



# BBC UPDATE

## STROUSE ISRAEL TOUR



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

The Lord blessed as Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Strouse took an in-depth tour of Israel along with good friends Dr. and Mrs. Scott Blair and Mr. and Mrs. John Wareing. The three couples along with the tour group traveled from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and from Dan to Beer Sheba over 12 days. Some of the many sites included Tel Aviv, Caesarea, Mt. Carmel, Mt. Megiddo, the Valley of Megiddo (Armageddon), Nazareth, Dan, Caesarea Philippi, Capernaum, Tiberius, the Sea of Galilee (boat ride), the commercialized “baptismal site,” Beth Shean (Decapolis), the Dead Sea (and floating), Jericho, En Gedi, Bethlehem, Golgotha and the Garden Tomb (Gordon’s Tomb), Jerusalem, Hezekiah’s tunnel, Elah, Beer Sheba, and Joppa. They were blessed with two excellent tour guides, both of whom were perfected Jews. Israel is first in Technology, Security, and Medical Research among the nations because of necessity, since the Jewish people have very few supporters among the nations.

As a pastor of a New Testament assembly and a trained theologian, I want to share my observations. Coming from somewhat secular America to Religious Israel, I recognized the truth of the Apostle Paul’s burden and declaration: *“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge”* (Rom. 10:2). The Promised Land is full of ignorant zealots, including those of Judaism, of Roman Catholic Church, of the Moslems and of ecumenical Christianity. First, the chosen people of Jehovah worshiped the traditions and places of Judaism and rejected the Person found in the *Tanak* to Whom the shadows pointed—their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. Second, Roman Catholics focused on the places marked by Catholic shrines and desired emotional experiences in touching so-called sacred places. The *Via Dolorosa* is an example of the supposed 14 stations of Christ as He carried the cross. This journey followed the alleged places where Christ stopped on the way to the Crucifixion, all of which were locations on streets constructed by Emperor Hadrian in the second century. They seemed to seek emotional experience based on this obvious Catholic malarkey. Third, the Moslems as well focused on sacred places including the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount while rejecting Jesus as Messiah. Finally, ecumenical and evangelical Christianity trivialized the church ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s Supper, showing great ignorance of and the lack of desire for the teaching of the Scripture. To many the places and traditions become the object of salvation rather the Person of Salvation! The Jews of the first century rejected their Messiah, the Jews of the Holocaust rejected their Messiah, and the majority of Jews in Israel and around the world reject their Messiah. Those who focus on the places of the ministry of Christ and not on the personal relationship with the precious Lord Jesus Christ are lost, zealously heading for the Lake of Fire. Pray for the spiritual peace of Jews (cf. Ps. 122:6).

# ISRAEL PHOTOS

PHOTOS

2

STROUSE ISRAEL TOUR

*Paul's imprisonment at Caesarea*



*Mediterranean Sea*



*Valley of Armageddon*

*David's Falls in En Gedi*



*Beersheba*

*Wareings, Strouses, Blairs on Sea of Galilee*



*Source of Jordan from Mt. Hermon*



*Strouses staying afloat in Dead Sea*



# MORE ISRAEL PHOTOS



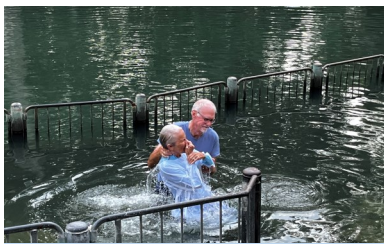
*Ancient wine press in Nazareth*



*John & Debra Wareing*



*Camel ride!*



*A pastor baptizing his wife in Jordan*

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2



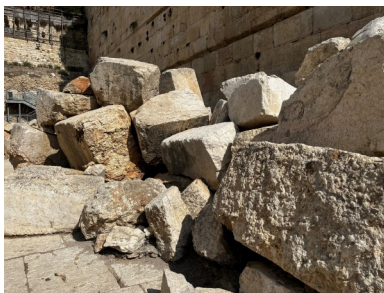
3



5



*Wailing Wall*



*Second Temple stones that Romans threw down as Lord predicted*

4



1. *Skull of Golgotha*
2. *Excavated tomb entrance*
3. *Tomb entrance*
4. *Tomb empty!*
5. *Vine vat of rich man next to tomb*

## STROUSE ISRAEL TOUR PHOTOS



*Lunch in Jerusalem*



*Alleged actual part of Mt. Moriah.*



*In front of Dome of the Rock*



*Kelly's morning kiss*



*Dr. and Mrs. Strouse*

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## PASTOR DARRELL NELSON AND JENNY HOLGUIN WEDDING



On Saturday, November 5, 2022, Pastor Darrell Nelson will wed Jenny Holguin in New York, NY. We look forward to having Jenny join our assembly.

# Fall fun



PHOTOS

# WHEN EUROCLYDON COMES: FAITH OR MADNESS?

The Bible Baptist Theological Seminary 2022 Fall Lecture Series will be held on November 11, 2022 at Galilean Baptist Church in Stafford Springs, CT. The subject will be “When Euroclydon Comes: Faith or Madness?”

