



# BBC UPDATE

## Dr. and Mrs. Harold Davidson Dr. Thomas M. Strouse



*Dr. Thomas Strouse*

Dr. Harold and Mrs. Edith Davidson ministered at Bible Baptist Church on October 23, 2016, challenging the congregation in two messages about serving the Lord Jesus Christ. The Davidsons were sent from Bible Baptist Church in 2013 to start Bible Baptist Church in Cody, WY, and they have ministered to many folks in that area. They reported on their church and the spiritual growth of their members. They are one of several families sent out by Bible Baptist Church to start churches. Bible Baptist Church is training others in the Scriptures with the prayer that they as well may be sent out to accomplish the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20).



*Dr. Harold Davidson challenged with his preaching Sunday.*



*The Vassars and the Davidsons.*



*The Clevelands and the Davidsons.*



*Trees are beauty around BBC.  
(More photos on page2...)*

# DAVIDSON VISIT

Davidson Visit

2

BBTS Fall Lecture Series



*The Davidsons with Mrs. Lilia Harding.*



*BBC sang "Happy Birthday" and presented Dr. Davidson with a card for his 89th birthday.*

## BBTS FALL LECTURE SERIES 2016



### "THE BIBLE, CREATION, AND EVOLUTION"

*NOVEMBER 11, 2016*



On November 11, 2016, Bible Baptist Church will sponsor the 2016 BBTS Fall Lecture Series on "The Bible, Creation, and Evolution" at The Courtyard Marriott, Cromwell, CT. Dr. Thomas M. Strouse will lecture on "The Creation Week and the Noachic Flood" (9 AM to 11:30 AM). After a free luncheon at Bible Baptist Church (11:30 AM to 1 PM), Dr. Greg Breeden will lecture on "The Creation of Man" and related issues (1-3 PM). Biblical responses will be given to queries such as the events of the first day of creation, the duration of each day, the speed of light as a constant, the "gap" theory, the "flat earth" theory, the origin of the so-called "races," the priority of the chicken or the egg, the canopy theory, giants, the source for meteors, and the frozen mammoths. A book table will be available.



Dr. Thomas Strouse

## WHEN THE WICKED “WIN”

(Psalm 73)

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

## INTRODUCTION

When King David began to reign at thirty years of age (1011-971 BC), he appointed three musicians to head up the national musical program for Jehovah worship. He placed Heman and Ethan (Jeduthun) in Gibeon (I Chr. 16:39-42) and Asaph (“gatherer”) in Jerusalem where the Ark of the Covenant was reinstalled (I Chr. 16:4-5). This Levite’s father Berechiah was the door keeper for the Ark (I Chr. 15:23), and Asaph’s sons continued the music guild in later times (Ezr. 3:10). Chief musician Asaph ministered through David’s entire lifetime and up through Solomon’s dedication of the Temple (II Chr. 5:12). He was a skilled musician with the cymbals (I Chr. 16:5) as well as seer (II Chr. 29:30), who along with Heman and Ethan prophesied with their respective instruments (I Chr. 25:1).<sup>1</sup> Asaph was a biblical theologian and he wrote several psalms for the national music program. These included Psalms 50 and 73-83, all of which dealt with the righteous sovereignty of Jehovah. Also among his duties was to provide music for David’s psalms, as the King stated, saying, *“To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm of David”* (Ps. 4:1 et al).

Having lived through all of David’s reign and certainly part of Solomon’s, Asaph saw firsthand the internecine events of these

<sup>1</sup> Since all of the Hebrew Scriptures had cantillation marks (only in the Masoretic Text), they could be sung (Dt. 31:19-30), and the three musical prophets completed the prophetic word by leading their respective guilds though hand gesturing according to the cantillation.

kingdoms. David himself knew there were concentrated coups upon his reign, as he revealed, saying, *“How many are the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me? 85 The proud have digged pits for me, which are not after thy law. 86 All thy commandments are faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me. 87 They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts”* (Ps. 119:84-87). Asaph was present when Absalom rebelled against his father and attempted to inveigle the kingship from David (II Sam. 15:14 ff.). He no doubt also observed Adonijah’s coup against David by usurping Jehovah’s plan to place Solomon over the Davidic dynasty (I Ki. 1:5 ff.). As the events unfolded, godly Asaph apparently was chagrined at the ease and prosperity of David’s own family to secure the kingdom. Events such as these wore on the godly musician and probably others, prompting him to inscripturate the divine perspective on the prosperity of the wicked.

