



BBC UPDATE

QUEZON CITY MINISTRY



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

During the week of Sunday June 16 through June 23, 2019, Dr. Noel Meadowcroft and Mr. August Gagnon ministered with the Word of God to the congregation of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Quezon City, Philippines. Dr. Meadowcroft taught a module entitled the “Theology of a Biblicist”

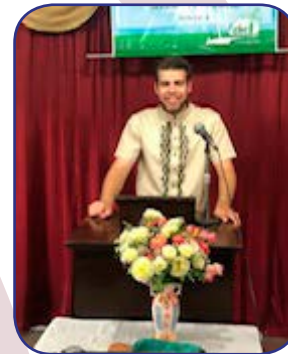
and preached in various mission churches, while young Mr. Gagnon ministered to the young people in these churches. Dr. Jed Raquintan, host pastor and recent doctoral graduate of Bible Baptist Theological Seminary, indicated that he was very pleased with the ministry of these two soldiers of Christ. The people and the preachers were blessed as the Lord Jesus Christ was glorified and His Scriptures exalted.



Dr. Meadowcroft preaching



The members of Cornerstone Baptist Church



August giving his testimony



Pastor Raquintan preaching during the graduation ceremony, hooding the graduates, and presenting them with their diplomas.



Above: the individuals who attended the module taught by Dr. Meadowcroft

Below: In front of a new CBC church plant



BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ON TITHING

1. INTRODUCTION

Purpose: to provide an overview on Biblical principles of tithing; this is not a comprehensive review on financial stewardship or financing the Local church.

- Tithing is a biblical function of the faithful believer that has spanned from before the law, through the law, and after the law.
- The Bible mandates tithing for all believers; this truth is rejected by many (including Baptists)
- Believers need to understand what the Bible teaches regarding tithing so they can:
 - o Walk in obedience to scripture regarding tithing, which is the beginning of biblical financial stewardship
 - o See the Lord's blessing as they live by faith (Rom. 1:17, Mal.3:8-10)
- Tithing is the first step in Biblical financial stewardship – other areas of finance cannot proceed until the tithe is given in faith
- Tithe = means a tenth of the Gross wages; that is ten percent of the whole.

2. PRINCIPLES ON TITHING

Tithing has been taught and expected of the believer throughout scripture and dispensations.

- Genesis 14:20, Hebrews 7:4 – Abraham gave a tithe to Melchizedek
- Genesis 28:22 – Jacob gave a tenth to the Lord
- Leviticus 27:30-34 – Tithing is made a part of the law for the Israelites
- Numbers 18:21, 26 – Israel's tithe supported the Levites. The income the Levites received, they had to tithe on.
- II Chronicles 31:4-5 – Hezekiah instructed the Israelites to begin tithing again after years of apostasy
- Proverbs 3:9-10 – Solomon instructs on giving the Lord the first fruits of that which he has given you
- Malachi 3:8-10 – Prove the Lord with your tithes

• Matthew 23:23 – Jesus doubles down on tithing to the Pharisees in front of his disciples/church members

o “These ought ye to have done” – the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, & faith

o “And not to leave the other undone” – paying tithe on mint, anise, & cummin o “Not to leave” – Negative, Present active infinitive (continuous action). Greek backs up the teaching!

o Tithing was a standard Jewish practice, and the Lord commended the continuity of the practice.

o The disciples would have understood the practice of tithing since it had been a practice for approximately 4,000 years by believers.

• I Timothy 5:17-18 – tithes help remunerate the elder/pastor

Timeframe	Example	Institution
Pre-Mosaic Law	Gen. 14:20, 28:22	Abraham gave to Lord in his ministry of obedience
Mosaic Law	Lev. 27:30-34	Tabernacle
Mosaic Law	II Chron. 31:4-5	Temple
Post-Mosaic Law	Matt. 11:13, 23:23	Local Church

3. EXAMPLE EARNINGS STATEMENT

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION				EARNINGS STATEMENT		
EMPLOYEE NAME	SOCIAL SEC. ID	EMPLOYEE ID	CHECK NO.	PAY PERIOD	PAY DATE	
Sample Name	XXX-XX-3432	44234	48889	10/31/13-11/06/13	11/08/13	
INCOME		HOURS	CURRENT TOTAL	DEDUCTIONS		
GROSS WAGES	RATE	50	2,500.00	FICA MED TAX	36.25	
				FICA SS TAX	155.00	
				FED TAX	559.18	
				CA ST TAX	183.76	
				SDI	25.00	
					1,631.25	
					6,975.00	
					25,163.00	
					8,269.26	
					1,125.00	
YTD GROSS	YTD DEDUCTIONS	YTD NET PAY	CURRENT TOTAL	CURRENT DEDUCTIONS	NET PAY	
112,500.00	43,163.51	69,336.49	2,500.00	959.19	1,540.81	

4. GROSS WAGES

Gross Wages are the total earnings made by an employee prior to deductions. Hourly rate x number of hours = GW

Scripture teaches that you give the Lord a tenth

of all your income; hence, we need to tithe on the Gross Wages.