**Session #1:** “Paul’s Prosperous Journey by Faith.” Dr. Thomas M. Strouse will exegete Acts 27 and demonstrate how Paul, Luke, and Aristarchus faced great terror, fear, anxiety, and the disapproval of man with biblical fear of and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Sessions #2 and #3:** “Madness: Biblical Primer on Mental Illness.” Dr. M. Ryan Strouse.

How should believers navigate the realities of mental illness and madness? How do you pull someone out of the pit of despair or walk them away from the paralysis of fear? Is mental illness just the result of a broken brain or chemical imbalance? These are some of the questions that will be considered from a Biblical perspective at the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary Fall Lecture Series.

All mankind faces the consequence of living in a fallen world with a desperately wicked heart under the curse of Adam. Subsequently, the diverse spectrum of challenges in a fallen world can induce anxiety, depression, mania, and self-deception, which should be expected and considered normal unless deterred by Christ and His Word. Join us at the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary Fall Lecture Series featuring a Biblical Primer on Madness.

A delicious luncheon will be provided, so please RSVP to [drtms\\_bbts@juno.com](mailto:drtms_bbts@juno.com) with number attending by November 1, 2022

## BBC/BBTS 2022 SCHEDULE

**November 5**  
Nelson Wedding

**November 11**  
BBTS Fall Lecture Series  
Stafford Springs, CT  
*“When Euroclydon Comes: Faith or  
Madness?”*



Pastor Cas Reeves

## LET US BE MERCIFUL

*And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner” Luke 18:13*

In Jesus day a publican or tax collector was one of the most despicable of all the people in the land. He was a person commissioned by Roman authority to collect a set amount of taxes from the citizenry for the state. Authority was given him to raise the tax collected so as to cover his costs as well. It didn't matter to Rome how much he raised the taxes, just as long as they got their share of the money. This led to an unfair extraction of tax monies from the people; and of course, to a great resentment on their part toward the publicans.

In this parable about self-exalting and self-humility, Jesus reveals that when even the worst kind of person humbles himself, and cries out for mercy, “*God be merciful to me a sinner.*” This cry does not go unheeded by God. Of this publican, Jesus said, “*I tell you, this man went down to his house justified; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted*” (Luke 18:14).

What is this “mercy” for which the publican called out to God? It is the “mercy” of a benevolent heart. It is a kindness, a tenderness of the heart, which causes one to overlook the offenses of another. Its character is rooted in love. It is an act that tempers deserved justice with gracious forgiveness. In this case, it is the publican who is appealing through God's love, to God's mercy, to be merciful unto him a sinner, who has offended and trespassed against God.

It is this kind of mercy, which God showed the publican, that we as Christians are to exemplify in our walk toward others. “*Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart*” (Proverbs 3:3). Mercy, here presented as one of a duet of personal qualities, that God tells us we are to have with us, and to make apart of us. Through the power of mercy, we are told that we can be clean. “*By mercy and truth iniquity is purged*” (Proverbs 16:6). So then as Christians, we should take note of the reward mercy will bring to us and the blessings we will receive when we allow mercy to be apart of our life; God promises, “*So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man*” (Proverbs 3:4). So let us be merciful. -CAR

## QUOTES FROM THE PAST



*“It is only when the people become ignorant and corrupt, when they degenerate into a populace, that they are incapable of exercising their sovereignty.”*

**JAMES MONROE (1758 - 1831)**

*5th President of the United States of America*

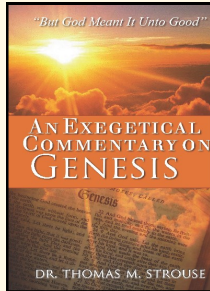
# The Book Corner

These books may be purchased by contacting:

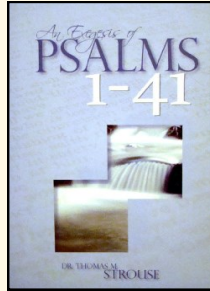
Bible Baptist Church  
40 Country Squire Dr.  
Cromwell, CT 06416

