

NOVEMBER

J F BRANDON BAPTIST MISSIONARY  
Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil, South America  
Detroit Michigan November 1944

1944

IN THE REGIONS BEYOND

Dear Brethren:

Villa Anonho Sept 6 1944

I left Cruzeiro do Sul the last time on July 29th and traveled for four days in a motor boat that was overloaded with merchandise. There was no place to get but on top of the boxes and bags, and there were about 30 passengers in all. There was not any more room than needed. In four days we arrived in the village of Humaita and from there I went to Campo Santano by canoe which was much better. I found the work in progress and was happy to see the order of things. They were glad to see me and the people who lived afar were advised that I had arrived so that the services were well attended. There were three conversions. Two were baptized and the other one will be upon my return, the Lord willing. I remained there a week and then started up river in a canoe with a boy who is in my company and a man I employed there to help me.

VISITS VILLA AMONHO

We left Campo Santano on the 9th of August for a journey of 125 miles up river to the village of Amonho. The river is very low, in fact I have never seen it so low. We had difficulty in passing the water falls in the river. In the summer time when the water is low, there are water falls in many places and the water is very swift and in some places very dangerous, but the Lord carried us over all of them in safety and we were glad. If you remember we have a worker here in Amonho who I consider a very sound man in the faith. I was really surprised to see the progress that he is making. The word of the Lord has an attraction that nothing else in the world has, and many here have become interested.

"HOI-HOI" IN LEFT FOOT

In the journey up river I caught from the wet sand at the edge of the river a malady they call "Hoi-hoi" but fortunately it is only in my left foot. Most of the skin came off the bottom and well up on the side and also in the toes. It was swollen and very painful so when we arrived in Retire (you will remember that this is one of the places where the gospel was received on the last journey) they would not consent for me to leave until I was better. So we remained there 10 days and such a ten as it was. I preached every night, but seated and the interest was less, the neighbors found it difficult to attend. In the summer it is so different. But I had no use of my foot at all. The cabin was by no means comfortable. We had nothing to eat except the Lord's provisions day by day. We would ask Him daily for bread and he would provide it. He was found faithful in all things, though I have never been.

EATS TIGER MEAT

The time was so dry they could not hunt, they say that one walking through the forests a time like this that the animals hear them long before they are in sight, but with this disadvantage one of the boys of the home went out early one morning and killed a tiger. It was so heavy that he alone could not put it in the house. He came for help to bring it home.

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Tiger meat is really not good to eat, but it was what the Lord provided and we ate it and it was good, that is it served the purpose. I was at my wits end, sitting there for ten days looking at my foot. Brother I thought of a lot of things, for example "how beautiful are the feet of those who bring good tidings" Rom 10. Then I wondered why my feet had turned so nauseating. Was my message no longer "good tidings"? And I became sad. The people were nice to me and I could not have been served better anywhere. They didn't take their eyes out and offer them to me because they couldn't.

#### NATIVES MAKE MEDICINE FOR FOOT

I was interested in seeing how they would arrange different kinds of medicine. Of course nothing was bought, it all came from the forest, but the science of one of these older persons of how to use and mix these herbs and leaves to me was wonderful. The woman of the home was never in Cruzeiro do Sul, yet she knew more about treating a sour foot than the doctor there I think. The first night it was so painful that they went by night and brought leaves of some kind and bound my foot and in five minutes the pain had ceased and I slept all night. Then in the morning they had a boiled mixture for me to bathe in. They were so thoughtful that they brought sweet smelling bark and cooked it with the mixture so that it was very pleasant to bathe the foot in.

#### VALUES THE EXPERIENCE

Among these poor back-woods people there is no sacrifice too great to make when they serve one another. Their ways are so different to ours but they seem so sincere, that ones gratitude runs high. After all brother it was an experience that I would hate to be without, but at best very costly. I was glad when I could take off again, however I was not well but I was better. We finished the journey in two days from dawn to dark, arriving in the village of Amonho on the 24th of August. When I arrived and began to work, the foot that had not healed up any too good became infected and broke out again, so I am sitting with it in one chair and my portable typewriter in the other. We have had services every night since we arrived. Some of the time I had to remain seated but most of the time I could finish the service on feet.

#### CONVERSIONS AND BAPTISMS

There is a woman near here who is a believer, was converted the first time I came here. She wants to be baptized. Recently there have been four other conversions of faith and there are several interested and we hope to have a work here in time if the Lord wills. It goes slow but the Lord's work always does. Just before I arrived the worker made a journey well up the river Amonho and was received in five homes where he preached to all the people in each community. He also was received by two tribes of Indians, one tribe is about civilized and the other is just in the beginning. He said they were interested in hearing the gospel. The first or civilized tribe could understand him and would try to sing with him. To the other tribe he spoke through an interpreter who trades with them and knows their language and customs.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

