BBTS 2020 Spring Semester Begins!



On January 27, 2020, Bible Baptist Theological Seminary began her eleventh year of seminary courses including the biblical books of Ezekiel and Malachi. The Ezekiel module is scheduled for Monday 9 AM to Noon and also Tuesday 6-9 PM, and the Malachi module for Thursday 6-9 PM. Several students are enrolled in each,

and numerous seminarians from Belarus, Dubai, England, India, Indonesia, Ireland,

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse Korea, Philippines, Puerto Rico, and the United States view the online video ministry of Bible Baptist Theological Seminary (www.bbc-cromwell.org). Currently seventeen seminarian classes have been recorded and are available online. Two new available courses are Jeremiah and Jonah. The candidate for graduation needs ten such courses completed for the Master of Biblical Studies. Bible Baptist Theological Semi-



Monday morning Ezekiel class

nary offers various seminary level degrees such as the Master of Biblical studies, the Master of Divinity, the Master of Theology, the Doctor of Ministry, and the Doctor of Theology degrees, all of which require incremental knowledge and precise understanding in the academic study of theology, Bible, Baptist history, and biblical languages.



DUBAI MODULE

During the days of February 6-14, 2020, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Strouse will minister in Dubai, Emirates. Dr. Strouse will be teaching the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary module on "Soteriology" while Mrs. Jan Strouse will encourage and minister to the ladies. The ministry in Dubai involves a local Baptist church which has several Bible studies ready to become New Testament assemblies in this Muslim land. Pray for this min-

istry of Bible Baptist Church.

Left: The Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world, located in Dubai

Right: Dubai church members with Dr. Strouse



BBC Update

LECTURE SERIES

On Friday, April 17, 2020, BBC will host the eleventh annual BBTS Spring Lecture Series entitled:

"I will joy in the God of my salvation" BIBLICAL SOTERIOLOGY

Dr. Thomas Strouse will deal with the biblical doctrine of Salvation (Soteriology), including the doctrine of Man (Anthropology), and the doctrine of Sin (Hamartiology). Soteriology will focus on need for salvation, the conditions for salvation, the Person of salvation, the terms relating of salvation, the fruit of salvation, and the Book of Life, which understanding refutes theological systems such as Calvinism and Arminianism. Anthropology will describe the origin, character, unity, constitution, and fall of man. Hamartiology will cover the character, terms, definition, origin, universality, and extent of sin and its remedy. The Lectures will be held at the Courtyard Marriott in Cromwell, CT. A book table will be available and a luncheon will be provided at Bible Baptist Church.

Bridal Shower!

On February 29, 2020, there will be a bridal shower for Amanda Gagnon.

Amanda is registered at Bed Bath & Beyond and Target.

Amanda will be marrying Mark Reeves from Heritage Baptist Church of Endicott, New York, on May 30, 2020. Pray for this young couple as they prepare for the next chapter in their lives. You can read more of their story on their wedding website:

www.theknot.com/us/amanda-gagnon-and-mark-reeves

For more information, please contact Kirsten Gagnon at keepitclean1@att.net



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DEVOTIONAL CORNER



THE HEART The heart is to keep the commandments for length of days and long life:

Proverbs 3:1-2: "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee."

The heart when associated with mercy and truth builds relationships:

Pastor Cas Reeves Proverbs 3:3-4: "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man."

The heart when it trust the Lord can give you direction in life: *Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."*

The heart determines the issues (out goings) of life: Proverbs 4:23: "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

The heart is froward (unruly):

Proverbs 6:14: "Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord."

The heart devises wicked imaginations:

Proverbs 6:18-19: "An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren."

The heart gives direction when commandments are bound to the heart:

Proverbs 6:21-22: "Bind them (commandments) continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee."

The heart is lustful:

Proverbs 6:25: "Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids."

The heart can receive commandments: Proverbs 10:8: "The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall."

The heart that is perverse shall be despised:

Proverbs 12:8: "A man shall be commended according to his wisdom: but he that is of a perverse heart shall be despised."

Quotes From the Past:

George Washington 1732-1799

First President of the United States of America



"The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man, will endeavor so to live, and act, as becomes a Christian Soldier defending the dearest Rights and Liberties of his country."

WORLDLY SORROW

Read Matthew 18:23-50

Matthew 18:28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

Reflection: What is your reaction when you read this about the same servant? This servant forgot the compassion and forgiveness that he received, did he think he was better and more superior than his fellowservant, his eyes were on himself and the mammon of this world.

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Sadly, this servant had a hardened heart of bitterness and did not reflect the heart of his king. This leaves us wondering: Was this same servant genuine in his falling down and worshiping? Did he truly have a repentant heart or did he have worldly sorrow?

2 Corinthians 7:10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

The King did forgive him his debt, so another question would be, was he walking in the flesh? It is very possible for believers to walk unworthily. Nevertheless, it was a poor testimony of a converted heart that should reflect grace and forgiveness toward others.

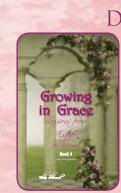
In the following verse, the Church at Ephesus was instructed to apply grace and forgiveness toward others, because they were on the receiving end of forgiveness for their great debt of sin.

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Challenge: Are we then also to practice Ephesians 4:32? Are there ways in which you see yourself in this servant? Are there times you behave like this servant toward a husband, a parent, a son or daughter, a church member, or those with which you work? Does the Holy Ghost bring to mind someone with whom you are needing to exercise compassion and the heart of Christ?

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

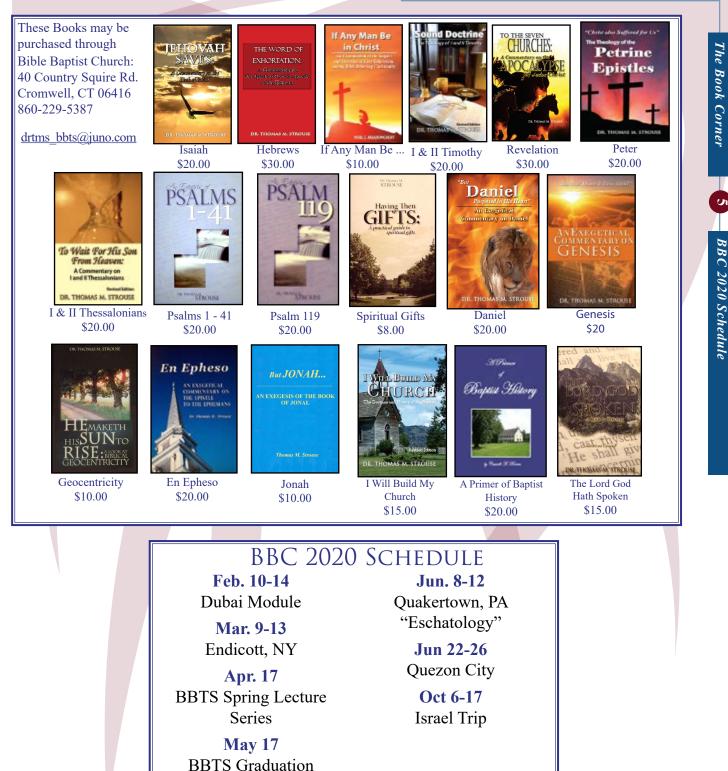
Elenas6259@gmail.com



GROWING IN GRACE: Devotional for Women on 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.

THE BOOK CORNER



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

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