

7538

# MINUTES

OF THE

TENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

## New River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

THE SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH,

BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, NOV. 11, 12 AND 13, A. D. 1881.

### OFFICERS:

WM. F. MALPHURS, - - - - - MODERATOR.  
 F. M. PINKSTON, - - - - - CLERK.  
 W. H. PINHOLSTER, - - - - - TREASURER.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

J. B. CASON.    B. WIGGINS,    J. W. PINHOLSTER.

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 1882.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association called to order by the former Moderator, or in the absence of the Moderator, by the Clerk.
3. Letters called for, read, names of delegates enrolled.
4. The election of officers.
5. Petitionary Letters called for.
6. Correspondents called for.
7. Appointment of Committees.
8. New Business.
9. Circular Letter called for.
10. Corresponding Letters to sister Associations called for.
11. Report of Committees.
12. Discussion of Queries.
13. Adjournment.

## ORDAINED MINISTERS.

	P. O.
Brown, S. S.....	Stark, Fla.
Kicklitter, L. W.....	Stark, Fla.
Kelly, J. O.....	Stark, Fla.
Keith, R.....	Stark, Fla.
Lewis, J. A.....	Stark, Fla.
Malphurs, Wm. F.....	Stark, Fla.
Roberts, U.....	Providence, Fla.
Dees, L.....	Lake Butler Fla.

## MINUTES.

### FIRST DAY.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11th, 1881.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder G. T. Leitner, from Titus the 3d chapter, 1st verse and latter clause: "To be ready to every good work."

After one hour intermission for refreshments, the Association was called to order by the former Moderator. A hymn was sung, and prayer offered by Elder L. W. Kicklitter.

1. Letters were called for, and received six from the following churches, when the Clerk and Elder, Wm. F. Malphurs proceeded to read the same, and the names of the delegates were enrolled as follows:

Antioch church, N. J. Berry, and D. J. Dinkins.  
New River church, J. W. & W. H. Pinholsters.  
Sardis church, J. J. Clark and F. M. Pinkston.  
Kinsley Lake church, D. & J. W. F. Prevatt.  
Mount Sinai church, Elder Wm. F. Malphurs.  
Bethel church, A. A. Hazel.

2. On motion, to go into the election of officers by ballot. Brethren J. J. Clark and W. H. Pinholster were appointed tellers of the election. The Association then proceeded to the election of said officers, which resulted in the choice of Elder Wm. F. Malphurs, as Moderator and F. M. Pinkston, Clerk, and W. H. Pinholster, Treasurer.

3. Petitionary letters were called for. None received.

4. Correspondents were called for, and received Elders G. T. Leitner and B. R. Mosley, from Beulah Association, and Elder W. S. Perry and brother J. H. Turner, from Santa Fe Association.

5. The Moderator proceeded to the appointment of Committees as follows:

1. Committee on Religious Exercise, J. W. F. Prevatt, D. J. Dinkins, J. W. Pinholster, with the Deacons of this church.

2. Committee appointed on Nominations, N. J. Berry, W. H. Pinholster, D. L. Prevatt.

3. Committee appointed on Letters and Queries, J. J. Clark, N. J. Berry, A. A. Hazel, J. B. Cason added.

4. Committee appointed on Finance, J. W. Pinholster, N. J. Berry, B. J. Dinkins.

5. Committee appointed on Sunday schools, W. H. Pinholster, D. L. Prevatt, D. J. Dinkins.

We, your Committee on Religious Exercise, beg leave to report as follows: Elder W. S. Perry preach to-night at early candle light, and to-morrow at 11 o'clock Elder L. W. Kickliter, both at the church, which is respectfully submitted.

On motion, adopted. J. W. F. PREVATT, *Chairman*.

On motion, to adjourn until to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

A hymn was sung and prayer offered, by L. W. Kickliter.

## SECOND DAY.

SATURDAY MORNING, November 12th, 1881.

Met pursuant to an adjournment. The Association was called to order by the Moderator, a hymn was sung and prayer offered by the Moderator, the business was resumed.

1. Called for correspondents, and received a letter from Hope church, without a messenger.

2. Called for correspondents from other Associations, and received Elder A. J. Cone, from Beulah Association as visitor.

3. Then proceeded to the appointment of other committees.

4. Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons—J. J. Clark, N. J. Berry, J. W. F. Prevatt.

