




A CHRONOLOGY OF PROTESTANT BEGINNINGS: BRAZIL


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Historical Overview of Brazil:

Independence from Portugal:	1822
Period of Brazilian Monarchy:	1822-1889
Independent Republic Established:	1889
Religious Liberty Established:	1891
Number of North American agencies in 1989:	165
Number of North American agencies in 1996:	124
Indicates European society*	



Significant Protestant Beginnings:

- 1555-1566 - *French Huguenot colony (Calvinists) established under French commander Villegaignon; the first Protestant worship service was held in Brazil on March 10, 1557; the French were expelled by the Portuguese in 1566.
- 1624-1654 - *Dutch colony (Calvinists) and mission efforts on N.E. coast at Recife; the Dutch were expelled by the Portuguese in 1654.
- 1817 - *British and Foreign Bible Society colporteurs
- 1835 - Methodist Episcopal Church of USA (permanent work 1874)
- 1854 - American Bible Society Agency established (1876)
- 1858 - Independent Congregational Church, Scottish missionary doctor Robert Reid Kalley – Igreja Evangélica Fluminense; today this church is known as Union of Congregational Churches of Brazil.
- 1859 - Presbyterian Church USA (Northern), missionary Ashbel Green Simonton; established the first Brazilian Presbyterian Church in the city of Rio de Janeiro in 1863.
- 1861 - *Basel Missionary Society among German immigrants
- 1869 - Presbyterian Church (South)
- 1870 - Southern Baptist Convention (1881 permanent work), now under International Mission Board
- 1871 - *South American Missionary Society (SAMS-Anglican tradition)
- 1874 - Methodist Episcopal Church (South)
- 1880 - Methodist Episcopal Church (North)
- 1889 - Protestant Episcopal Church
- 1892 - *Evangelical Union of South America (Help for Brazil)
- 1894 - Seventh-day Adventist General Conference
- 1900 - Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod
- 1903 - The Presbyterian Church of Brazil became divided and a new denomination was formed: The Independent Presbyterian Church.
- 1905 - Reformed Church of Colombo

- 1907 - *Christian Missions in Many Lands (Plymouth Brethren)
- 1910 - *Swedish Pentecostals (Gunnar Vingren and Daniel Berg from South Bend, Indiana, founded the Assemblies of God of Brazil; the Assemblies of God USA began work in 1925)
- 1910 - *Italian Pentecostals (Louis Francescon from Chicago): founded the Christian Congregation in Platina, Paraná.
- 1911 - Gospel Missionary Union
- 1911 - Evangelical Reformed Churches of Brazil (Dutch immigrants)
- 1913 - South America Indian Mission (now, South America Mission), also Canadian South American Mission
- 1916 - *German Baptist Church
- 1920 - Evangelical Congregational Churches of Brazil (established by missionaries from Argentina)
- 1922 - The Salvation Army, USA
- 1922 - United Church Board for World Ministry
- 1923 - Church of God (Anderson, IN)
- 1923 - Baptist Faith Missions
- 1925 - Assemblies of God, USA
- 1924 - Baptist Faith Missions
- 1927 - Central Armenian Evangelical Church of Sao Paulo (Armenian immigrants)
- 1928 - Free Methodist Church of North America
- 1928 - Caiuá Evangelical Mission, formed by American missionaries Albert Sidney and Mabel Maxwell to reach the Amerindian peoples.
- 1931 - Unevangelized Fields Mission, now UFM International
- 1932 - Christian Reformed Church of Brazil (Hungarian immigrants)
- 1933 - Reformed Evangelical Churches in Brazil (Dutch immigrants)
- 1934 - The Evangelical Confederation of Brazil formed
- 1935 - *Pentecostal Missionary Union for Great Britain and Ireland
- 1935 - Baptist Mid-Missions
- 1939 - Brazil Gospel Fellowship Mission
- 1940 - Conservative Presbyterian Church of Brazil (a split from the Independent Presbyterian Church)
- 1941 - Child Evangelism Fellowship
- 1942 - Association of Baptists for World Evangelization (ABWE)
- 1944 - Mennonite Brethren Missions
- 1945 - International Church of the Foursquare Gospel
- 1946 - New Tribes Mission
- 1946 - Mennonite Brethren Missions and Services
- 1946 - Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society, now CBIInternational
- 1948 - Pilgrim Fellowship Inc.
- 1948 - Christian Church and Churches of Christ
- 1948 - Pilgrim Fellowship, Inc.
- 1949 - Grace Brethren International Missions
- 1950 - OMS International, Inc.
- 1950 - Youth For Christ, USA
- 1951 - Church of God World Missions (Cleveland, TN)
- 1952 - Baptist Bible Fellowship International
- 1953 - Baptist Missionary Association
- 1954 - Arabic Evangelical Church of Sao Paulo (Lebanese immigrants)
- 1955 - Brazil for Christ founded by Manuel de Melo
- 1955 - Baptist General Conference
- 1955 - World Partners Missionary Church
- 1955 - Mennonite Board of Missions
- 1956 - Wycliffe Bible Translators

