-grandchildren listed oldest to youngest. Kaylee Nicole Blevins and Caleb Franklin Blevins, the daughter and son of Christopher and Sharon Blevins and Timothy Austin Robinson, the son of Timothy Robert and Angelia Robinson.

His name will live on with us while he rests beside the crystal water with Jesus and one glorious day we will be reunited.

Until then we will reach out to others with love as papaw always did and will rely on the comfort of the Lord Jesus Christ and the hope that we all share of the second coming of Jesus and seeing Papaw once again in heaven.

With all our Love, Sharon Blevins and Paula Hampton



RANDALL SMITH

Randall Smith, known to most of us as Randy, was born July 4, 1951. He always said the reason we had fireworks and celebrated July 4 was because it was his birthday.

He was the oldest son of Kelsey and Elon Smith. Kelsie preceded him in death. He is survived by two brothers, Mitchell of Pikeville, KY and Johnny of Meta, KY, and one sister, Carolyn Snapp of Louisville, KY.

In his early years, Randy worked with his dad in the timber business. Eventually he worked a fleet of coal trucks and worked long into the night to get the trucks ready to haul the next day.



Randy's CB handle was "Early Bird" because he was always first on the Job.

He met his wife, Linda Kay Martin, at a truck parts store where she worked. They were married on December 22, 1977. He is survived by three loving daughters: Randi Star, Rhonda Ann and Lisa Michelle, and one granddaughter, Megan Skye. We always kidded him about it taking so many women to keep him in line.

Randy had such a kind heart and worried a lot about his family, friends and employees. Some of his workers were so close to him, they called him "Dad".

For the last several years Randy suffered from the effects of a debilitating disease that he was never able to conquer. He had recently told Linda that he knew his health was failing. He said, "Just bury me on Varney Point, so I can wave at everyone when they go by".

Randy always greeted us with a smile. He loved to say things to "get us going", then laugh at us when we reacted.

There will be a huge void in this family without him, but we have so many precious memories of a sweet, thoughtful man. He would probably cringe at my calling him sweet, but he was and we loved him very much.

Written with fondest memories and much love by his sister.
Carolyn Sapp

BOBBY LEE THOMAS

It is with loving memories we will write the obituary of our father, Bobby Lee Thomas. Bob, 62, was called home Thursday, July 13, 2000. He was born November 11, 1937. He was the son of Polly Burgett Thomas and the late Lonza Thomas of Turkey Creek, KY. On December 28, 1959, he was married to his loving wife, Betty Thomas. They were blessed with forty wonderful years. They resided at New Camp Road, South Williamson, KY.

Survivors are his wife, Betty Grossl Thomas; mother, Polly Thomas of Turkey Creek, KY; daughters, Dee (Larry) Murphy of South Williamson, KY, Susie (Kelly) Ramey of McAndrews, KY; brothers, Cecil Thomas, Ferrell Thomas and Scotty Thomas; sisters, Genola Smith and Brenda Blackburn all from Turkey Creek, KY. He had two grandchildren, Jason Murphy and Joey Ramey.

He was retired from the U.S. Army, The National Guard, and also was a retired engineer from the Norfolk & Southern Railroad. He was enjoying every day of his retirement, being with his family and going to church. He often sat and read his Bible and his Old Regular Baptist Song Book as he was growing every day in his faith.

Isaiah 41:10 tells us : "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." In these words we get our strength and comfort to carry on until we will all be together one day.

We love you and miss you, Dad. You will be in our hearts and memories forever.

Written by daughters, Dee Murphy and Susie Ramey



WILLIE MARIE (CURRY) VARNEY

Willie Marie (Curry) Varney was born on June 6, 1930 and passed away on April 28, 2000. She was the daughter of the late James and Hazel (Blackburn) Curry. She was a homemaker and a life resident of Turkey Creek, KY.

She was preceded in death by husband, Floyd Varney, Jr.; brother, James Curry; and sister, Margaret Ann Curry.

