

MAY

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

1944

J F BRANDON MAKES ANOTHER MISSIONARY JOURNEY
42 DAYS, 18 PORTS, 76 SERMONS, 2000 PEOPLE

Dear Brethren:

Cruzeiro do Sul, March 16 1944

MANY DAYS OF 18 HOURS OPENING THE SCRIPTURES

I arrived in Cruzeiro do Sul at midday yesterday and was glad to get in once more after an absence of 42 days. Things were in as good shape as possible it seems. I left Cruzeiro do Sul on the morning of Feb 2 1944 and yesterday was the 15th of March 1944. I visited 18 ports, preached 76 sermons with an attendance, I would estimate at 2000. Many of these 42 days were of 18 hours, opening the Scriptures to hungry souls. Never did I see such opportunities and such eagerness on the part of many to hear and receive the Truth. I gave away 200 Gospels, more than 100 Baptist Journals and a great number of tracts. I am greatly encouraged in the work. In the face of the greater opposition I feel that more was accomplished for the work of the Lord.

SEVEN PROFESSIONS OF FAITH

The brother who was with me on the other journey, felt so impressed to get located well up river that I was quite happy over his decision. But something went wrong and he failed to show up at the last minute and did not write. I waited for him four days and when he did not come I took off, and well I did. But at the last minute I arranged for a small boy of 14 years to go with me, and left an old man of 78 years to look after the house. I don't think I ever saw the water so swift. The river was rising until we reached the head waters, then the whole creation was flooded and remained thus a few days before the fall of the waters. Your heart would have overflowed many times had you been with me. There were 7 professions of faith, I think as clear as I ever heard. Six of these were buried with their Lord in Baptism. One of those, as were two professions of the other journey, are very anxious for baptism but are unmarried, and there may be quite a delay.

PEOPLE NOT LEGALLY MARRIED

If I remember I told you in another letter about the deplorable conditions up river and so far there is no relief in sight. I wonder if people who are forced to live under such conditions merit baptism? Please consider this prayerfully with others who love the Lord and write me how you feel about the matter. Between these two journeys I have made in these parts, the civil authorities gave the priest the liberty to go, which is against the ruling of the President of the Republic. The priests are German and as a measure have no right to leave the city. In this journey the priest married 22 couples which also is against the Federal Law. Each of these 44 Brazilians were forced to kneel before the priest and confess their sins to him. Can you imagine anything more blasphemous against the God of heaven or degenerating to respectable society? The Roman doctrines were certainly formulated in the vestibule of the chambers of the underworld. From Cruzeiro do Sul to the limits of Brazil is a distance of 380 miles, and there is no one who can perform a marriage ceremony legally. It is ridiculous to think that these people can come to Cruzeiro do Sul because the expense is far too great for them to make the trip.

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AUTHORITY TO PERFORM MARRIAGE CEREMONY NOT GRANTED

I appealed to the Judge for the authority to do this work, receiving the money that he would receive and turning it over to him but was denied on the ground that "That would be illegal". This condition has been thus for years and the present citizenship is by far the greater part illegitimate. I contend that such a people, however sincere they may seem to be, are incompetent to govern themselves with any degree of safety. Our social standard is indeed low.

POWER TO PREACH THE WORD

The angel of the Lord went before me and was with me every step of the way. Ex 23:20-24. He gave me power and conviction and I showed no mercy except through the BLOOD of the LAMB OF GOD. I saw men and women deeply stirred that made no profession. Some hearts must have been enlightened and comforted that made no open response, Prov 21:1 Jesus Christ crucified presents Him alone as Saviour and God, I Cor 2:2. Jno 20:28. And in order to receive Him, all other gods must be forsaken Luke 14:32. Repent and believe, Mark 1:14-15. One can not believe on the Lord Jesus until he repents, Matt 21:32. Idols must be forsaken if Jesus Christ is to live within, Ex 20:3. Compare Luke 5:20. The pastor is not here but the two nights I have been here the people have gathered themselves together and I had liberty to preach to them. The rains have been many hours each day and the river will certainly be overflowed again soon if this keeps up. I received the November Mission Sheets on the last boat. No letter came from you. The letters you ask about I never did receive them. I also had a letter from Bro Clark and one from Anna and also one from my sister and that was all. Will write more later and until then, God bless you brother is my continued prayer for you all, grace be multiplied unto you all. Amen. J F Brandon

COST OF 42 DAY JOURNEY

Before I close this letter I want to	Gas---100 gallons----	\$80.00
give an account of the expense. I	Oil--- 10 gallons----	16.00
made this journey with less cost,	Food-----	35.00
Thank the Lord.	Help-----	20.00
Sincerely, by grace, J F Brandon	Total	\$151.00

"REFLECTIONS" (By J F Brandon)

One of the left-overs of another generation
Lived to help others, died in privation;
Spoke on but one subject, "The plan of Salvation;
Ever outspoken against degradation.

The world seems no better by his having lived in it,
The little Church wonders, why all are against it?
The reason is simple, they just haven't seen it,
The life of their Saviour is manifest in it.

To quit or turn back or short cut, they can not;
To sit down and rest or go back, they must not;
To try in strength of the flesh, they vow not;
To cast off the least of HIS favor, they will not.

