



# BBC UPDATE

## BBTS 2016 Graduation Weekend

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse



*Dr. Thomas Strouse*

The highlight of the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary academic year culminated on the weekend of May 20-22, 2016. The Lord blessed the various events of the seminary ministry, which is under the aegis of Bible Baptist Church. The graduates represented two different international module fields, that of Europe and that of the Philippines. Pastor Les Hill of Gospel Baptist Church in Ireland received the Master of Biblical Studies, and Filipino Pastors Emmanuel Tanierla and George Totica received the DMin and Master of Biblical Studies degrees, respectively.

Pastor and Mrs. Emmanuel Tanierla and son Borge, along with Pastor and Mrs. George Totica arrived at JFK on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 and stayed with Dr. and Mrs. Strouse. On Friday evening, Pastor Les Hill and wife Jenny and four children joined the graduates in a little fellowship at the Strouse House. At 10 AM on Saturday, Pastor Tanierla successfully defended his two hundred page dissertation entitled "Biblical Church Planting Applied in the Philippines and Dubai, United Arab Emirates" before the dissertation committee made up of Dr. Cas Reeves and Dr. Thomas Strouse after a rigorous examination of his theology and practice. On Saturday evening BBC honored the graduates and families with a banquet. The graduation candidates gave testimonies and sang specials to bless the BBC members.

On Sunday, Pastor Hill taught on prayer (Lk. 11) for the Sunday School class, and Pastor Tanierla challenged all with an exposition on Ps. 89, asserting "Our God is Faithful." After a wonderful pasta luncheon, Dr. Thomas M. Strouse challenged the candidates with Isaiah's two comforting messages to Israel and to all believers (Isa. 40:1-31): *God is Saviour (vv. 1-11) and God is Sovereign (vv. 12-31)*. Then the three candidates for graduation were hooded, with Pastors Hill and Totica being awarded the Master of Biblical Studies degree and Pastor Emmanuel Tanierla being awarded the DMin degree. Their wives all received a rose stem for their respective support. Bible Baptist Church rejoiced in the newest alumni of her seminary, Pastor Les Hill, Pastor George Totica, and Dr. Emmanuel Tanierla. By God's grace and help, these men will perpetuate church truth, as the Apostle Paul enjoined, saying, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." (II Tim. 2:2).

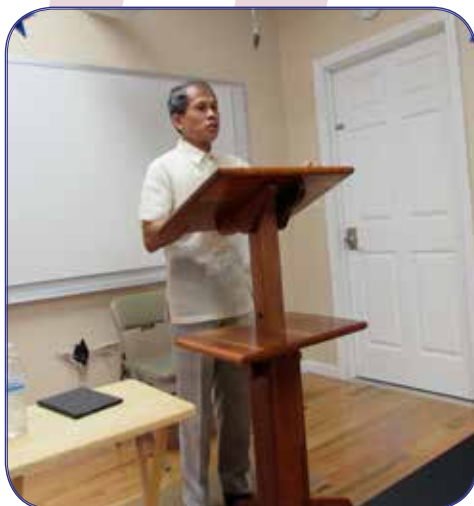
# BBTS GRADUATION WEEKEND

# DISSERTATION DEFENSE

Graduation Weekend

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Dissertation Defense



# BBTS GRADUATION BANQUET

# GRADUATION WEEKEND

Graduation Weekend

3

Graduation Banquet



*The BBC ladies did a wonderful job decorating and preparing a delicious meal.*



*^^ Pastor Keith and Mrs. Rhonda Main from Heritage Baptist Church Endicott, NY*



*^^ Dr. Cas Reeves and Mrs. Linda Reeves from Heritage Baptist Church Endicott, NY*