Her survivors are sons; Dwight Varney of Columbus, OH and David Varney Turkey Creek, KY. Also, surviving are brothers; Bobby Curry of Reynoldsburg, OH and Larry Curry of Columbus, OH. Her only surviving sister is Cathy Smith of Turkey Creek, KY.

She had one grandchild, Jeremy David Varney. The last time we saw her she asked us for prayer.



Written by loving sons:
Dwight Varney and David Varney
And good friend: Anna Blackburn

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION**

From a long series of experiences we, the OLD REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST, being baptized upon a profession of faith in Christ are convinced of the necessity of a combination of Churches in order to perpetuate a union and communion among us and to keep the order and rules of an Association according to the following plan of government.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different Churches in our union and sent to represent them in the Association and, upon their producing Letters from their respective Churches certifying their appointment, they shall be entitled to a seat.

ARTICLE 2. In the Letters shall be expressed their number in fellowship, those baptized, received by Letter, dismissed, excluded, and deceased since our last Association.

ARTICLE 3. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord anything 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 ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

ARTICLE 5. The Association shall have a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk each chosen separately by a majority vote of the delegates present.

ARTICLE 6. New Churches may be admitted to this union who shall petition by Letter and delegates and, if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received; and every Church in the union shall be entitled to a representative in the Association.

ARTICLE 7. Every query presented by the Church to the Association, being first debated in their own Churches, shall be taken up by the Association.

ARTICLE 8. Every motion made and seconded shall come under consideration of the Association, except when withdrawn by the one who made it.

ARTICLE 9. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the Churches with Minutes of the Association.

ARTICLE 10. We think it necessary that we should have an Association Fund for defraying the expenses of the same. We think it the duty of each Church in the union to contribute such sums as they think proper and to send it by their delegates to the Association; and such sums be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer chosen by the Association who shall be accountable for the money paid him by the Association, and paid out according to the Association.

ARTICLE 11. There shall be an Association book kept wherein the proceedings of every Association shall be recorded by a Secretary appointed by the Association who shall receive a compensation for his services.

ARTICLE 12. The minutes of the Association shall be read, and corrected if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association arises, unless the same is dispensed with.

ARTICLE 13. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made by a majority of the union, if deemed necessary.

ARTICLE 14. All matters coming before the Association shall be decided by the will of the majority of the delegates present.

ARTICLE 15. The Association shall have the power to provide for the general union of the Churches; to preserve inviolable a chain of communion among the Churches; to give Churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause of the Churches failing to represent themselves at any time in the Association; to appropriate the money contributed by the Churches for the Association fund to any purpose they may think proper; to appoint any member, by their consent, to transact any business which they see necessary; and they shall have the power to withdraw from any Church in the union which violates the rules of the Association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion; and to admit any orderly Minister of our order to seat with us. The Association shall have the right to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the Churches.

**ARTICLES OF FAITH
OF THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE 1. We believe in only one true and living God; the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost; and these three are one, equal in power, essence and glory.

ARTICLE 2. We believe the scripture of the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized King James Version of the Bible are the written words of God and are the only rules of faith and practice.

ARTICLE 3. We believe in the doctrine of election by grace, for by grace are ye saved through faith.

ARTICLE 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin and of man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, therefore the Saviour is needed for our redemption.

ARTICLE 5. We believe that sinners are called to repentance and believe in the Gospel and regeneration of the soul and sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, and none shall fall away and be lost.

ARTICLE 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE 7. We believe that baptism is the ordinance of God's Church on earth and the mode IMMERSION, back foremost, so as to cover all over.

ARTICLE 8. We believe that the Lord's Supper is the command of the Saviour, and that by use of bread and the fruit of the vine, and feet washing should be kept up until his second coming by his believers.

ARTICLE 9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

ARTICLE 10. We believe that no Minister has the right to administer the ordinances and commands of the Gospel except such as are regularly ordained and baptized, and that by immersion by a legal administrator of the Gospel comes under the hands of a regularly chosen presbytery of the Church.

