



# BBC UPDATE

## BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH 13TH ANNIVERSARY



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

On December 4, 2009, the Lord led Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Dean of Emmanuel Baptist Theological Seminary, to leave Emmanuel Baptist Church, Newington, CT, and start a New Testament assembly in Cromwell, CT. Several families decided to follow his leadership and constituted together Bible Baptist Church of Cromwell, CT. The charter membership included 27 church members from several area Baptist churches who covenanted together before the Lord to carry out the

Great Commission, practice the two church ordinances, and meet with regular church services on Sunday and Wednesday. The Lord blessed the church from the very beginning, spiritually and financially, with a steady stream of visitors and new members. The Dean, professors, and some seminarians from Emmanuel Baptist Theological Seminary followed and Bible Baptist Church organized the new Bible Baptist Theological Seminary and continued to offer courses and modules. During this spiritual journey, Bible Baptist Church

never missed a service except for three or four snow days. COVID came and went but Bible Baptist Church never stopped having services because the Lord's assemblies must assemble, and the bishop must oversee the congregation. Bible Baptist Church produced many commentaries on the Bible as well as having international Bible Baptist Theological Seminary modules and Spring and Fall Lecture Series. Moreover, BBC has trained men in the assembly to be faithful preachers of the word of God, and has sent several men out to start churches. This past December 18, 2022, Bible Baptist Church celebrated what the Lord Jesus Christ has done through Bible Baptist Church for these thirteen years.

*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.*

**I Timothy 3:16**



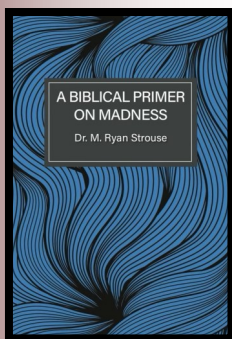
*Pastor Strouse presented a brief history of BBC, August Gagnon read the 13th Anniversary Poem, and Andrew Williams challenged us from the Word of God.*



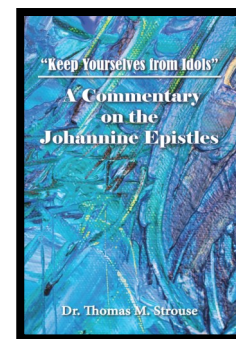
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## NEW BOOKS

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Bible Baptist Church is pleased to announce the soon printing of two new books on biblical truth. Dr. M. Ryan Strouse has ready for printing his expanded material from the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary Fall Lecture Series entitled *A Biblical Primer on Madness* (50 pages +). As well, the new commentary entitled “*Keep yourselves from Idols.*” *A Commentary on the Johannine Epistles* (323 pages) by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse will be available Jan. 1, 2023.



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## PREFACE

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### *“Keep yourselves from Idols”*

#### *A Commentary on the Johannine Epistles*

The Lord Jesus Christ through His Scripture gives prominence to the church started at Ephesus. Four books of the Bible specifically addressed the Ephesian assembly, namely *The Epistle to the Ephesians*, *First and Second Timothy*, and the *Apocalypse*. Moreover, Paul spent three years at Ephesus and later instructed the Ephesian Elders at Miletus. Scripture revealed and the patristics testified that the Apostle John lived in the area of Ephesus. Gnosticism was the heretical backdrop of the first century as every New Testament book dealt with the Lies of the Garden either directly or indirectly. The apostle of love knew the Lord Jesus Christ and ministered with and for Him, defending His Person and work from the ubiquitous attack upon his true Deity and Humanity.

Because of this common theme in the *Gospel of John*, the *Epistles of John*, and the *Apocalypse*, this commentator has assumed that the apostle’s writings give the history of the Ephesian assembly from the reception of the *Gospel*, through the reception of the three successive *Epistles*, culminating with the threat of loss of candlestick status in the *Book of Revelation*. The history of the Ephesian Baptist Church covered the period from the mid-fifties to the mid nineties of the first century, or over forty years. The known pastors then were Aquinas, Paul, Timothy, John, Gaius, the deceiver Diotrophes, and Demetrius. The last pastor received the challenge to repent or lose candlestick status. Today, the church is gone.

The exegesis of the Greek text of the *Johannine Epistles* was great joy to this commentator. On several occasions, I taught the Greek text of the books to Bible Baptist Church membership. The promise that the precious Lord gave about knowing all things because of His indwelling was surely a reality to this commentator, and to all who desire the indwelling Divine Author and Teacher to teach His inspired Books! I am thankful for the prayers and support of Bible Baptist Church members. Especially am I thankful for my dear wife Jan of fifty-six years who is always a blessing and helpmate.

## MODULE IN IRELAND



*The legacy of Bob Zemeski: the seminarians who attended his funeral.*

During the week of January 9-13, 2023, Dr. Thomas Strouse will teach two 5-hour modules daily on the *Gospel of John* and the *Johannine Epistles*. An estimated 15-20 seminarians are planning on attending the modules in the church building of River Valley Baptist Church of the late Dr. Robert Zemeski. We are thankful for the brethren and Mrs. Kathi Zemeski who want the seminary modules to continue.

