



BBC UPDATE

Ireland Module

Dr. Thomas Strouse



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The Lord blessed with another excellent module in Quakertown, PA during the week of June 15-19, 2015. Dr. Dave Smith, host pastor, and his church staff and members of Community Baptist Church, were a great blessing as seventeen students studied II Corinthians. My wife Jan was able to travel with me, and we stayed in a local motel as we nursed her two broken wrists. Pray for the ministry of BBTS as we have many interested seminarians around the world taking courses either via modules or the internet. The seminary degree program and course availability may be viewed at www.bbc-cromwell.org.



Dr. Strouse with module students

Vacation Bible School

From Rain to Rainbow Noah and the Great Flood



Join BBC for Vacation Bible School
Learn about the Noah and Great Flood
Children Grades K-6 will enjoy
Bible Verses Crafts Songs Games FUN
July 13-15, 2015 at 9 am -Noon
Finale at BBC July 15, 2015 at 7 pm



On July 13-15, BBC will hold its sixth annual Vacation Bible School with teaching Noah and the global flood. All are welcome to attend from 9 AM to Noon these three days.

The Bible and Sodomy

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse



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The Background of Terms

The proper noun for the city "Sodom" occurs forty-eight times in the KJV, thirty-nine in the OT (*sedomah* or *sedom*) and nine in the NT (*sodoma*). The transliterated "Sodoma" occurs once in the KJV (Rom. 9:29) and the associated "sodomite[s]" occurs five times. The first reference to Sodom indicates that it was a city within Canaan (Gen. 10:19), and it is quite often associated with the city "Gomorrhah"¹ (*`amorah*). The KJV translators did not employ the term "sodomy."

The second reference to Sodom reveals that it was destroyed along with Gomorrhah, both located in the lavish plain around the Jordan (Gen. 13:10). Hints of the character of the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrhah occur with the "shock-culture" names of the respective kings. King Bera (*bera`*) ruled Sodom, and his name means "in evil," whereas King Birsha (*birsha`*) reigned over Gomorrhah and his name means "in iniquity" (Gen. 14:2). The seriousness of the base character of the inhabitants of Sodom is finally revealed as the LORD heard their cry indicating that their sin (*chatta'ah*) was very grievous (Gen. 18:20).

The Nature of Sodomy

Although Scripture does not use the term "sodomy" to describe the nature of the sin of Sodom, the biblical text gives specific detail. The old and young men of Sodom wanted Lot to turn over his two "men" visitors (i.e., angels; Gen. 19:1) so that they could "know" (*yada`*, cf. Gen. 4:1) them; instead Lot offered his daughters to the men to do "good" in their own eyes toward the women. Clearly from the context, the sodomites wanted to rape the young men, and had no interest in raping Lot's daughters.

¹ Gomorrhah is the etymological root to the disease associated with immorality, gonorrhoea (g-m-r > g-n-r).

The angels smote the sodomites with blindness to prohibit their unnatural and wicked (*ra`a`*) practice (Gen. 19:4-11). Paul described this wickedness, saying, "And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet" (Rom. 1:27), as earth attempted to rape heaven. The common expression for the sin of Sodom is "homosexuality," or as Moses condemned the practice of it, saying, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination" (Lev. 18:22), and "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them" (Lev. 20:13). Therefore, the nature of the sin of Sodom, or sodomy, is the sexual perversion of men engaging sexually with men (homosexuality), and women engaging sexually with women (lesbianism). These are unnatural acts, as is bestiality (Ex. 22:19), and are condemned as abominations by the Holy God of the Bible, and worthy of eternal judgment.

The Divine Judgment on Sodomy

The Scripture is clear that the LORD will judge the wicked sin of sodomy, as Jude predicted, saying, "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" (Jude 1:6-7).

However, there is hope for the sodomite, since some of the Corinthian Christians were saved out of the sin of sodomy. Paul stated, saying, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Cor. 6:9-11).

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He described the passive and active roles of sodomy with the expressions "effeminate" (*malakos* [3x]) and "abusers of themselves with mankind" (*arsenokoites* [vide I Tim. 1:10]). Sodomites may be saved by repenting of the sin of sodomy or lesbianism and turning to the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour (Mk. 1:15).

The expression "Christian homosexual" is a theological oxymoron; all sinners including sodomites must receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour (Acts 16:31), having repented of their wicked sins, to inherit eternal life. The Lord Jesus said, "Except ye

repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Lk. 13:3), and "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (Isa. 45:22).

Conclusion

The Bible, both the Old Testament and the New Testament, consistently and equally condemn the practice of sodomy. If the sodomite does not turn from his or her wicked sin, just as any other sinner, he or she will be spend eternity in the torments of the Lake of Fire. However, there is hope for the sodomite, but only in the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

FAITHFUL MEN

On Saturday, June 27, 2015, the faithful men of Bible Baptist Church came together for a day of housekeeping and maintenance. Much got done and the men plan to do more days like this to serve God in this local church.



^^Bro. John Czako filling buckets as the men prepare to clean BBC



^^Bro. Jeff Skorupski and Bro. Darrell Nelson ready to wash the building



The BBC men enjoyed a delicious meal after all their hard work

DEVOTIONAL CORNER

My Trust is in the Lord

Psalm 84:1-12 KJV



Pastor Cas Reeves

David the Psalmist shares his feelings about his relationship with his LORD. Under the inspiration of the Almighty he penned his feelings, which are characteristic of the feelings of all true Believers.

