



# BBC UPDATE

## 2016 BBTS Spring Lecture Series

Dr. Thomas Strouse



*Dr. Thomas Strouse*

The Bible Baptist Theological Seminary 2016 Spring Lecture Series on Friday April 15, 2016 will focus on the "History and Value of the Erasmian Textus Receptus" (Dr. Thomas M. Strouse) at 9-11:30 AM, and "The Pastor's Use of the Erasmian Textus Receptus" (Dr. Cas Reeves) at 1-3 PM.

BBC Update

Vol. 7 Num. 7

## BIBLE BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY 2016 SPRING LECTURE SERIES

### THE QUINCENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEXTUS RECEPTUS

ON FRIDAY APRIL 15, 2016 BIBLE BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WILL HOLD THE 2016 BBTS SPRING LECTURE SERIES.

9:00AM-11:30 AM:

THE "HISTORY AND VALUE OF THE ERASMIAN TEXTUS RECEPTUS"

DR. THOMAS M. STROUSE



*Dr. Thomas Strouse*

1:00PM-3:00 PM. :

"THE PASTOR'S USE OF THE ERASMIAN TEXTUS RECEPTUS"

DR. CAS REEVES



*Pastor Cas Reeves*



Please RSVP soon to:  
[contactus@bbc-cromwell.org](mailto:contactus@bbc-cromwell.org)  
or call 860.613.2096

April 1, 2016

# SOLOMON'S ECONOMIC MODEL



Dr. Thomas Strouse

## Solomon's Economic Model

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

### Introduction

Scripture revealed that King David had prepared the way<sup>1</sup> for his son Solomon to perpetuate the divinely promised Davidic Dynasty, saying, *"And David said to Solomon, My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God: 8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Thou hast shed blood abundantly, and hast made great wars: thou shalt not build an house unto my name, because thou hast shed much blood upon the earth in my sight. 9 Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days. 10 He shall build an house for my name; and he shall be my son, and I will be his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever."* (I Chr. 22:7-10). David's warfare conquered the nations around Israel and fostered peace for his heir, again as Scripture declared, saying, *"For he had dominion over all the region on this side the river, from Tiphshah even to Azzah, over all the kings on this side the river: and he had peace on all sides round about him"* (I Ki. 4:24). The kingdom extended from the Euphrates to Egypt and from the Jordan to Philistia. The name Solomon (*shelomoh* [sh-l-m

<sup>1</sup> David not only challenged Solomon from his death bed to obey the LORD (I Ki. 2:3-4), but he also taught him, as Jedidiah testified, saying, *"For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. 4 He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live. 5 Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. 6 Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. 7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding"* (Prov. 4:3-7).

= *shalom*]) means peace, and his reign pre-figured the millennial reign of the Prince of Peace (Isa. 9:6). Furthermore, the Apostle Paul revealed that within the prophecy of Nathan about the Davidic Dynasty (II Sam. 7:14), the reference to "my son" was not to Solomon, but to the Lord Jesus Christ, saying, *"For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?"* (Heb. 1:5).<sup>2</sup> Solomon and his reign of peace foreshadowed the Lord and His millennial rule.

Certainly, Solomon's forty year reign prefigured the LORD's theocratic and economic model for the Millennium. The purpose of this essay is to focus on the principles of Solomon's economic policies, albeit they are inextricably linked to the theocratic government of the Lord Jesus Christ. His model is presumably the best economic model for mankind in a fallen world. As Solomon reigned over the Jewish people, he implemented policies that benefitted the people nationally, so that they were, in the words of the Queen of Sheba, *"Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom"* (I Ki. 10:8).

### Solomon and the People

The Scripture recorded in two parallel passages that the Jews were "happy" (*esher*)<sup>3</sup> under the leadership of Solomon (I Ki. 10:8 and II Chr. 9:7). Presumably, the people were happy because they experienced the happiness that Solomon promised in his Proverbs, relating to their relationship to wisdom (3:13, 18), their extended mercy to the poor (14:21), their trust in and fear of the LORD (16:20; 28:14), and their keeping the law (29:18). The Jewish people's blissful contentment came from their confidence in King Solomon's wisdom<sup>4</sup> and in his leadership undergirded with wisdom and righteousness (I Ki. 3:6-10). Solomon

<sup>2</sup> *"The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here"* (Mt. 12:42).