5. Committee on Missions—J. W. Pinholster, D. J. Dinkins, A. A. Hazel.

7. Committee on Periodicals and Religious Literature—F. M. Pinkston, W. H. Pinholster, D. L. Prevatt.

On motion, adjourned until 1 o'clock.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment. A hymn was sung and prayer by the Moderator. The Association called to order.

1. Called for correspondence and received the following letters: Santa Fe Pond Church, Bradford Church, and N. P. Grove Church, which the Clerk and brother W. H. Pinholster proceeded to read and names of delegates enrolled, as follows: Santa Fe Pond, T. B. Casson, Bradford D. Lynn, N. P. Grove, S. H. Barnett.

2. Called for correspondence from other Associations, and received brother J. E. Roberts, from Suwannee River Association as a visitor, and J. Ellis, from Beulah Association as a visitor.

3. Called for reports of Committees.

#### *Report of Committee on Preaching.*

We, your Committee on Preaching, beg leave to report as follows: Elder A. J. Cone to preach at 2 o'clock this afternoon; Elder Wm. F. Malphurs to preach at Mrs. Pinkston's to-night at early candle light; Elder L. W. Kickliter to preach at the church to-night at early candle light; Elder A. J. Cone to lecture to the young in the morning at 9½ o'clock. Respectfully submitted.

J. W. F. PREVATT, *Chairman*.

On motion, adopted.

#### *Report of Committee on Sunday Schools.*

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, take pleasure in reporting that the Sunday school work is still prospering and we would recommend that the brethren and pastors comprising this Association observe the great importance of establishing Sunday schools as the means of great grace in bringing up their children in the favor and admonition of the Lord. We hope that the churches will all feel the great importance of the Sunday school work. All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. PINHOLSTER, *Chairman*.

On motion, adopted.

#### *Report on Nominations.*

We, your Committee on Nominations, report that we have had the same under consideration; and after due deliberation, recommend that Elder Wm. F. Malphurs preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Elder L. W. Kickliter, alternate; and that Elder L. W. Kickliter preach the next Missionary Sermon, and Elder Wm. F. Malphurs, alternate. We also recommend that the next Association be held with Santa Fe Pond Church, on Saturday before the second Sunday in November, 1882. Respectfully submitted.

N. J. BERRY, *Chairman*.

On motion, adopted.

On motion a prayer meeting to be held at the church right after the close of the lecture in the morning, at half-past nine o'clock, for the purpose of asking the Lord to send more laborers in his vineyard.

Brother J. E. Roberts gave the Clerk 25 cents for a copy of the Minutes to be sent to him at Live Oak, Florida.

#### *Report on Periodicals and Religious Literature.*

We, your Committee on Periodicals and Religious Literature, having duly considered the same, would respectfully recommend to our Association and all brethren and friends, THE CHRISTIAN INDEX, published at Atlanta, Georgia, and *The Baptist Weekly Sun*, Rome, Georgia, both as being sound in doctrine and solicit for them the liberal patronage of all; also the Baptist Publication Society at Philadelphia, Pa., and the Hiscox Star Book Series, published by Ward & Drummond, New York. Respectfully submitted.

F. M. PINKSTON, *Chairman*.

On motion, adopted.

#### *Report of Committee on Missions.*

Your Committee to whom was referred the subject of Missions, report as follows: On examination, we find that the district of the Association bounds in one vast missionary field, which evidently demands much of our attention, and we hear the Macedonian cry coming up from the churches to supply this demand, and we will see by the slightest observation that we are declining into Anti-missionary. We also see that the churches generally fail to pay their pastors anything worthy of their abilities, and while churches will not pay their pastors, they are almost sure to do little or nothing.

ing for missions, either home or foreign, and we would recommend brethren in the ministry to exact of each church more or less compensation for their service, and this will produce in them a self-sustaining spirit, at least; and while we are in deep sympathy the cause of Indian and foreign mission, we can not see how we can do much for either, until we can do something at home. We would therefore invite the pastors generally to stir up their churches to a renewed diligence in the matter. Respectfully submitted,

I. W. PINHOLSTER, *Chairman.*

On motion, adopted.

*Partial Report on Letters and Queries.*

We, your Committee, having had the same under consideration, report as follows:

We find cheering news as to the peace and harmony among the members of the churches of this Association, but sorry to see so small an ingathering. We find nothing else objectionable, and there being no queries sent up from the churches, we respectfully submit this report.

J. J. CLARK, *Chairman.*

On motion, adopted.

