



CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 9

DROPPING MINISTERS AND WORKERS

Section 1. It is the expectation of all concerned that any person, ministry or church desiring to become a part of this Confederation under God would only do so after prayerful consideration of, understanding of, and only after covenanting with God, to believe and live Present Truth as clearly set forth in **Appendix A and B**. If one should initially join by mutual agreement into this confederation and later decide that they cannot abide by such that they would in turn respectfully withdraw voluntarily from this confederation, with appropriate notice provided to leadership. If however, the Confederation becomes aware of a departure from Present Truth, it is the Confederation's desire that no Minister or worker shall be dropped from this Confederation of churches without a hearing given by a joint meeting of different pastors and leaders in the Confederation under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

Section 2. Any Minister or Worker who shall preach, teach or cause to be preached or taught, doctrines in any of the churches or subsidiaries contrary to the fundamental principles of the Historic Platform of Seventh-day Adventists, as taught by this Church, and upheld by the Confederacy after covenanting with God accordingly (which doctrines are plainly taught in the Bible, the writings of the pioneers, and God's servant, the prophet, Ellen G. White), shall be guilty of apostasy, and shall be amenable to being removed from office. If such contrary position against the doctrines as taught by this movement be maintained, then such Minister or Worker shall forfeit his

credential and commission to preach or labor within this confederation of churches under God as set forth in **Article 5**.

Section 3. Apostasy is defined as: “doctrines in any of the churches contrary to the fundamental principles of the Historic Platform of Seventh-day Adventists,” (which doctrines are plainly taught in the Bible, by the pioneers and God’s servant, the prophet), which are plainly set forth in **Appendix A and B**, and ***Bible Readings for the Home Circle, 1914 Edition***; which have also been confirmed with the founders of the Free Seventh-day Adventist Movement. It is the holding to or preaching/teaching of any other Gospel other than or contrary to that which is set forth in the foregoing definition pursuant to **Galatians 1:8, 9**.

Section 4. Members who do not live in harmony with their baptismal vows, which all must confirm before being fellowshipped into this Confederation of Free Seventh-day Adventists, are guilty of departing from the faith, and are amenable and subject to church discipline, pursuant to **Section 5** of this Article.

Section 5. All such actions by the Board will be conducted under the principles set forth by the Lord in **Matthew 18:15-17**. **See also, Galatians 6:1, 2**. See also, e.g. A. T. Jones, ***Topeka Daily Capital***, Vol. 11, May 21, 1899 “Last Lecture on Church Organization.”

Section 6. Those who may be disciplined by being disfellowshipped from membership, or leadership are not to be considered eternally lost, or cut off. Rather, they are allowed, by the urging of the Holy Spirit, to be led back into all truth. Upon confession and repentance, they may be refellowshipped accordingly. Compare **1Corinthians 5:1-4 with 2Corinthians 2:5-11; 7:7-12**.