<sup>3</sup> The Hebrew is translated 27x as "blessed" (cf. Ps. 1:1).

<sup>4</sup> *"And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king: for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him, to do judgment"* (I Ki. 3:28).

loved and honored Jehovah God (I Ki. 3:3, 15; 8:14 ff.), and gave the people the righteous goal of building the Temple.<sup>5</sup>

The righteous reign of Solomon benefited the economy of Israel.<sup>6</sup> The LORD gave the people protection and personal opportunity. For instance, they had peace all around (I Ki. 4:24; 5:12), and the Scripture revealed that each man had personal responsibility to till his own plot of land, saying, *"And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon"* (I Ki. 4:25),<sup>7</sup> and that *"they lacked nothing"* (I Ki. 4:27). Solomon affirmed the importance of work, saying, *"In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury"* (Prov. 14:23). This national safety<sup>8</sup> and personal opportunity<sup>9</sup> eliminated any social programs that fostered the ultimate dependent entitlement mentality. Solomon knew the reality of his proverb, which stated, *"Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase"* (Prov. 13:11).<sup>10</sup> He opposed any system that produced idleness, saying, *"He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster"* (Prov. 18:9). Finally, he employed foreigners for his building projects, but he used Israelis for his military (to continue military dominance), as Scripture revealed, saying, *"Their children that were left after them in the land, whom the children of Israel*

<sup>5</sup> *"Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the LORD appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. 2 And he began to build in the second day of the second month, in the fourth year of his reign"* (II Chr. 3:1-2; I Ki. 6:1-2).

<sup>6</sup> *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you"* (Mt. 6:33).

<sup>7</sup> This blessing pre-figured the Millennial conditions, as the prophet Micah predicted, saying, *"But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it"* (Mic. 4:4; Zech. 3:10).

<sup>8</sup> Paul declared that Christians should pray for national peace so that their assemblies can carry out the Great Commission: *"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth"* (I Tim. 2:1-4).

<sup>9</sup> In the perfect pre-lapsus world, the LORD gave Adam the personal responsibility of tilling his garden, as the Scripture stated, saying, *"And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it"* (Gen. 2:15).

<sup>10</sup> Those that are dependent on government to help them out of poverty will be perpetually weakened and enslaved by and to that very social system.

*also were not able utterly to destroy, upon those did Solomon levy a tribute of bondservice unto this day. 22 But of the children of Israel did Solomon make no bondmen: but they were men of war, and his servants, and his princes, and his captains, and rulers of his chariots, and his horsemen."* (I Ki. 9:21-22).

### Solomon and Economic Principles

With his vast wisdom (I Ki. 3:11-12; 10:23-24), King Solomon implemented several economic principles that enabled him to finance his building projects while allowing the Jewish people to enjoy life. The nation did eat, drink, and make merry (I Ki. 4:20) because they had abundance through national safety (I Ki. 4:24) and personal opportunity (I Ki. 4:25). Domestically, the king instituted equitable givin<sup>11</sup> to his projects from the peoples' surplus<sup>12</sup> (4:27). Second, he required foreigners to supply the manpower for his projects. Ezra revealed this truth, saying, *"And Solomon numbered all the strangers that were in the land of Israel, after the numbering wherewith David his father had numbered them; and they were found an hundred and fifty thousand and three thousand and six hundred. 18 And he set threescore and ten thousand of them to be bearers of burdens, and fourscore thousand to be hewers in the mountain, and three thousand and six hundred overseers to set the people a work"* (II Chr. 2:17-18). Third, he may have explored natural resources for

<sup>11</sup> *"And Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel, which provided victuals for the king and his household: each man his month in a year made provision"* (I Ki. 4:7).

<sup>12</sup> *"And those officers provided victual for king Solomon, and for all that came unto king Solomon's table, every man in his month: they lacked nothing"* (I Ki. 4:27). The nation recoiled when Rehoboam increased tribute (I Ki. 12:13-14), presumably for the following reasons: 1) they could no longer trust the leadership after Solomon's fall, 2) they ceased in personal and national righteousness, and 3) they lost their economic surplus.