# GRADUATION WEEKEND

# BBTS GRADUATION BANQUET

Graduation Weekend

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Graduation Banquet



*Everyone enjoyed delicious food and sweet fellowship*



*>> Mrs. Bouw on piano during hymn singing*



*<< Hill family ministering in music.*

# BBTS GRADUATION BANQUET

# GRADUATION WEEKEND

Graduation Weekend

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Graduation Banquet



>> *Testimony of Pastor Totica.*



<< *Testimony of Dr. Tanierla.*



^^ *Testimony of Pastor Hill.*



*Presentations of the Filipino Ministries.*



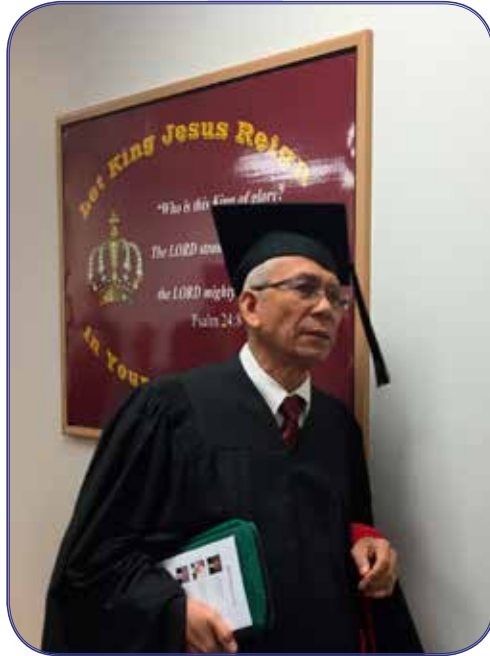
# GRADUATION WEEKEND

# BBTS GRADUATION SUNDAY

Graduation Weekend

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Graduation Banquet



# BBTS GRADUATION SUNDAY

# GRADUATION WEEKEND

*The BBTS graduates receive their hoods.*



# GRADUATION WEEKEND

# GRADUATION SUNDAY

Graduation Weekend

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Graduation Banquet



<<Dr. Strouse with world-renown scientist Dr. G. Bouw.



^^ Pastor Leslie N.G. Hill taught on prayer (Luke 11)



<< Surprise! Surprise visit by Pastor Ron Tobin with daughter Jenny Hill.



^^ Missionary Les Hill presentation of Ireland Ministry

<< Hill family ministering in music.





# GRADUATION SUNDAY

# GRADUATION WEEKEND



<< BBTS graduates R to L: Pastor George M. Totica, Dr. Emmanuel Tanierla, and Pastor Leslie N. G. Hill (Dr. Thomas M. Strouse middle right.)

>> Top Row: L to R : Dr. Noel Meadowcroft, Prof. Jeff Skorupski, Dr. Thomas M. Strouse and Dr. Cas Reeves,



^^ Bottom Row R to L: Dr. Emmanuel Tanierla ,Pastor George M. Totica, and Pastor Leslie N. G. Hill



^^ Front: BBTS graduate Pastor Leslie N.G. Hill



^^ Front: BBTS graduate Pastor George M. Totica  
<< Front: BBTS graduate Dr. Emmanuel Tanierla



# GRADUATION WEEKEND

# GRADUATION SUNDAY

Graduation Weekend

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Graduation Banquet



# FELLOWSHIP

# GRADUATION WEEKEND

Graduation Weekend

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Photos



# GRADUATION WEEKEND

# FELLOWSHIP

Graduation Weekend

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Fellowship



# WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES

*BBTS graduate Pastor Totica preaced two Wednesday Evening Services. He and Mrs. Totica sang as well.*



*^^ Pastor Totica playing harmonica.*



# GRADUATION WEEKEND

## FUN WITH THE STROUSES

Graduation Weekend

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Fun with the Strouses



<<Filipinos enjoying a meal with Dr. and Mrs. Strouse.



^^Filipino families having a sing-along at the Strouses.



Getting ready to go to BB Hall of Fame Museum in MA.



<<Borge Tanagerla shown stripping the basketball away from Michael someone...?



# FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship



Pastor Cas Reeves

Fellowship is simple to understand. It is communion with others or with someone in particular. In the early New Testament church in Jerusalem, we note: And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers (Acts 2:42). Clearly fellowshiping among church members is a New Testament practice that brings the saints closer together.

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Devotional Corner

Another fellowship is that which God has brought the Believer into with Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul reveals to the church of Corinth: God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord (1 Corinthians.1:9).

Further, Paul warned the church at Corinth that there is bad fellowship. Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness (2 Corinthians.6:14)? He was basically saying that righteousness does not fellowship or commune with unrighteousness.

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

*II Timothy 2:15*

# DEVOTIONAL CORNER

Without question fellowship is a New Testament practice. The early church practiced it. God made fellowship possible with His Son Jesus Christ for the Believer. And Believers are warned to have the right kind of fellowship. What kind of fellowship do you have?

