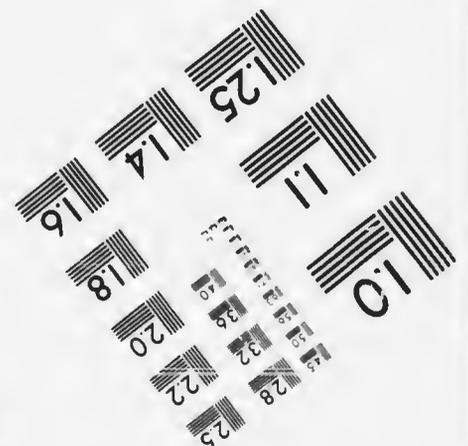
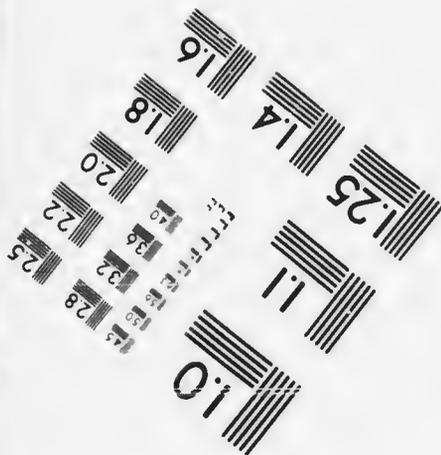
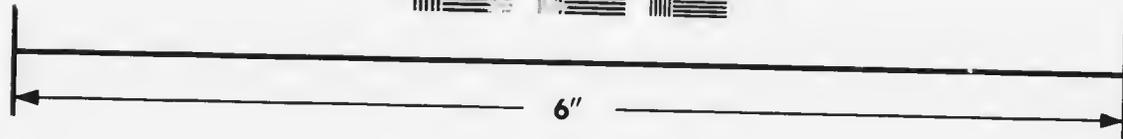
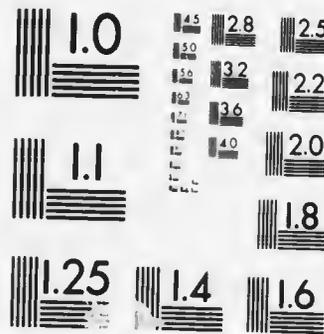


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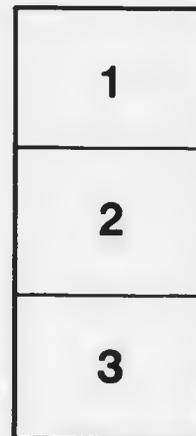
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DECLARATION OF FAITH
COVENANT

AND

RULES OF ORDER

OF THE

College Street Baptist Church

TORONTO

PASTOR REV. S. S. BATES, B.A.

1890

TORONTO.

DUDLEY & BURNS, PRINTERS, COLBORNE ST.

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

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Declaration of Faith.

We believe in the Divine inspiration of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and their absolute supremacy and sufficiency in matters of faith and practice; in the existence of one living and true God, sustaining the personal relation of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the same in essence and equal in attributes; in the total and universal depravity of mankind; in the election and effectual calling of all God's people; in the atoning efficacy of the death of Christ, and the free justification of believers in Him by His imputed righteousness; in the preservation unto eternal life of the saints; in the necessity and efficacy of the work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration and sanctification; in the resurrection of the dead, both just and unjust; in the general judgment; in the everlasting punishment of the wicked, and the everlasting happiness of the righteous; in the immersion of the believer, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as the only gospel baptism; that communion at the Lord's table is a privilege peculiar to baptized believers; and that a gospel church is a body of baptized believers voluntarily associated together for the service of God.



Church Covenant.

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the

name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting and excessive anger; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offence, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

RULES OF ORDER

OF THE

College Street Baptist Church

TORONTO

Section No. 1—Members.

ART. 1. Any person professing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, giving evidence of a change of heart, and adopting the views of faith and practice held by this church, as set forth in the foregoing Declaration, and accepting the foregoing Covenant, may, upon baptism, be received into its membership.