ARTICLE 11. We believe it to be the duty of all Church members to contribute for defraying all reasonable expenses of the Church, never forgetting the poor according to their several abilities.

ARTICLE 12. We believe that every doctrine that goes to encourage or indulge people in their sins or cause them to settle down on anything short of saving faith in Christ for salvation is erroneous, and such doctrine shall be rejected by us.

ARTICLE 13. We believe that the Church of Jesus Christ is a congregation of faithful believers in Christ who have obtained fellowship with the Lord and one another, and have given themselves to the Lord and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline according to the rules of the Gospel.

ARTICLE 14. We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church and the government thereof is upon His Shoulders.

ARTICLE 15. None of the above Articles shall be considered as to hold with particular election and reprobation so as to make God partial, directly or indirectly, nor to injure any of the children of men, nor shall any of those Articles be altered without legal notice and free consent.

RULES OF DECORUM OF THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

ARTICLE 2. The Association shall have a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk each chosen separately by a majority vote of the delegates present.

ARTICLE 3. Only one member shall speak at a time who shall arise from his seat and obtain consent from the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.

ARTICLE 4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator until he is through.

ARTICLE 5. He shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who has spoken so as make remarks on his slips or imperfections, but shall fairly state the cause as nearly as he can so as to convey his ideas.

ARTICLE 6. No person shall abruptly absent himself from the Association without leave of the Association.

ARTICLE 7. No person shall speak more than three times on any subject without leave of the Association, and only five minutes at a time.

ARTICLE 8. No person shall have the liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same nor whisper in time of public speech.

ARTICLE 9. No member of the Association shall address another in any other term or appellation than that of "brother."

ARTICLE 10. The Moderator shall not interrupt or prohibit any member from speaking until he gives his light on any subject unless he violates the Rules of Decorum.

ARTICLE 11. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called as often as the Association requires.

ARTICLE 12. The Moderator shall have the same right of speech as any other member, provided the chair be filled; and he shall have no right to vote unless the Association be equally divided, then he may give the deciding vote.

ARTICLE 13. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly violate any of the Decorum shall be reprovved by the Association as they think proper.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Name and Telephone	Address
Adair, Gary (706)453-1797	3192 Penfield Rd., Greensboro, GA 30642
Adair, Henry (916)929-5735	2847 Garden Hwy, Sacramento, CA 98583
Adair, William Sr.(352)629-7888	4358 N.E. 19th Ave, Ocala, FL 34479
Akers, Gordon (863)467-4124	2471 S. E. 21st Terrace, Okeechobee, FL 34974
Barney, James (863)763-4891	13080 Hwy 441 S.E., Okeechobee, FL 34974
Barney, Paul (863)357-1691	191 N.W. 98 St.,Okeechobee, FL 34972
Blackburn, Dewey (606)631-1124	1674 State Hwy. 164 W Pikeville, KY 41501
Blackburn, Foster (606)631-1432	Box 870 Stanley Fork, Varney, KY 41571
Blackburn, Willie (606)237-4377	2106 Turkey Creek, KY 41514
Brumfield, Billie (304)475-3952	Rt. 1, Box 18, Delbarton, WV 25670
Campbell, Stanley Sr. (352)368-3998	10051 N.E. 30th Ct., Anthony, FL 32617
Campbell, William Jr. (352)624-9370	3212 S.E. 35th St., Ocala, FL 34471
Cochran, Chester (304)675-5162	Rt. 2 N., Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550
Cochran, Ernest (606)353-7964	Box 162, Sidney, KY 41564
Cochran, W. H. (304)675-2563	556D Sunset Lane, Pt.Pleasant, WV 25550
Crigger, David (606)353-7042	HC 60 Box 1422 Stratton Rd., Canada, KY 41519
Dials, Thomas J. (606)395-6572	P.O. Box 31, Warfield, KY 41267
Dixon, Glen (941)774-1542	130 Sugar Loaf Lane, Naples, FL 34114
Ellis, Tommy (304)426-6366	P. O. Box 296, Varney, WV 25696
Evans, Joe (304)475-2102	Rt. 2, Box 53, Delbarton, WV 25670
Forsyth, Bruce (352)629-0505	P.O. Box 396, Sparr, FL 32192
Glandon, Hubert (304)664-3461	Box 425, Gilbert, WV 25621
Hamilton, Hobart (304)475-4225	Route 1, Box 335, Delbarton, WV 25670
Herald, Wayne Jr. (304)393-9149	P. O. Box 348, Crum, WV 25669
Jarrell, Charles (352)629-4261	P.O. Box 325, Sparr, FL 32192
Jude, Henry (606)265-4702	Box 6011, Rt. 689, Flat Gap, KY 41219
Jude, Hershel (606)297-3308	1441 Caudill Fk. Rd., Oil Spring, KY 41238
Jude, Kenneth B. (606)395-6296	HC 67, Box 165, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Jude, Nathan (606)237-6015	Burnwell, KY 41519
Lowe, Gabe D. Jr. (606)395-6355	HC 67, Box 740, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Lowe, Milford (606)631-3658	3570 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571
May, Arthur (304)393-4118	HC 70, Box 1716, Breeden, WV 25666
May, Harvey Jr.	31 Fair View Court, Pikeville, KY 41502
May, Larry Richard (304)393-4797	Route 2, Box 122, Kermit, WV 25674
May, Thomas Jason (606)325-4590	2424 Bath Avenue, Ashland, KY 41101
Maynard, Condor (606)237-6681	P. O. Box 94, Belfry, KY 41514

