



BBC UPDATE

BAPTIST HERITAGE CONFERENCE



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

On Saturday, March 23, 2019, Galilean Baptist Church in Stafford Springs, CT held her Biennial Baptist Heritage Conference. Pastor and Mrs. Stephen Hinebaugh hosted the conference with several area churches in attendance. Dr. Thomas M. Strouse presented three lectures on the subject of “Baptists and Heresies.” These fifty minute presentations included “The Heretical Interpretation of Baptist History,” “The Heretical Development of the Roman Catholic Church,” and “The Heretical Development of the Universal Invisible Church Theory.” The effort was to illuminate Baptists biblically and historically about our blood-stained heritage.

“Every generation needs to be taught the truth. This fact is true relative to the family, society, or religion. Certainly this is the case for Baptists; every new generation of Baptists needs to be inculcated in the doctrine and history of Baptists. Nevertheless, some generations of Baptists have missed the Baptist exegesis of Scripture and the Baptist interpretation of Christian history. This has resulted in contemporary Baptists being ignorant about the Baptist perspective of the word of truth and not knowing from whence they have come.” The lectures are available on www.bbc-cromwell.org under “Seminary Articles.”



*Left: Pastor Hinebaugh and Dr. Strouse
Below: Galilean Baptist Church provided a delicious luncheon for all in attendance.*



The conference began with congregational singing.



There was plenty of opportunity for godly fellowship.



The congregational singing was led by Mr. Alex Belmonte



LIBERTY AND LIMITS

“Christian Liberty and Limits”

(Romans 14:1-15:7)

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

Bible Baptist Church

March 2019

Background

Around AD 49 Jews had been forced out of Rome by Emperor Claudius who died in AD 54 (Acts 18:1-2). His edict was lifted and Jews began to return to Rome, including saved Jews who wanted to join biblical churches in Rome. The key question to the perfected Jews was “how much Judaism can I retain as a Christian?” Peter kept the Kosher diet (Acts 10:14) and Paul observed the holy days (I Cor. 16:8).

I. The Problem (v. 1)

- A. The Audience: churches in Rome and returning Jews.
- B. The Attitude: “receive” into membership without doubtful disputations (cf. vv. 3; 15:7).

II. The Perspective (vv. 2-6)

- A. Diets (vv. 2-4).
 - 1. Among Jews, the issue of meat within the Jewish Kosher diet (Lev. 11:1 ff.).
 - 2. Among Gentiles, the issue of meat offered to idols (I Cor. 10:14 ff.).
- B. Days (vv. 5-6).
 - 1. Among Jews, the issue of Sabbaths, new moons, holy days (feast of Tabernacles, etc.).
 - 2. Among Gentiles, the issue of pagan holy-days such as Herod’s *Ishtar* day (“Easter”).
- C. Application: don’t judge another man’s liberty to eat Kosher or not to eat Kosher. (Don’t judge hypocritically but do judge fruit [Mt. 7:1 ff.; vv. 15-20]; Do judge righteous judgments [where Scripture condemns {Jn. 7:24}]).

III. The Persons (vv. 7-13)

- A. Self (v. 7)—we impact others (we are not isolationists but separatists).
- B. Society (v. 7).
 - 1. Relationship with world (peaceably [Rom. 12:13]).
 - 2. Relationship with family (lovingly [Mt. 10:36]).
 - 3. Relationship with Christians (encouragingly [Phil. 1:15-18]).
 - 4. Relationship with Body of Christ (unity [Eph. 4:3-13]).

C. Saviour (vv. 8-13).

- 1. He is Lord (v. 8).
- 2. He is Saviour (v. 9).
- 3. He is Judge (vv. 10-13).
 - a. Don’t usurp judgment seat.
 - b. Judge self instead! (**Limits for Liberty**: Bible, Civil Government, No Stumbling Block, No Enslavement [I Cor. 6:12], and Pro-Edification).

IV. The Principles (vv. 14-23)

- A. Personal Love (vv. 14-18).
 - 1. Biblical knowledge (v. 14).
 - 2. Biblical love (don’t disdain those who have weak conscience).
 - 3. Biblical perspective (the KOG is spiritual not physical).
- B. Positive Edification (vv. 19-21).
 - 1. Peacefully Edify.
 - 2. Recognize Purity in animal flesh (I Tim. 4:1-3).
 - 3. Appreciate Nazarite Vow (Num. 6:1-5).
- C. Private Conviction (vv. 22-23).

- 1. Keep preferences to self (v. 22).
- 2. Practice preference privately (v. 23).
- 3. Application to Women’s garb (**righteous judgment conviction** that women should dress with distinction (Dt. 22:5) and modesty (I Tim. 2:9); **personal preference** about Western dress). Pastor of BBC has conviction that women should dress with distinction (gender) and modesty (long and loose clothing) and has preference that women should wear dresses and skirts for church services.

