



BBC UPDATE

BBTS SPRING SEMESTER



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

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)

Starting February 2, 2023

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

CHRISTIAN GIVING

It seems that normative Christian living in the USA since the Covid has approved for church members to abscond from the assembled assemble and from financing the assembly. The general rule is that if church members are not regular in attendance, they are not regular in financial support for the church. How many unfaithful church members mail in their tithes when absent? The principle of tithing existed before the Mosaic Law, during the Mosaic Law, and after the Mosaic Law. As the world goes into serious financial recession, Christians need to continue their tithes and offerings to the assembly, but actually prove the LORD by increasing their giving! The following is an excellent outline of biblical giving.

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ON TITHING



M. Ryan Strouse

1. INTRODUCTION:

- Purpose: to provide an overview on Biblical principles of tithing; this is a 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:
 - * Walk in obedience to scripture regarding tithing, which is the beginning of biblical financial stewardship.
 - * 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.

BIBLICAL TITHING

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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.
 - * *“These ought ye to have done”* – the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, & faith.
 - * *“And not to leave the other undone”* – paying tithe on mint, anise, & cummin.
 - * *“Not to leave”* – Negative, Present active infinitive (continuous action). Greek backs up the teaching!
 - * Tithing was a standard Jewish practice, and the Lord commended the continuity of the practice.
 - * 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 | Genesis 14:20, Genesis 28:22 | Abraham gave to Lord in his ministry of obedience |
| Mosaic Law | Leviticus 27:30-34 | Tabernacle |
| Mosaic Law | II Chronicles 31:4-5 | Temple |
| Post-Mosaic Law | Matthew 11:13, Matthew 23:23 | Local Church |

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3. EXAMPLE EARNINGS STATEMENT

| COMPANY NAME | | | | EARNINGS STATEMENT | | |
|--|----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Sample Company Name, Sample Company Address, 95220 | | | | | | |
| EMPLOYEE NAME | SOCIAL SEC. ID | EMPLOYEE ID | CHECK NO. | PAY PERIOD | PAY DATE | |
| Sample Name | XXX-XX-3432 | 44234 | 48869 | 10/31/13-11/06/13 | 11/08/13 | |
| INCOME | RATE | HOURS | CURRENT TOTAL | DEDUCTIONS | CURRENT TOTAL | YEAR-TO-DATE |
| GROSS WAGES | 50 | 50 | 2,500.00 | FICA MED TAX | 36.25 | 1,631.25 |
| | | | | FICA SS TAX | 155.00 | 6,975.00 |
| | | | | FED TAX | 559.18 | 25,163.00 |
| | | | | CA ST TAX | 183.76 | 8,269.26 |
| | | | | SDI | 25.00 | 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.

$$\text{Hourly rate} \times \text{number of hours} = \text{GW}$$

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.”
 - *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.

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 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.
 - * 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.
 - * Believers are encouraged to sow bountifully, often from what they do not have.
 - * The believer is to have faith that God will provide the arbitrary amount that the believer may or may not have.
 - * 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.

**DEBATES**

Two former seminarians under Dr. Thomas Strouse will be engaged in official debates for biblical truth. Dr. Andrew Knight will debate atheist Mr. Dan Barker on the topic “Is God to Blame for Suffering” on Friday, February 17, 2023 (7-9 PM). The event will be located at Live Oak Cultural Center, 2050 Live Oak St., New Smyrna Beach, FL. Live Stream: CTN TV Sarasota. For more information, call 386-220-3141.

Mr. Thomas Ross, erudite scholar on bibliology, will debate Mr. James White, perennial opponent to the *Textus Receptus*, on the topic “The Legacy Standard Bible, as a representative of modern English translations based upon the UBS/NA text, is superior to the KJV, as a representative of TR-based Bible translations” on Saturday, February 18, 2023 (12:45 PM). The event will be located at the Covenant Reformed Baptist Church, Tullahoma, TN. It will be available on You Tube: KJV1611 Channel. Pray for these men as they defend precious Bible truths from the apostates of the world. *“For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth”* (II Cor. 13:8).