Maynard, Paul (606)631-0068	12941 Brushy Rd., Pikeville, KY 41501
Muncy, Homer Jr. (606)395-5686	HC 67, Box 620, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Muncy, Wallace (606)237-6685	Box 10, Hatfield, KY 41514
Murphy, Mark (304)776-7662	Dover Dr., Cross Lanes, WV 25143
Nichols, Sabert (606)395-5055	HC 67 Box 3506, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Peaden, Arlice (352)685-9080	23594 NE 154 th Pl. Rd. Salt Springs, FL 32134
Robinette, Jack (304)946-4284	Box 426, Switzer, WV 25647
Robinson, Billy J. (606)395-6946	HC 67 Box 3503 Pilgrim, KY 41250
Robinson, Leon (606)631-9825	356 Stanley Fork, Varney, KY 41571
Robinson, Steve, Jr. (304)475-2841	Box 324, Delbarton, WV 25670
Runyon, Danny (606)631-9542	Brushy Rd., Varney, KY 41571
Runyon, Edward	Rt. 1 Delbarton, WV 25670
Scott, Ben	HC 67, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Scott, Bobby, Sr. (606)353-7858	P.O. Box 382, Hardy, KY 41531
Scott, Frankie (606)624-0598	211 Claywood Court, Richmond, KY 40475
Scott, Greg (606)353-9883	P.O. Box 1018, Belfry, KY 41514
Sesco, Bobby G., Sr. (606)353-1221	100 Walters Fork, Hatfield, KY 41514
Sesco, Elbert (606)237-6651	Box 322, Turkey Creek, KY 41514
Sesco, Harold (606)353-7668	Sidney, KY 41564
Sesco, Leonard, Jr. (606)353-9081	Hatfield, KY 41514
Sheppard, Frank (304)475-4770	Rt. 1 Box 345-C Delbarton, WV 25670
Staton, Richard (606)237-1217	5388 Turkey Creek, KY 41514
Stepp, Roger (606)353-9559	Hardy, KY 41531
Stiltner, Willie (606)835-2156	2477 Long Fork Rd., Kimper, KY 41539
Stumbo, James (304) 426-5706	P. O. Box 313, Varney, WV 25696
Thompson, Jerry (304)664-3779	P.O. Box 222, Baisden, WV 25608
Thornsby, Berlin (606)353-7122	2422 Dix Fork Rd., Sidney, KY 41564
Walters, Lacy (606)353-7127	898 Dix Fork Rd., Sidney, KY 41564
Watts, Chris, Sr. (352)867-0654	P.O. Box 722, Sparr, FL 32192
Williamson, Billy (606)631-1917	39 Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571
Williamson, Dale (606)631-9238	Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571
Young, Gary (606)631-3959	Brushy Road, Varney, KY 41571