The following queries were presented, and, on motion, read and debated:

QUERY NO. 1.

Have the members of one church any church or Scripture right to restore excluded members from another church without the concurrence of said excluding church? And which, after some debate, was on motion, referred to the Committee on Queries.

QUERY NO. 2.

Would it be scriptural or consistent with our principles as Missionary Baptists, for us to receive into our membership any person or persons coming to us from other bodies not of our faith and order without their first being baptized by our church authority? Which, after due deliberation and debate, was on motion, referred to Committee on Queries.

*Report of Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons.*

We, your Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, have had the same under careful and joyful consideration, and with hearts lifted with gratitude and praise to the merciful God for His kind providence in sparing the lives of our standard bearers and deacons to see the close of another Associational year. All of which we submit as our report, exclaiming, "Oh! that all may praise the Lord for His goodness and wonderful works to the children of men."

J. J. CLARK, *Chairman.*

On motion, adopted.

*Report of Executive Committee.*

We, your Executive Committee, have not employed any missionary for the past year, from the fact that it is next to impossible to collect money for missionary purposes. All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. C. PARKER,

J. B. CASON,

J. W. PINHOLSTER,

*Committee.*

On motion, the Circular Letter be read to-morrow.

On motion, the Executive Committee was relieved and another was appointed, which was John B. Cason, J. W. Pinholster and Burrell Wiggins.

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow at 2 o'clock.

SUNDAY EXERCISES.

The Missionary Sermon was delivered by Elder Wm. F. Malphurs. Text: Mark the xvi. chapter, 15th and 16th verses: "And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature; he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned."

After which a hymn was sung and a missionary collection taken up, amounting to \$8.00.

An intermission of thirty minutes was given for refreshments.

At 2 o'clock met pursuant to adjournment, and after singing and prayer, the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

1. Called for correspondence and received a letter from Deep Creek church, which the Clerk proceeded to read, and the delegate was enrolled: Brother D. L. Norton.

2. Called for petitionary letters, and received one. On motion, the letter was referred to Executive Committee.

3. Called for report of committees.

*Report of Committee on Letters and Queries.*

We, your Committee, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report answers to the queries No. 1 and 2. To query No. 1: We think they have no right, and to query No. 2 we answer: No; it would not be Scriptural nor consistent. Respectfully submitted.

JOHN B. CASON, *Chairman.*

On motion, adopted.

*Report on Finance.*

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report as follows :  
The amount in the Treasury, nothing.

NAMES OF CHURCHES.	Amount for Clerk.	No. of Minutes.	For Home Miss'n.	For For'gn Miss'n.	For Association.	Am't for Minutes.	Am't for Treasury.
New River.....		25			\$ 1 00	\$ 2 50	
Antioch.....		20			1 85	2 50	
Hope.....		12				1 85	
Mt. Sinai.....		12				1 30	
Sardis.....		15				2 00	
Bethel.....		14				1 50	
Kinsley Lake.....		12				2 00	
Santa Fe Pond.....		30			3 00	3 00	
Deep Creek.....		3				30	
Bradford.....		10				1 50	
N. P. Grove.....		3				25	
Total.....		162			\$ 5 85	\$18 45	

Collected on Sunday, after the missionary sermon, for missions, \$8.00. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. PINHOLSTER, *Chairman.*

On motion, adopted.

On motion, that the Clerk have as many Minutes printed as the money sent up will pay for and distribute the same among the churches.

On motion, Elder Wm. F. Malphurs and brothers John B. Cason, D. J. Dinkins, J. W. Pinholster and D. L. Norton, go to the State Convention which is to be held at Ocala, Fla., commencing on Thursday before the second Sunday in December, 1881.

Resolution of thanks offered by the Association:

*Resolved,* That the thanks of this body are eminently due and are hereby tendered to (this) Sardis church and all Christians and friends of this community for their friendly and Christian reception of us, and their liberal hospitality extended to us during our stay, which kindness will long be cherished with pleasant recollections.

On motion, adopted.

On motion, the money sent up for Associational purposes be turned over to the Clerk for his services.

*Circular Letter.*

PREPARED BY ELDER WM. F. MALPHURS.

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5th chap. 1st verse.