# SOLOMON'S ECONOMIC MODEL

mining and refining.<sup>13</sup>

Internationally, the wise king implemented beneficial relationships with other nations. First, he secured a strong political relationship with Egypt by marrying Pharaoh's daughter (I Ki. 3:1; 7:8; 9:24).<sup>14</sup> This enabled Israel to have peace on their southern border, and to be involved in the thriving market of selling horses from Egypt.<sup>15</sup> Second, King Solomon expected and received presents from all of the nations that he ruled.<sup>16</sup> From these foreigners he secured trade agreements that benefited Israel's economy. For instance, he had a profitable relationship with King Hiram (I Ki. 5:1-11) evincing great and advantageous business acumen.<sup>17</sup> He expanded his navy and worked with Hiram to encompass the Mediterranean Sea for lucrative

merchandizing.<sup>18</sup> He took advantage of his superior military's past, power, and placement among the nations to acquire successful trade deals with his neighbors. In short, Solomon was the world's wisest business man.

## Summary and Application

The LORD set up Solomon for great prosperity as the ruler of the Jewish nation, pre-figuring the millennial reign of Christ. Through David's military prowess Jehovah gave Israel national peace and protection. The people followed the righteous worship of Jehovah by their wise leader Solomon. With the ideal national set-up, Solomon made wise decisions regarding the financing of his economy with the principles of equity, taxation from surplus, foreign inscription, and foreign trade deals. He rejected all welfare entitlement programs and insisted upon individual responsibility for personal opportunities.

It behooves nations in this fallen world to approximate Solomon's economic principles, of course based on reverence for the Jehovah God of creation. Wise nations will strengthen their military, protect the safety and prosperity of their people, make sagacious foreign trade deals, utilize foreigners for the benefit of nationals, and demand personal economic responsibility, thereby eliminating dependence on welfare programs which always result in the entitlement mentality of the citizens. The best model incorporates a strong religion (Christianity), a strong military, a strong foreign policy on immigration, a strong and equitable tax policy, and a strong foreign trade practice. In the broad perspective of national economic systems, capitalism is vastly superior to socialism,<sup>19</sup> because the former allows the middle class to flourish whereas the latter destroys it, leading to the ultimate economic collapse of any nation.

13 Although Scripture does not state explicitly that he had copper mines, he certainly would have exploited all possibilities for economic advantage (*vide* I Ki. 7:45-47).

14 His vast harem no doubt included many "political wives" which ensured peace with hundreds of national leaders (I Ki. 11:1-3).

15 "And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt, and linen yarn: the king's merchants received the linen yarn at a price. 29 And a chariot came up and went out of Egypt for six hundred shekels of silver, and an horse for an hundred and fifty: and so for all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria, did they bring them out by their means" (I Ki. 10:28-29; II Chr. 9:28).

16 "And Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the river unto the land of the Philistines, and unto the border of Egypt: they brought presents, and served Solomon all the days of his life" (I Ki. 4:21).

17 Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities which needed significant upgrading. Apparently, Hiram did not necessarily appreciate this sagacious deal. Scripture states, "(Now Hiram the king of Tyre had furnished Solomon with cedar trees and fir trees, and with gold, according to all his desire,) that then king Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities in the land of Galilee. 12 And Hiram came out from Tyre to see the cities which Solomon had given him; and they pleased him not. 13 And he said, What cities are these which thou hast given me, my brother? And he called them the land of Cabul unto this day. 14 And Hiram sent to the king sixscore talents of gold" (I Ki. 9:11-14, cf. II Chr. 8:1-2).

18 "And king Solomon made a navy of ships in Eziongeber, which is beside Eloth, on the shore of the Red sea, in the land of Edom. 27 And Hiram sent in the navy his servants, shipmen that had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon. 28 And they came to Ophir, and fetched from thence gold, four hundred and twenty talents, and brought it to king Solomon" (I Ki. 9:26-28; 10:11, 22).

