



BBC UPDATE

BBTS Winter Interim Modules

Dr. Thomas Strouse



The Lord blessed the Winter Interim module with six seminarians taking NT Introduction during the week of Jan. 23-27, 2012. The course covered all 27 NT books, dealing with introductory issues of each book such as text, canonicity, authorship, audience, date, and contents. Most of the seminarians

Dr. Thomas Strouse are BBC members, and so they have a good comprehension of the NT Scriptures and a greater appreciation for sermons preached.



Above: BBTS Winter Module Class, New Testament Introduction, was attended by six faithful students.

Remodeling of the BBC Auditorium

BBC has been in need of enlarging her auditorium with the recent increase in visitors. The church membership voted on removing the restroom in the back of the auditorium and increasing seating capacity by at least 2-3 rows. The Lord provided the money, and the task was accomplished in 4 days. Although this was a "small" project in comparison to what some churches experience, we want to have a heart that rejoices in the "small" things of the Lord (Phil. 4:4), and not despise "the day of small things" (Zech. 4:10).



Above: BBC Auditorium Renovation. "Before,"



BBC Auditorium Renovation: "After"

Our auditorium now more people can seat,
Holding twice as many shoes and feet.
We knocked down the wall,
Making more room for all
When everyone comes on Sunday to meet.

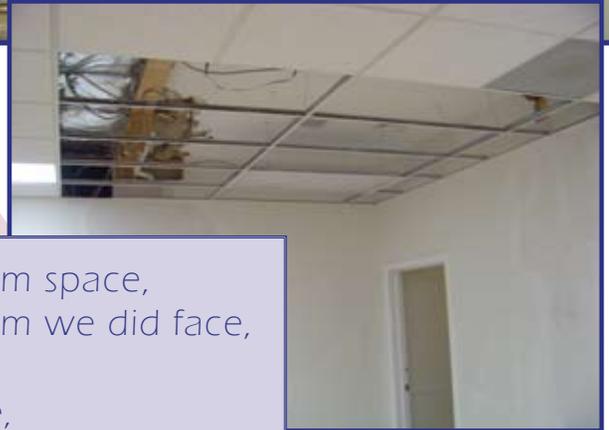


BBC AUDITORIUM RENO

BBC Photos

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BBC Auditorium Renovation



BBC was in need of more auditorium space,
Through prayer and planning this problem we did face,
We refurbished the floor,
And needed walls no more,
And now our increase demands more divine grace.



The audio equipment was moved to the other side of the room

A Brief Survey of the Cessation of Tongues

By Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

Introduction

The phenomenon known as “*tongues*” (γλώσσαις) has ceased as its biblical prediction revealed. The word γλώσσα (*glossa*) occurs 50x in the NT and refers to the known languages of man or angels (e.g., Rev. 7:2-3). The word glossolalia is a compound Greek word (from the nouns “tongues” and “speaking”) used to describe speaking in tongues and its practitioners are Glossolalists. There are five major NT passages which expound the phenomenon of glossolalia.

Scripture

1. Mark 16:17-20

As the Lord Jesus Christ in His post-resurrection appearance commanded His disciples with His commission, He gave them five signs which would be involved in “*confirming the word*” (τὸν λόγον βεβαιοῦντος). The “*word*” referred to “*all things whatsoever I have commanded you*” (Mt. 28:20), or all of His canonical Scriptures (OT and NT). These five signs were a unit or “*package deal*” and were given for a purpose. Once the purpose was fulfilled (i.e., the NT canon completed) the phenomenon ceased. Four of the five signs occurred in the book of Acts:

- demon exorcising—Acts 16:16-18
- new tongues speaking—Acts 2:3 ff.
- serpent handling—Acts 28:3-6
- poison drinking
- sick healing (faith healers)—Acts 3:2-8

Glossolalists do not have the exegetical privilege to pick certain signs they desire and ignore the rest (i.e. serpent handling and poison drinking)!

2. Acts 2:3 ff.

The tongues accompanied the outpouring of the Spirit (cf. Joel 2:28 ff.), as the Lord Jesus Christ baptized the 120 in the upper room (Acts 1:13-15) in the Spirit in fulfillment of John’s prophecy (Mt. 3:11; Mk. 1:8; Lk. 3:16; Jn. 1:33; Acts 1:5),¹ and thus publically authenticated His new place of worship, power, and

¹These parallel passages predicted that the Lord Jesus Christ would be the agent in Spirit Baptism, baptizing believers subsequent to their salvation experience in the Holy Ghost. A contextual exegesis of I Cor. 12:13 requires the Bible student to recognize that Paul called for unity in the ordinances, and that he did not describe “Spirit Baptism,” because then it would be a fulfillment of something different from what John predicted.

