



# BBC UPDATE

## BIBLE BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

The culmination of the tenth year of Bible Baptist Theological Seminary occurred on the weekend of May 18-19, 2019. First, at 10 AM, Pastor Jed Raquintan, pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church (Quezon City, Philippines) defended his 363 pp. dissertation entitled “Biblical Theology of Ministry Finances.” He presented and summarized man’s resource stewardship from Adam down to present day churches, carefully and biblically responding to the dissertation committees’ questions, observations, and instructions. That evening at 5 PM, Bible Baptist Church hosted the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary Graduation Banquet in honor to the three seminary graduates, serving delicious chicken piccata and potatoes and enhancing

the time of testimonies and fellowship. On Sunday, Pastor Jed Raquintan preached in the AM service on the Pharisees’ reaction to truth (Jn. 6) and Dr. Thomas Strouse preached in the Commencement Service on the pride of Job (Job 42:1-10). The three seminarians included Mr. Darrell Nelson (Associate of Theology degree), Mr. Clint Schreiber (Master of Divinity degree), and Pastor Jed Raquintan (Doctor of Theology degree). Brother Nelson is the Music Director at BBC, Brother Schreiber is professor of Bible at Fairhaven Baptist College, and Dr. Raquintan is pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church and host pastor of Bible Baptist Theological Seminary modules. In attendance at the commencement service were former members of Dr. Raquintan’s church, Brother Aiko Tinte and Brother Isa Requintina.



*Pastor Raquintan defending his dissertation*



*BBTS faculty and graduates*



*Dr. Strouse introducing the graduates at the banquet on Saturday night*

*More photos on Page 2 and 3*

# BBTS GRADUATION WEEKEND

BBTS Graduation

2

Photos

## DISSERTATION DEFENCE



*Left and Right: Pastor Raquintan and the dissertation committee during his defence of his work.*



## BANQUET



*The graduates gave their testimonies during the banquet*



*Right: Pastor Strouse with Brother Aiko Tinte and Brother Isa Requintina, former members of Pastor Raquintan's church in the Philippines.*

*Left: the plentiful and delicious dessert provided on Graduation Sunday.*



# IRELAND MODULE

During the week of May 27-31 Dr. Thomas Strouse taught the modules of I and II Thessalonians and Minor Prophets I. The BBTS modules are hosted by River Valley Baptist Church and Pastor and Mrs. Robert Zemeski. The modules were well attended with 12 seminarians, 2 of which were new. Dr. Strouse was housed by Pastor and Mrs. Derry O'Sullivan.

## GRADUATION SUNDAY



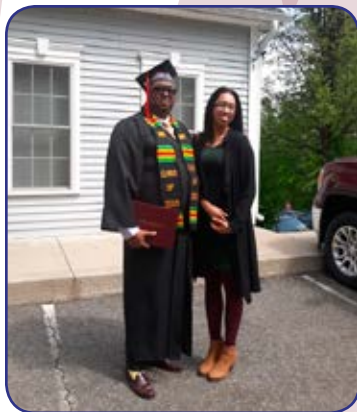
*Pastor Strouse delivering his sermon of dedication to the graduates.*



*Above: Brother Schreiber and Pastor Raquintan being hooded by Dr. Strouse.*



*Right: Brother Nelson gives his testimony after receiving his degree.*



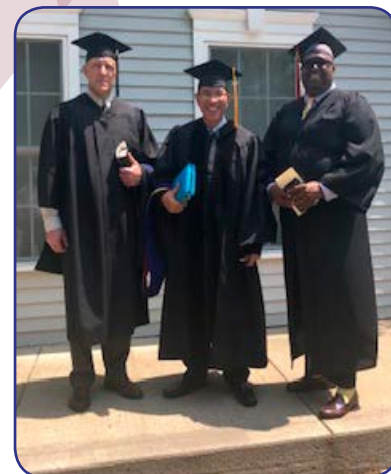
*Left: Graduate Darrell Nelson with his daughter Allayah*



*Below: The full congregation during the graduation.*



*The BBTS faculty*



*The graduates*

## NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE



Pastor Cas Reeves

Luke 1:37

*"For with God nothing shall be impossible." (Luke 1:37)*

As the angel Gabriel spoke with Mary informing her of the upcoming conception in her virgin body of the Lord Jesus Christ, Mary said, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" (Luke 1:34). The angel Gabriel shares with her how and gives her an example in progress, the pregnancy of her cousin Elisabeth (Luke 1:35-36). Gabriel then shares with Mary, "For with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37).