We note the Psalmist begins with his feelings about the dwelling places of God. He tells us: They are a lovely or amiable thing these tabernacles or dwelling places of the LORD (1). He continues: My soul longs for the presences of the LORD and my flesh cries out for the living God (2). My place is with my King and my God (3).

The Psalmist reveals the results of his trust in the Lord: He says, I am blessed in the Lord (4). This means he is content, happy and satisfied in the LORD as a result of his trust. He reveals that he is strong in the Lord (5-7a).

That he is able to approach the LORD, I appear before the Lord (7b-8). And that he has access to the LORD, I pray to the LORD (9). And I attend the house of LORD (10). The Psalmist describes the LORD: who is a sun and a shield, a comforter to the believer. And one who gives grace and glory, a provider to the believer. And one who withholds no good thing from them who walk uprightly, a provider to the believer (11). He concludes by declaring, "My trust is in the LORD" (12). Dear friend do you know where God dwells today, and is your trust in the LORD? -CAR

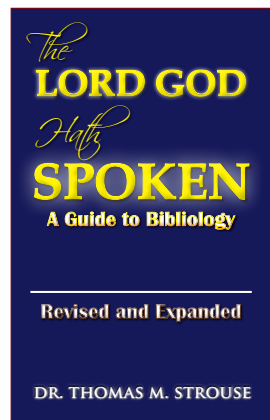
Quotes From the Past:
Andrew Jackson, 1767-1845
7th president of the United States



Andrew Jackson

"The Bible is the rock on which this Republic rests."

The Lord GOD Hath Spoken: Revised and Expanded.



What does the Bible say about its own inspiration, preservation, inerrancy, and availability? The recent reprint of *The Lord GOD Hath Spoken* is an effort to allow Scripture to answer these questions. This expanded volume includes the essays of Dr. Thomas Strouse as he gives the biblical defense for the KJV and underlying texts, representing forty-five years of seasoned argumentation through theological essays and public debates for the word of God.

28TH ANNIVERSARY

Pastor Fernandez preaching Friday (May 29, 2015) morning during our 28th Garden Bible Baptist Church Thanksgiving Pre-anniversary Fellowship, on the subject of the Church in Matthew 16:18 and the Spiritual Vitamins that strengthen the church, which are discipline (Matthew 18), the Lord's Supper (Matthew 26) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28).



Giving love gifts to pastors and wives that attended the 28th Garden Bible Baptist Church Thanksgiving Pre-anniversary Revival and Fellowship May 28-29, 2015



GBBC Anniversary Service



<^The pastors and their wives attending the 28th Garden Bible Baptist Church Thanksgiving Pre-anniversary Fellowship May 28-29, 2015.

BBC Upcoming Calendar

July 13-15, 2015 **9am-Noon**
Vacation Bible School
at BBC

July 15, 2015 **7pm**
VBS Children's Special
at BBC

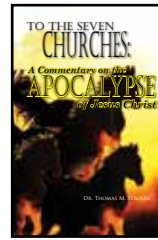
July 20-24, 2015
Joshua Module
Plymouth, NH

Aug. 17-21, 2015
Isaiah Module
Fairhaven Baptist College

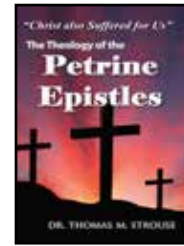
THE BOOK CORNER

The Book Corner

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



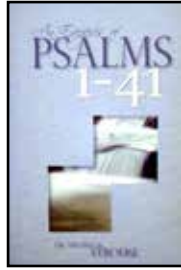
Revelation
\$30.00



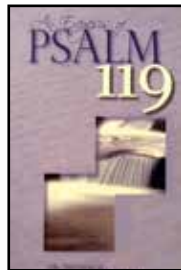
Peter
\$20.00



I & II Thessalonians
\$20.00



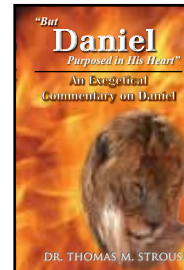
Psalms 1 - 41
\$20.00



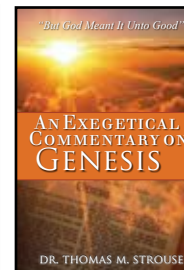
Psalms 119
\$20.00



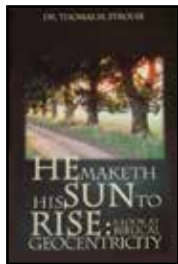
Spiritual Gifts
\$8.00



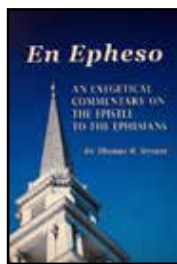
Daniel
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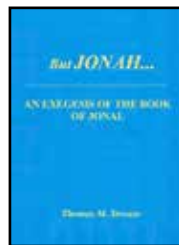
Genesis
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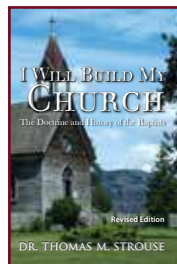
Geocentricity
\$10.00



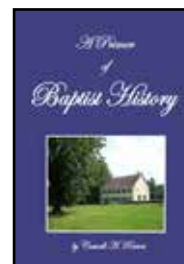
En Epheso
\$20.00



Jonah
\$10.00



I Will Build My Church
\$15.00



A Primer of Baptist History
\$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken
\$15.00

BBC Music



BBC members Lysa Czako on flute and Christy Strouse on piano use their musical talents to serve at BBC. . They play during hymn and offertory times and accompany the choir.



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

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