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FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL 1944

Report of mission offerings received from April 5 1944 to May 5 1944 for the support of Missionary J F Brandon and family and the mission work in general under his supervision in Brazil:

Bellview Baptist Church-----	Paducah Ky-----	\$18.50
South Side Baptist Church-----	Winter Haven Fla----	15.00
South Union Baptist Church-----	Cadiz Ky-----	15.00
Boyd's Hill Baptist Church-----	Cadiz Ky-----	20.00
New Cypress Baptist Church-----	Greenville Ky-----	12.43
White Plains Baptist Church-----	White Plains Ky-----	10.00
Mt Zion Baptist Church-----	Paducah Ky-----	8.00
North Fork Baptist Church-----	Puryear Tenn-----	6.70
Bethel Baptist Church-----	Roseville Mich-----	16.18
Fenton Road Baptist Church-----	Flint Mich-----	5.45
Fenton Road Baptist Church(Lad Bib Class)	Flint Mich-----	5.00
Liberty Baptist Church-----	Toledo Ohion-----	5.00
Ryan Road Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	7.92
Grace Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	94.10
Grace Baptist Church (B Y P U)-----	Detroit Mich-----	10.00
Harmony Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	17.00
Scotts Grove Baptist Church-----	Murray Ky-----	17.00
New Hope Baptist Church-----	Dearborn Mich-----	4.00
First Baptist Church-----	Wheaton Ill-----	64.00
Benton Baptist Church-----	Benton Ky-----	42.42
Alex Sumpter-----	Union Grove Wis-----	3.00
The WAVE and Civilian Congregation-----	Arlington Va-----	40.00
Christian Soldiers Overseas-----	Southwest Pacific---	24.00
Gerald K Elder-----	U S Navy-----	15.00
A Friend-----	Paducah Ky-----	1.00
Corporal John Brandon-----	U S Army-----	15.00
A non-member and members Benton Baptist Church--	Benton Ky----	74.84
Mrs C R Singleton-----	Cherokee Ala-----	2.00
Don Grollimund-----	Wheaton Ill-----	1.00
Mrs Walter Powers-----	Tennessee Ridge Tenn	3.00
Oscar Ahlswede-----	Glen Ellyn Ill-----	5.00
Fannie Beer-----	Wheaton Ill-----	3.00
A Michelsen-----	Wheaton Ill-----	1.00

(Signed) Z E Clark

Total

\$581.54

MISSION SHEETS REPORT

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

Mrs J F Brandon-----	Benton Ky-----	\$10.00
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The above list of offerings include a fine offering from the WAVE and Civilian Congregation of Arlington Va and the Christian Soldiers in the Southwest Pacific also sent their offering with the good news that souls are being saved in their meetings. We pray God's richest blessings upon these men and women in the service of their Country. Send all offerings to:

Elder Z E Clark
5216 Concord Ave
Detroit 11 Mich

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Weary indeed of the multiplied blunders,
Awaiting relief from the threatenings and thunders,
Victory? No doubt of it. But when? They all wonder;
Though they be ship-wrecked, they refuse to go under.

Life but a whirl-pool, in which we are found paddling;
Often the current, against us comes battling,
Downward and backward and sideward and slanting,
Strike up with courage, your heart will be gladdened.

Cheer up my brother, we were once further away,
Dangers and perils, we have passed every day;
Rough waters, high mountain peaks, then comes the plains,
With Jordan behind us, our loss becomes gain.

A MISSIONARY JOURNEY CONTINUED

NOVEMBER 19 1943

Nov 19: Bella Horizonte, 17 on the map. This is one of the largest rubber plantations on the river. The people here have been so nice to me in other days and now especially. The four days we were there they treated us like a king and a prince. We had services twice each day, in the morning and at night, they have 16 children, all at home, the old lady and the two daughters already spoken of were there. A brother of these two sisters is a storekeeper of the plantation, a heavy drinker but humble, and while we were there he drank none but became interested in the gospel. He is very popular among the people and would make a fine leader if saved, so again I seek your cooperation in prayer. Antonio Pedro is his name. The singing here is about as good as it is in Cruzeiro-do Sul. Our average attendance was more than 80. But they are so avidious in dancing and of a truth the greater part of them are not evilly effected by dancing as I observe, but the smaller part are so badly effected that it is the curse of curses. Unhappy indeed are the people who indulge in this lustful custom.

THE 80 YEAR OLD MAN SAVED

The grandfather of the home lives up river, yet he was there and I feel that the Lord saved him. He made no open profession, still his conversation was of a different tune and his expression was as an angel. He is about 80 years old and I think he has one of the kindest expressions I ever saw. My original idea was to have a man living here to work above and below, but the owner of the plantation will perhaps not agree. The man who lives here is only employed. We will likely have that difficulty in many places for the owners are enemies of the Lord, children of Belial. Let us pray for liberty and favor with the people, for that is a great necessity now down here. The oldest daughter of the home is interested. She is engaged to be married soon and I hope she can be converted before. The oldest boy of this home was convicted of sin about three years ago, I believe by the Holy Spirit and he rejected. Some months later he was involved in a question that sent him to jail for a year. He returned home a short time ago and attended all of the services and sang well. We remained here four days (Nov 19-22) and then went two hours up to the home of a rubber cutter living on the same plantation. (This story will be continued)