A look at Mary reveals she was no different than we are at times. She was "troubled" at the saying of Gabriel (Luke 1:29). The idea that the word "trouble" conveys is "alarmed" or "distressed." How many times do we find ourselves in a similar situation that is troubling to us? Mary was also filled with thoughts of what all this meant. She "cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be" (v.29). Again, how many times do we find ourselves in a quandary of thought because of something we don't quite understand or an uncertain situation?

Mary was no super woman, she was as normal as we are. In Gabriel's words, we learn Mary was also afraid. And what mortal being wouldn't be afraid in a similar circumstance? Gabriel said unto her, "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God" (Luke 1:31). What loving kindness we see the LORD express toward Mary through Gabriel. Put another way, we might understand that God assured Mary that all was well. "Thou hast found favor with God."

There are similar times in our lives when we find ourselves troubled, with mixed thoughts and emotions and very fearful over an uncertain situation. Three things we should learn from Mary's encounter. First, God loves us; second, God knows our fears; and third, God comforts us with his assuring word. God's word assures us of His help. "Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved" (Psalm 55:22). And though at times things seem impossible to us, we are assured of help, "Is any thing too hard for the LORD?" (Genesis 18:14).

-CAR

### Quotes From the Past:

**James K. Polk**

**1795-1849**

11th President of the  
United States



*"Thank God, under our Constitution there was no connection between church and state."*



*Brother Mark Reeves and Pastor Strouse bonding over cufflinks.*

### BBC 2019 SCHEDULE

**June 27-29**

Vacation Bible School

**Oct. 13-16**

Willow Grove Baptist Church,  
Waynesburg, PA  
Bible Conference

**Dec. 6-8**

Bible Baptist Church  
Tenth Anniversary  
Conference

# GROW IN GRACE DEVOTIONAL FOR WOMEN

Grow In Grace

5

Vacation Bible School

## THE LORD PROVIDES

### Joseph

**Genesis 41:57** And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy corn; because that the famine was so sore in all lands.

### Jesus

**John 6:35** And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

**Reflection:** A famine in the land, that can sound like parts of our country today. Everything we have is so very temporary, it could be gone tomorrow, not unlike those states who have recently been destroyed by weather and tornadoes.

Joseph provided corn in a famine that this verse says was severe. Another verse says it was over all the face of the earth. Although the Lord provides for our physical needs there is a need more important than that.

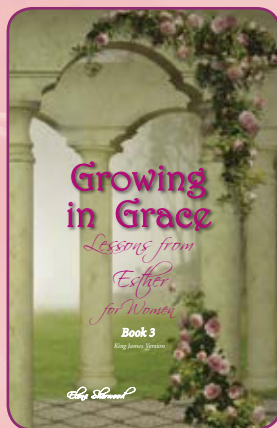
The Lord Jesus Christ is our Spiritual food and our Spiritual hope beyond this material world. If those states who have lost everything have placed their hope in the Lord Jesus Christ then they are the ones who have **EVERYTHING!** They have a hope for eternal life in Heaven promised by the Lord, Himself.

**John 14:2** In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

**Challenge:** If you lost everything you possess, what hope would you have? How would you respond?

If you would like to receive Grow in Grace morning devotions emailed to you Monday through Friday, please send an email to: [Elenas6259@gmail.com](mailto:Elenas6259@gmail.com)

## GROWING IN GRACE: DEVOTIONAL FOR WOMEN ON BOOK OF ESTHER



Bible Baptist Church has published the third book in its devotional series for women. If you would like to receive a complimentary copy, please contact the author, Elena Sherwood, at [Elenas6259@gmail.com](mailto:Elenas6259@gmail.com).