LIBERATED BRETHERN

Name and Telephone	Address
Bevins, Roger	P.O. Box 35, Sidney, KY 41564
Blankenship, Ivan (304)664-2894	P. O. Box 9, Baisden, WV 25608
Cable, Albert (304)475-4065	HC 70, Box 498, Lenore, WV 25676
Cochran, Lester (304)675-3324	Rt 1 Box 580 Sand Hill Road, Point Pleasant, WV 25550
Fletcher, Butler (606)395-0269	P.O. Box 282, Pilgrim, KY 41250
Fletcher, Willis (606)395-5569	HC 67, Box 2075, Lovely, KY 41231
Gilman, Randy (863)467-7645	60 N.W. 98 St. Okeechobee, FL 34974
Hensley, James (304)752-7198	P.O. Box 247 Verdunville, WV 25649

SARDIS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS and ADDRESSES

Elder Thomas J. Dials, Moderator	P. O. Box 31, Warfield, KY 41267
Elder Hobart Hamilton, Assistant Moderator	Route 1, Box 335, Delbarton, WV 25670
Brother Archie Prince, Clerk	3475 Whites Creek Road, Prichard, WV 25555
Elder Thomas Jason May, Assistant Clerk	2424 Bath Avenue, Ashland, KY 41101

**CHURCH DELEGATES
TO THE
SARDIS ASSOCIATION 2000**

MT. PLEASANT: Lacy Walters, Edgar Scalf, Dewey Blackburn
APPLE ORCHARD: Charles Lowe, Elwood Maynard, Paul Maynard
ENON: Willis Staton, Roger Bevins, James Spencer
BENT BRANCH: Hatler Slone, Phillip Justice, Billy Sesco
SARDIS: Brian Dillon, Mel Mahorne, Billie Brumfield
BIG BRANCH: James W. Blackburn, Mitchell Robinson, Gene Blackburn
MARY ELIZABETH: J. D. Walters, L. C. Walters, Ransom Marcum
BETHANY: Arthur May, Archie Prince, Albert Cable
ELK FORK: Joe Evans, Wirt Brumfield, Frank Sheppard
PILGRIMS HOME: Kenneth Elkins, Andrew Walters, Billy Williamson
SALEM: George Jude, Steve Johnson, Steve White
SIDNEY: Kenneth B. Jude, Robert Jude, Henry Jude
DIX FORK: Glen Williamson, David Crigger, Berlin Thornsbury
NARROWS BRANCH: Clyde Brown, Greg Scott, Bobby Scott, Sr..
LEANNAH: Lonnie Robinson, Steve Robinson, Jr., Billy J. Robinson
BUCK CREEK: Liburn Staten, Wayne Herald, Jr., Vadis Blackburn
TABITHA: Alex Hensley, Jack Robinette, James Hensley
LITTLE ROSIE: Marion Duncan, David Staten, Harvey White
TURKEY CREEK: Harold Blackburn, Danny Reed, Leonard Sesco, Jr.
SAMARIA: Rayburn May, Eugene Newsome, Randy L. Lackey
ROSA: Ivan Blankenship, Jerry Thompson, Charles Paynter
MUNCY VALLEY: Tommy Ellis, Jim Stumbo, Paul Coleman
LITTLE VIRGIE: Willie Stiltner, Bob Justice, Alvin Thornbury
SOUTHERN HOME: Stanley Campbell, William Adair, Sr., Jimmy Letterly
PILGRIMS REST: Gary Young, Leon Robinson, Foster Blackburn
OKEECHOBEE: James Barney, Randy Gilman, Glen Dixon
ELIZABETH: Gabe Lowe, Jr., Hershel Jude, Randy Lowe
LITTLE TAVIE: Chester Cochran, Jim Cochran, Lester Cochran
CHARITY: Roy Hayden, Gary Adair, Johnny Adair, Jr.