The Apostle here refers to that gracious quality or living principle wrought in the heart by the spirit of God in the application of Christ and his word as the instrumental cause of our justification and peace with God, and this faith working by love and purifying the heart, works a blessed change in the condition and prospects of men. Now, faith is opposed to doubting and justification is the opposite of condemnation, and while unbelief is the reigning cause of condemnation, faith is the instrumental cause of justification and peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, as we read John 3d chapter, 18 verse. "He that believeth on Him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already," because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Again, Mark 16th chapter, 16th verse: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned," as it is only by faith of the gospel of the Son of God that any obtain a justifying interest in Christ, which delivers the mind from the dreadful rack of a condemning conscience and brings the soul into a perfect peace with God through the peace-speaking blood of Jesus Christ. Now this faith, which is a fruit of the spirit, is also a saving grace by which every believer is justified freely through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whose righteousness is declared for remission of sins, that he might be just and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus who was made to be sin for us who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. He was despised and rejected of men. A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, bearing our grief and carrying our sorrows, yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted of God; but he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him and with his stripes we are healed. Oh, brethren, let us exult in hallowing grace, and praise the Lord for His gracious gift of saving faith which justifies and gives us peace through our Lord Jesus Christ. For Christ hath once suffered the just for the unjust that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the spirit, and raised by the glory of the Father, he liveth forever more, and shall see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied, (i.e.) He shall see the justification and salvation of many, as the fruit of his toils and suffering. Their iniquities being laid upon him, and his righteousness being imputed to them, they are his portion, and while he is made unto them wisdom and righteousness, sanctification and redemption, they are made the righteousness of God in him. Through a knowledge of Christ, whom to know and know aright is eternal life. Because such knowledge has a justifying and saving efficacy, through faith as it is a knowledge of an antient sacrifice for sin, which Christ made once for all, upon the altar of divine wrath when he endured that unparalleled suffering, dying a vicarious death and shedding his precious blood which is the meritorious cause of our justification and peace with God. Wherefore it is said by grace are ye saved, through faith and that not of

yourselves, it is the gift of God. And it is by faith that it might be of grace and not by works of righteousness which we have done according to his mercy he saved us; by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost, which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that being justified by grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life, knowing that no man is justified by the works of the law but the faith of Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Jesus Christ that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law, for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sin, and by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of works. Who then shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? it is God that justifies, who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercessions for us.

1. Tis faith that lays the sinner low  
And covers him with shame;  
Renouncing all self-righteousness  
It trusts in Jesus' name.
2. Its sole dependence and its stay  
Is Jesus' righteousness;  
Tis thus salvation is by faith  
And all of saving grace.

On motion, adjourned to meet with Santa Fe Pond Baptist church, on Saturday before the second Sunday in November, 1882.

A hymn was sung and the parting hand taken, and prayer offered by brother J. E. Roberts.

Adjourned.

WM. F. MALPHURS, *Moderator.*

F. M. PINKSTON, *Clerk.*

## APPENDIX.

### STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

By Elder Wm. F. Malphurs.—1st. Any brother in good standing in any church in this Association presenting a copy of these Minutes to any of our correspondents, will be recognized by us as a corresponding messenger to such correspondent.

2nd. We view the traffic of intoxicating drinks to be an enormous sin, and recommend all our members to abstain from the sale or use of them as a beverage.

3d. We respectfully request the churches in this Union to send such representatives as will make the best counselors, and who will be willing to stay in session long enough to do the business properly.

### THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW RIVER MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

I. This Association shall be called the New River Missionary Baptist Association.

II. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the constituent churches to represent them, who must produce letters from their respective churches certifying their election to entitle them to seats, and such letters must give the statistics of the church.

III. Each church in the Union shall be entitled to two representatives, and one additional representative for every twenty-five members in excess of fifty.

IV. Churches not connected with any other body, and desiring admission into this Union, shall petition by letter and representatives, and if found orthodox and in order, they shall be received by a vote of the Association in their favor, and the Moderator giving their representatives the right hand of fellowship.

V. This Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

VI. The Association shall be governed while in session by regular and proper rules of order, and every motion made and seconded shall command the attention of the Association, unless withdrawn by the movant.

VII. Every query presented must be from church or Scripture authority, and fairly stated in writing, and shall not be taken under consideration except by a majority vote of the Association to debate it.

VIII. The Association shall furnish the churches in the Union with the Minutes of its proceedings, provided that the churches

send up money to pay for the same, but each constituent church shall have at least one copy of each session.

IX. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they have any ecclesiastical power over the churches, nor shall they infringe upon the internal rights of the churches in the Union.