V. The Pattern (15:1-7)

- A. Pleasure of Christian (vv. 1-2).
 - 1. Strong should help weak to grow in a trained conscience (v. 1; cf. Rom. 9:1).
 - a. The weak want to put unbiblical limits (personal preferences or non-righteous judgments) on the liberty of the strong.
 - b. Eve added to Scripture to make God “over-strict” (can’t touch the tree).
 - 2. Strong should please weak and not self (v. 2) with patience, love, and meekness, instructing in truth.
- B. Pleasure of Christ (vv. 3-5).
 - 1. His Practice (v. 3).
 - 2. His Passage (v. 4).
 - 3. His Patience (v. 5).
- C. Pleasure of Church (vv. 6-7).
 - 1. Glorify God (v. 6).
 - 2. “Receive” the weak into church membership without doubtful disputations (v. 7).



Pastor Cas Reeves

RESPECT FOR THE BRETHREN

I THANK MY GOD UPON EVERY REMEMBRANCE OF YOU, ALWAYS IN EVERY PRAYER OF MINE FOR YOU ALL MAKING REQUEST WITH JOY, FOR YOUR FELLOWSHIP IN THE GOSPEL FROM THE FIRST DAY UNTIL NOW; BEING CONFIDENT OF THIS VERY THING, THAT HE WHICH HATH BEGUN A GOOD WORK IN YOU WILL PERFORM IT UNTIL THE DAY OF JESUS CHRIST. --PHILIPPIANS 1:3-6

The Apostle Paul had a great respect for the brethren at the church of Philippi. As he opens his letter to them, we come face to face with his respect for them. He states, I thank my God upon every remembrance of you (1:3). Can you imagine a respect that is so great that you can give thanks for every remembrance of someone or for an entire group of people? Yet Paul had that kind of respect for those of the church of the Philippians.

The Apostle goes on to tell us that, as he prayed for the brethren at Philippi, he prayed for them, making his requests with great joy (1:4). Perhaps one of those he was praying for was the Philippian jailor who had received Jesus Christ by faith and then saw his family saved as well (Acts 16:30-31).

Another area for which Paul had a great respect for the church at Philippi was for their fellowship or communion in the Gospel from their very beginning (1:5). This is apparently a reference to their support of him. This support can be recognized in the ministry of Epaphroditus, the church of Philippi's messenger, and his ministry to Paul on their behalf (2:25,30). There should be no question of the Apostle's gratitude and respect for the brethren of Philippi.

The final note of respect that Paul showed toward the Philippians was for their God who began a good work in them and who was capable of finishing that good work (1:6). The Apostle knew with great confidence that the Philippians were secure in Christ until the coming of Jesus Christ.

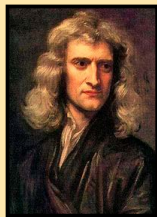
In summary, Paul's respect and love for the brethren was great (1:7,8). This respect for the brethren came from 1) a respectful behavior, 2) a joyous memory, 3) a helpful ministry to others, and 4) the God in whom there can be a great confidence in His power to start and finish His work in His brethren. Therefore, let us live our Christian life in a manner that evokes a respect from others for the glory of God. –CAR

Quotes From the Past:

Sir Isaac Newton

1642-1727

An English mathematician, physicist, astronomer, theologian, and author



“Baptists maintain that they existed before the Catholic apostasy took place; that they existed alongside Catholicism after her formation; and that they existed apart from Catholicism.”



Some BBC men in training

GROW IN GRACE DEVOTIONAL FOR WOMEN

Grow In Grace

4

Ladies' Fellowship

HOW TO HAVE A MERRY HEART

Proverbs 17:22 A merry heart doeth good [like] a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

Reflection: The Bible speaks to us regarding a merry, glad, and joyful heart. Solomon makes reference to a merry heart three times in the Proverbs. There are great benefits to having this kind of heart and it is likened to good medicine. This is not the same as the power of positive thinking, name it/claim it, or self-talk.

Well how do I have a merry heart, you say. Here are some Truths to consider:

Forgiveness through Jesus shed blood:

Psalm 32:1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

A Good Testimony for the Lord

Ecclesiastes 7:1 A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

A Thankful Heart

Psalm 126:3 The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad.

There are many verses, in the Bible, regarding health, sickness, disease, healing and death but we shall focus on: Our Blessed Hope!

When we have peace with God and our time comes, we can believe by faith that to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

Psalm 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

Challenge: Do you have a merry heart? Are you filled with hope for an inheritance? Are you anticipating a lively hope with your Saviour in eternity? Hide these Truths in your heart so that when your time to leave this earth comes you will have the peace that passes all understanding.