## STRUCTURE

Asaph used the Hebrew poetic structure of the asymmetric chiasm<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Chiasm comes from the Greek letter Chi (C) which looks like a large X, and represents in symbol the literary construction of the indented structure of parallel lines or stichoi.

type, taking the reader into the focus of the psalm and then leading back out again. This type of literature produces a mirror image of the corresponding stichos expressing emphasis, contrast, and relief. Asaph’s psalm was very personal as he struggled with the age-old issue of the prosperity of the wicked, and the proclivity that the righteous have envying the apparent “blessing.” Whatever the event and whomever the wicked, Asaph was aggravated to despair. He seemed embittered toward God and ready to abandon all. He needed help and the good God gave it. The LORD gave the biblical perspective about theodicy (divine justice) in the sanctuary of God, contrasting the temporal prosperity of the wicked now with the eternal reward for the righteous later.

- A. His Experience with Good: His God (v. 1)
- B. His Situation with Wicked: His Grief (vv. 2-3)
- C. The Status of the Wicked: Their Prosperity (vv. 4-12)
- D. His Reaction: Divine Revelation (vv. 13-17)
- C’ The Status of the Wicked: Their Judgment (vv. 18-22)
- B’ His Situation with Wicked: His Grief (vv. 23-27)
- A’ His Experience with Good: His Walk (v. 28)

### A. His Experience with Good: His God (v. 1).

This psalm of Asaph was very personal and individual, referring to the author primarily but extending to the nation. With a strong assertive adverbial particle (“*Truly*”), the psalmist declared the nature of God—“good God.”<sup>3</sup> His goodness extended to not only Israel but also to those like the psalmist who had a clean heart (cf. v. 13).

### B. His Situation with the Wicked: His Grief (vv. 2-3)

Nevertheless, as a righteous child of God, Asaph expressed openly and honestly his spiritual turmoil with a series of singular personal pronouns “*me*,” “*my*,” and “*I*.” Using metaphorical language he indicated that he seemed to lose his spiritual footing, that his feet were almost gone and slipping backward. Apparently the LORD kept him from the “*slippery places*” (cf. v. 18). With the causal particle conjunction (“*for*” = because), he emphasized that he was “*envious*” (*qana’* = jealous) at the proud, arrogant, “*foolish*” (*holliym*) “worldlings. The foolish wicked

<sup>3</sup> David had declared that “the LORD is good” (Ps. 34:8; cf. 100:5; 135:3; 145:9). God’s goodness extends to all of His creation: “Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness” (Acts 14:17).

<sup>4</sup> This participle comes from the halal verb which basically means “to praise.” In this context the wicked praise or boast of themselves.

had "prosperity" (*shalom* = "peace"), Asaph realized. This conclusion seemed so irreconcilable with his knowledge that God is righteous and judges the wicked,<sup>5</sup> and yet observationally He seemed to give peace to the unrighteous. Asaph could not conceal or ignore his grief over this injustice in life.

<sup>5</sup> The musician/psalmist knew of David's assertion: "For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off" (Ps. 37:28).

*Article Continued and Concluded in  
November 15, 2016 BBC Update*

## BRIDAL SHOWER

On October 15, 2016, Bible Baptist Church hosted the bridal shower for Miss Serena Nelson. She is engaged to Mr. David Slaughter with plans of marriage on January 7, 2017. They may move to San Diego, CA where he will be stationed for several years. Pray for this young godly couple.



*"Bride to Be" Serena Nelson*



*"Maid of Honor"  
Alayah Nelson*



# ABOMINABLE PRIDE

## DEVOTIONAL CORNER



Dr. Caswell A. Reeves

### ABOMINABLE PRIDE

**Text: Proverbs 16:5**

*"Everyone that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord" (Proverbs 16:5).*

When the Lord uses the word "abomination," He is referring to something or someone, which is disgusting or sickening, an abhorrence to the character of godliness. An abomination is the description God gives to a proud and haughty person.

As Christians, we are told: *"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogance, and the evil way, and the froward (or unruly) mouth, do I hate"* (Proverbs 8:13). If God hates pride, then if we fear the Lord, we will hate pride. We understand, "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Proverbs 9:10). And with this wisdom we learn two things that pride brings. First, *"when pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom"* (Proverbs 11:2). And second, *"only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom"* (Proverbs 13:10).

God warns us and exhorts us against being proud in heart. He encourages us to be humble in spirit and to live in the wisdom of His words. "In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride: but the lips of the wise shall preserve them" (Proverbs 14:3). Jesus said, *"that which cometh out of man, that defileth*

*man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, murders, deceit, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man"* (Mark 7:20-23). Pride is a terrible thing and every one of us needs to turn to God's for His help to overcome it (Philippians 4:13).