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Vacation Bible School

June 27-29

Thursday and Friday 6:30-9:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM-Noon

Ephesians 6:10

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might."



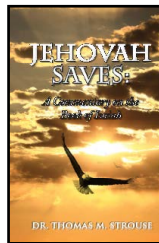
Join us to learn how to armour up  
and stand against the Devil!

Crafts-Snacks-Games-Storytime-  
FUN!

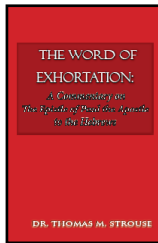
# THE BOOK CORNER

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

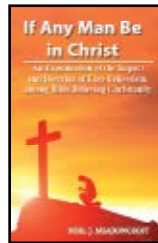
[drtms\\_bbts@juno.com](mailto:drtms_bbts@juno.com)



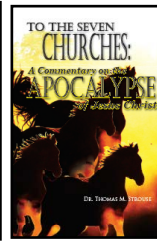
Isaiah \$20.00



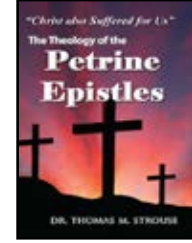
Hebrews \$30.00



If Any Man Be ... I & II Timothy \$10.00 \$20.00



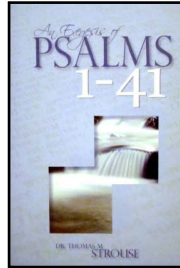
Revelation \$30.00



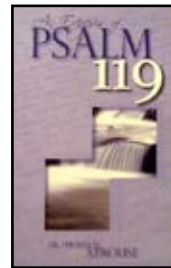
Peter \$20.00



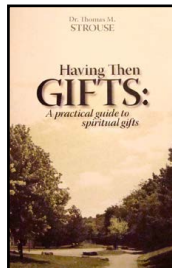
I & II Thessalonians \$20.00



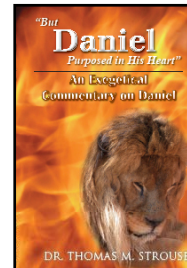
Psalms 1 - 41 \$20.00



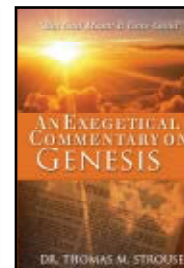
Psalm 119 \$20.00



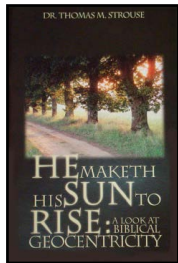
Spiritual Gifts \$8.00



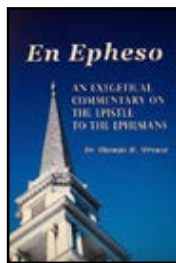
Daniel \$20.00



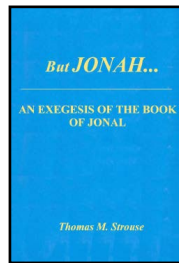
Genesis \$20



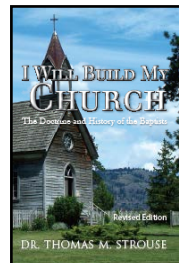
Geocentricity \$10.00



En Epheso \$20.00



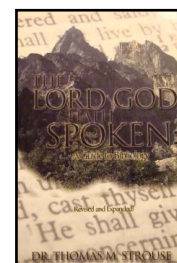
Jonah \$10.00



I Will Build My Church \$15.00



A Primer of Baptist History \$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken \$15.00



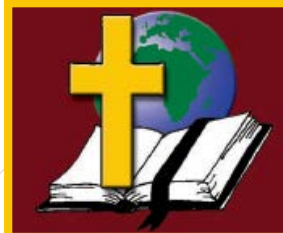
Left: Brother August Gagnon presents his sermon for the Titus Program

Right: June 17-24, August will travel to assist Brother Noel Meadowcroft as he teaches a module in Quezon City, Philippines. Please pray for them as they prepre for this trip.



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

[drtms\\_bbts@juno.com](mailto:drtms_bbts@juno.com)



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