- 1956 - United Pentecostal Church International
- 1956 - Fundamentalist Presbyterian Church (led by Dr. Israel Gueiros, northeastern region)
- 1957 - CMF International
- 1957 - World Team
- 1957 - WEC International
- 1957 - Grace Ministries International
- 1957 - Missionary Aviation Fellowship
- 1958 - Swiss Evangelical Church (Swiss immigrants) in Sao Paulo
- 1958 - Church of the Nazarene
- 1958 - Wesleyan World Missions
- 1958 - Free Will Baptist Association
- 1958 - Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 1958 - Things To Come Mission, Inc.
- 1960 - Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Bahía (Japanese immigrants, affiliated with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Koza, Japan)
- 1960 - Apostolic Christian Church
- 1960 - Christians in Action
- 1960 - World Baptist Fellowship Mission
- 1961 - Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society
- 1961 - Christian & Missionary Alliance
- 1961 - World-Wide Missions
- 1962 - Central Presbyterian Church of Formosa in Brazil (Taiwanese immigrants, has ties with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Taiwan)
- 1962 - Go Ye Fellowship
- 1962 - God Is Love Pentecostal Church, founded by David Miranda in Sao Paulo; this church is considered by many Evangelicals to be a Christian sect because of its syncretistic tendencies.
- 1963 - Bethany Fellowship Missions
- 1963 - The Navigators
- 1963 - Every Home for Christ
- 1963 - OC International, Inc. (formerly known as Overseas Crusades)
- 1964 - Fellowship International Mission
- 1964 - Korean United Presbyterian Church of Sao Paulo (Korean immigrants, linked to the Presbyterian Church of South Korea)
- 1964 - General Conference Mennonite Church
- 1964 - Association of Free Lutheran Congregations
- 1965 - Church of God of Prophecy
- 1965 - Pocket Testament League
- 1966 - North American Baptist Conference
- 1966 - United World Mission
- 1967 - Evangelical Church of Sao Paulo (Japanese immigrants)
- 1967 - Baptist International Missions
- 1967 - Berean Mission, Inc.
- 1968 - Campus Crusade for Christ
- 1968 - Mennonite Central Committee
- 1969 - Maranatha Baptist Mission
- 1969 - Korean Presbyterian Church of Brazil (Korean immigrants, has ties to the Presbyterian Church Hapdong of South Korea)
- 1969 - Partners International
- 1970 - Shield of Faith Mission International
- 1970 - Apostolic Church In Canada
- 1970 - Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada
- 1971 - Macedonia World Baptist Missions
- 1972 - The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM)
- 1973 - Global Outreach Mission, USA & Canada
- 1973 - Mission to the World, Presbyterian Church of America
- 1975 - Renewed Presbyterian Church: Pentecostal tradition, a merger of the Christian Presbyterian Church (founded in 1968) and the Independent

- Renewed Presbyterian Church (founded in 1972).
- 1975 - Reformed Episcopal Church Board of Missions
- 1975 - Janz Team Ministries
- 1976 - PAZ International
- 1977 - Universal Church of the Kingdom of God, founded in R o de Janeiro by Bishop Edir Macendo; this church is also known as "Fervent Prayer to the Holy Spirit" and is considered by many Evangelicals to be a Christian sect because of its syncretistic tendencies.
- 1978 - National Federation of Presbyterian Churches (affiliated with the United Presbyterian Church USA)
- 1979 - Baptist World Mission
- 1980 - Christian Church of North America
- 1981 - Emmanuel International, Canada
- 1984 - Antioch Presbyterian Church (Korean immigrants, has ties to the Presbyterian Church of Kora, TongHap, Korea)
- 1985 - ALM International
- 1985 - Latin America Mission (Institute of In-Depth Evangelization of Brazil)
- 1985 - HCJB World Radio Missionary Fellowship
- 1986 - Evangelical Free Church of North America
- 1987 - BCM International
- 1987 - Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
- 1987 - InterVarsity Mission
- 1987 - Habitat for Humanity International
- 1988 - Walk Thru The Bible Ministries
- 1989 - Global Outreach, Ltd.
- 1990 - Pioneers, Canada
- 1991 - Reformed Church of Brasolandia (Dutch immigrants in Minas Gerais, central region)
- 1991 - Action International Ministries
- 1991 - Young Life of Canada
- 1991 - Christ for the Island World
- 1992 - International Street Kids Ministry
- 1993 - Traditional Presbyterian Church of Brazil (central region)
- 1994 - Reformed Church of Brazil (has ties to the Canadian Reformed Churches)
- 1994 - Churches of God General Conference
- 1994 - Literacy & Evangelism International
- 1994 - SIM USA (a merger of several mission societies)
- 1995 - Reformed Church of Colombo (Dutch immigrants)
- 1995 - Christ for the City International (affiliated with Latin America Mission)

Date of Origin Unknown:

- Brethren Assemblies (Plymouth Brethren), USA & Canada
- Christian Aid Mission
- Cumberland Presbyterian Church
- Evangelical Bible Mission
- Gospel Fellowship Association
- Operation Mobilization
- Teens Mission International
- Youth With A Mission (YWAM)



NOTES:

- (1) Dates listed indicate the earliest ministry or in case of discrepancies, the date most frequently indicated by the sources.

(2) North American Agencies include U.S. and Canadian.

SOURCES:

- (1) Daryl L. Platt, "Who Represents the Evangelical Churches in Latin America? A Study of the Evangelical Fellowship Organizations." Pasadena, CA: an unpublished Doctor of Missiology Dissertation, School of World Mission, Fuller Theological Seminary, June 1991. Used by permission of the author.
- (2) PROLADES (Latin American Socio-religious Studies Program), international headquarters in San José, Costa Rica: www.prolades.com, prolades@racsa.co.cr
- (3) Dayton Roberts and John Siewert, editors: ***Mission Handbook of U.S. and Canadian Christian Ministries Overseas*** (MARC 1989).
- (4) John A. Siewert and Edna G. Valdez, editors: ***Mission Handbook of U.S. and Canadian Christian Ministries Overseas*** (MARC 1997).
- (5) Jean-Jacques Bauswein and Lukas Vischer, ***The Reformed Family Worldwide*** (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1999).