



# BBC UPDATE



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

## FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY!

On December 4, 2024, Bible Baptist Church of Cromwell, CT will celebrate her Fifteenth Anniversary! Back on December 4, 2009, Dr. Thomas M. Strouse was led by the Lord Jesus Christ to plant a Baptist assembly in his home, encouraged by several men who saw the need for a biblical church. Dr. Harold Davidson, Pastor Jerry Akers, and brother Bill Gagnon were among several who supported the initial efforts to follow the Lord's leading. In the providential working of the good Lord, twenty-seven Baptists signed the Church Charter and Pastor Thomas Strouse became the Bishop/Elder/Pastor. Through the years Bible Baptist Church has had over one hundred and twenty five members who have come, and some have left. We are thankful for those who have joined through baptism or church transfer and received regular preaching and teaching of biblical truth. Several trained men and their families have been sent to plant biblical Baptist churches elsewhere.

One of the main ministries was the continuation of seminary studies in Bible Baptist Theological Seminary. Several locations nationally and internationally have received seminary instruction of biblical truth for the training of pastors and church saints. Godly men in various countries such as Czech Republic, Dubai, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Korea, the Philippines, Portugal, Puerto Rico, and the USA (CT, IN, MA, ME, NH, NY, PA, and WV), have received biblical instruction and advanced seminary degrees (MBS, MDiv, ThM, DMin, and ThD) for the benefit of their respective Baptist congregations.

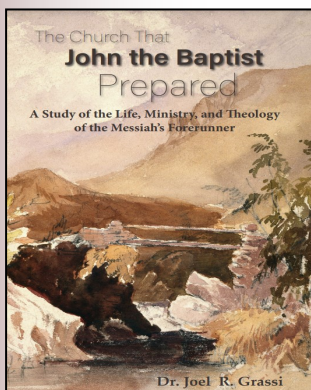
In addition, seminary courses have been made available through permanent recordings on the Bible Baptist Church website through the valuable ministry of professor Jeff Skorupski. In addition, Bible Baptist Church has had the privilege to ordain for the pastoral ministry Elder Darrell Nelson and Dr. Ryan Strouse. The ministry has published at least twenty-five commentaries on the Bible and biblical truths, and helped to encourage the publication of commentaries of Bible Baptist Theological Seminary graduates on Biblical Giving, the Body of Christ, Colossians, Heavenly Music, James, John the Baptist, Madness, Missions, Spiritual Gifts, the Tittle, and Zechariah, to name a few topics. Bible Baptist Theological Seminary has also encouraged and assisted in the translation of the biblical texts into several foreign languages.

Other ministries include the bi-annual Bible Baptist Theological Seminary Lecture Series, Bible Baptist Church Ladies' Fellowships (Hats and Tea), Bible Baptist Theological Seminary Commencement Weekend, Live-Streaming, and the Labor Day Cookout.

We are grateful to the Lord Jesus Christ for what He has done through one of His "little flock" assemblies (Lk. 12:32) for the glory of God. *"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created"* (Rev. 4:11).

## THE FIRST BAPTIST—JOHN

John the Baptist was the greatest man who ever lived outside of the Lord Jesus Christ (Mt. 11:11). He was prophesied in the Old Testament (Isa. 40:3 and Mal. 3:1) as the Forerunner to the Messiah. He began the Christian Baptist movement (Mk. 1:1-3) and lived a providentially short but biblically significant life by ushering in what became the church ordinance of believer's immersion and the requirement for the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20). John baptized the Lord Jesus Christ and His disciples as they made up His "little flock" (Lk. 12:32). The Baptist's baptism was the "one baptism" that has continued down through biblical Christian history unto today (Eph. 4:5). Theologically, he was and is the only biblical "Theologian for Spirit Baptism" by which any doctrinal teaching on the subject must be based on his six statements cited in the New Testament (Mt. 3:11; Mk. 1:8; Lk. 3:16; Jn. 1:33; Acts 1:5; 11:16). John prepared the baptized disciples for the Lord Jesus Christ when He called twelve for the church office of Apostle (I Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11). As great as John was, he demurred, saying, "*He must increase, but I must decrease*" (Jn. 3:30).



