



BBC UPDATE

BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN ADDICTION



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

Everyone has an “addiction” to something or Someone. The Scripture revealed Paul’s encouragement about the house of Stephanas, saying, *“I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)”* (I Cor. 16:15). The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ changed Stephanas and those in his household with the new birth. The change produced the desire and power to allow the Lord to control them and not some pre-conversion sin of the flesh such as lust, drugs, or alcohol. After the repentant sinner is converted, he or she has the responsibility to maintain the practical change that regeneration produces. The born-again Christian has the responsibility everyday to submit to God and have victory over the old nature. The Apostle Paul averred, saying, *“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit”* (Eph. 5:18). In this simple truth, every Christian must ask, “Who or what is controlling my life?” Whereas the unsaved sinners are under the control of the devil and his addictions (Eph.2:1-3), the Christian can seek the filling or control of the Lord by obeying His word and putting off the old man (Col. 3:16; Eph. 4:22-27). Significant to Paul’s point is that something or Someone within controls and causes addiction. Is it alcohol and prescription meds or the Lord? Who or what, what or Who, drives your addiction?

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MINISTRY IN IRELAND



Ireland Class group photo

On Sunday, January 8, 2023, Dr. Thomas M. Strouse preached in the Blanchardstown Baptist Church and the River Valley Baptist Church of Mulnooth, Ireland, ministering to sinners and saints of both. Monday through Friday, Dr. Strouse taught ten hours daily the books the Gospel of John and the Johannine Epistles to pastors and church members in the Dublin area. This was a spiritually enjoyable time as the fellowship around truth was a blessing for all. Hosts for the week were Pastor and Mrs. Derry O’Sullivan and

Mrs. Kathi Zemeski and church member Melissa Moore. Some of the seminarians have already received degrees from Bible Baptist Theological Seminary, including the late Dr. Robert Zemeski, Dr. Derry O’Sullivan, Dr. David Ellsmore, Pastor Stephan Finley, and Pastor Gene McKinley, and Mr. Tom Baker. Sixteen pastors and church members attend the modules. Pray for the brethren in Europe as they are ministering the truth of the Gospel under the threatening hand of the European dictatorships of the coming Antichrist Globalism.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN ADDICTION

Continued from page 1

Within American Christianity, the movement of 20th century Fundamentalism affected all of Christendom. The Fundamentalists of Protestant denominations fought the modernists who denied carnal doctrines of the Bible. Although a worthy battle, the upshot of Fundamentalism was that it did not proclaim all the counsel of God, and developed man-made doctrines and codes of conduct that turned many away from Christ and biblical truth. In the twenty-first century there has been a sharp rise in all types of afflictions and addictions in the western world, and especially among professed Christians. The Grace movement, especially among the Reformed churches, surged, and informed and encouraged frazzled Fundamentalists about all of their liberties in Christ that they were missing. Many “liberties” extended outside of the boundaries of Scripture and opened Christians to worldliness in behavior, dress, music, and especially in the freedom to imbibe in alcohol. The consumption of beer and wine is addicting by its very nature, which is “*excess,*” and its effect is debilitating. Christians who consume alcohol are not controlled by the Spirit and therefore do not have the fruit of the Spirit, which is “*love, joy, peace, lonBuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law*” (Gal. 5:2-23). Without love, joy, peace, the born-again Christian is walking in the flesh, and is constantly depressed and anxious, not to mention open to demonic oppression. Of course the world has a solution to carnality: prescription meds for depression and anxiety, and alcohol for escapism. When the focus of the Christian is only on freedom from all Bible restrictions rather than on serving the precious Saviour in the assembly with great zeal and passion, then the addiction for the service of Christ is lost. The Christian should consider when he or she stands before the Lord Jesus Christ at the *Bema*, and He asks, “what was your addiction on earth after I redeemed you”? Will you say “You, Lord!” or, alternatively, “my six-pack of beer, daily wine, and nightly vodka”? “Biblical Christian Addiction” is the only addiction that gives love, joy, and peace to the child of God. Repent of the sin of walking in the flesh and be addicted to Christ!

THE GREAT DEBATE

“Is God to Blame for Suffering”

Dr. Andrew Knight and Dan Barker

When: Friday February 17, 2023
7-9 M

Where: Live Oak Cultural Center,
2050 Live Oak St.,
New Smyrna Beach, FL

Live Stream: CTN TV from Sarasota

More Info: 386-220-3141

BBTS 2023 SPRING SEMESTER

BBTS announces two courses for Pastors and Christian workers. These are 3 credits each. You are invited to attend for your own edification.

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.

BBC PREACHERS

We are thankful that the Lord has placed learned men to preach the Word of God to our assembly while Pastor Strouse was serving in Ireland.