1 Peter 1:3-5 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

If you would like to receive Grow in Grace morning devotions emailed to you Monday through Friday, please send an email to: Elenas6259@gmail.com

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH 2019 LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

On April 27, 2019, at 10 o'clock A.M., Bible Baptist Church will host the Annual Ladies' Fellowship featuring Mrs. Debbie Wilhite as the guest speaker. She is married to seasoned missionary Dr. Jerry Wilhite who has received his seminary training and degrees of Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry under Dr. Thomas Strouse. The Wilhites with their family have faithfully served in Africa and now in Australia as church planters. Mrs. Wilhite will give her testimony of salvation and of experiences as a missionary wife in some challenging areas. Along with her testimony, the ladies will enjoy a brunch and craft time. The fellowship will be a time of blessing and will have a challenging spiritual impact.

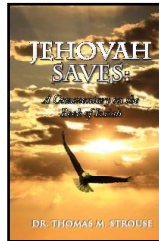
Please RSVP to Bible Baptist Church at drtms_bbts@juno.com.



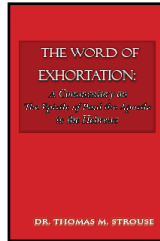
THE BOOK CORNER

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

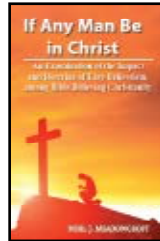
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Isaiah \$20.00



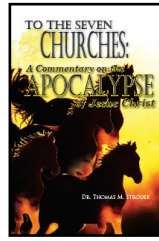
Hebrews \$30.00



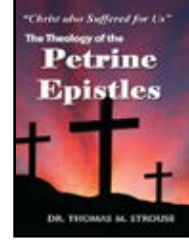
If Any Man Be ... \$10.00



I & II Timothy \$20.00



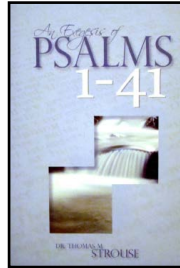
Revelation \$30.00



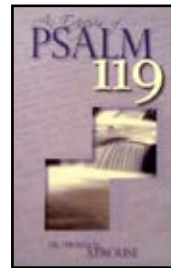
Peter \$20.00



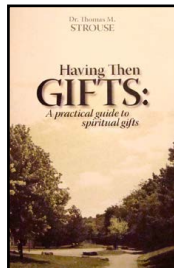
I & II Thessalonians \$20.00



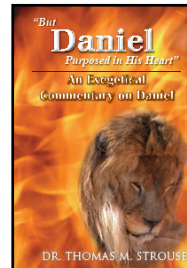
Psalms 1 - 41 \$20.00



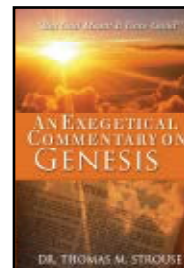
Psalm 119 \$20.00



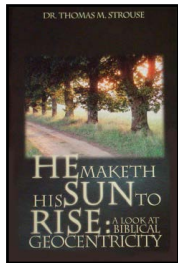
Spiritual Gifts \$8.00



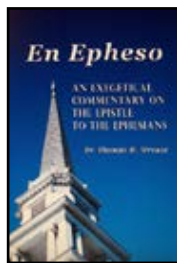
Daniel \$20.00



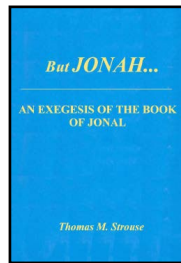
Genesis \$20



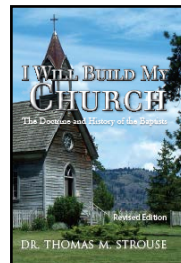
Geocentricity \$10.00



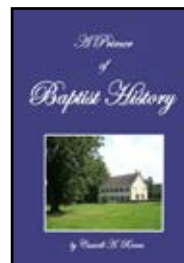
En Epheso \$20.00



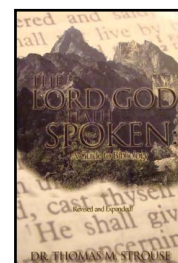
Jonah \$10.00



I Will Build My Church \$15.00



A Primer of Baptist History \$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken \$15.00

BBC 2019 SCHEDULE

April 12

BBTS Spring Lecture Series
"Baptist Polity in Acts"

April 13

Ordination Council
Community Baptist Church

April 27

Ladies' Fellowship

May 19

BBTS Graduation

June 20-22

Vacation Bible School

Oct. 13-16

Willow Grove Baptist Church,
Waynesburg, PA
Bible Conference

Dec. 6-8

Bible Baptist Church
Tenth Anniversary
Conference

BBTS SPRING SCHEDULE

Starting Monday January 28, 2019 the following is the BBTS schedule:

Mondays

New Testament Introduction
9:00AM - 12:00PM

Tuesdays

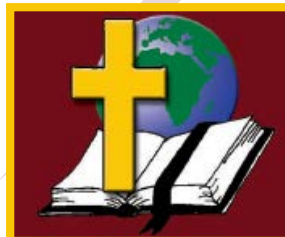
Greek II
6:00PM - 9:00PM

Wednesdays

Minor Prophets II
9:00AM - 12:00PM

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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