



REV. CHARLES SANDERS WRITES

Dear Highway Friends,

You are no doubt interested in the work that our National Preachers are doing among their own people. Let me tell you a little about the section where Jimson Mngomezulu works.

Jimson is one of our older Native preachers, he must be over 60 years old now. His parish is in one of the most mountainous and heathenish areas of this work. With the Pongolo river as one of his boarders, he lives just over the line in the Transvaal, at a place we call Small Mapondhleni.

As all other outposts, this one has had its ups and downs spiritually. And it seems that of late it has been on the downward trend. Even the European farmer, on whose farm Jimson lives, has observed that the work was not progressing as it should. We had two private schools in this section and they have both had to be closed. It seems that this farmer felt that this was an opportune time to introduce a Native preacher from his own church: to see if he could do better than Jimson was doing.

A Native preacher by the surname Sibiya, was brought in, and given one of the Native kraals to preach in. All the farm Natives were advised to attend his meetings. There are about 19 Native kraals on this farm. A kraal is a Native home comprised of a number of beehive shaped huts. So Sibiya began his preaching, but the farm people were not interested, and very few came to hear him. Finally he thought that he might do better if he moved to another kraal to hold his meetings. At this kraal he was informed that though he was welcome to hold his meetings there: not one member of that family would attend his services, because the members of this home would go for worship to Jimson's meetings. At this second kraal he found the same lack of interest in his services.

When this farmer's preacher arrived he announced that he would soon collect the farm people and arrange to establish a school for them. But so far nothing has come of this prediction, no such meeting has been called. It seems that Sibiya thought that he might attain his objective by other means, so he spoke to the beer-drinking men of the farm. "Join my church and you may continue to drink your beer", he told them. This brought forth an unexpected response: "So you have come to laugh at us." The men replied. "Instead of telling us to give up beer drinking, you have come to tell us to keep on drinking." Instead of being won by this appeal they were offended. So Sibiya has stopped coming to this farm to preach; at least for the present.

Thus it seems that the door of opportunity is still wide open to our preacher. I advised Jimson not to be fooled by this apparent loyalty to our church and message. We must needs put on strong evangelistic effort if we hope to get these people converted. Jimson replied that he would soon be visiting the Native kraals, and putting on special meetings—he and his wife.

Recently Jimson's wife has been holding meetings on a nearby farm. Nine people have given themselves to the Lord, to seek salvation. So it is likely that we shall be opening a new outpost at that point.

In July we plan to have one or two D.V.B.S.s in this section to help reach the children and young people. Manasiya Nkosi, one of our fine Christian teachers, has

offered to use some of her holidays in this way. This will be a fine means of reaching the young people. But Manasiya will need some flannelgraph material etc., and more than that, much prayer, that her efforts may be fruitful.

We trust that it will be possible to send some individual, or group, into that area to help Jimson and his wife as they climb those steep hills, and cross the nearby river, seeking lost souls.

As I stated, there are about 19 kraals on that one farm, and there are other farms adjoining this farm, on which there are more native homes. This stronghold of heathenism presents a great challenge to our Missionary effort. How many of our homeland christian friends will join in this battle for souls? Prayer is one great contribution you can make, yes it is the greatest and most desperately needed help we have at the present time. We do need more workers, especially National Workers. Definite prayer for more reapers; prayer that asks till the answer comes is what we need. May God guide and bless all who are investing in this battle for souls, on the African harvest field.

Yours looking to Him for victory.

Charles Sanders.

BLESSINGS AND OPPORTUNITIES

H. Paul Sanders

This is the evening of a lovely cool day: Easter Sunday. The day of the empty Tomb! How we rejoice that our Saviour's grave is empty, that He is not there but is risen! That the grave has lost its victory, for us all. What a glorious message; and Jesus Himself said: "GO YE THEREFORE AND TEACH ALL NATIONS." Praise His Name, it is wonderful to be one of those to go.

Mary has had a really bad cold for the past week, and though she is better, I wondered if she should go to the LOCATIONS today. Well, we went, and have had a really good day among the Zulu and Swazi people.

Our first one was at the home of Elias Nkosi, he and his wife are a fine Christian couple, rejoicing in the experience of sins forgiven, and wanting to tell others, and help them to get to know the Saviour.

Then we went to the home of Koza, in Daveyton. He is a SHANGAAN and most of the children and adults that come to our regular open-air service there, belong to the Shangaan tribe. However, they understand Zulu so can get all we say to them; and have no difficulty memorizing verses in Zulu. There was a goodly number here, more adults than usual, and all listened well. Our fine P. A. System is just the thing to call them together; and to reach those who can hear, in their homes, or who sit outside and listen. Quite a number of children come every Sunday, have learned a lot of memory verses and have given their hearts to the Lord Jesus.

From here we went on to our fine new church, calling and inviting as we went. They came, and kept coming till the building was well filled. The resurrection message went across well, with three of our Christian men reading a portion of the verses and giving a short explanation. The testimony they gave was a personal, convincing application and contributed well to the lesson.

Native families always separate as they enter the church; the men go to their side, the women to theirs and the children to the centre front. Here so many more children than adults come that they make up the main body of the congregation. It is astonishing how many can be seated on the floor; they have the ability of crowding together, and not even stepping on each other. To walk

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