



# BBC UPDATE

## BBC 11TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

On December 20, 2020, Bible Baptist Church celebrated her eleventh anniversary. Many members were present and two visitors as the church focused on biblical messages during Sunday School and AM preaching services. Afterward, the anniversary dinner included a delicious roast beef and potatoes dinner on decorated tables, followed by a devotion message on the biblical reasons Christ came. Following the service the members enjoyed a gift exchange. We thank the Lord Jesus Christ who started Bible Baptist Church back on Dec. 4, 2009 and has blessed the assembly through the years.



*Fun fellowship during the delicious meal.*

*The gift exchange always generates lots of laughter.*



# NAME THEOLOGY AND ECCLESIOLOGY

Thomas M. Strouse

In 2021, there is a strong possibility that national and international shutdowns will continue to be enforced for one reason or another. There is truth in the maxim that “power corrupts” and certainly the rise in incorrigible pipsqueak dictators affirms this saying. Moreover, it has been heard from more than one pastor the bold and pious sounding assertion that “if any authority denies me privilege to preach in **‘the name of Jesus,’** *then* in the time of local/national shutdown will I obey the Lord and not Caesar!” To the protestantized Baptist pastor who was never taught ecclesiology 101 in one of the many para-church Bible colleges and seminaries, from whence he may have received “preacher-boy” training, Caesar has already denied this privilege! To deny the assembly from assembling is to deny preaching in **‘the name of Jesus!’** The LORD’s name is attached to His divinely designated place of worship! Moses declared this truth, saying, “*But unto **the place** which the LORD your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put **his name** there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come*” (Dt. 12:5). Again, “*Then there shall be a **place** which the LORD your God shall choose to cause **his name** to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD*” (Dt. 12:11; cf. also 12:21; 14:23-24; 16:2, 6, 11; 26:2).

**‘The name of Jesus’** is attached to the assembly of baptized believers gathered together to carry out church discipline. The Lord Jesus said, “*For where two or three are gathered together **in my name**, there am I in the midst of them*” (Mt. 18:20; cf. vv. 17-19). The Apostle Paul asserted that church discipline was done in the name of Jesus Christ, saying, “***In the name** of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ*” (I Cor. 5:4) and “*Now we command you, brethren, **in the name** of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us*” (II Thes. 3:6). The Great Commission for Baptist church planting is done in the

*Below: Ryan & Preston enjoy some desert*

*Right Top: August reads the anniversary poem*

*Right Bottom: Daniel enjoys the gift exchange*



## BBTS SPRING SCHEDULE

Bible Baptist Theological Seminary Class will begin on Thursday, January 28, 2021 with Dr. Thomas Strouse teaching the **Gospel of Mark** (6-9PM).

name of the Triune God, including baptizing in **‘the name of Jesus,’** as the Lord demanded, saying *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the **name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”* (Mt. 28:19-20), and Luke noted, saying, *“For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized **in the name of the Lord Jesus**”* (Acts 8:16), and *“And he commanded them to be baptized **in the name of the Lord.** Then prayed they him to tarry certain days”* (Acts 10:48), and *“When they heard this, they were baptized **in the name of the Lord Jesus**”* (Acts 19:5). Church teaching is done in **‘the name of Jesus,’** as Luke revealed, saying, *“Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach **in this name?** and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us”* (Acts 5:28). **‘The name of Jesus’** is attached to serving the Lord in the assembly as Paul affirmed, saying, *“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all **in the name of the Lord Jesus,** giving thanks to God and the Father by him”* (Col. 3:17). **‘The name of Jesus’** is attached to the assembly when she corporately calls on the name of the Lord in prayer, as Paul revealed, saying, *“Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours”* (I Cor. 1:2). **‘The name of Jesus’** is attached to the elders in the church anointing the sick, as James stated, saying, *“Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil **in the name of the Lord**”* (Jam. 5:14). **‘The name of Jesus’** is attached to open-door missions, as John revealed, saying, *“I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied **my name**”* (Rev. 3:8).

Is there any expectation for those pastors who will not assemble (during COVID-19 [2.0]) in the place where the Lord has put His name to preach in **‘the name of Jesus’** in any scenario? Preaching in **‘The name of Jesus’** biblically cannot be disassociated from assembling in the assembled assembly!



*Left: Several of the young people make a Christmas craft with Mrs. Gagnon's instruction.*



*Right: Jack shows off his completed project.*



Pastor Cas Reeves

The Word of God is the most precious gift that God has given to the world and that the world presently possesses. The Psalmist, revealing the importance of God's words, said: "...for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name" (Psalm 138:2). David the Psalmist, declared: "I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word" (Psalm 119:16). David knew where the joy of his life was; it was in the Lord's words, thus he made his declaration. Again David said, "...I trust in thy word" (Psalm 119:42), "... I hope in thy word" (Psalm 119:81). He also knew where to put his trust and hope.

Everyone that is a child of God should follow the example of the Psalmist and make God's word their delight and joy of their life. People will always trust and hope in

## THY WORD

something. It is a wise thing to follow the Psalmist by putting one's trust and hope in God's word. It is a sure thing according to the Psalmist, "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven" (Psalm 119:89). In other words, it can be trusted, because it is God's word "forever settled."

Are you taking advantage of the word of God? God has given it to you that you might find Bible faith: "...faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17); and finding Bible faith, you can find Jesus Christ the Son of God, and having the Son you can have eternal life. "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1 John 5:11-12). Make sure you don't neglect the Bible; it is God's Word.



Bill and August Gagnon help shovel Pastor out of his driveway after a big snowstorm.