Dr. Joel "the Baptist" Grassi taught a twelve week seminary module on Thursday evenings this fall at Bible Baptist Church on the topic of John the Baptist. He used his ThD dissertation-turned-into-a book for the course syllabus entitled *The Church that John the Baptist Prepared. A Study of the Life, Ministry, and Theology of the Messiah's Forerunner*. Cromwell, CT: Bible Baptist Theological Press, 2023 reprint (824 pp.). The seminary module was well attended as he expounded every NT passage dealing with the great John the Baptist.

Many pastors of Baptist churches have very little understanding of or appreciation for the man whose namesake is attached to their churches. In fact, some pastors/churches have forsaken or even despised the name "Baptist" because of the narrow but biblical truth that John preached and for which truth he died! For Baptist pastors of Baptist churches practicing the "*one baptism*" of John the Baptist, it would please the Saviour if they preached and taught about the life, ministry, and doctrine of the Forerunner of the Messiah! For starters, buy Dr. Grassi's theological volume!

# BBC EXTRAS



*BBC's three pastors:  
Elder Darrell Nelson  
Dr. Thomas M. Strouse  
and  
Dr. M. Ryan Strouse*



*Above: Bryce is teaching  
Pastor the art of eating pasta.*



*Right: Collin is teaching a  
recent visitor the art of chess,  
with some spectators.*



*Allayah and Marquis had a fun game of tic-tac-toe for the gender reveal of  
their expectant baby for the church family.*

*See next page for the reveal...*



## BBC EXTRAS CONTINUED



***IT'S A BOY!!!***

*Congratulations to Marquis and  
Allayah Burwell!*



*The youth play outside after a recent service, and  
watch in dismay as a ball rolls down the street!*



*Two lovely ladies!*

### BBC/BBTS 2024-2025 SCHEDULE

**December 15**  
**15th Anniversary Banquet**  
Bible Baptist Church, Cromwell

**January 6-10, 2025**  
**Ireland Module**  
*Greek III & Psalms 1-41*

**Jan. 13-17, 2025**  
**Fairhaven Baptist College**  
*Psalms 42-72*

**February 10-14, 2025**  
**Philippine Module**  
Quezon City  
*Psalms 45-72*

**April 11, 2025**  
**BBTS Spring Lecture Series**  
Galilean Baptist Church  
Stafford Springs, CT  
*TBA*

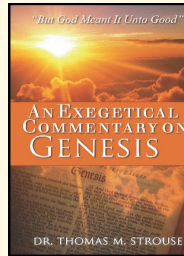
**May 17-18, 2025**  
**BBTS Banquet and Graduation**  
Bible Baptist Church, Cromwell, CT

**May 26-30, 2025**  
**Ireland Module**  
*Greek IV & Psalms 42-72*

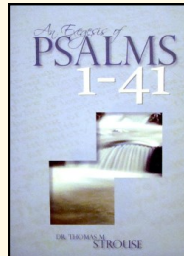
**November 7, 2025**  
**BBTS Fall Lecture Series**  
Galilean Baptist Church  
Stafford Springs, CT  
*TBA*

# The Publication Page

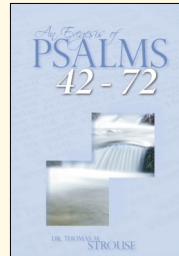
The books on this page may be purchased by contacting:  
 Bible Baptist Church  
 860-229-5387  
 drtms\_bbts@juno.com