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

South Side Baptist Church-----	Winter Haven Fla-----	\$15.00
South Union Baptist Church-----	Cadiz Ky-----	34.00
White Plains Baptist Church-----	White Plains Ky-----	10.00
North Fork Baptist Church-----	Puryear Tenn-----	7.00
Bellview Baptist Church-----	Paducah Ky-----	30.00
Scotts Grove Baptist Church-----	Murray Ky-----	35.00
Benton Baptist Church-----	Benton Ky-----	39.40
Grace Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	43.00
Grace Baptist Church B Y P U-----	Detroit Mich-----	10.00
Bethel Baptist Church-----	Roseville Mich-----	10.35
Liberty Baptist Church-----	Toledo Ohio-----	10.60
Ryan Road Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	8.23
Fenton Road Baptist Church LBC -----	Flint Mich-----	5.00
Harmony Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	65.00
Members and Non-members of Benton Baptist Church	Benton Ky---	106.35
Elder Aaron a Boeker-----	Paterson N J-----	2.00
Don Grollimund-----	Wheaton Ill-----	1.00
Mr and Mrs Rudy Culp-----	Detroit Mich-----	10.00
Harold Culp-----	Detroit Mich-----	1.00
Louise Culp-----	Detroit Mich-----	1.00
Novalee Harrison-----	Detroit Mich-----	5.00
Cpl John Brandon-----	New Guinea-----	5.00
Cadet Carl Vining-----	U S Navy Air Force-----	5.00
Christian Sildiers Overseas-----	S W Pacific-----	38.50
Mrs E H Purdom-----	Elmhurst Ill-----	15.00
Mrs Lottie Brown-----	Wasco Ill-----	1.00

(Signed Z E Clark)

Total \$513.43

MISSION SHEETS REPORT

In October 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
Mrs Rudy Culp-----	Detroit Mich-----	3.00
Harmony Baptist Church-----	Detroit Mich-----	5.00

Total \$18.00

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE SCHOOL

It was our happy privilege to attend the Bible School at Grace Baptist Church and to fellowship with her good pastor Brother B G Arterburn. This school ran for two weeks and was primarily for preachers but was open to all. Preachers came from many States. One preacher came from Paterson N J and joined Harmony Baptist Church and was Baptized and said that the Lord had called him to go to Brazil to work with Brother J F Brandon. The Lord willing he and his good wife and two children will be going to Brazil as soon as they can get passports. One preacher who drove through 300 miles of snow to attend this Bible School said that it would have been worth it if he had had to crawl all the way.



A LOT OF PEOPLE WITHOUT THE GOSPEL

If I could get on my feet again I would love to go there and see the prospects with these Indians. He said that in the half wild tribe there were about 200 men. A lot of people to be together and without the gospel. He said their chief was a Peruvian and seemed to like the gospel very much. If the Lord would raise up someone here in our midst to work among these Indians it would be wonderful. Sometimes they come to the village in large numbers and at such times they drink so that all become drunk, men women and children alike. The brother who is the worker has been quite active in work it seems and better results will appear in the future, for the Word is not preached in vain.

NEW NAMES APPEAR

Recently I have been attracted by some names of the people. They seem to think there is much to be gained in favor with God by having what they call a Christian name. The following are some examples---Calvary John the Baptist, Evangelist, Natheres, Holy, Saintly, Gabriel, Kind Aches or Pains, Angle. The mosy of these are believers and others are those who attend the services. Three others who attracted me are the following: Sardine, Banana, Sprout Figtree and Kasies. I have no plans since so far I can not walk, only hobble about on one foot so I do not know when I can return. I hope to spend sometime at Campo Santano if the Lord wills and at best it is likely that I can not arrive in Cruzeiro do Sul this month yet.

PRIEST HINDERS THE WORK

The priest wrote letters to all of the men where I have preached in the past, curseing them in the name of the Pope and the Holy Virgin if they tolerated me any longer. They say that all who attend the Baptist services will be expelled from the Roman church so some have become very indifferent and many turned back to walk no more with me. Never the less the firm foundation of God standeth. I have and know but one gospel and that is the Lord Jesus Christ. I have nothing cheap to offer, the way is repentence of sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. All are invited but if any consider themselves unworthy of the grace of God, it will not weaken our forces in the least for all he foreknew these he predestinated, called, justified and glorified. Those who are mine will come to me, I do not doubt at all. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all, both now and forever, Amen.

Sincerely, J F Brandon

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After reading this letter from Brother Brandon you will understand why we did not hear from him in more than two months and also why the Mission Sheets have been late in getting to you. You will note the suffering and hunger that has been his, yet he preached every night and souls were saved. As I write this I pause to Thank God for such a missionary and that He permits me to have a part in his work. Those native back-woods Christians will come in for a great surprise when they get to heaven and they hear the Master say "In as much as ye did it unto J F Brandon ye did it unto me". If you want to do real New Testament Mission Work like the Lord commanded in the great commission we welcome you to join us in the support of this work. Send all offerings to Elder Z E Clark, 5216 Concord Ave, Detroit 11 Mich.