### Quotes from the Past



*"Peace is not made at the council table or by treaties, but in the hearts of men."*

Herbert C. Hoover (1874-1964)

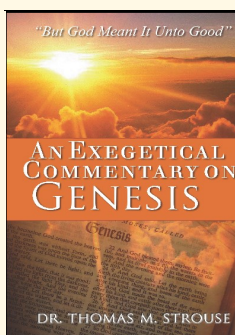
31st President of the USA

## THE BOOK CORNER

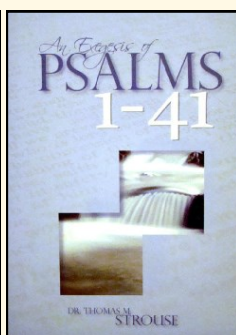
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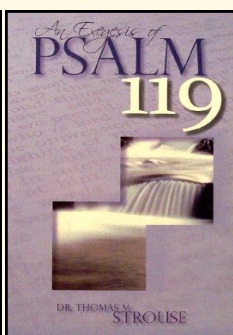
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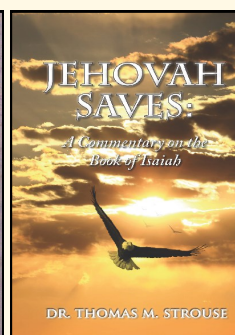
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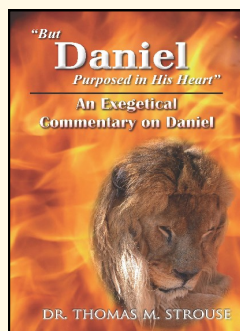
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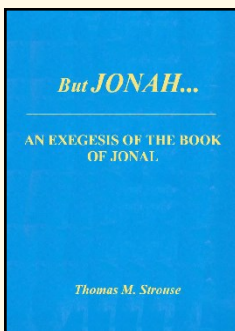
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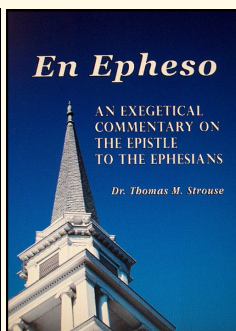
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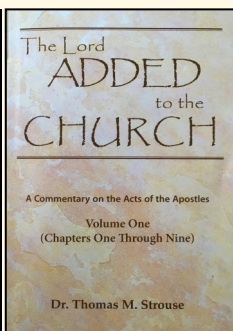
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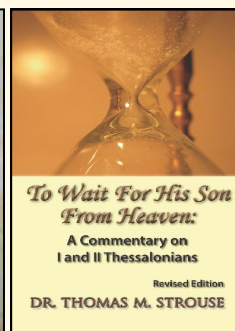
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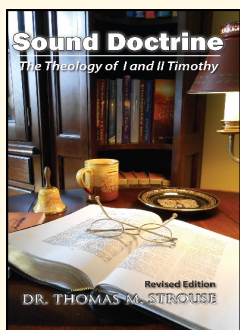
Ephesians  
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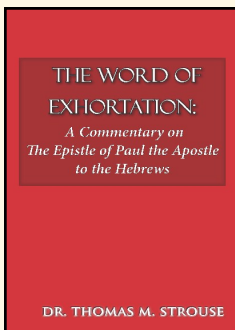
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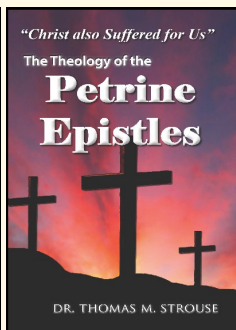
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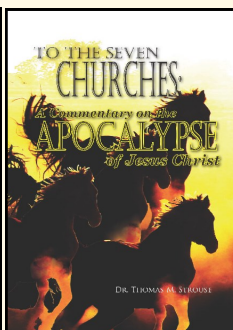
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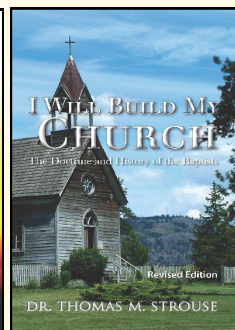
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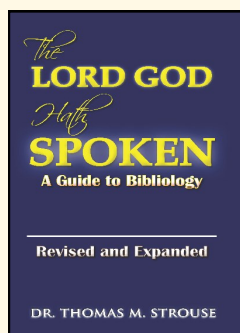
Peter  
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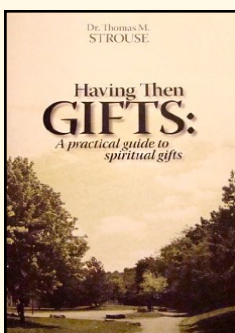
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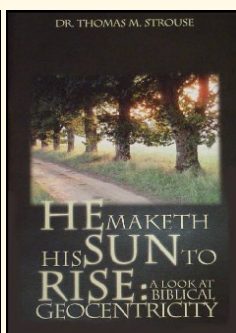
Baptist Doctrine & History  
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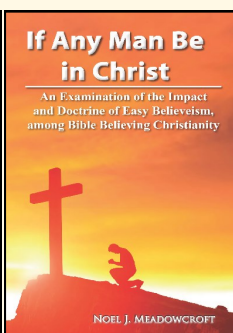
Bibliology  
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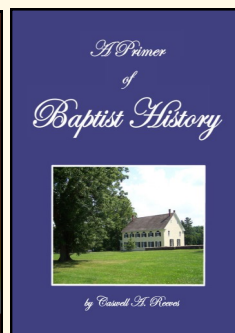
Spiritual Gifts  
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Geocentricity  
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Easy-Believeism  
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Baptist History  
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