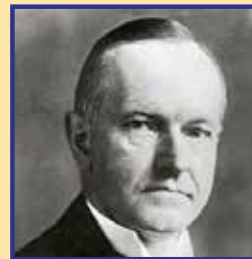
Finally we are told that abominable pride is destructive. *"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall"* (Proverbs 16:18). If God says it, then we can believe it. This kind of pride will bring us down. "A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit" (Proverbs 29:23). Many have died and gone to hell because they let pride stand between them and the Savior, Jesus Christ. Today turn to Christ for strength and salvation for in Him is victory (Rom:8:37): *"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."* –CAR

Quotes From the Past:

**Calvin Coolidge**

30th President of USA

1872-1933



Calvin Coolidge

*"We do not need more intellectual power, we need more spiritual power. We do not need more of the things that are seen, we need more of the things that are unseen."*

## *Grow in Grace for Women*

**2 Corinthians 11:3-4** But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

**Reflection:** If Satan could deceive Eve, is it possible that many American 'Christians' are deceived regarding the Gospel?

**Galatians 1:7** Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

Paul is speaking with the Churches at Galatia and giving them warning that the Gospel of Christ could be perverted. Is this happening in our day?

Would you be able to tell the difference between the true and a false gospel? Between a false Christ and The True Christ? If you don't believe in the Christ of the Bible, can you truly be saved? Do you think that Satan wants you to go to heaven? Do you think he cares about you? Do you think you are smarter than he?

**Today there is an attack on the Deity of Christ but the Truth is:**

**1 John 5:20** And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

**1 Timothy 3:16** And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels,

preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

**Today there is an attack on the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ but the Truth is:**

**1 Corinthians 15:3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

**1 Corinthians 15:4** And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

**1 Corinthians 15:17** And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.

**Today there is an attack regarding the sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice:**

**Hebrews 10:10** By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**John 19:30** When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Jesus died Once for all. His work on the cross was done, finished, and satisfies the Father. Nothing else needs to be added. You cannot add to what Jesus did to complete your salvation.

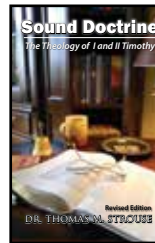
**Challenge: NOW is the time to... Repent and Received the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins.**

**John 1:12** 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:

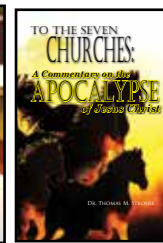
# THE BOOK CORNER

## The Book Corner

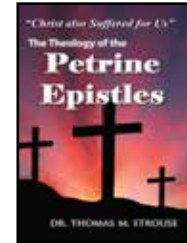
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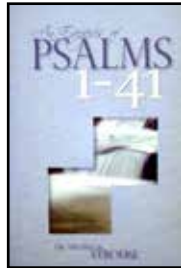
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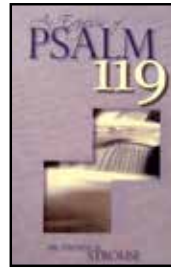
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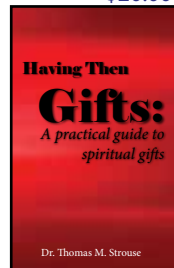
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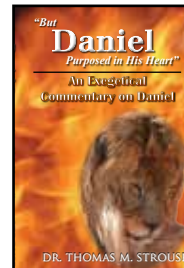
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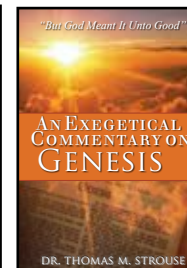
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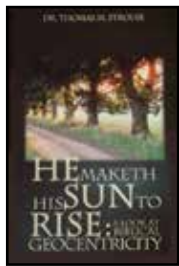
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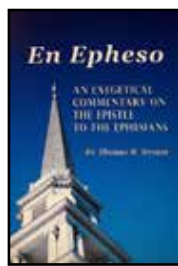
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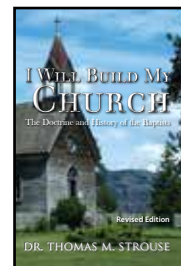
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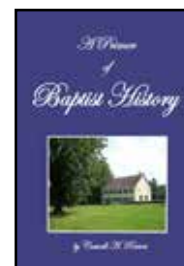
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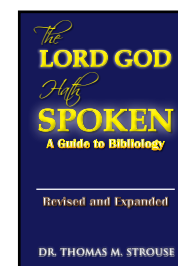
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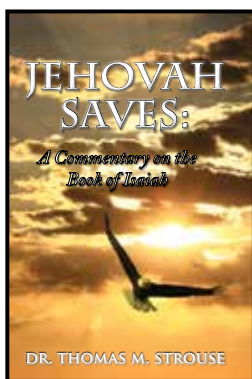
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The Book Corner

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New Book

## NEW BOOK: JEHOVAH SAVES: A COMMENTARY ON THE BOOK OF ISAIAH



The new book by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse entitled *Jehovah Saves: A Commentary on the Book of Isaiah* is available for purchase. The book is an effort to exegete the contents of all sixty-six chapters of Isaiah, resulting in 508 pages of commentary with 746 footnotes chocked full of word studies, grammatical explanations, and theological teachings. It reflects over forty years of study, research, and reflection from the author. Available now! \$30.00

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