- Genesis 14:20 – “And he gave him tithes of all”
- Genesis 28:22 – “And of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee”
- Luke 18:12 – the Pharisee’s proud prayer “I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess”

5. DEDUCTIONS & TAXES

Scripture demands the believer to submit to Government and the payment of taxes. For most employees, Taxes are automatically withdrawn from the paycheck.

Jesus Christ clearly taught the need to submit to the taxes from the Government.

- Matthew 22:21 – “Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s”

o Luke 23:1-2 – Pharisees would later falsely accuse Christ of forbidding others to tithe to Caesar

- Romans 13:5-7 – “For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God’s ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due”

6. NET INCOME

Net Income is the remaining amount of money after taxes and other deductions are made from the Gross wages.

Scripture teaches that you give the Lord a tenth of all your income; hence, we need to tithe on the Gross Wages. We live by faith and with biblical stewardship over our net income.

- Romans 1:17 – the believer lives by faith in all aspects of life, including finances
- Malachi 3:8-10 – Prove the Lord with your tithes

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ON TITHING CONTINUED

7. MISCELLANEOUS- Unconventional Income

It is key to utilize these biblical principles in determining your tithe with the miscellaneous and unconventional forms of income.

Retirement, Pensions, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, etc.

- These forms of income were deducted from your paycheck on a regular basis for a period of time.
- If you were tithing on your Gross wages prior to making these deductions than only a tithe on the dividends or returns is needed.
- If tithing did not occur on the Gross wages (which includes the deductions), then a tithe should be made on the entirety of these payments.

8. ARGUMENTS AGAINST TITHING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Many Christians do not have a proper, Biblical understanding on Ecclesiology and/or Tithing; hence, many Christians do not tithe.

Common arguments against the continued practice of tithing:

- The NT only teaches love offerings – poor understanding of Matthew 11:13, 23:23, and ecclesiology
- Believers are no longer under the Mosaic covenant – Tithing occurred prior to the Mosaic Law
- When Jesus affirmed the tithe, it was before the New Covenant – Matthew 23:1, 23 Jesus affirmed tithing before his disciples/church members
- The examples of Abraham and Jacob are not normative patterns to follow – Hebrews 11:8ff, Abraham and Jacob walked by faith; “The just shall live by faith” Rom. 1:17

9. Designated Gifts/Love Offerings

The Apostle Paul coordinated and collected a special love offering that was designated to the “Poor

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ON TITHING CONTINUED

saints at Jerusalem”

Designated Gift for the Jerusalem Church:

- Romans 15:26 – Paul tells the Romans that the saints at Macedonia and Achaia made a contribution to Jerusalem saints
- II Corinthians 8:1-5 – Macedonia churches gave to the Jerusalem saints despite their own poverty
- II Corinthians 8:11 – Give from what you have, not what you hope to have
- II Corinthians 8 & 9 – multiple principles on the heart of the gift and giver in relation to designated gifts

10. FAITH PROMISE GIVING

Many in “Christendom” (Baptists, protestants, fundamentalist, and emerging “churches” have an unbiblical, weak view on the local church, tithing, and giving, which leads to construed ideas on financing the ministry

Faith Promise Giving:

- II Corinthians 9:6-7 – token verse for this practice
 - o The believer is to pray and ask the Lord to give him or her an amount to commit to give to support missionaries or a building fund.
 - o Believers are encouraged to sow bountifully, often from what they do not have.
 - o The believer is to have faith that God will provide the arbitrary amount that the believer may or may not have.

o Financial commitments are made in hope that the Lord will provide the amount of money the Lord “Lays on your heart”

Love Gifts for the Ministry:

- As seen above, love gift has Biblical precedent; however, it does not replace tithing
- Many churches run into financial trouble because of an unbiblical view on tithing/giving
- Love gifts add up to an arbitrary dollar amount from the believer, usually given for a specific need.

BBC Vacation Bible School

The Lord blessed the Bible Baptist Church Vacation Bible School this year on June 27 through June 29 with 16 children in attendance. The theme was the “Armour of God” with Mr. Ryan Strouse leading the sessions and Mrs. Kirsten Gagnon supplementing with teaching and crafts. We appreciate the help of other members with VBS. The young people were challenged about biblical salvation and Christian living, including being filled with the Spirit and putting on the whole armour of God (Eph. 5:18-6:18).



