

BBC UPDATE

Labor Day Cookout



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

On Labor Day, September 3, 2018, the Lord blessed with a beautiful (although humid) day for BBC members and friends to enjoy their annual Labor Day Cookout. Several churches were represented by pastors and members including those from CT, MA, NH, and NY. There was plenty of food, water, fellowship, and fun, including volleyball for the youth and croquet for the adults. Also, testimonies from many of the men and a challenge from the Scripture with following prayer made the day a great spiritual blessing for all attendees.



Everyone who attended the Cookout

Born-Again Christianity

Recently a well-known politician died. When interviewed sometime before his demise, he was asked about his religion. He affirmed that he was a "Christian," but when pressed, he denied being "born again." The Lord Jesus Christ, the founder of the Christian faith, averred unequivocally, saying, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again" (Jn. 3:7). Upon death, those who are not "born again" will experience what the rich man did, as Scripture revealed, saying, "And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments..." (Lk. 16:23). All who are not "born again" will need to hearken to the Lord's statement of finality, saying, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Rev. 21:8).

How does one become "born again," whether agnostic, atheist, pagan, Moslem, or "Christian"? Certainly the Bible is the book that shows the

way for the new birth, as Peter preached, saying, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (I Pet. 1:2-3). In the Scripture the Lord asserted the simple truth about biblical salvation, saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel" (Mk. 1:15). Both repentance and faith are necessary conditions in the experience of the new birth. Repentance refers to the change of mind about God, sin, and self, and has fruit (Mt. 3:7-9). The change of mind leads to the turning from sin as Paul acknowledged, saying, "For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come" (I Thes. 1:9-10). Repentance is necessary, the Lord Jesus claimed, saying, "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Lk. 13:3, 5).

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LABOR DAY COOKOUT

Labor Day Cookout

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Photos

Pastor showing his skills at croquet!



Left: Ryan performing some stunts with his son Landon!



Above and Below: Young ladies and gentlemen enjoyed a good time of fun and fellowship



Mrs. Hinebaugh and her youngest daughter Althea



The youth enjoying volleyball



Everyone enjoyed delicious food!



*Above: Pastor Strouse leading a short devotional
Right: Darrel Nelson led everyone in singing "Victory in Jesus"*



Victory Over Quitting



Pastor Cas Reeves

"Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem." Acts 13:13

Many times as Christian men and women we are tempted to quit. We may happen as we sense the weight of the responsibilities of life. I may happen as we find ourselves in a discouraging situation brought about by personal or financial injury. Nevertheless, we will all be tempted to quit at one time or another.

On the Apostle Paul's first missionary journey, he had taken a young man by the name of John Mark with him and Barnabas. After leaving the island of Cyprus and sailing to the coast of Asia Minor, as they began their journey in Pamphylia the Scripture tells us that John Mark departed from their company and returned to Jerusalem. In other words, he quit the missionary journey with Paul and Barnabas. The Scripture does not tell us why he quit, but it does tell us that John Mark had victory over his quitting. Paul writes to Timothy around 65 AD while in prison and says to him, "Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry." (2 Timothy 4:11) Mark had gained victory over his quitting. And he is an example that you and I can have victory over our quitting. Maybe we've quit the Lord, or maybe our devotions, or maybe our attendance to church or maybe our zeal to win the lost to Christ. It could be a thousand different things, but the question is: do you want victory?

Victory over any failure in our life needs to be real, and for it to be real you truly need to take a re-look at what Jesus Christ suffered for you at the cross that you might have victory over your sin and failures.

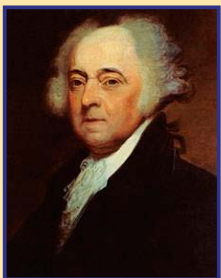
First, Jesus was spit on, and buffeted, and smote with the palm of His assaulters' hands (Matthew 26:67). Secondly, He was scourged (Matthew 27:26). Thirdly, He was crowned by the soldiers with a crown of thorns and then smote upon His head driving the thorns into His head (Matthew 27:29-30). Fourthly, He was crucified, being nailed to the cross (Matthew 27:33-35). And fifthly, He was pierced in His side with a sword (John 19:34). Looking new and afresh at what Jesus went through for us that we might have victory; we note that He did not quit. Praise God, JESUS DID NOT QUIT!

And because Jesus did not quit, He gained the victory for us. Always remember that our strength and our victory over quitting or failures or sin: the answer is always JESUS.

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2

"We are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Romans 8:37 -CAR

Quotes From the Past:



John Adams

1735-1826

2nd President of the USA

"Liberty cannot be preserved without general knowledge among the people."

Born Again Christianity Continued from Page 1

In addition, faith must be placed in person of the Lord Jesus Christ, as Paul asserted, saying, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31). The Apostle John summarized the biblical experience of regeneration, saying, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God" (Jn. 1:12-13), and "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him" (I Jn. 5:1).

Are you a "born again Christian"?

GROW IN GRACE DEVOTIONAL FOR WOMEN

Growing in Grace: A 12 Week Devotional for Women Books 1 & 2

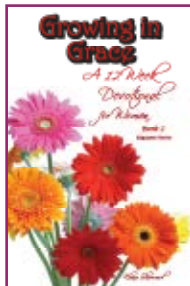
This 12 Week Devotional is a ministry of Bible Baptist Church in Cromwell, CT. It is designed



Book 1

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.



Book 2

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

Psalm 119:2

Please contact Bible Baptist Church (Elenas6259@gmail.com) if you would like a complimentary copy of Book 1 or 2.



