



BBC UPDATE

B BTS Module in Star, Idaho

Dr. Thomas Strouse



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It was good to visit with Pastor and Mrs. Jerry Akers and Star Baptist Church in Star, Idaho. I taught Bibliology I in the module during the week (Aug. 4-8) with four seminarians. Brother Akers had received his Master of Divinity degree from B BTS and served as a church member of BBC before going to Idaho to plant this church. We are thankful to the

Lord for being involved in this new church plant. During the time I was there, Pastor Akers ordained one of his church members and my former seminarians for the pastoral ministry. I had the privilege to sit in the "presbytery" (I Tim. 4:14) and examine Brother Steve Corman's testimony, doctrine, and practice. Star Baptist Church commenced with the ordination proceedings, having the authority to recognize what the Lord had done, and to commend Brother Corman to the Lord's work. Please continue to pray for this new work.



Star Baptist Church

Above : Pastor Strouse in front of Star Baptist Church in Star, Idaho. Star Baptist church is pastored by former BBC member, Pastor Jerry Akers.



Left: Some of the attendees of the Bibliology Module held at Star Baptist Church.



Above: The Sunday morning service at Star Baptist Church.

Left: Sunday lunch fellowship meal at Star Baptist Church.



Left: Pastor & Mrs. Jerry Akers

Below: View overlooking Emmet, Idaho where there is no New Testament church.



Textual Variants in I and II Timothy

By Dr. Thomas Strouse

Part 2 of 2 Part Article

II Timothy

II Tim. 1:11

Critical text advocates always attempt to perpetuate the shorter reading according to their pre-conceived dictates. In spite of “the overwhelming mass of witnesses” supporting the TR reading of διδάσκαλος ἐθνῶν (“*a teacher of the Gentiles*”),¹ the Committee opted for the omission of ἐθνῶν. Again, the Committee determined that “there being no good reason to account for its omission if it were original here.”² Of course, Peter declared that heretics tampered with Scripture shortly after it was written (II Pet. 3:15-16).

II Tim. 2:3

The Critical text followed the early corruption of words and exchanged the biblical reading σὺ οὖν κακοπάθησον (“*thou therefore endure hardness*”) for Συγκακοπάθησον (“*suffer hardship with me,*” *ASV*). The Committee assumed that the scribe’s eye followed the construction of v. 1. Again, the TR has majority support, but of course the CT advocates reject this testimony.

II Tim. 2:14

Paul desired that the Lord would give Timothy understanding about important truths to pass on to faithful men (vv. 2, 7). These faithful men needed to be charged “*before the Lord*” (ἐνώπιον τοῦ Κυρίου), the Apostle exhorted. However, the *NAS* followed the CT (with its “C” rating) and changed the verse to read “*in the presence of God*” (ἐνώπιον τοῦ θεοῦ). Metzger admits that both readings have comparable weighty evidence but the Committee decided on the “easier” reading of the CT, since Paul did indeed employ the expression five other times in the Pastorals (I Tim. 2:3; 5:4, 21; 6:13; and II Tim. 4:1). However, the TR reading occurs only here in the Pauline *corpus*,³ making it the rare and “harder” reading. Of course, so-called “earlier” and “harder” readings are not biblical criteria for determining the text of Scripture (cf. II Pet. 1:21). Nevertheless, this example demonstrates the Committee’s adverse animosity toward and relentless rejection of the received Bible text of the Lord.

II Tim. 2:18

Articles are inspired and important in the NT Greek text. This verse offers an example of this affirmation. The TR reads τὴν ἀνάστασιν (“*the resurrection*”), whereas the CT omitted the Greek article or put brackets around it (e.g., [τὴν] ἀνάστασιν), questioning its authoritative validity. Although most modern versions rightly translate the Greek as “*the resurrection,*” the CT questioned the text about the resurrection which very text warned of deviation from the doctrine of the resurrection. The anarthrous expression of the resurrection may have been part of the attack upon the doctrine—e.g., “*some sort of non-descript rising.*” The Committee recognized that the TR reading received “*nearly overwhelming textual support,*” but since **Σ** omitted the article, they were compelled to put brackets around τὴν. They gave their decision a “C” rating!⁴

Continued on Page 3

1 Metzger, p. 647. Paul had already stated to the Ephesians that he was “*a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity*” (I Tim. 2:7).