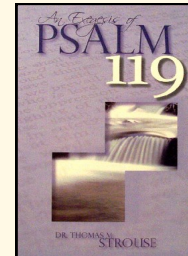
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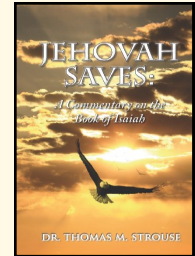
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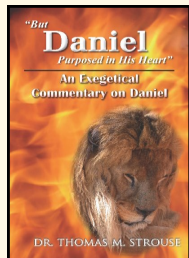
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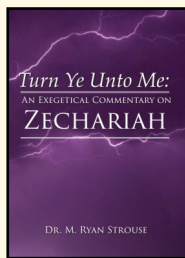
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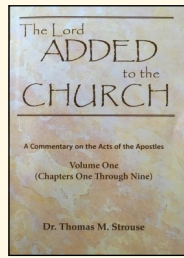
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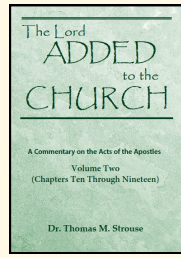
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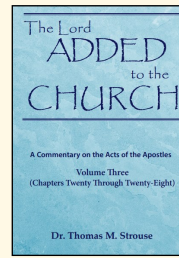
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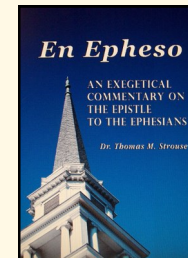
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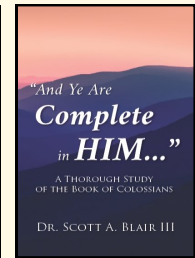
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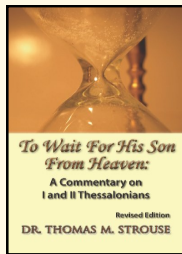
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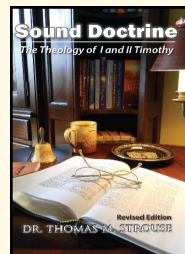
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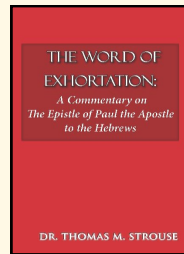
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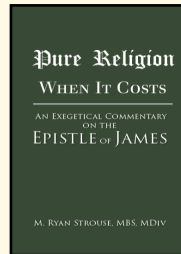
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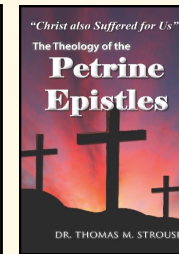
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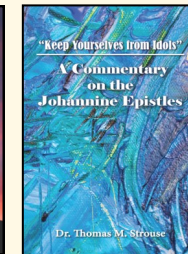
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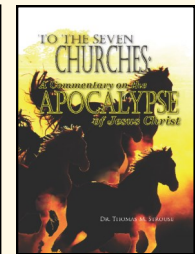
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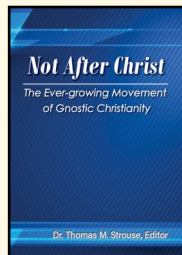
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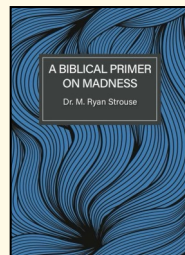
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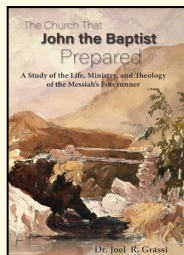
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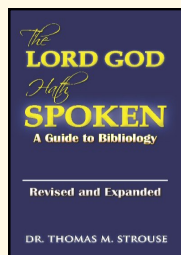
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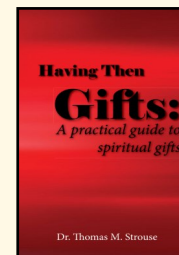
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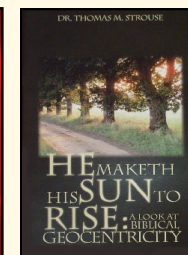
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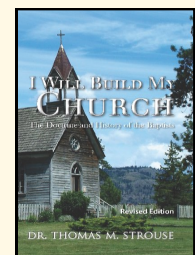
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Spiritual Gifts  
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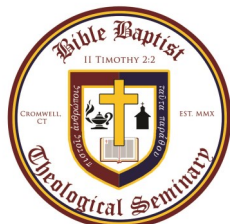


Geocentricity  
\$10.00



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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