THE INVITATION

"Would you like to accompany me on a missionary trip to

Lesotho?" were the words that Brother Ronnie Pillay, VGR office manager in Durban, South Africa, received from his good friend and fellow believer, Brother Emmanuel Naidoo. Brother Ronnie was quick to respond, because a missionary trip to Lesotho had been on his

heart for some time.

The country of Lesotho rests in the far-southern region of the African continent. Lesotho is a landlocked country completely surrounded by the Republic of South Africa. The small population of 1.8 million people is generally very poor and mainly subsists

on farming or migrant labor to South Africa.

Medicine and healthcare are difficult to obtain because of the primitive conditions. AIDS has decimated the country, lowering the life-expectancy rate for adults to a meager 34 years. Almost one-third of the population is infected with HIV. The weather is, at best, unpredictable. Brother Ronnie described traveling in Lesotho as having four seasons in one day. The rural dirt roads are difficult to traverse and require an experienced



driver in a four-wheel drive vehicle. Many of the humble thatched-hut villages can only be reached by horseback. With the combination of disease, poverty, and inaccessibility, it is evident why no one has attempted to bring the Message into this country before. However, it was now time for the Word of

God to be introduced to the people of this tiny Mountain Kingdom.

"Let me say this, that in the heathen lands where I've had the place, the privilege of traveling and seeing blanket natives of the islands and in the Hottentots, and see them stand there where you have to speak through an interpreter, never heard the Name of Jesus Christ in their life. But tell them the Story, and ask them to raise up their hands and receive God, they do the same thing you do right here when you receive the Holy Ghost. Shows that it's a universal thing. It's the power of Almighty God, the display of His token upon His children, whether they're red, black, white, or whatever they might be. It's the only place that fellowship is given."

> WILLIAM BRANHAM PARDON 63-1028

THE JOURNEY

With great anticipation, the brothers pressed their two-truck caravan toward the regional border which lies at 10,500 ft elevation; and once there, would become even more determined to complete their mission. After sharing testimonies, books, and tapes with the border guards, they visited a restaurant



where they were able to leave books for the owners to give to their customers. A small village near the border was the next stop, where the missionaries went door to door giving away books and tracts. The striking covers of the Message books caught the eyes of many who wanted copies of their own. Once the cover was opened, and the dear words of the prophet were read



by the Sotho people in their native language, the missionaries had accomplished their task; the seed was planted.

As they traveled from village to village, the books were enthusiastically snatched up by everyone from policemen to shepherds! People would come from all directions each time the vehicles stopped. At one point, the brothers were able to introduce the Message to a Catholic priest and his congregation, who graciously invited the brothers to come back and spend more time ministering the Word. At each stop, the people listened

intently as the brothers testified of how God visited us again in human flesh, and how many Scriptures have been fulfilled through the prophet that God sent us for our age.

The words of the prophet were continually on Brother Ronnie's mind as he traveled. In particularly, he noticed that many of the natives were wearing blankets. The blankets are used by the natives as garments in the day, bedding at night, and they are often buried in that same blanket. He thought back to what Brother Branham said about the conversion of "blanket natives" in Africa.

How it encouraged Brother Ronnie as he thought on this. He trusted in God that the books he was giving to these people would not return back void, but would accomplish the purpose to which they were intended. Truly, many of the hands receiving this material were of God's predestinated Seed.

What a blessing it was for these brothers to take the Message to those who had never heard the name of William Branham! The brothers reported that this trip had affected them in a powerful way.



A few weeks ago, the Durban office staff provided four boxes of books and tapes to Brother Naidoo who returned to Lesotho on a follow-up visit to bring more materials to those who have accepted the Message. Because of the primitive living conditions and lack of electricity in much of the country, we are working to provide them with tools such as solar tape recorders, MP3 players with solar battery chargers, and other items of this nature; so the Sotho people can hear the Voice of God with their own ears. Please be in prayer that the seed planted during this faithful trip will continue to find fertile ground and grow into a great work.

He might be a little black sheep, or he might be a little nobody, might be the little her or he. We don't know where they are, but that last one must come in and then the door will be closed. O God, Who knows all things, search our lives this morning. And send us wherever that we could go, that we might find that last one, that the door would be closed and the Shepherd inside with the sheep. It is because of the vision and the burden that the Lord has placed on your heart that we have been able to deliver this life-giving Word to the people of Lesotho.



"This has been a never-toforget missionary trip. I have
never experienced anything as
rewarding and exhilarating
as this. Taking the Voice to the
uttermost part has been a privilege
and an honor. I believe this is
part of the vision that Brother
Branham saw, which is now being
fulfilled. The harvest is indeed ripe
and the laborers are indeed few."

RONNIE PILLAY

Санкт-Петербург, Россия

St. Petersburg, Russia - Joseph M. Branham

What stood out most in my mind from this trip was the anticipation of seeing the people for the first time in 12 years. I was

taken back as I saw a sister, with her traditional



Russian scarf and shawl, coming directly to me. Maybe not able to speak any English other than a few broken words with a heavy Russian accent and with her hand on her heart, she looked deep into my eyes and said, "Brother Joseph, I love you." Oh how my heart just sank to see this weary Russian sister and the simplicity of those words; but there was no mistaking the kindred spirit that we both shared. How precious is this Message of the Hour, brought by my father and our prophet, Brother Branham, to join us with

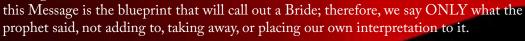
kindred minds, like to that above. This sister was not only saying these words to me, but I was blessed to be the recipient of her love to you also, as it is a reflection of what you have done to provide the people of Russia with this Message.

I felt it was an impossible dream, flying to Russia the first time. It was just after the Berlin Wall had fallen. To think that God brought down that wall, so the Message could penetrate behind the Iron Curtain! During that trip, we brought foot lockers full of Brother Branham's books and tapes in the cargo bay of the plane. It was one of the most exciting times of my life. Now, after 12 years, the Lord once again allowed me to return to a country where VGR has

now sent over 8-million Russian translated books since those days of only having a few hundred to share with the people.

During the ministers' meeting, I was able to express how important it is to remember that we have only ONE Absolute, and it is this Message. I expressed how VGR is committed to give them every word just as the Prophet spoke it, because the words of the prophet are truly Thus Saith The Lord.

On Sunday Morning, I conveyed what this Message means to me and reminded them that



We saw people from all walks of life. Many of these people traveled for days on a train with hardly any sleep. How my heart was humbled to be able to shake the hands and hug the necks of these precious believers.

The whole purpose of this trip was not only to tell the people of how the Message is going around the world, but to see and fellowship face to face with these people who have "caught the vision!" This vision is not about what you or I can do as individuals, but about what we can accomplish working together as a team. I wish I had the opportunity to put each of you on a plane to meet these saints, but we know we will truly spend eternity together because of this unfailing Promise of God. Because of your prayers and determination to get the Message to them, your name will be linked to those people!

We will never forget the great love we felt from our brothers and sisters in Russia. I know we were sitting and fellowshipping with a portion of the Russian-speaking Bride of Christ. Truly they love this Message, God's messenger, and you, with all their hearts.

CATCH THE VISION IS PUBLISHED BY VOICE OF GOD RECORDINGS, INC.

Dedicated to the ministry of God's prophet, William Marrion Branham.

But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. " $\;\;$ REVELATION $\;10.7\;$

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