Children had fun with chalk at the Labor Day Cookout!

Do You Stand Out or Blend In?

Daniel 3:8 Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.

Daniel 3:14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?

3:15b "...but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?"

Reflection: The world is not the friend of the follower of Christ. Didn't Daniel just save the Chaldeans from death by revealing the dream and its meaning? Reminds us of the Lord Jesus Christ and His death on the cross for those who reject Him (Romans 5:8). The Lord's love superseded the rejection that He faced, it superseded the torture He experienced. His love superseded it all. This is what Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, demonstrated, a faith and loyalty to the LORD God in heaven that should be reflected in our hearts as well.

Daniel 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

3:17 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. (emphasis added)

3:18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. (emphasis added)

These bolded words are so powerful. Did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego serve the LORD based on what He would do for them? They were spiritual Giants of the Faith!! They loved and were servants of the most High no matter what happened to them. They had the hearts of Martyrs. Today most, who call themselves Christians, would faint if they have to go door to door knocking, or share a Gospel Tract, or invite someone to church.

Challenge: What is the greatest struggle that you face today? Are you handling it with grace and a quiet strength, keeping the spiritual perspective of others and their ultimate salvation? Has the LORD asked you to put your life on the line? How would you have handled being in the position of these three spiritual Giants? What would it take for you personally to be a Giant in the Faith?

If you would like to receive Grow in Grace morning devotions emailed to you Monday - Friday, please email me at:

Elenas6259@gmail.com

THE BOOK CORNER

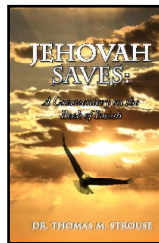
The Book Corner

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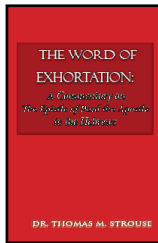
BBTS Fall Schedule / Pastor's Trip to Israel

These Books may be purchased through
Bible Baptist Church:
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Cromwell, CT 06416
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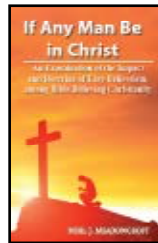
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Isaiah
\$20.00



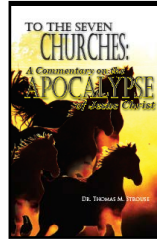
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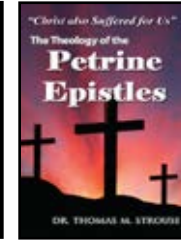
If Any Man Be ...
\$10.00



I & II Timothy
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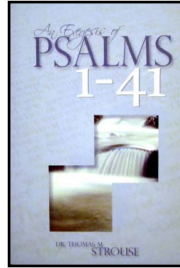
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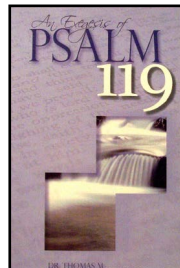
Peter
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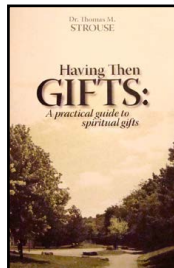
I & II Thessalonians
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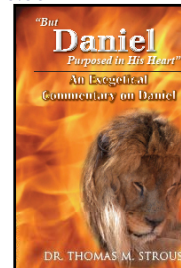
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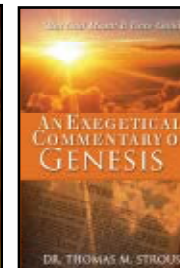
Psalms 119
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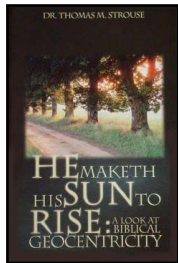
Spiritual Gifts
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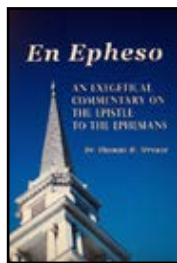
Daniel
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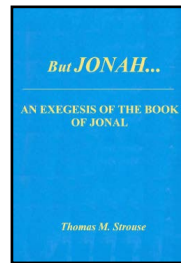
Genesis
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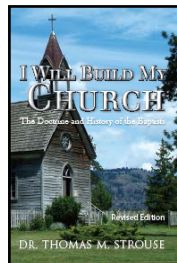
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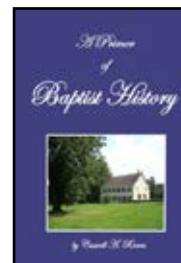
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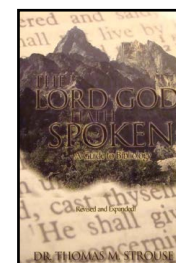
Jonah
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I Will Build My Church
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A Primer of Baptist History
\$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken
\$15.00

BBTS Fall Schedule

Mondays
Bibliology II
9:00AM - 12:00PM

Tuesdays
Greek I
6:00PM - 9:00PM

Wednesdays
Minor Prophets I
9:00AM - 12:00PM

All Courses Taught by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

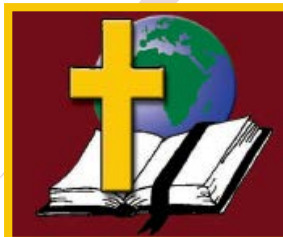
Pastor's Trip to Israel



The Lord willing, Pastor and Mrs. Thomas M. Strouse will be taking a trip to Israel, visiting various biblical sites on a guided tour (Oct. 8-19, 2018). This should be a tremendous blessing for both to see various geographical and historical sites giving a new dimension to the Bible.

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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