2 Metzger, p. 647.

3 Two other biblical writers employed ἐνώπιον τοῦ Κυρίου (Lk. 1:15 and Jam. 4:11).

4 Metzger, pp. 647-648.

II Tim. 4:22

The full title of the precious Saviour is omitted in the CT. The TR preserved the reading as “*The Lord Jesus Christ*” (Ὁ Κύριος Ἰησοῦς Χριστός), whereas the CT read “The Lord” (Ὁ Κύριος). The Committee makes the inane argument, saying,

In the expectation that a letter as late as 2 Timothy would have the fullest formulation, one would be tempted to explain the shorter readings as due to accidental omissions. Such omissions of the sacred name(s), however, are rare, [*sic*] and it is far more probable that the original reading is that preserved by the joint testimony of Alexandrian...and Western... witnesses...⁵

Also, the concluding “*amen*” (ἀμήν) disappeared in the CT, allegedly because its inclusion would be an obvious liturgical necessity. Instead, Paul ascertained the verity of his inspired letter with the biblical affirmation, as recorded by the TR—ἀμήν.

CONCLUSION

The CT has reduced the TR by about seven percent of the words, and changed wording and obviously theology. Nevertheless, the TR is the Greek text predicted by the Lord Jesus Christ and preserved through Christian history. It should be received today by His assemblies as the preserved, inspired words of Scripture.

⁵ Metzger, pp. 650-651.

Faithful Men Missions

Dedicated to Teaching the Truth of God

II Timothy 2:2

Greetings from the Lawrences!

The summer is moving along quickly and we continue looking forward to the ordination and commissioning service scheduled for September 6th.

On a personal note, Kathryn's younger brother has been diagnosed with a kidney disease, glomerular nephritis. Kathryn was determined to be a match and was approved as a donor. She and her brother both had successful kidney transplant surgery on August 7. Praise the Lord, Kathryn and her brother are both doing well! Kathryn was discharged Saturday the 9th, an answer to prayer. Kathryn's brother was discharged Sunday the 10th, a day early.

Kathryn, her mother, and I were able to keep a scheduled church visit on Sunday the 10th. Our visit with Pastor Scott Blair and the church family at Willow Grove Independent Baptist Church was a blessing. Thank You, for your prayers.

This weekend we are looking forward to visiting Center Road Baptist Church in Buffalo, NY. We are still anticipating the September move to Utah and commencing the work in Utah, ministering with the Hurricane assembly, Fellowship Baptist Church.

Thank you for your prayers.

James & Kathryn Lawrence



James & Kathryn Lawrence

Learn more about the Lawrence's work at:

<http://www.faithfulmenmissions.com/>

BBTS/BBC Picnic!

The annual Labor Day BBTS/BBC picnic is planned for **Sept. 1, 2014** at the Strouse house from **3:00 - 7:00 PM**. All past and present seminarians and all BBC members are welcome to attend!! Those whose last names end in **A-N** should bring a side dish and those ending in **0-Z** should bring dessert. Please also bring lawn chairs. Please **RSVP to drtms_bbts@juno.com** with total number coming by **Aug. 28**.



Commentary on I & II Timothy Coming Soon!

Dr. Thomas Strouse's book *Sound Doctrine: A Commentary on I and II Timothy* will be printed.

For the New Testament believer, theology is at the same time the most essential feature of New Testament preaching and teaching, and the most elusive. I have observed that, although an abundance of theological material and tools are available for the pastor and his people, there is a dearth of *sound doctrine* in the land today within New Testament Christianity. It is my contention that the discipline of New Testament Theology best serves pastors and Bible teachers in helping them to understand what the text meant as well as what it means

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

Upcoming Events at BBC

BBTS Module - "*II Corinthians*" August 18-22
Chesterton, IN

Labor Day Picnic
September 1 from 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Strouse House

Ordination Council for James Lawrence
September 6 from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Bible Baptist Church

Commissioning Service for Missionaries James and Kathy Lawrence"
September 7 at 1:30 PM
Bible Baptist Church