860-229-5387

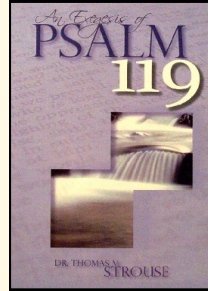
drtms\_bbts@juno.com



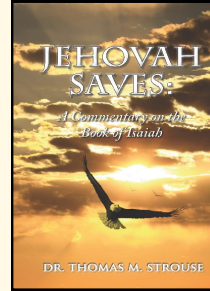
Genesis  
\$20.00



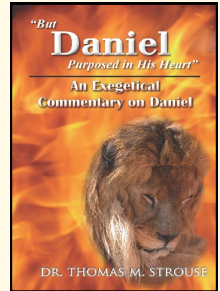
Psalms 1-41  
\$20.00



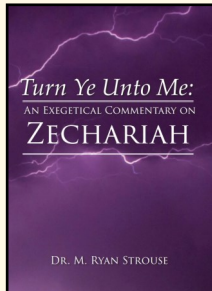
Psalms 119  
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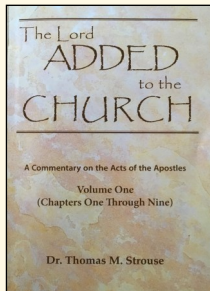
Isaiah  
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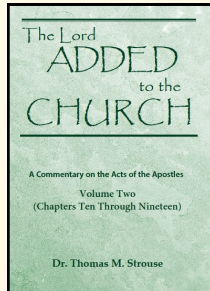
Daniel  
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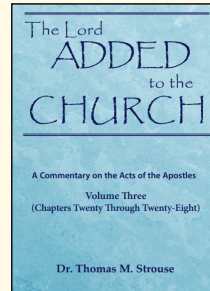
Zechariah  
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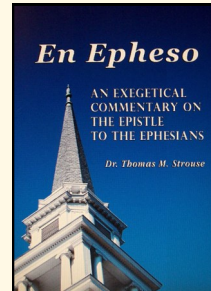
Acts 1-9  
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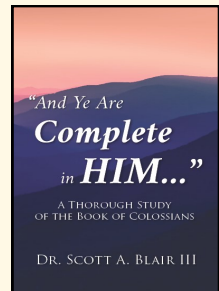
Acts 10-19  
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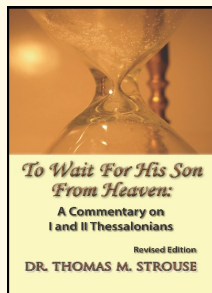
Acts 20-28  
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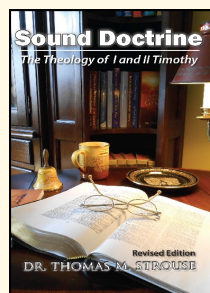
Ephesians  
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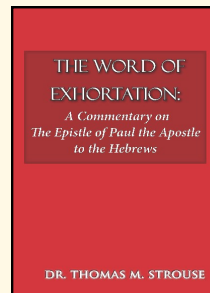
Colossians  
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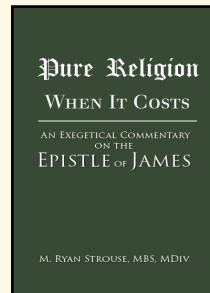
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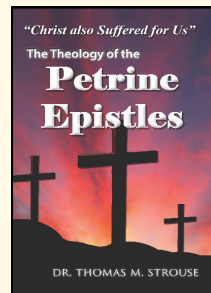
1 & 2 Timothy  
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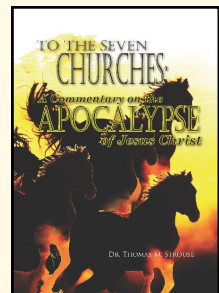
Hebrews  
\$30.00



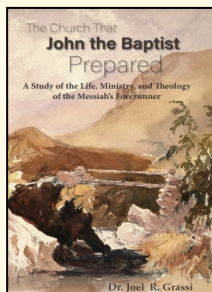
James  
\$30.00



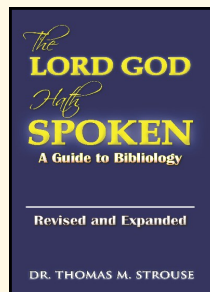
1 & 2 Peter  
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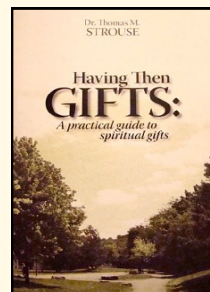
Revelation  
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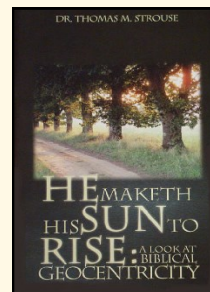
John the Baptist  
\$35.00



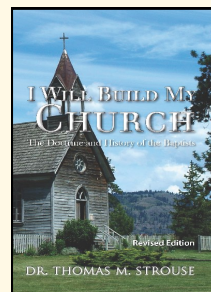
Bibliology  
\$15.00



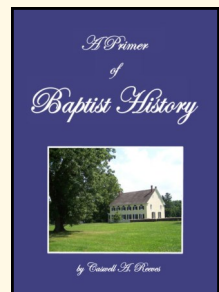
Spiritual Gifts  
\$8.00



Geocentricity  
\$10.00

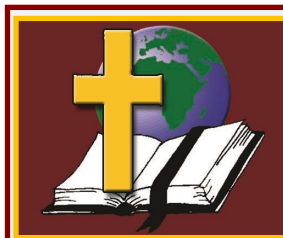


Baptist Doctrine & History  
\$15.00



Baptist History  
\$20.00

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