ART. 2. At each annual meeting a committee shall be appointed, consisting of the Deacons, Clerk and five other members (seven to form a quorum), who shall meet at least once a month. Their duty shall be to interview and examine all applicants for membership, whether by baptism or experience, and for this purpose the Secretary of the Committee shall give due and timely notice to all applicants of the place and time of meeting. In special cases, where necessity requires, they may appoint from among themselves a sub-committee to wait on applicants, said sub-committee to report on same to the Membership Committee, who will report to the Church. The Pastor shall preside at all meetings, but in case of his absence the Committee shall elect a chairman *pro. tem.* All

applications for membership shall be made through this Membership Committee.

ART. 3. Members in good standing of other Baptist Churches may be received by letters of dismissal and recommendation from their respective Churches.

ART. 4. Those who have once been members of Baptist Churches, and in consequence of any peculiar circumstances have no regular letters of dismissal, may be received by giving satisfactory evidence of a change of heart and Christian conduct, as provided in Article 2 for candidates for baptism.

ART. 5. No person shall be received into membership with less than a three-fourths majority of the votes cast.

ART. 6. Excluded members may be restored to membership on confession of their errors and giving evidence of repentance.

ART. 7. The names of those members who have been absent from the ordinance for three months, and of whom no satisfactory information can be obtained, shall be submitted by the Deacons at any regular Church meeting, that such action may be taken in relation to them as the circumstances may warrant.

ART. 8. No member, who has become a subject for discipline, shall be excluded until after full investigation by a committee appointed for such purpose by the Church (after the case has been reported to the Church by the Pastor and Deacons), the result of their investigation being reported at the next meeting.

ART. 9. All applications for letters of dismissal shall be made through the Membership Committee, and if there be no objection they shall present them to the Church.

ART. 10. It is expected that all members who shall remove from the city will take letters of dismission to other Churches of the same denomination ; but should this not be practicable, that they will furnish to the Pastor or Clerk their names and places of residence within six months after leaving.

Section No. 2—Church Meetings.

ART. 1. Regular meetings for all business shall be held quarterly on the first Thursday evening in the months of February, May, August and November.

ART. 2. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Pastor, and in his absence by a majority of the Deacons, when anything of importance in connection with the Church may require, notice thereof being given from the pulpit not later than the preceding Sabbath, and no special business shall be transacted without such notice.

ART. 3. A quorum at any of the meetings of the Church shall comprise not less than seven per cent. of the members, as embodied in the last revised roll, the Clerk of the Church giving the number at the annual meeting for the year ensuing.

ART. 4. The Pastor of the Church is *ex-officio* Moderator of all meetings for the transaction of business, but in the event of his absence any brother whom the Church may appoint for the occasion shall act as Moderator, and if the Moderator wish to speak on any subject, he may do so by leaving the chair and appointing another brother to fill his place for the time being.

ART. 5. All meetings shall be opened and closed with prayer.

SUB-SECTION 1.

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR REGULAR MEETINGS.

ART. 1. *1st.* Reading and confirming minutes of preceding meeting, such minutes being then signed by the Moderator as correct.

2nd. Business arising therefrom other than hereinafter provided for.

3rd. Reports of Pastor and Deacons.

4th. Reports of Membership Committee and receiving new members.

5th. Granting letters of dismissal.

6th. Reports of Special Committees.

7th. Report of Finance Committee.

8th. Election of Officers, if any.

9th. New business.

ART. 2. When necessary to facilitate business, it shall be competent for the Church to suspend any rule of order by a three-fourths vote of those present.

ART. 3. No second motion shall be entertained until the one under consideration has been disposed of, excepting motions to amend, postpone, adjourn or put the main question.

ART. 4. No member shall, while speaking, introduce any subject foreign to the one under discussion.

ART. 5. Any brother desiring to speak on a question before the Church, shall rise and address his remarks to the Moderator, and any violation of this rule shall be deemed out of order. No brother shall have the right to speak oftener than twice on the same subject, without

permission of the Moderator, except the mover, who shall have the right to reply.

ART. 6. All questions shall be decided by the vote of the majority, excepting in cases where otherwise provided.

ART. 7. If any brother shall bring forth a motion at a business meeting without having given notice thereof, and such motion seem likely to produce an inharmonious discussion, it shall on the ruling of the Moderator, be laid over until the next regular business meeting, being regarded as a notice of motion.