CHURCHES and CLERKS

CHURCH	ADDRESS	CLERK and ADDRESS
MT. PLEASANT	Sidney, KY	Edgar E. Scalf, Box 144, Canada, KY 41519
APPLE ORCHARD	McCombs, KY	Elwood Maynard, 8172 East Hwy 60, Rush, KY 41168
ENON	McCarr, KY	James Spencer, P. O. Box 248, McCarr, KY 41544
BENT BRANCH	Meta, KY	Hatler Stone, 6598 Zebulon Hwy., Pikeville, KY 41501
SARDIS	Delbarton, WV	Billie Brumfield, Rt. 1, Box 18, Delbarton, WV 25670
BIG BRANCH	McCombs, KY	James Blackburn, 15520 Brushy Rd., Pikeville, KY 41501
MARY ELIZABETH	Hatfield, KY	Oscar Stepp, P.O. Box 137, Sidney, KY 41564
BETHANY	Lenore, WV	Archie Prince, 3475 Whites Creek Rd., Prichard, WV 25555
ELK FORK	Delbarton, WV	Wirt Brumfield, Route 1, Box 711, Delbarton, WV 25670
PILGRIMS HOME	Varney, KY	John H. Elkins, 31 Middle Fork, Hatfield, KY 41514
SALEM	Goody, KY	A. D. Blackburn, 159 Forest Hills Rd, Forest Hills, KY 41527
SIDNEY	Pilgrim, KY	Butler Fletcher, P. O. Box 282, Pilgrim, KY 41250
DIX FORK	Sidney, KY	James Brown, P.O. Box 152, Forest Hills, KY 41527
NARROWS BRANCH	Hardy, KY	Clyde Brown, 422 "B" St., P. O. Box 220, Ceredo, WV 25507
LEANNAH	Pilgrim, KY	Billy J. Robinson, HC 67 Box 3503, Pilgrim, KY 41250
BUCK CREEK	Beauty, KY	Wayne Herald, Jr., P.O. Box 348, Crum, WV 25669
TABITHA	Verdunville, WV	James P. Hensley, P. O. Box 247, Verdunville, WV 25649
LITTLE ROSIE	Chattaroy, WV	Thomas J.Dials, P. O. Box 31, Warfield, KY 41267
TURKEY CREEK	Turkey Creek, KY	Willie Blackburn, Box 2106, Turkey Creek, KY 41570
SAMARIA	Dingess, WV	Larry May, Rt. 2, Box 2515, Dingess, WV 25671
ROSA	Baisden, WV	Charles Testerman, HC71, Box 55, Gilbert, WV 25621
MUNCY VALLEY	Pie, WV	Tommy Ellis, Box 296, Varney, WV 25696
LITTLE VIRGIE	Kimper, KY	Alvin Thornbury, 26335 Pewter Lane, Abingdon, VA 24211
SOUTHERN HOME	Sparr, FL	Bruce P. Forsyth, P. O. 396, Sparr, FL 32192
PILGRIMS REST	Right Fork of Brushy, Varney, KY	Foster Blackburn, 870 Stanley Fork, Varney, KY 41571
OKEECHOBEE	Okeechobee, FL	Gordon Akers, 2471 S.E. 21st Terrace, Okeechobee, FL 34974
ELIZABETH	Rt. 3, Louisa, KY	Hershel Jude. 1441 Caudill Frk. Rd., Oil Spring, KY 41238
LITTLE TAVIE	Rt. 2, N. Pt. Pleasant, WV	Julius Cochran, 2223 Jackson Ave., Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550
CHARITY	Greensboro, GA	Johnny Adair, Jr., P. O. Box 2298 Blairsville, GA 30514