X. This Association shall have power

1. To provide for the union of the churches by the promotion of brotherly love.
2. To preserve inviolable, a claim of communion among the churches.
3. To give the churches the best advice possible in cases of difficulty.
4. To inquire into the cause why any church in the Union fails at any time to represent itself in the Association.
5. To withdraw from any church in the Union which shall violate any rule of the Association, or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion.
6. To advocate and cherish a missionary spirit, and encourage the universal spread of the gospel and practical religion.
7. To invite correspondents and visiting brethren to seats when in session, who shall be entitled to all privileges except voting and serving on committees.
8. To appoint any member or members, by and with his or their consent, to any business it may deem necessary.
9. To dispose of her bounty for any purpose deemed proper.
10. To adjourn to any time and place most profitable to the cause and convenient to the churches composing this Union.

### RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The sessions of this Association shall open and close with prayer.
2. The letters from the constituent churches shall be read and the names of their representatives enrolled.
3. The Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot.
4. The Moderator shall preserve order, explain and put questions and when speaking upon a matter under debate, shall call some member to the chair, and in case of a tie, give the casting vote.
5. The Clerk shall keep a complete record of the proceedings of each meeting, and in the absence of the Moderator, shall call the Association to order and preside until a Moderator *pro tem.* is elected.
6. The Treasurer shall be the proper custodian of all Associational funds, which shall be at the control of the body.
7. Every motion made and seconded shall be open for discussion.
8. Every person wishing to speak shall rise and address the Moderator, and confine himself strictly to the subject, and not speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave from the Moderator, and shall make no unkind allusions while speaking.
9. No business shall be transacted without a quorum, which shall consist of the number present at the hour to which the meeting adjourned.

10. When a question is under debate no motion shall be received except to adjourn, lay on the table, to amend, indefinitely postpone, refer to a committee, or otherwise, or call for a previous question. Any member voting in the majority on any subject may move a reconsideration at any time during the session.

11. No member shall leave the meeting without leave of the Moderator.

12. These rules of decorum may be amended at any annual session of the Association by a majority vote of the members present.

13. Rules not specially provided for shall be governed by parliamentary usage.

### ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasury of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error for its matter. That it reveals the principles by which God will judge the world in righteousness; and, therefore, it is and shall forever remain the true centre of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions shall be tried.

ART. 2. We believe that there is one and only one living and true God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and supreme ruler of the universe, inexpressably glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection and executing but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

ART. 3. We believe in the total depravity of the human heart, and that the natural state of man is such that he cannot prepare himself for divine favor without the assisting grace of God enabling him to act according to the good pleasure of His divine will.

ART. 4. We believe in election according to the foreknowledge of God through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth and that God alone by His spirit, through His Son and with His word regenerates the soul of man.

ART. 5. We believe in justification by faith, which gives peace through our Lord Jesus Christ.

ART. 6. We believe the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes, and therefore should be preached to every creature, that the purpose of God according to election might stand.

ART. 7. We believe that all who obey the gospel and are regenerated by the power of God are elected to eternal life in Christ, and are made heirs of God and joint heirs with our Lord Jesus Christ, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time, and that not one of them will be lost.

ART. 8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ and their spiritual design is to exemplify the death and suffering, burial and resurrection of Him, and that in baptism there are three essentials, viz: first, a proper subject; second, a proper mode; third, a proper administrator, and that a

proper subject is one who has been begotten with the Word and born of the Spirit, and that the only proper mode is by immersion of such subjects in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and proper administrators only those who have been duly called, and come under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.

ART. 9. We believe that the Lord's supper was instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ to be commemorated by his followers, and that none but baptized believers have any Scripture right to partake thereof.

ART. 10. We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by his laws and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word.

ART. 11. We believe and acknowledge Jesus Christ to be the great head of the Church and the only one given that the government under him is with the body and is the privilege of each individual member, that spiritual discipline with an eye single to the glory of God must greatly conduce to the final prosperity and union of the Church.

ART. 12. We believe that infants and idiots are saved, and saved alone by the mediation of Christ.

ART. 13. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's day or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious duties by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreation by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both public and private, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

ART. 14. We believe that the end of this world is approaching, that at the last day Christ will descend from Heaven and raise the dead from the graves for final retribution, that a solemn separation will then take place, that the wicked will go away into an everlasting punishment, and the righteous into life eternal.