NOTE.—It is ever to be borne in mind that these meetings, being composed entirely of Christians under the special notice of the Redeemer, all indecorous personalities, levity or unkindness are specially unbecoming and offensive to the Most High.

SUB-SECTION 2.

ANNUAL MEETING.

ART. 1. The annual meeting of the Church shall be held on the evening of the first Thursday of February in each year.

ART. 2. The rules of order, as provided for quarterly meetings, shall govern this meeting, excepting in the case of election of officers and Membership Committee, such elections taking place immediately after Rule 5th.

ART. 3. This meeting shall elect by ballot, without nomination, three Deacons, who shall hold office for two years ; also a Clerk, a Treasurer, and two Auditors. All Standing Committees to be nominated for election by a Committee appointed by the Chair for that purpose.

ART. 4. This meeting shall revise the Church roll, as submitted by the Pastor, Deacons, and Clerk.

ART. 5. The Treasurer shall, at this meeting, present a balance sheet, signed by the Auditors after they have audited his accounts.

ART. 6. In the event of any of the above offices becoming vacant, by death, removal, or otherwise, the Church shall, within three months and after one month's notice has been given, elect by ballot, without nomination, a member for the term appertaining to the said vacant position.

ART. 7. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to a choice in all elective positions.

SUB-SECTION 3.

SPECIAL MEETINGS.

ART. 1. At special meetings no other business than that for which the meeting is called shall be transacted.

SUB-SECTION 4.

THE LORD'S DAY.

ART. 1. The Church shall meet regularly every Lord's Day, for the public worship of Almighty God.

ART. 2. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper shall be observed by the Church every Sabbath; on the first Sabbath of each month after the evening service, and on the other Sabbaths after the morning service—a collection on behalf of the poor being taken up at each service.

Section No. 3—Officers.

ART. 1. The officers of the Church shall consist of a Pastor, Deacons (one for every fifty members or fraction thereof), a Treasurer and a Clerk.

SUB-SECTION 1.

DUTIES OF THE DEACONS.

ART. 1. It shall be the duty of the Deacons to take care of the property of the Church, and for this purpose they shall be allowed to hire a Sexton (a member of the Church if suitable) to assist them in this service, and then inform the Treasurer of the amount of remuneration they have, subject to the approval of the Church, agreed to pay.

ART. 2. The Deacons shall provide the bread and wine used at the Lord's Supper, and pay for them out of the Communion Fund. They shall appoint, from among themselves, a Treasurer to have the custody of this fund, and shall appropriate it from time to time amongst those members of the Church and congregation who need such aid.

ART. 3. It shall be their duty to meet monthly, and oftener if necessary, to confer with one another respecting the necessities of their fellow-members, and to take into consideration and manage such matters of business as are not otherwise provided for. They shall appoint a Secretary from among themselves who shall keep minutes of their proceedings in a book provided for the purpose, such minutes being read and confirmed at the next meeting.

ART. 4. In the absence of the Pastor the Deacons shall preside, if convenient to them, at all the devotional meetings of the Church, alternately or otherwise, as they may determine, excepting the preaching services; these shall be provided for by the Pastor and Deacons.

ART. 5. They shall keep a record of the contributions to the Communion Fund ; and shall present at the annual meeting a statement of receipts and disbursements on account thereof.

SUB-SECTION 2.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

ART. 1. There shall be a Finance Committee, composed of five brethren, who shall be appointed annually. It shall be their duty (a) to keep a proper record of all contributions towards the current expenses of the Church and for denominational objects, and hand the same to the Treasurer weekly ; and they shall, at the request of any contributor by envelope, give him a statement of the amount paid by him for the year previous, thereby giving each member the opportunity of correcting any error there may be in the record ; (b) to see that all the regular expenses of the Church are duly provided for ; (c) to authorize the Treasurer to pay all expenses incurred by order of the Church ; (d) to certify to all accounts before they are paid by the Treasurer ; (e) to present a financial report to the Church at each quarterly meeting.

SUB-SECTION 3.

TREASURER'S DUTIES.