BBTS Modules - "*Matthew*" Sept. 22-26
"*Baptist History I*"
Prague, Czech Republic

2014 BBTS Fall Semester Class Schedule

Mondays	
<i>Bibliology I</i>	9:00 AM - Noon
<i>Greek II</i>	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Wednesdays	
<i>I and II Timothy</i>	8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Thursdays	
<i>Zechariah</i>	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Fridays	
<i>Ecclesiology</i>	9:00 AM - Noon

BBTS On-line

BBTS Classes are now available for viewing at

<http://www.bbc-cromwell.org/seminary.shtml>



Resolutions



Pastor Cas Reeves

Consider the following resolutions; these Old Testament considerations can assist Christians to have a greater resolve:

1. **To be a Christian who is reading and memorizing God's Word.** "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments" (Proverbs 3:1).
2. **To be a Christian who is merciful and honest to others.** "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart" (Proverbs 3:3).
3. **To be a Christian who is wholeheartedly trusting in the Lord.** "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5).
4. **To be a Christian who is making Christ the Lord of his life.** "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:6).
5. **To be a Christian who is separated unto God and apart from sin.** "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil" (Proverbs 3:7).
6. **To be a Christian who is honoring the Lord with all his goods.** "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase" (Proverbs 3:9).
7. **To be a Christian who will respect and appreciate the correction of the Lord.** "My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction" (Proverbs 3:11). - CAR

Revised Edition of I & II Thessalonians Now Available!

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse has updated and released his latest commentary: *To Wait For His Son From Heaven: A Commentary on I and II Thessalonians*

The book may be purchased for \$20.00.



DEVOTIONAL CORNER

Quotes From the Past:

James Madison

1751-1836

4th President of the USA



An alliance or coalition between Government and religion cannot be too carefully guarded against.....Every new James Madison and successful example therefore of a PERFECT SEPARATION between ecclesiastical and civil matters is of importance.....religion and government will exist in greater purity, without (rather) than with the aid of government.

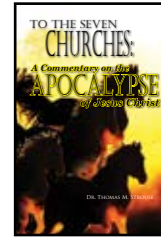


Sophia Gagnon sang a beautiful arrangement of "It Is Well" with sister Amanda accompanying on the piano.

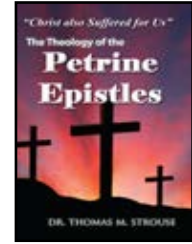
THE BOOK CORNER

The Book Corner

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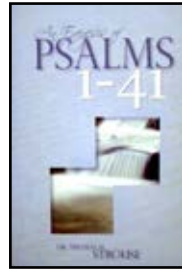
Revelation
\$30.00



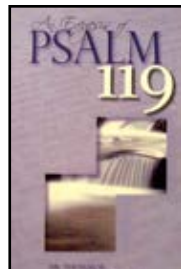
Peter
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I & II Thessalonians
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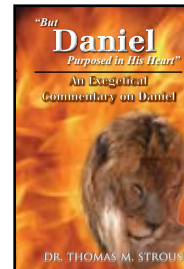
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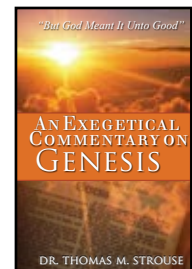
Psalms 119
\$20.00



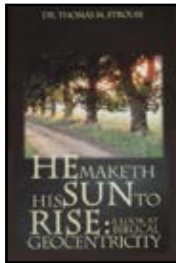
Spiritual Gifts
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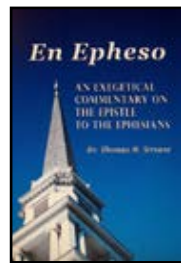
Daniel
\$20.00



Genesis
\$20



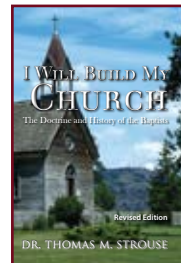
Geocentricity
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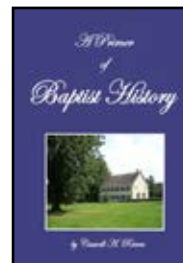
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Jonah
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BBC Fun!



Jack in a Box!

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

drtms_bbts@juno.com



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