*Jeff Skorupski taught during the Sunday School Service from Proverbs 1:10-14
“A Father’s Counsel” (Part 2)*



*For the Sunday Morning Service, Dr. Ryan Strouse brought forth truth from
Isaiah 48:1-18
“O That Thou Hast Harkened”*



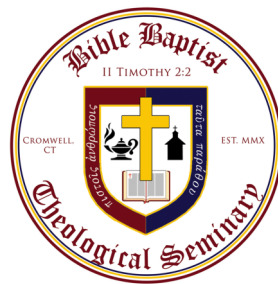
*Bill Gagnon preached during the Sunday Afternoon Service from Revelation 2:5
“Remember and Repent”*



Pastor Darrell Nelson challenged church members on Wednesday evening regarding the Bema seat from Ephesians 3:8-15

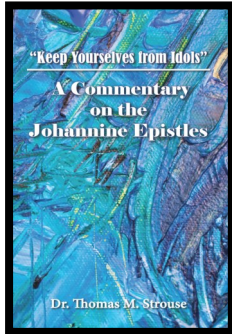


Former Dubai student Andrew Lumague now in Ireland.



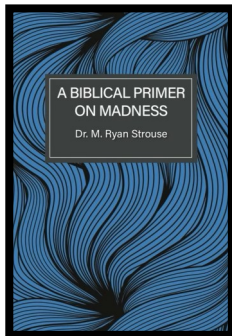
Irish O'Sullivan family with Irish meal.

JOHANNINE EPISTLES COMMENTARY—NOW AVAILABLE



Bible Baptist Church is pleased to announce the new commentary entitled “*Keep yourselves from Idols.*” *A Commentary on the Johannine Epistles* (323 pages) by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse is now available. Please contact drtms_bbts@juno.com to purchase.

A BIBLICAL PRIMER ON MADNESS—COMING SOON



Also coming soon is the printing of Dr. M. Ryan Strouse’s expanded material from the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary Fall Lecture Series entitled *A Biblical Primer on Madness* (350 pages +). The purpose of this work seeks to reveal the Biblical precedent for physical nourishment and care of those suffering the various forms of madness; however, the remedy and cure for madness is primarily spiritual.

BBC/BBTS 2023 SCHEDULE

January 30

BBTS 2023 Spring Semester Begins
The Bible and Madness (PS 620)

February 2

BBTS 2023 Spring Semester Begins
Greek I BL 601 and Greek V BL 605

February 6-10

Heritage Baptist Church
Endicott, NY
Biblical Geography

April 21

BBTS Spring Lecture Series
Galilean Baptist Church
Stafford Springs, CT

June 5-9

Community Baptist Church
Coopersburg, PA
Book of Hebrews

September 25-29

Bible Baptist Church
Nashua, NH
Book of Hebrews

October 22-25

Willow Grove Baptist Church
Waynesburg, PA
Timeless Truths Bible Conference

October 28-29

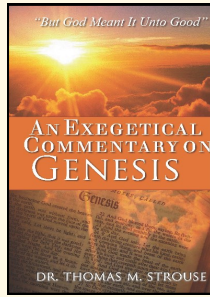
Calvary Baptist Church
Morgantown, WV
TBA

The Publication Page

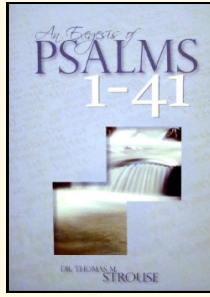
These books may be purchased by contacting:

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

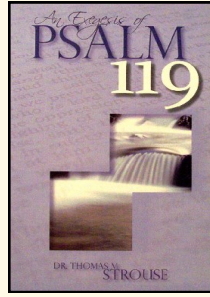
860-229-5387



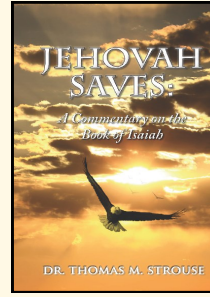
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\$20.00