The kids and some of the helpers at Vacation Bible School



Above: August and Amanda told their salvation testimonies to the children.

Below: Ryan teaching about the armour of God



More photos on Page 5

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PHOTOS



Above: Ryan wearing the armour of God
Right: Sophia and Ryan perform a skit



August was the game time leader and taught the kids many fun games



Left and Right: the kids enjoyed making the various crafts led by Mrs. Gagnon



Snack time and lunch time was a delicious part of the day



Above: Mrs. Gagnon led the song time



Left: It was fun to earn candy by answering questions about the Bible lessons



BBC TENTH ANNIVERSARY!

On the weekend of December 6-8, 2019, Bible Baptist Church is anticipating her Tenth Anniversary of biblically-authorized existence by the will of God. Having a nucleus of twenty-seven Baptist church members from area churches, Bible Baptist Church organized under the headship of Dr. Thomas M. Strouse as a chartered New Testament assembly known as Bible Baptist Church on Dec. 4, 2009. Keynote speakers for the weekend will include Dr. Harold Davidson, Pastor Jerry Akers, and Pastor Thomas Strouse, as well as key men in the founding of Bible Baptist Church. Please make plans for this Christ-honoring weekend as details unfold.

DEVOTIONAL CORNER

GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD -- PSALM 107:1-43



Pastor Cas Reeves

FOR THE LORD'S GUIDING LEADERSHIP (1-8)

- 1 O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;
- 3 And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.
- 4 They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in.
- 5 Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.
- 6 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.

- 7 And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.
- 8 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

FOR THE LORD'S SATISFYING OF THE LONGING AND HUNGRY SOUL (9-15)

- 9 For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.
- 10 Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron;
- 11 Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:
- 12 Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and there was none to help.
- 13 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them out of their distresses.
- 14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder.
- 15 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

FOR THE LORD'S SENDING OF HIS WORD TO HEAL AND DELIVER (16-21)

- 16 For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder.
- 17 Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted.
- 18 Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death.
- 19 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their distresses.
- 20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.
- 21 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

FOR THE LORD'S REST FROM DISQUIETNESS (22-31)

- 22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.
- 23 They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;
- 24 These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.
- 25 For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.
- 26 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.
- 27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.
- 28 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses.
- 29 He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.
- 30 Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven.
- 31 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

FOR THE LORD'S STRENGTH AND LOVINGKINDNESS TOWARD THE RIGHTEOUS (32-43)

- 32 Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.
- 33 He turneth rivers into a wilderness, and the watersprings into dry ground;
- 34 A fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.
- 35 He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings.
- 36 And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city for habitation;
- 37 And sow the fields, and plant vineyards, which may yield fruits of increase.
- 38 He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffereth not their cattle to decrease.
- 39 Again, they are minished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow.
- 40 He poureth contempt upon princes, and causeth them to wander in the wilderness, where there is no way.
- 41 Yet setteth he the poor on high from affliction, and maketh him families like a flock.
- 42 The righteous shall see it, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.
- 43 Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

THE LORD USES ALL

Jonah 1:5 Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep.

Reflection: How futile, empty, and powerless, to place your faith in the wrong god.

These poor mariners, who had seen many storms in this profession, were afraid, throwing their cargo overboard, and crying out to false gods: gods who cannot hear, gods who cannot see, and gods who cannot respond. It truly is a sad commentary.

But the LORD wastes no opportunity to reveal Himself to the lost. Amazingly Jonah is comfortably asleep in the lower part of the ship, oblivious as to what is going on.

6 So the shipmaster came to him, and said unto him, What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise, call upon thy God, if so be that God will think upon us, that we perish not.

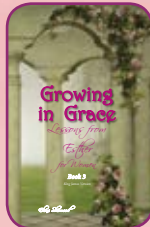
Challenge: Even when we are awake, we can be asleep spiritually. Why did the shipmaster ask Jonah to call upon His God? Could it be that they were beginning to understand that their gods were powerless and worthless to help? We read in Hosea this exact Truth:

Hosea 13:4 Yet I am the Lord thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me.

Are you comfortable in rebellion? Is there an area in your life that you are spiritually asleep? In what area is, Jehovah God, awakening you? How are you responding?

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

GROWING IN GRACE:
DEVOTIONAL FOR
WOMEN ON THE
BOOK OF ESTHER



Bible Baptist Church has published the third book in its devotional series for women. If you would like to receive a complimentary copy, please contact the author, Elena Sherwood, at: Elenas6259@gmail.com.