19 Economic Socialism leads to totalitarian Communism, wherein the citizenry is enslaved economically and religiously.

# LADIES' FELLOWSHIP 2016

On March 19, 2016, the Lord blessed with at least fifty women attending the Bible Baptist Church Ladies' Fellowship. Of the seven churches represented, one was new in attendance. The ladies heard Mrs. Cas Reeves give her testimony of salvation in Christ and subsequent family life as a pastor's wife. After a lunch of soup and sandwiches, the ladies made various types of cards as their crafts. All seemed to enjoy the time together in fellowship around the truth of Scripture and godliness. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Ps. 133:1).



Guest speaker, Mrs. Linda Reeves gave a beautiful and encouraging testimony.



Mrs. Jan Strouse and Mrs. Linda Reeves at the 2016 BBC Ladies' Fellowship.



Pastor and Mrs. Strouse with Pastor Cas Reeves and Family enjoy an evening of food and fellowship.



Beautifully decorated rooms added lovely feminine colors to the Ladies' Fellowship.



Book display for the newest publication "Growing in Grace~A 12 Week Devotional for Women" (See more on Page 8)



# LADIES' FELLOWSHIP 2016

Ladies' Fellowship

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Photos



<<Young ladies helping out at the Greeting Table



A lovely Hymn Singing Time



<<After Mrs. Reeves spoke, the attendees enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared lovingly by the BBC ladies.

>>The ladies got creative while making cards during a fun craft time!



## ARTICLE



Pastor Cas Reeves

*"While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" (Matthew 17:5).*

Jesus Christ who is the Son of God, said, *"I and my Father are one"* (John 10:30). We are told that Jesus Christ was the Word and became flesh (John 1:14). In the very first verses of the Gospel of John we read, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men"* (John 1:1-4). There can be no question that the Bible declares the deity of Jesus Christ.

Further, the Apostle Paul tells us that Jesus Christ is *"the image of the invisible God"* (Colossians 1:15). The word "image" means "likeness" speaking of the profile of an individual, which a shadow might cast. Jesus Christ is that image or likeness of God. To see Christ is to see God. Paul also declared that Jesus is *"the firstborn of every creature"* (Col.1:15). The word "firstborn" is a title of privilege. It speaks of his preeminence over all. He is the Creator (v.16),

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*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

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*II Timothy 2:15*

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## THE PREMINENCE OF CHRIST

the Sustainer (v.17) and He is the Head of the New Testament church (v.18).

Finally Paul shares that in Jesus Christ, *"should all the fulness [of the Godhead] dwell"* (Col.1:19). The word "fulness" means "to fill." It expresses the idea of "filling" as one would fill a treasure chest. It is in the person of Jesus Christ that God was pleased to show Himself. *"For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily"* (Colossians 2:9). The preeminence of Jesus Christ reveals to us the authority of His promises and His ability to perform those promises to us. This is the reason why we trust solely upon Jesus Christ, rather than upon ourselves.

-CAR

### Quotes From the Past:

**Erasmus Roterodamus**

**1466-1536**

**Dutch Renaissance Theologian**



Erasmus  
Roterodamus

*"By a Carpenter mankind was made, and only by that Carpenter can mankind be remade."*

## *Obituary Buffey Bacon*

One of Bible Baptist Church's faithful church members is now with the Lord Jesus Christ. Mrs. Buffey Bacon went to be with the Lord on 3-30-2016. Born on 10-23-70, Buffey was saved later in life and subsequently baptized, and then joined Bible Baptist Church about one and a half years ago. Her desire was to be a faithful church member, honoring her Saviour. However, her physical affliction made it increasingly difficult for her steady attendance. Her testimony is summed up in Paul's statement, *"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain"* (Phil. 1:21).

### RESURRECTION SUNDAY VISITORS

*Pastor Strouse  
and family on  
Resurrection Sunday.*



*"Let King Jesus Reign in your Heart in 2016"*

*"Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle." Psalm 24:8*



## Grow in Grace for Women

### The Desire of a Child of God

*John 5:30: "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."*

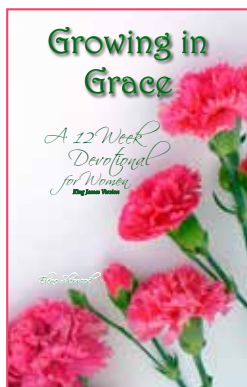
*Reflection: Whose will is Jesus focused on in this verse? Jesus, born in the flesh and filled with the Holy Spirit, in complete humility looks not to His own will but yields to His Father's will.*

