



# BBC UPDATE

## Dr. Davidson's 90th Birthday

Dr. Thomas Strouse



*Dr. Thomas Strouse*

On the weekend of Oct. 20-22, 2017, I had the privilege of attending the 10th Annual Davidson Bible Conference at Willow Grove Baptist Church in Waynesburg, PA. The host pastor, Scott Blair and his wife Kelly graciously invited me to the conference and housed me in their lovely prophets' chamber for the weekend. The event was the effort to honor the Lord's servants, Dr. and Mrs. Harold Davidson, as he celebrated his ninetieth birthday. The Davidsons have been used of

God to bless His saints spiritually and materially through the years, and especially Bible Baptist Church and Bible Baptist Theological Seminary. The Davidsons were members of Bible Baptist Church in Cromwell, CT, starting in 2009 and remaining until 2013, when, as octogenarians, they were commissioned and sent out to start Bible Baptist Church in Cody, WY.

Not only was my visit a surprise to them, but Dr. Davidson's daughter Gina and granddaughter Lynn surprised them with their visit for the weekend. Dr. Davidson has been involved in the lives of many seminarians over the last eleven years as the seminary chaplain, some of whom were present for the conference, including Pastor Scott Blair, Dr. Keith Main, Pastor Stephen Hinebaugh, and BBTS Professor Jeff Skorupski. It has been a privilege for me to have been the Davidson's pastor, to have walked shoulder to shoulder with them through some theological battles, and to have rejoiced with them over biblical blessings. May the Lord continue to bless Harold and Edith Davidson, servants of the Lord.

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor



*Dr. Harold Davidson celebrating his 90th birthday with a birthday pie*



^ Willow Grove Baptist Church



^ Pastor Stephen Hinebaugh, BBTS Professor Jeff Skorupski, Dr. Davidson, Pastor Thomas Strouse, Dr. Keith Main, and Pastor Scott Blair.



^ Dr. Davidson preached the morning service.

> Dr. Davidson's daughter & granddaughter sang a special during the service.



## FALL LECTURE SERIES



Five hundred years ago, Oct. 31, 1517, the Roman Catholic Church (RCC) monk Martin Luther posted 95 arguments against the doctrine of indulgences on the Wittenberg Church door and initiated the Protestant Reformation. The reformers were baptized members of the RCC who protested the Pope's encroachment on their respective territories. RCC Leaders in Germany backed Luther while the RCC member Henry the VIII rejected the papal influence in England. Luther was excommunicated out of the visible RCC in 1521 and began the Lutheran Church in 1530. The RCC member Huldrych Zwingli preached reform in 1525 in Zurich, Switzerland. By 1534 Henry VIII decreed the existence of the Church of England. Later RCC member John Calvin controlled Geneva Switzerland with his "reformed theology" (1541). The RCC reformers continued the RCC ecclesiology of the sacral society, maintaining the manta "whose territory his religion." They demanded by physical force the necessity of a national religious leader, religious sacraments which made one right with sacral society, and death to dissidents. The Baptists, of course, rejected the sacral society and practiced believers' immersion into visible assemblies. Because Baptists differed with the RCC and with Protestants on the nature of the ecclesia and therefore the mode and meaning of baptism, the former were severely persecuted during the Reformation era by both movements. The entrance into the visible assembly was through profession of faith and water immersion for the Baptists, whereas the RCC and Protestants taught that infants were regenerated in baptism and permitted membership into the state religion. For instance, Luther defended the articles of the authoritative Lutheran Augsburg Confession (1530), including



*Pastor Thomas Strouse will speak on "The Baptists and the Reformation"*

Save the Date!

### Fall Lecture Series

Friday, November 10

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Courtyard Marriott, Cromwell, CT

**"The Baptists and the Reformation"**

Dr. Thomas Strouse

**"Why Study Baptist History?"**

Pastor Stephen Hinebaugh

**"Shifts in Protestant Worship and Doctrine."**

Pastor Jon Stockton

Pastor Thomas Strouse will speak on "The Baptists and the Reformation" the following: "Article IX: Of Baptism. 1) Of Baptism they [Lutheran churches] teach that it is necessary 2) to salvation, and that through Baptism is offered the grace of God, and that children are to be baptized who, being offered to God through Baptism are received into God's grace. 3) They condemn the Anabaptists, who reject the baptism of children, and say that children are saved without Baptism." The initial Reformers (Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, Henry VIII) were exactly that—as Catholics they attempted to reform the RCC! There is no unambiguous evidence that they were born-again Christians, but to the contrary their own statements revealed that they promoted baptismal regeneration. The Baptists of that era resisted this reformed RCC sacral religion and quite often it cost these Biblicists dearly. The Bible Baptist Theological Seminary 2017 Fall Lecture Series will present "The Baptists and the Reformation" lecture (Dr. Thomas M. Strouse), focusing on the biblical Baptists and their rejection of the scriptural errors that have dominated Protestant denominations and movements such as Fundamentalism. Pastor Stephen Hinebaugh will deal the pertinent topic "Why Study Baptist History?" Pastor Jon Stockton will discuss "Shifts in Protestant Worship and Doctrine" from a Baptist perspective. Please plan on attending on Friday, November 10, 2017, from 9 AM to 3 PM at the Courtyard Marriott (4 Sebethe Dr., Cromwell, CT).

# Grow in Grace

## Joseph

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

**Genesis 41:57**

## Jesus

*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.*

**John 6:35**

**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 in California who have barely walked away with only the clothes they were wearing. These folks have lost EVERYTHING! It's all burned up.

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.

