

FEBRUARY

J F BRANDON BAPTIST MISSIONARY
Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil, South America
Wheaton Illinois February 1944

1944

Dear Brethren:

Cruzeiro do Sul Dec 27 1943

REPORT ON MISSIONARY JOURNEY

The journey that I had so long anticipated and carefully planned has now passed into history. Now some items that have been of interest to me I wish to record and pass on to you. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you, and protect and keep you in blessed fellowship with the Lord Jesus, separated from sin. I left Cruzeiro do Sul on Nov 4 1943 and traveled 255 miles up the Jurua river in company with a native worker and an employed man. The Betty Brown, in which we traveled is still an open canoe, exposed to the sun and rain, the greatest comfort being, rapid transportation.

USES NEW OUTBOARD MOTOR

Our motor as you will recall is a Johnston, 16 H P. The Lord must have heard us pray and consecrated it to His service. It gave no trouble at all in the journey and well it didn't, for the only tool we carried that would have been of any help, fell into the water the first day out and the journey was motored by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

VISITED 21 PREACHING POINTS

We were received in 21 places where we felt that the Lord was leading us, the people most generously cooperating with us, we sleeping in their homes and they preparing our food, and eating with them at their tables. The homes of the owners of these rubber plantations are usually with a large reception room, they use for dancing. There we would assemble the people to preach. The interest of the people was greater than I had expected, truly the Lord had prepared the way. In every place there was a willing sacrifice on the part of the people to come, and with interest they listened and many indeed were convinced of the Truth.

PREACHES TO 2833 PEOPLE

Our congregation numbered in all points 2833. Seventy five sermons were preached in 48 days and nights. Hundreds of conversations were held with interested ones, in fact from the break of day until almost midnight we were busy opening the Scriptures to weary souls, though long burdened with sin, had found no comfort in the empty formalities of the Roman church. Each days journey was begun with prayer, each meal was eaten only after thanks was offered, which seemed to impress the people more than any other one thing. There was nothing said to protest the proceedings of the priests, neither to belittle their religion, but rather Jesus Christ crucified and His precious blood for the remission of sins and their great need of Him was the burden of our hearts.

TEN SAVED AND FIVE BAPTIZED

There were ten who boldly professed their faith in the Lord Jesus and declared themselves to be for evermore separate and apart from the Roman church and the world, receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as their only God and Saviour. Brother if you could have seen the expressions on the faces of these people and heard them as they declared themselves in public your soul would have indeed rejoiced. Truly they were taught of God. Only five of these could be baptized, the others being embraced in their marriage relations. (Continued on page 2)

TRAVELED 510 MILES

The faith of two women who were converted three years ago was confirmed. They had had no one to help them or encourage them, yet they both declared that they were firmer in the faith than when they had first believed. We traveled 510 miles, used 100 gallons of gas and 15 gallons of lubricating oil, the cost of which was about \$100.00 perhaps a little more. Cost of help for journey \$50.00, cost of food and other things \$75.00. Total cost of journey \$225.00 or \$4.50 per day or 44¢ a mile. I want to get a cover for the canoe. A man has promised to come and work tomorrow. That will increase the cost of operation a little but will reduce the cost of living more, I believe. A boat is in port and I want this letter to get off, so will cut it short and write more later. Another boat is expected tomorrow. May the grace of the Lord Jesus be multiplied unto you all, Amen. Remember me to all the friends and your family. God bless you brother and your work.

Sincerely, J F Brandon

To read the above letter from Brother Brandon is a time of rejoicing. Five hundred and ten miles in an open canoe with his new outboard motor. Surely all are happy in having a part in this. A journey of 48 days and nights with 75 sermons preached to 2833 people and hundreds of the lost given the Word personally. We are reminded of the promise in Isa 55:11. Ten souls saved and five baptized. Found some who were converted on a journey three years ago, firmer in the faith. Surely this is the kind of mission work that the Lord Jesus commissioned the church to do in Matt 28:19-20. Brother Brandon has given a detailed report of this 48 day missionary journey in a six page typewritten report. He has given the name of the place, the date he was there and what happened and then located the place on a map by a number that he refers to. He then enclosed this map with the detailed report but it (the map) was taken out of the letter by the censor because "its transmission is not permitted." We have a map of this territory with some of the places located on it. With the help of Mrs J F Brandon we hope to be able to locate all of the places and then run the map in the Mission Sheets with a part of the report of the 48 day journey in each issue until all of it is given to you. All will want to read it and locate the places on the map. We hope to send you the first part in the next issue. Let us pray definitely about the work and the health of the missionary and that the Lord will send a helper soon.

ONE WHO WISHES YOU WELL

At Christmas time Sister J F Brandon received \$50.00 from Paducah Ky listed as from "One who wishes you well". This made her heart glad and she is truly thankful for this fine gift. She also received \$2.00 from "Friends" of the First Baptist Church in Fresno Cal. Nice Christmas gifts for which she is grateful. We are sorry that we failed to mention these in the January Mission Sheets.