MINISTRY AT NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH



Dr. and Mrs. Greg Breeden in Northside Baptist Church

The Lord blessed as Dr. Thomas Strouse expounded the *Book of Revelation* at Northside Baptist Church in Windham, ME. Dr. Greg Breeden is the founder and pastor of the church, ministering with his gracious wife Mandy. The church had several visitors including current members of Bible Baptist Church of Cromwell, CT, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Glasby.

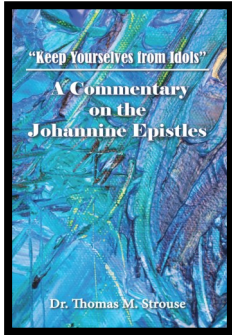
I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH IN KOREAN

The book *I Will Build My Church* by Dr. Thomas Strouse has been translated into the Korean language by a disciple of one of Dr. Strouse's seminary graduates. We trust that this effort will help edify many Korean pastors and church members.



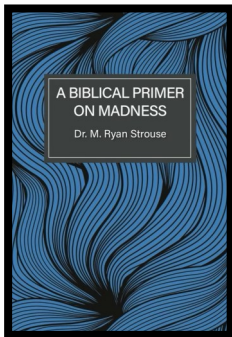
Dr. Jed Raquintan's first Lecture Series at Cornerstone Baptist Church, Quezon City, Philippines.

A COMMENTARY ON THE JOHANNINE EPISTLES



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
Special Studies in the Johannine Epistles
Galilean Baptist Church
Stafford Springs, CT

May 22-26

Ireland Module
Gospel of Luke and Medical Language
Acts 1-9

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

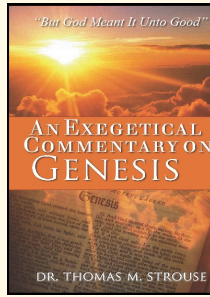
Calvary Baptist Church
Morgantown, WV
TBA

The Publication Page

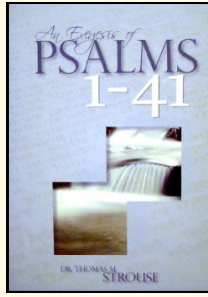
These books may be purchased by contacting:

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

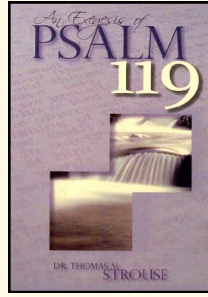
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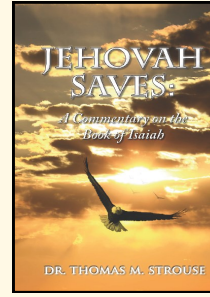
Genesis
\$20.00



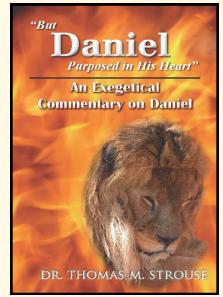
Psalms 1-41
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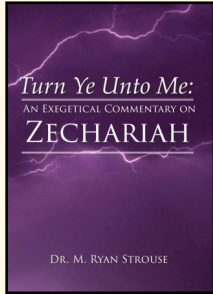
Psalm 119
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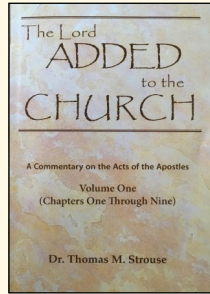
Isaiah
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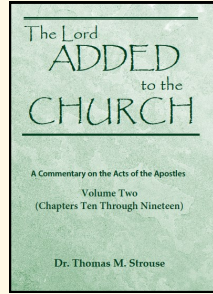
Daniel
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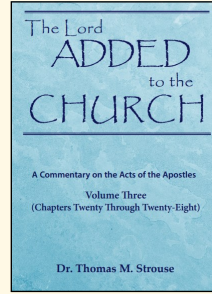
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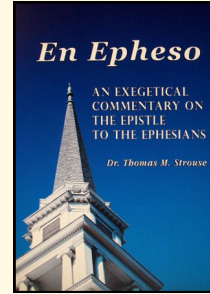
Acts 1-9
\$30.00