*If we are to be like Jesus, what does that say about our submission and yielding each day?*

*John the Baptist says in John 3:30, "He must increase, but I must decrease".*

*Challenge: Where in your life do you see the need to decrease and submit to the will of your Father? How would your life look different if you were to cast off the works of the flesh, being wholeheartedly devoted to His will?*

## "Growing in Grace: A 12 Week Devotional for Women"



This 12 Week Devotional is a ministry of Bible Baptist Church in Cromwell, CT. It is designed for women, and is meant as a support for victory in daily Christian living. Spiritual victory comes by having the Genuine Christ, Accurate Biblical Teaching, Applying the Infallible Word of God, and a Humble Heart.

Using this Devotional Each day you will be given a daily Scripture followed by thoughts upon which to reflect and a challenge for the day. To get the most out of this book, it is encouraged that you take the time each morning to reflect upon and apply each devotion.

Psalm 119:2 "Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart."

Please contact Bible Baptist Church (Elenas6259@gmail.com) if you would like a complimentary copy.

# THE BOOK CORNER

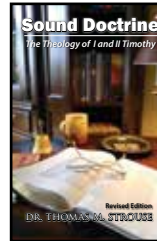
The Book Corner

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BBC Calendar

## The Book Corner

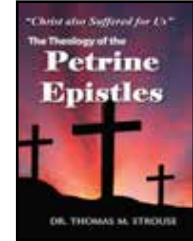
These Books may be purchased through **Bible Baptist Church**:  
40 Country Squire Rd.  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
860-229-5387



I & II Timothy  
\$20.00



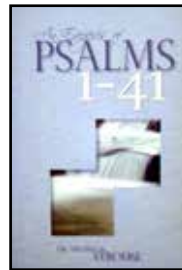
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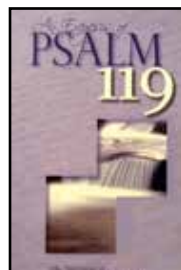
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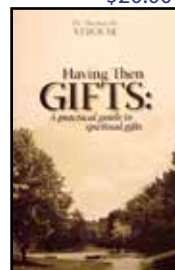
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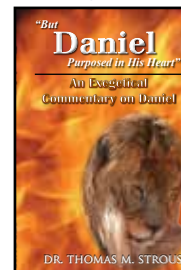
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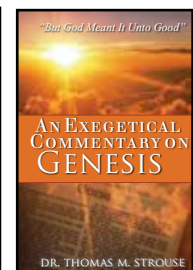
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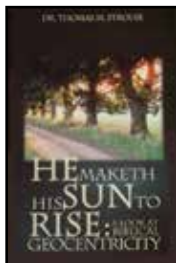
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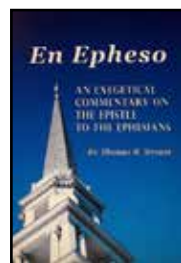
Daniel  
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Genesis  
\$20



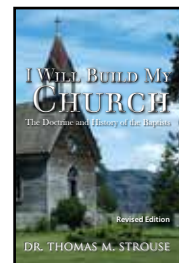
Geocentricity  
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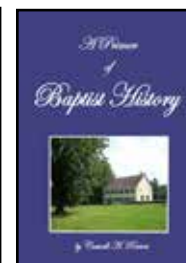
En Epheso  
\$20.00



Jonah  
\$10.00



I Will Build My Church  
\$15.00



A Primer of Baptist History  
\$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken  
\$15.00

## BBC Calendar of Upcoming Events

**April 15, 2016**

BBTS Spring Lecture Series

**May 21, 2016**

Graduation Banquet

**May 22, 2016**

BBTS Commencement Service

**June 13-17, 2016**

BBTS Module, Quakertown, PA  
"The Book of Romans"

**July 25-29, 2016**

Calvary Baptist Independent Church  
Plymouth, NH  
"TBA"

**August 22-26, 2016, Sunday**

Fairhaven Baptist College  
"TBA"

If you have any news for the next issue of the BBC Update, please send email to:

drtms\_bbts@juno.com



**Bible Baptist Theological Seminary**

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