-CAR



## Quotes From the Past:

**Nathan Hale**  
1755-1776

**American Patriot**



Natathan Hale

*"I am not influenced by the expectation of promotion or pecuniary reward. I wish to be useful, and every kind of service necessary to the public good becomes honorable by being necessary."*

## Grow in Grace for Women

Ephesians 5:19 *"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;"*

Colossians 3:16 *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

Reflection: Spiritual songs, stated twice, comes from a relationship with the Spirit of God. Can the unsaved world sing True Biblical Spiritual songs when they have not the Spirit of God indwelling them? How important is Melody? Do these verses sound like there is a specific way that we have been instructed?

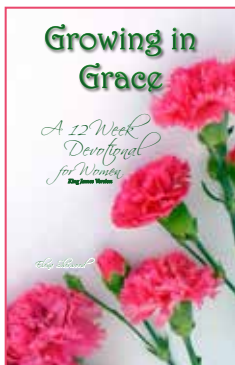
Many think that music is neutral. How can it be? It affects us on so many different levels, from a physical response, to an emotional response, to memories it resurrects from years past.

The world knows the power of music, why don't Christians? The world uses it to influence you in commercials, in horror movies, in comedies, it can be soothing or it can be loud and chaotic, it can be slow or and it can be fast and invite your flesh to engage with it, etc...

1 John 2:15 *"Love not the world, neither the things [that are] in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."*

Challenge: Do you have an internal war between the lust of the flesh and the Spirit of God? Pray and ask the Lord for the wisdom to discern good from evil in the area of music and make the changes necessary in what you are listening to that will be pleasing to the Lord.

### "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.*

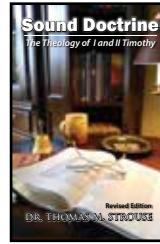
*Psalm 119:2 "Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart."*

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

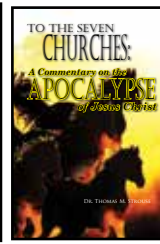
# THE BOOK CORNER

## The Book Corner

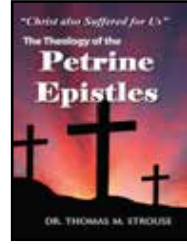
These Books may be purchased through **Bible Baptist Church**:  
40 Country Squire Rd.  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
860-229-5387



I & II Timothy  
\$20.00



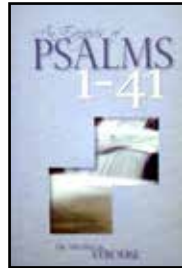
Revelation  
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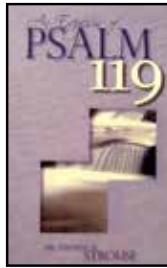
Peter  
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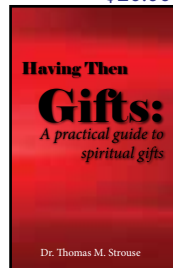
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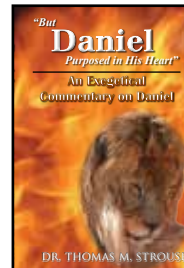
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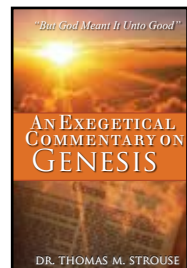
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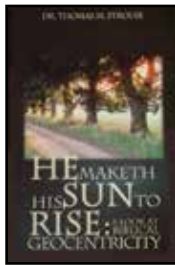
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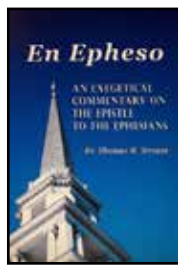
Daniel  
\$20.00



Genesis  
\$20.00



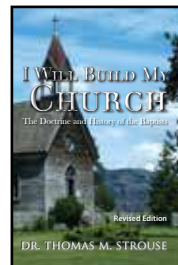
Geocentricity  
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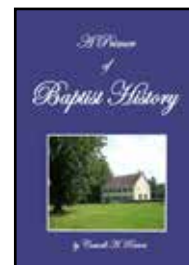
En Epheso  
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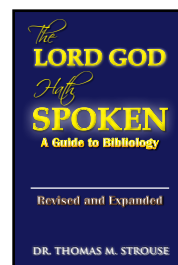
Jonah  
\$10.00



I Will Build My Church  
\$20.00



A Primer of Baptist History  
\$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken  
\$20.00

## BBC/BBTS Calendar of Upcoming Events

**May 30-June 3, 2016, Sunday**

Ireland Module  
"Psalm 119"  
"Prison Epistles"

**July 25-29, 2016**

Calvary Baptist Independent Church  
Plymouth, NH  
"TBA"

**June 13-17, 2016**

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

**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:

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