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presence (i.e., the immersionist assembly) as He had done with the Wilderness Tabernacle (Ex. 40:34 ff.), the Solomonic Temple (I Ki. 8:11 ff.), will do with the Millennial Temple (Ezk. 43:2 ff.). The γλώσσαις on Pentecost allowed every man to hear about the wonderful works of God in “*our own tongue*.” Clearly, γλώσσαις was not gibberish, but known human languages!

3. Acts 10:46

Cornelius’ household received Spirit Baptism and manifested this temporary phenomenon² with tongues which were the same (human languages) as that of Pentecost (cf. Acts 11:16).

4. Acts 19:6

The twelve “disciples” of John were unsaved “Baptists,” and upon hearing Paul’s explication of John’s message (vv. 2-7), they became legitimate candidates for John’s baptism, and received Spirit Baptism,³ and then spoke in tongues.

5. I Cor. 12-14

Paul was concerned about the misuse of tongues and attempted to dissuade the Corinthians from carnal or pagan employment of tongues (I Cor. 13:1). He exalted prophecy over tongues in the assembly (I Cor. 14:2 ff.), and urged a set of guidelines for the assembly’s use of tongues (I Cor. 14:27-34):

- The limit on Glossolalists was two or three.

Continued on Page 4

²After the last occasion of Spirit Baptism in Acts 19 (middle 50’s), Paul wrote his prison Epistle to the Ephesians (AD 60) and declared that there was “*one baptism*” (Eph. 4:5). This means that Spirit Baptism ceased (along with accompanying tongues), and the only remaining baptism is that of the Great Commission in Mt. 28:19-20—water baptism!

³The four historical occurrences of Spirit Baptism in fulfillment of John’s prophecy (Mt. 3:11 *et al*) happened to groups and not to any isolated individual, as the Lord was authenticating to the Jews (Acts 2) His new institution of worship (the Baptist assembly) which would now include Samaritans (Acts 8), Roman Gentiles (Acts 10-11), and Greek Gentiles (Acts 19).

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Continued from Page 3

- b. They must speak by course or in order and not simultaneously.
- c. The tongues must be interpreted.
- d. The prophets must judge the content.
- e. Women must remain silent in the assembly services, and certainly not speak in tongues publicly.

The nature of tongues was the divine authentication to Jews, who seek signs, that the Lord God was done with Temple worship and the exclusivity of the OT Scriptures. In other words, through the accompanying sign of tongues Christ authenticated His new institution of worship (the Baptist assembly) and confirmed His canonical NT Scriptures (Matthew through Revelation, most of which had still to be written). The purpose for the authentication and confirmation was for the Jews of the first century, and once that purpose was accomplished, the sign ceased (along with the pouring out of the Spirit [i.e., Spirit Baptism]). Paul confirmed this biblical interpretation in I Cor. 13:8-12 by stating

that the temporary phenomena of "prophecies" (i.e., foretelling), "tongues," and "knowledge" (special revelatory knowledge; cf. I Cor. 14:6), would cease when "that which is perfect is come" (the process of canonization, not the event of the Rapture).

Pagan and Occultic Practice

Paul alluded to the pagan practice of employing the gong and cymbal with tongues in the pagan temples of the first century (I Cor. 13:1). History is replete with examples of glossolalia in pagan religious practices among the mystery religions, heathen shamans, voodooism, and the Hindu gurus, even pre-dating the Christian era. Both in Plato's *Dialogues* (5th century BC) and Virgil's *Aeneid* (1st century BC) record is given that the pagans employed ecstatic babblings in their worship of demons. Therefore, glossolalia is not exclusively Christian, but was practiced by the heathen before, during and after first century Christianity!

Conclusion

Modern day Glossolalists are involved in serious error as they practice their "Christian" glossolalia. Their practice is based on a loose and inconsistent interpretation of Scripture, opening themselves up to "another Jesus...another spirit...another gospel" (II Cor. 11:4). Although they teach that glossolalia is the mark of Christian spirituality, their exegesis for this practice is unbiblical and the experience is not exclusively Christian. Since they do not "try the spirits" (I Jn. 4:1-3), their practice of glossolalia opens them up to demonic occultism! Paul warned, saying, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith..." (II Cor. 13:5).

Second Annual Ladies Fellowship

On March 10, 2012, BBC will host the Second Annual Ladies Fellowship from 10 AM to 1 PM. Mrs. Claudia Norwalt,



Mrs. Claudia Norwalt

wife of Pastor Paul Norwalt (Merrimack Baptist Temple, NH), will give her testimony and sing several special songs. The fellowship will include congregational singing, testimonies, and a brunch.

Please RSVP with number of ladies by 3-1-12 to

drtms_bbts@juno.com.



How full is Pastor's preaching?

Eun Hyeok tells the tale!