## ANNIVERSARY BANQUET PICTURES



*A delicious pot roast dinner was provided, before the exciting gift exchange. Above: Rosanna & Luisa, Filipinos living in California and former church members of Dr. Jed Raquinten, visited with us on Sunday and Wednesday.*

## BBC/BBTS 2022-2023 SCHEDULE

**January 9-14, 2023**

**Ireland Module**

*Gospel of John and Johannine Epistles*

**January 30, 2023**

**BBTS 2023 Spring Semester Begins**

*The Bible and Madness (PS 620)*

**February 2, 2023**

**BBTS 2023 Spring Semester Begins**

*Greek I BL 601 and Greek V BL 605*

**April 21, 2023**

**BBTS Spring Lecture Series**

Galilean Baptist Church  
Stafford Springs, CT

**June 5-9, 2023**

**Community Baptist Church**

Coopersburg, PA  
*Book of Hebrews*



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## BBTS 2023 SPRING SEMESTER

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**Starting January 30, 2023**

### **The Bible and Madness PS 620 (Monday, 6-9 PM)**

Dr. M. Ryan Strouse will teach the course on the Bible and Madness, following his soon to be released Primer on Biblical Madness. This will be an excellent study on the current madness in which the present generation is entrapped. Both pastors and church member will benefit from the analysis of and suggested help for Mental Illness that this course will provide. The era of the sixties in which this Seminary Dean lived knew nothing about the current labels and pharmaceutical prescriptions for every type of affliction in the world and among Christians in post-Christian America. Normative Christian living back then was faithful service to the Saviour in the local church, studying Scripture, praying, and ministering to sinners with the Gospel while enjoying the will of God. Not so today among Christians! This seminary course from one knowledgeable about Scripture and experienced in the medical field will attempt to deal with the following:

1. To Reveal the Biblical precedent for physical nourishment and care of those suffering the varying forms of madness; however, the remedy and cure for madness is always spiritual.
2. To Understand “Mental Illness” or Madness from a Biblical and compassionate perspective.
3. To Connect Biblical forms of madness to modern diagnostic labels.
4. To Recognize that all individuals (saved and unsaved) have a proclivity toward a form of “Madness” in the flesh.
5. To Acknowledge that Madness is a spiritual issue (mind), not a physical problem in the brain.
6. To Distinguish between Valid Brain Disease (Alzheimer, Dementia, Autism, Aging, etc.) and Madness (Schizo, Bipolar, Anxiety, Depression).
7. To Equip believers with historical origins of modern psychology, with the discernment of psychological terms and diagnosis from a biblical perspective, and with modern research that rebuffs the mainstream theories.
8. To suggest the biblical interventions of compassionate care in the Word of God, including repentance and faith in Christ and the sufficiency of Christ and His Word.

**Starting February 2, 2023**

### **Greek I BL 601 and Greek V BL 605 (Thursday 6-9 PM)**

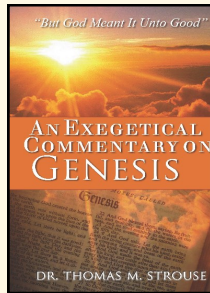
Dr. Thomas M. Strouse will teach Biblical Greek for beginners as well as for pastors who want a refresher course. Also, those who have taken two years of Greek and want to exegete a biblical Greek passage and write a running commentary on the passage and then present it in class every week may meet simultaneously

# The Publication Page

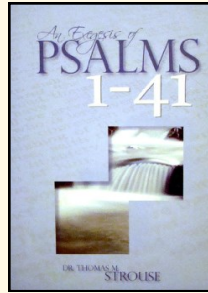
These books may be purchased by contacting:

Bible Baptist Church  
40 Country Squire Dr.  
Cromwell, CT 06416

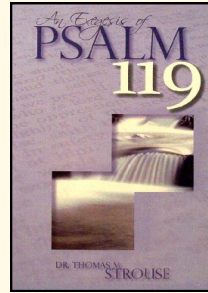
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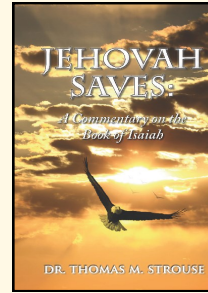
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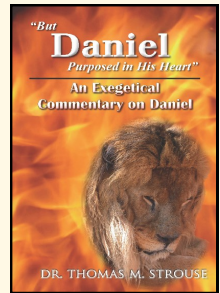
Psalms 1-41  
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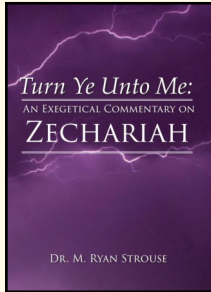
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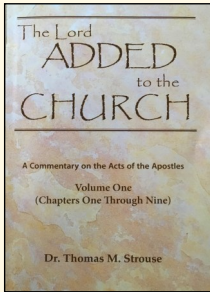
Isaiah  
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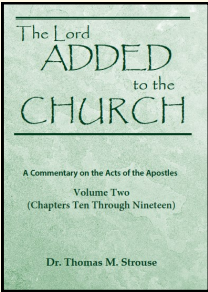
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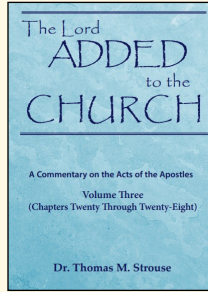
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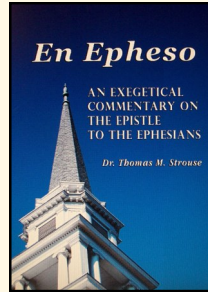
Acts 1-9  
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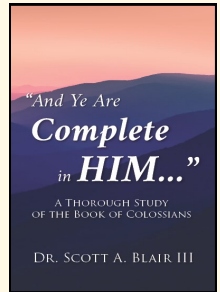
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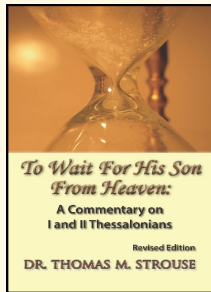
Acts 20-28  
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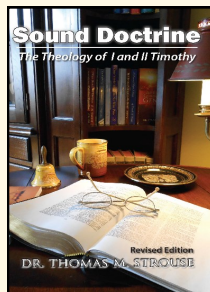
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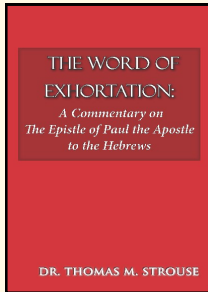
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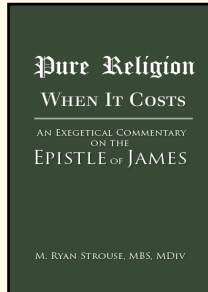
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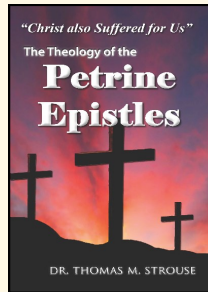
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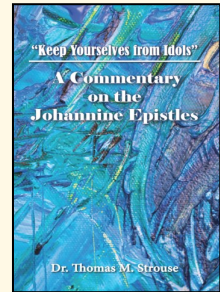
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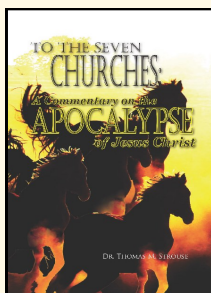
James  
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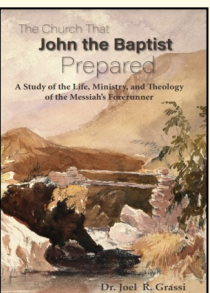
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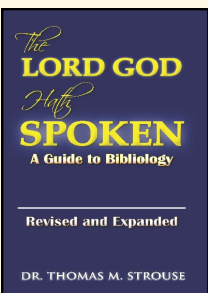
Johannine Epistles  
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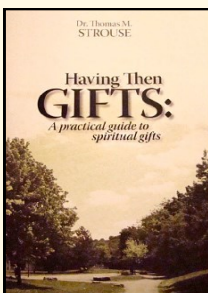
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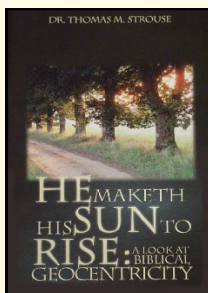
John the Baptist  
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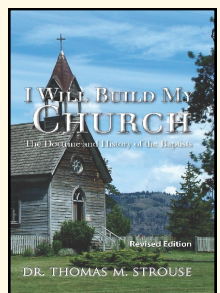
Bibliology  
\$15.00



Spiritual Gifts  
\$8.00

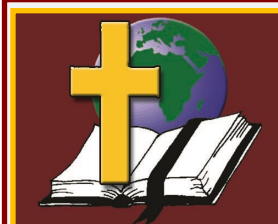


Geocentricity  
\$10.00



Baptist Doctrine & History  
\$15.00

If you have any news for the next issue of the BBC Update, please send an email to: [drtms\\_bbts@juno.com](mailto:drtms_bbts@juno.com)



**Bible Baptist Theological Seminary**  
A Ministry of Bible Baptist Church  
40 Country Squire Drive  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
860-613-2096  
[www.bbc-cromwell.org](http://www.bbc-cromwell.org)