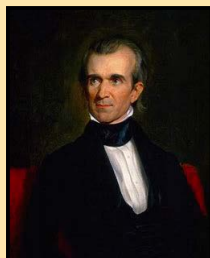


Two young ladies from Cornerstone Baptist Church in the Philippines

Quotes From the Past:

John Adams
1735-1826

2nd President of the United States



“You will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve YOUR freedom. I hope you will make a good use of it.”

BBTS
FALL SCHEDULE

STARTING
AUGUST 26, 2019

Mondays
Prison Epistles
9:00AM - 12:00PM

Tuesdays
Jeremiah
6:00PM - 9:00PM

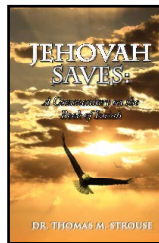
Wednesdays
Jeremiah
9:00AM - 12:00PM

Thursdays
TBA
6:00PM - 9:00pm

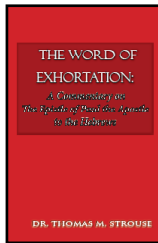
THE BOOK CORNER

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

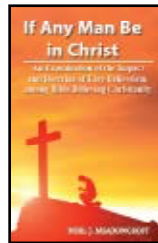
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Isaiah \$20.00



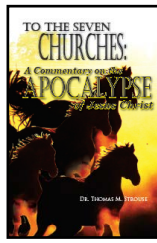
Hebrews \$30.00



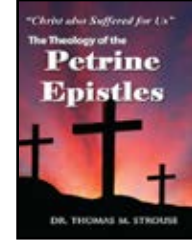
If Any Man Be ... \$10.00



I & II Timothy \$20.00



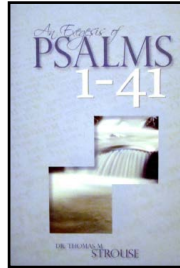
Revelation \$30.00



Peter \$20.00



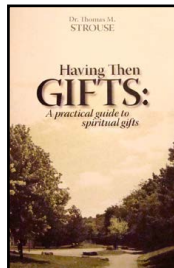
I & II Thessalonians \$20.00



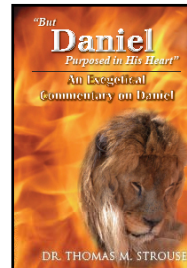
Psalms 1 - 41 \$20.00



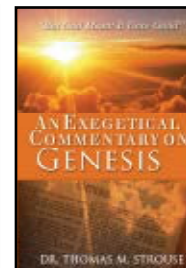
Psalm 119 \$20.00



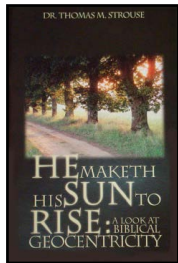
Spiritual Gifts \$8.00



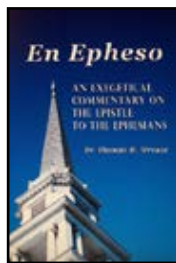
Daniel \$20.00



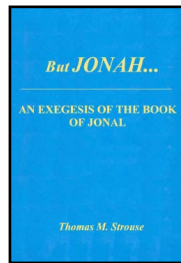
Genesis \$20



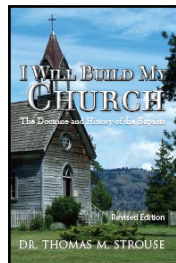
Geocentricity \$10.00



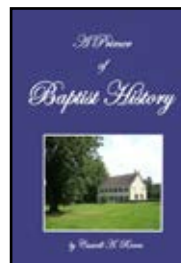
En Epheso \$20.00



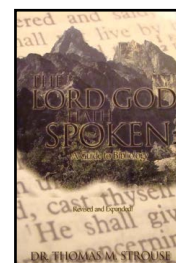
Jonah \$10.00



I Will Build My Church \$15.00



A Primer of Baptist History \$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken \$15.00

BBC 2019 SCHEDULE

Oct. 13-16

Willow Grove Baptist Church
Waynesburg, PA
Bible Conference

November 15

BBTS Fall Lecture Series
Courtyard Marriott, Cromwell, CT

Dec. 6-8

BBC Tenth Anniversary Conference

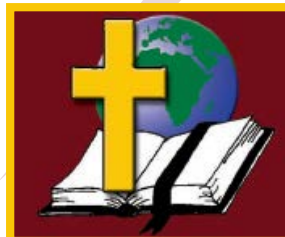


Left: authentic Filipino cuisine

Above: August traveled around the Philippines in a Jeepney, a common taxi transportation vehicle.

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

drtms_bbts@juno.com



Bible Baptist Theological Seminary

A ministry of Bible Baptist Church

40 Country Squire Road

Cromwell, CT 06416

860-613-2096

www.bbc-cromwell.org