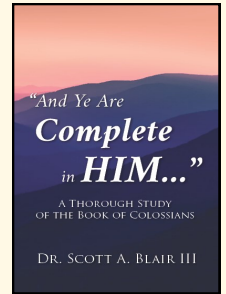
Acts 10-19
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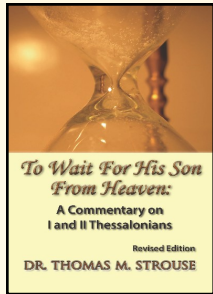
Acts 20-28
\$30.00



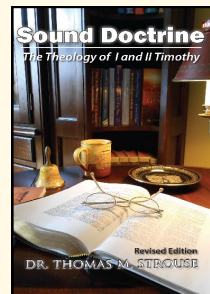
Ephesians
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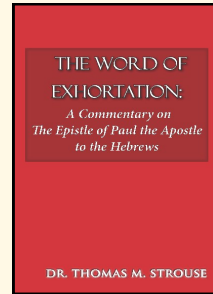
Colossians
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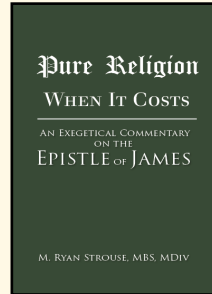
1 & 2 Thessalonians
\$20.00



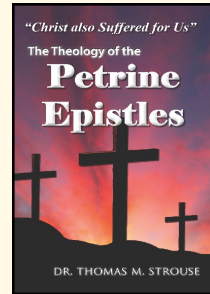
1 & 2 Timothy
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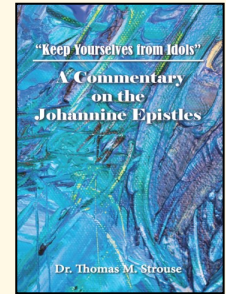
Hebrews
\$30.00



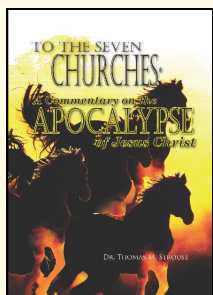
James
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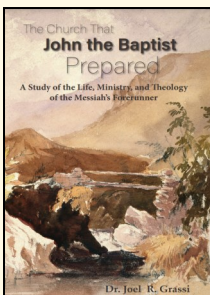
1 & 2 Peter
\$20.00



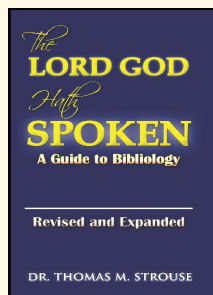
Johannine Epistles
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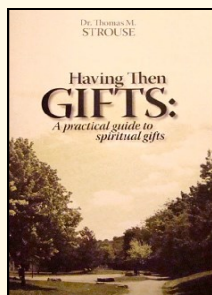
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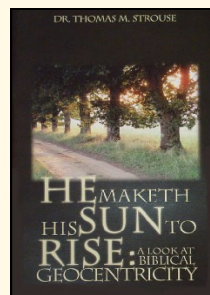
John the Baptist
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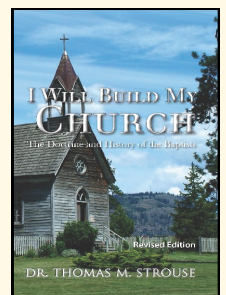
Bibliology
\$15.00



Spiritual Gifts
\$8.00

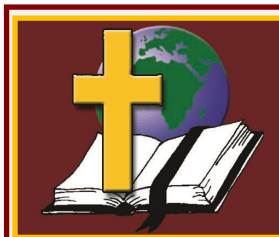
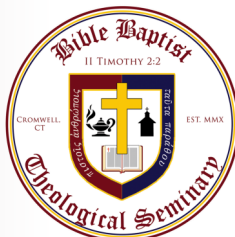


Geocentricity
\$10.00



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



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