ART. 1. The Treasurer shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Church. His duties shall be to take charge of the general fund, to pay all regularly authorized salaries, as those of Pastor, Sexton, etc., and the bills for gas, water, insurance and fuel, as soon as they become due. He shall also, and *only* on receiving an order signed by two of the Deacons, *at a Deacons' meeting*, pay any other

bills contracted by the Deacons on behalf of the Church, but these last bills shall not exceed five dollars per month, except they be for ministerial supplies. All other expenditure shall require a vote of the Church, and when this is given an order on the Treasurer for payment shall be signed by the Moderator and Clerk. No money shall be paid without receiving a proper voucher therefor.

ART. 2. The Treasurer shall prepare a financial statement in detail and present it to the Finance Committee whenever requested by them.

ART. 3. He shall also prepare a balance sheet and present it at each annual meeting after it has been duly audited, and at any other time at the request of the Church or Finance Committee upon receiving a month's notice to this effect.

SUB-SECTION 4.

CLERK'S DUTIES.

ART. 1. The Clerk shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Church. It shall be his duty to keep a complete list of the Church members, with their addresses, how received and other particulars, to take and keep the minutes of the proceedings at Church meetings, in a book provided for the purpose, and to read the same at the next regular meeting, when, on being confirmed, they shall be signed by the Moderator as correct.

ART. 2. He shall prepare letters of dismissal (according to a prescribed form), which may be granted by the Church to any of the members, and also give information, by letter or otherwise, of the action of the Church to all persons whom such action may specially concern.

ART. 3. At the close of the year he will be expected to prepare a report or short history of the Church for the year just passed, and after its adoption by the Deacons, present the same to the Church at the annual meeting.

ART. 4. It shall be his duty, in connection with the Pastor and Deacons, to revise the roll of members, which shall then be submitted to the Church for consideration at its annual meeting.

SUB-SECTION 5.

AUDITORS' DUTIES.

ART. 1. It shall be the duty of the Auditors to examine the Treasurer's books and accounts, with all vouchers for the same, together with his balance sheet, and if found correct append their certificate thereto. They shall be empowered to call for all papers, books and documents they may consider necessary to supply the information required.

SUB-SECTION 6.

CHOIR COMMITTEE.

ART. 1. There shall be a Choir Committee consisting of five members of the Church appointed annually. It shall be their duty to provide suitable music for the public worship.

Section No. 4—Discipline.

ART. 1. In all cases of personal grievance between brethren, the brother offended shall first endeavor to be reconciled to his brother, according to Christ's law contained in the 18th chapter of Matthew. In the event of such means being ineffectual, and not till then, he shall

state his cause of grievance to the Deacons. It shall then be the duty of the Deacons to give the case a careful and impartial hearing, and endeavor, if possible, to remove the cause of complaint without bringing the matter before the Church. If this be impossible, the Deacons shall report the matter to the Church, stating the action which, in their opinion, should be adopted, and their reasons for such opinion. The Church may then act upon the report by giving summary judgment or appointing a special committee of investigation.

NOTE.—In reference to public offences, the Church shall take action according to Article 8, Section 1.

Section No. 5—Duty of Supporting the Administration of the Gospel.

We believe that those whom God has called to “labor in word and doctrine” should devote their time and gifts to this one work, but inasmuch as there has been, and is apt to be, unfaithfulness in contributing to their support by the members of many churches, much to the inconvenience of the pastors, and much to the disgrace of the cause of Christ before the world, and as equality in bearing the burdens of the Church is plainly enjoined on all Christians, in the New Testament, covetousness being by the Holy Spirit pronounced idolatry; therefore it is now distinctly declared to be the bounden duty of every member to give of his substance, for the support of the preaching of the Gospel, in proportion as God has blessed him with ability.

Section No. 6—Alteration or Amendment of Rules of Order.

ART. 1. The foregoing Rules and Regulations may be

amended or altered by a Church Meeting, convened for the purpose, or by a regular Annual Meeting.

ART. 2. The member proposing such alteration or amendment, must give the Church one month's notice, *in writing*, previous to the meeting at which the matter is to be brought forward for discussion and decision.

Adopted at Church Meeting,
25th May, 1881.

Amended and adopted at Church Meeting,
7th Dec., 1881.

Amended and finally adopted at Church Meeting,
23rd April, 1890.

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