NINETEEN BAPTIST CHURCHES

When you study the financial report on page three you will note that 19 Baptist Churches sent offerings in January 1944. Perhaps you also would like to have a part in this New Testament Mission Work. Send all offerings to:

Elder Z E Clark
5216 Concord Ave
Detroit 11 Mich

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY 1944

South Side Baptist Church-----	Winter Haven Fla-----	\$ 15.00
New Cypress Baptist Church-----	Greenville Ky-----	11.94
South Union Baptist Church-----	Cadiz Ky-----	32.50
Ryan Road Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	25.84
Harmony Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	16.50
White Plains Baptist Church-----	White Plains Ky-----	10.00
Bellview Baptist Church-----	Paducah Ky-----	18.18
Oak Baptist Church (Ladies Bible Cl)---	Royal Oak Mich-----	10.00
Mt Zion Baptist Church-----	Paducah Ky-----	14.00
Benton Baptist Church-----	Benton Ky-----	43.43
A non-member and members of Benton Baptist Church--	Benton Ky---	124.63
Boyd's Hill Baptist Church-----	Cadiz Ky-----	70.00
New Hope Baptist Church-----	Dearborn Mich-----	4.00
Liberty Baptist Church-----	Toledo Ohio-----	10.00
Fenton Road Baptist Church-----	Flint Mich-----	12.31
Fenton Road Baptist Church (Ladies Bible Cl) Flint Mich-----		5.00
Grace Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	97.18
Grace Baptist Church B Y P U-----	Detroit Mich-----	10.00
First Baptist Church-----	Wheaton Ill-----	59.00
Bethel Baptist Church-----	Roseville Mich-----	17.70
North Ballard Baptist Church-----	Wickliffe Ky-----	10.00
Wasco Baptist Church-----	Wasco Ill-----	3.00
Mrs E H Purdom-----	Elmhurst Ill-----	10.00
Alex Sumpter-----	Union Grove Wis-----	3.00
A Friend-----	Paducah Ky-----	1.00
Mrs Lottie Brown-----	Wasco Ill-----	1.00
Nila Rae Derrick-----	Wheaton Ill-----	4.00
Dale Overbey-----	Wheaton Ill-----	1.00
Donald Overbey-----	Wheaton Ill-----	1.00
Holsinger Brothers-----	Wheaton Ill-----	21.00

(Signed) Z E Clark

Total \$762.11

MISSION SHEETS REPORT

In Jan 1944 we received the following offerings to help in the expense of editing and mailing the Mission Sheets:

James Brandon-----	U S Army-----	\$ 7.00
Nila Rae Derrick-----	Wheaton Ill-----	3.00
Boyd's Hill Baptist Church (Girls S S Class)---	Cadiz Ky-----	2.50
Oak Baptist Church B Y P U-----	Royal Oak Mich-----	10.00
A non-member and members of Benton Baptist Church--	Benton Ky--	10.00
Total		\$32.50

In commenting on the above offerings for January, Brother Z E Clark said in his letter: "This puts us on shouting grounds sure enough." All will join with us in praising our Lord for this the largest offering of any one month. To Him be all the honor and glory. We are indeed thankful for the offerings to help on the cost of the Mission Sheets. Surely this is an answer to prayer. We were about out of paper and large envelopes and had ordered a supply which amounted to \$47.38. The Sword Book Room, 145 N Hale St, Wheaton Illinois ordered the supplies for us at a saving. We are thankful to all of you beloved.

THE MISSIONARY RECEIVES MAIL

Dear Brethren:

Cruzeiro do Sul Dec 29 1943

I received yesterday afternoon your letter number 25 with the Mission Sheets for Sept and Oct. I enjoyed them far more than I am able to say. Better cooperation, no man ever had and I do not deserve it, but the work of the Lord Jesus does. I believe that you are giving your best and Brother I assure that I am, I just don't have any more at all and that is the reason I am not giving more. Also had a letter from Brother Clark. Isn't it amazing what the Lord will do with a man when he has the faith to trust and the courage to say so. One never knows what will happen, the lad you speak of, James Rugg, may be of the Lords calling, and if so, send him on as soon as possible for that is the kind we need down here. If there should be any difficulty in getting passage now or getting him into the Country, he had better continue his studies with extra emphasis on the Bible. After all I do not know how to advise anyone about these things. Who offers advice in these things may later be made sad. After all the Lord is his only Councillor if he will only search the Scriptures.

WIDELY SEPARATED FIELDS

You also speak of visiting the other Churches. I have had no desire at all to do that since I returned. They are in great need of some one but the fields are so widely separated that to go there will be to abandon this one. I am considering that a little well done values more than much scattered effort, still I am not saying that this work is well done. I am glad to hear of the progress of the Harmony Church and hope that she and pastor Clark will take their work in the place of the Kingdom, for I believe that they are the most loving and willing hearted body of believers I ever met. Persecution has helped them, may they endure to the end. I am happy to hear of the progress of the First Baptist Church of Wheaton. I see some more of your persevering, the Scotts Grove Church has returned to her first love. Glory to the Lord Jesus and the reward to you my brother. Also the Oak Baptist Church is a new Church on the list. All that is ours will have to come to us, sooner or later, for that is the divine arrangement of things. We may be delayed but not defeated, all who were known beforehand were also glorified, no more, still no less. Christ's work of the Kingdom is thus arranged. Romans 8:28-30.

PRAYS FOR OTHERS

Since leaving my home I have never prayed for my own children without praying for yours and Brother Clark's and am interested in hearing from them. Hope that all is well with Edward. The only news I get is from you, so keep me advised as to the movement among the Churches. Remember me to all who love the coming of the Lord Jesus from heaven. The disappointments of life are so many and have so rapidly increased lately, that I feel His coming is the only solution of things, whether it be in secret or at the trumpets last sound I Thess 4:16-18. Seek to do right, the price is worth while. Luke 21:33-36. Our work in the Lord is not in vain. I Cor 15:58. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be multiplied unto you all, Amen. Sincerely, J F Brandon

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. I Peter 5:4