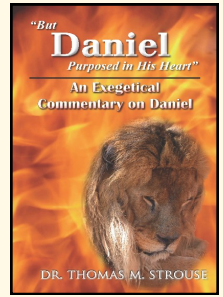
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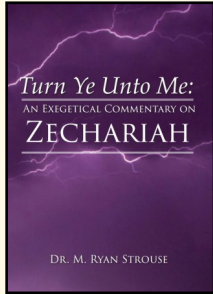
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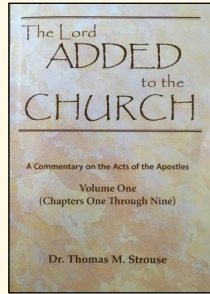
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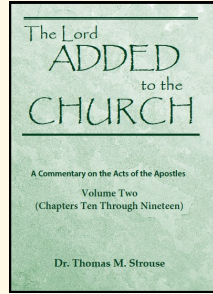
Daniel
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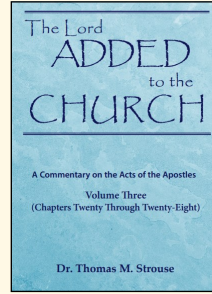
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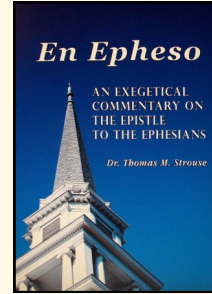
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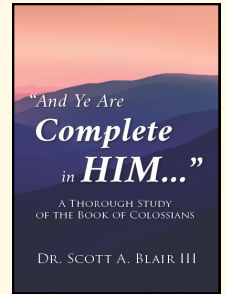
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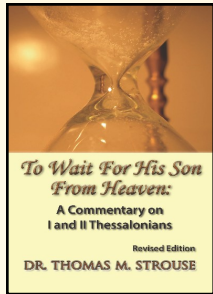
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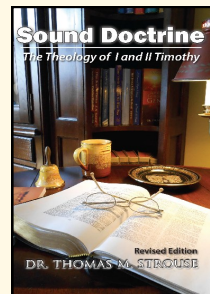
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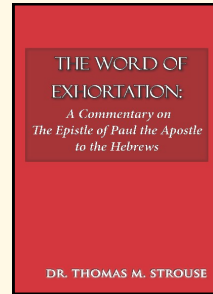
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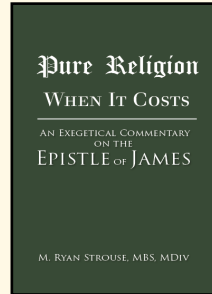
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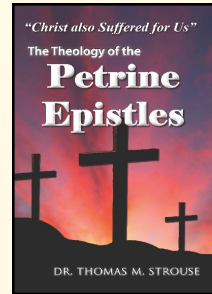
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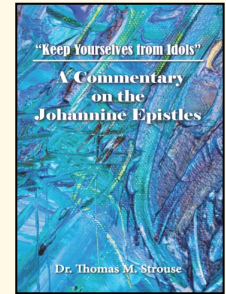
Hebrews
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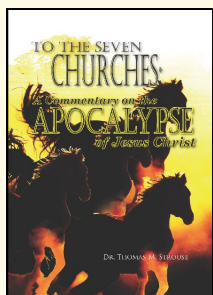
James
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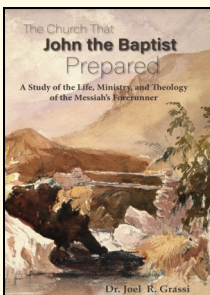
1 & 2 Peter
\$20.00



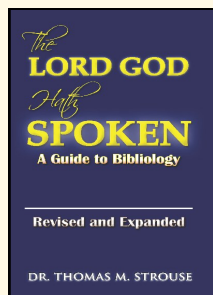
Johannine Epistles
\$30.00



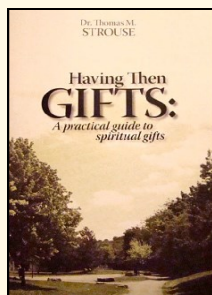
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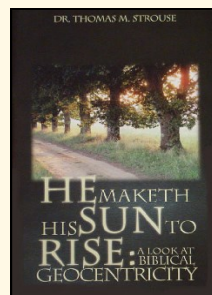
John the Baptist
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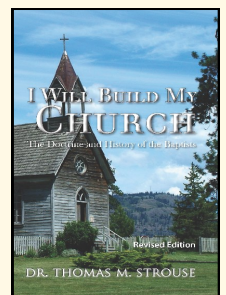
Bibliology
\$15.00



Spiritual Gifts
\$8.00



Geocentricity
\$10.00

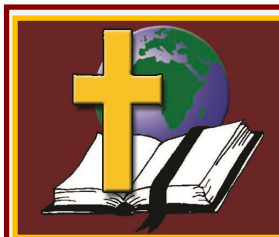
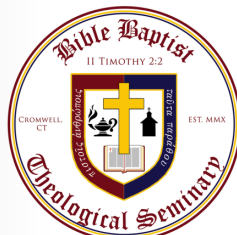


Baptist Doctrine & History
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PUBLICATION PAGE

If you have any news for the next issue of the BBC Update, please send an email to: drtms_bbts@juno.com



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