# GROW IN GRACE DEVOTIONAL FOR WOMEN

The Lord Jesus Christ is our Spiritual food and our Spiritual hope beyond this material world. If those in California, Texas, Puerto Rico, 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.

*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.*

**John 14:2**

**Challenge:** If you lost everything you possess, what hope would you have? Would you look to the Lord or would you have a self-reliant attitude of:

*"I will rebuild"*

*"As long as we have each other"*

*"I have California Pride, Connecticut Pride, Texas Pride".*

## 10th Annual Davidson Bible Conference at Willow Grove Baptist Church in Waynesburg, PA



^ Host Pastor Scott Blair



Pastor Scott Blair and his family



>> Congregational singing and special music by the Blair girls



# DEVOTIONAL CORNER

## The Rock

*"For who is God save the LORD? or who is a rock save our God?"*

*Psalm 18:31*



Pastor Cas Reeves

We are taught in parable and precept of the rejection of Jesus Christ by his own people Israel. There is a parable in Mark 12:1-9. At the end of the parable the precept, *"The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner"* (Psalm 118:22). Thus, the parable and the precept are linked together.

The Apostle Paul later wrote, *"As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed"* (Romans 9:33). When he wrote to the Corinthians he clearly identified who the rock was, *"...that Rock was Christ"* (1 Cor.10:4).

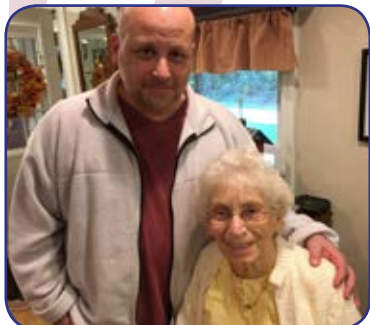
The Apostle Peter wrote, associating Jesus Christ with Isaiah's prophecy (Isa.28:16). *"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe*

*he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed"* (1 Peter 2:6-8).

The significance of this for us is found in the words of the Psalmist: We find ourselves completely indebted to the Rock our LORD for saving us: *"He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved"* (Psalm 62:2). For the deliverance from hell which we obtained and the future he gave us: *"He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings"* (Psalm 40:2). Then for a family relationship that he gave us: *"Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation"* (Psalm 89:26).

Jesus likened our salvation and life to that of *"a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock"* (Luke 6:48). A thousand years earlier the Psalmist expressed the same idea. *"The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower"* (Psalm 18:2). *"O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation"* (Psalm 95:1). -CAR

## Happy Birthday, Dr. Davidson!



Bro. Jeff Skorupski and Edith Davidson



^ Davidson family with Lynn, Edith, Harold and Gina

> The Blair family hosted Pastor Strouse and the Davidsons during the conference.



# THE BOOK CORNER

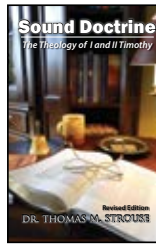
The Book Corner

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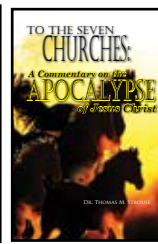
Quotes from the Past

## The Book Corner

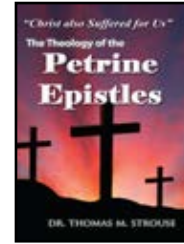
These Books may be purchased through **Bible Baptist Church**:  
40 Country Squire Rd.  
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I & II Timothy \$20.00



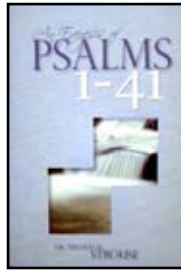
Revelation \$30.00



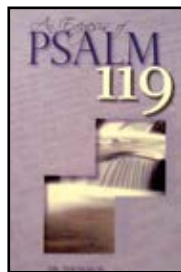
Peter \$20.00



I & II Thessalonians \$20.00



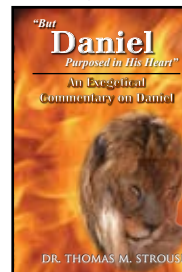
Psalms 1 - 41 \$20.00



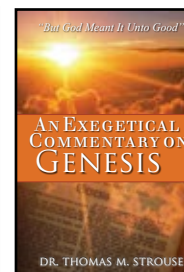
Psalms 119 \$20.00



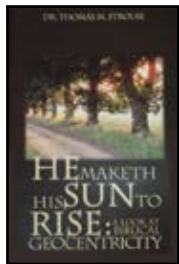
Spiritual Gifts \$8.00



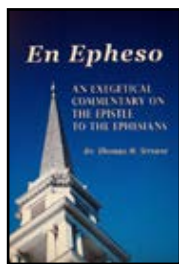
Daniel \$20.00



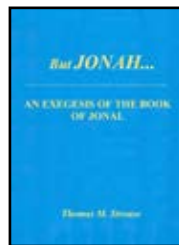
Genesis \$20



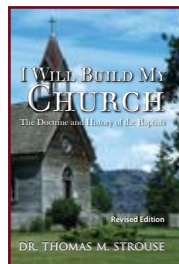
Geocentricity \$10.00



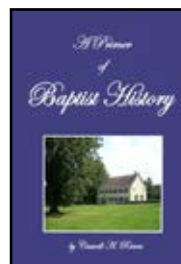
En Epheso \$20.00



Jonah \$10.00



I Will Build My Church \$15.00



A Primer of Baptist History \$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken \$15.00

## Filipino Ministry



Dr. David Ellmore, BBTS seminarian, recently taught the module course 'Dispensations' to Filipino pastors and church members in Iloilo.

## Quotes From the Past: John Quincy Adams 1735-1826

2nd American President



*"Duty is ours,  
results are  
God's."*

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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