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH	MODERATOR	MINUTES REQUESTED	CONTRIBUTIONS	RECEIVED BY BAPTISM	RECEIVED BY LETTER	RECEIVED BY RESTORATION	RECEIVED BY RECOMMENDATION	DISMISSED BY LETTER	DECEASED	EXCLUDED	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	STARTING TIME	MEETING TIME	UNION AND COMMUNION
Mt. Pleasant	Frankie Scott	75	300								18	11:00/11:00	2 July	
Apple Orchard	Sabert Nichols	100	175						1		21	11:00/11:00	1 June	
Enon	Richard L. Staton	50	100						1		14	11:00/11:00	1 June	
Bent Branch	Billy Williamson	150	250						6		53	10:00/10:00	3 August	
Sardis	Joe Evans	125	200	2			2				80	11:00/11:00	4 August	
Big Branch	Richard L. Staton	125	175		3						23	11:00/11:00	3 July	
Mary Elizabeth	Wallace Muncy	125	150	1					5		38	11:00/11:00	3 July	
Bethany	Arthur May	75	200	4				1			47	11:00/11:00	4 August	
Elk Fork	Joe Evans	50	75								16	11:00/11:00	3 August	
Pilgrims Home	Elbert SESCO	325	400	7				4			111	10:00/10:00	4 August	
Salem	Elbert SESCO	150	275					1	2		71	11:00/11:00	1 May	
Sidney	Wallace Muncy	125	150	1				1			37	2:00/10:30	4 June	
Dix Fork	Ernest Cochran	175	400	1				2			41	11:00/11:00	1 July	
Narrows Branch	Bobby Scott, Sr.	100	150	1	1					2	35	11:00/11:00	4 July	
Leannah	Steve Robinson, Jr.	100	150	4							42	10:30/10:30	2 July	
Buck Creek	Thomas J. Dials	100	175	1				2		1	22	10:30/10:30	3 June	
Tabitha	Jack Robinette	50	50	2				1			21	2:30/11:00	1 August	
Little Rosie	Wayne Herald, Jr.	50	65	1							10	11:00/11:00	2 April	
Turkey Creek	Leonard SESCO, Jr.	150	200	1				1	3		55	11:00/11:00	2 May	
Samaria	Larry R. May	75	150	1			1				40	11:00/11:00	1 July	
Rosa	Jerry R. Thompson	125	200					2			32	200/10:30	3 August	
Muncy Valley	Tommy Ellis	15	100	1				1			9	11:00/11:00	2 June	
Little Virgie	Richard L. Staton	60	100								8	11:00/11:00	4 June	
Southern Home	William Adair, Sr.	175	200	1	1			6	1	2	70	10:30/10:30	1 April	
Pilgrims Rest	Billy Williamson	75	100	2							17	10:30/10:30	2 June	
Okeechobee	James R. Barney	150	175					1			17	4:00/10:00	3 April	
Elizabeth	Gabe Lowe, Jr.	75	100	2				2		1	24	10:30/10:30	1 June	
Little Tavie	W. H. Cochran	100	100		2						14	10:30/10:30	2 July	
Charity	Charles Jarrell	30	35		6						6	4:00/10:00	3 October	
TOTALS		3080	4900	33	13	4	10	34	8	992				

SPECIAL MEETINGS

CHURCH	DAY AND TIME
Bent Branch	Every odd Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
Bent Branch	New Years Eve at 7:30 p.m.
Buck Creek	Every first Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m.
Elizabeth	Every odd Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m.
Little Rosie	Every third Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m.
Mary Elizabeth	Every odd Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Muncy Valley	Every Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m.
Pilgrims Home	New Years Eve at 7:00 p.m.
Pilgrims Rest	Every fourth Saturday night at 7:00 p.m.
Rosa	Every first Saturday night at 7:00 p.m.
Samaria	Every odd Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Sardis	Every odd Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Sardis	Every fourth Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m.
Sardis	Christmas Day at 11:00 a.m.
Sardis	Communion fourth Saturday in February at 5:00 p.m.
Southern Home	Every third, fourth, and odd Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
Southern Home	Communion first Saturday evening in October
Southern Home	New Years Eve at 7:00 p.m.
Turkey Creek	New Years Eve at 7:00 p.m.
Turkey Creek	Every odd Sunday at 11:00 a.m.