BBC To host Stanford Achievement Test for Homeschooled Students



Bible Baptist Church will once again host the Stanford Achievement test for Homeschooled students. The Stanford-10 Achievement Test is a nationally recognized test used by educators across the US.

As a norm-referenced test, the Stanford-10 not only offers the home educator information on their student's achievement, it also provides comparisons based on nationwide test results.

The Stanford-10 Achievement test will be administered at Bible Baptist Church, in Cromwell, CT on **Thursday and Friday, April 26 & 27, 2012 from 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM.**

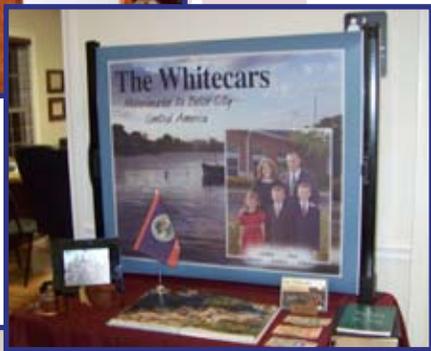
BBC NEWS/PHOTOS

This test is available for any home educated student. It is **not** limited to BBC members. Registration for this test is only available online. For more information on the test, and to register on-line, please visit <http://cctestingservices.com/> Click on "Online Registration" and select Connecticut to register. **Cost \$50, \$55 after April 1st, 2012. Registration closes April 8th, 2012. No refunds after April 8th, 2012.**

We also need proctors for these tests. If you are interested in becoming a proctor, you must fill out an application and provide a copy of your college diploma, or provide your college transcript. Please contact Laura Hagglund at thehagglunds@comcast.net with any other questions.



Pastor Whitecar, missionary to Belize preaches in a Wednesday night service.



Pastor Whitecar, enjoys a time of fellowship with the Rossignol family.

Quotes From the Past:

John Adams

1735-1826

2nd President of the USA

"The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general principles of



John Adams

Christianity. I will avow that I then believed, and now believe, that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God."

"The Christian religion is, above all the religions that ever prevailed or existed in ancient or modern times, the religion of wisdom, virtue, equity and humanity."

DEVOTIONAL CORNER

Living By Faith by Pastor Cas Reeves

Text: But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

It should be the desire of every born again child of God to want to please the One who has done so much for them. Truly of all the people in the world the saved person is able to recognize and appreciate the great sacrifice of God in sending His only begotten Son on our behalf and for our blessing (John 3:16). In return God asks of His children to obey Him, *"If ye love me, keep my commandments"* (John 14:15).



Pastor Cas Reeves

We are told in our text that we must have *"faith"* in order to please God. If we think about it, our Christian life begins with faith in Christ Jesus (John 6:47), and it continues through faith in God's words (Psalm 119:105). So certainly the key to faith is the word of God. And so we are told, *"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"* (Romans 10:17).

Living by faith relies upon believing what God teaches us from His Scripture. It does not depend upon our rational thinking. For example, we cannot prove there is a God to the unbeliever who is rationally trying to find or reject Him. It is a faith matter that one chooses to believe there is a God. God simply says, *"I AM That I AM"* (Exodus 3:14). For the Believer, his trust or faith or confidence is in God and what He says, and what He says is found recorded in the Scriptures.

We note that living in faith toward God many times defies our rationalism, relying solely upon what the Lord says. Take the Apostle Peter for an example. On the authority of one word from the Lord Jesus, *"come"* Peter defies the logic of all mankind and did the impossible, *"And he (Jesus) said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus"* (Matthew 14:29). Abraham is another example of living by faith. At God's direction Abraham left all that was secure to him, including family to look for a new place, which he knew not, *"By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."* (Hebrews 11:8-10).

And so it is, the Scripture is replete with example after example that the truly faithful begin their life by faith and live their life by faith. Faith is not logical as men count logic; rather it simply trusts God and what He says. The Believer recognizes this as biblical logic. He finds that it is both good for the soul and for life; as well, it pleases God. Are you living by faith? -CAR

BBTS Spring Schedule

Monday

Greek Proficiency	10:00 AM - Noon
Hebrew VIII	6:00PM - 7:00 PM
Hebrew II	7:00 - 10:00 PM

Wednesday/Thursday

Book of Revelation	8:00 - 9:30 AM
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Wednesday

Greek II	5:00 - 7:00 PM
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Thursday

Book of Hebrews	6:00 - 9:00 PM
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THE BOOK CORNER

Book Corner

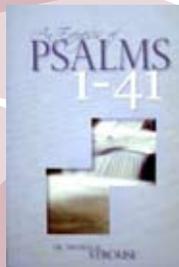
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Bible Study

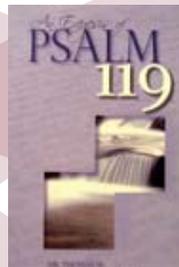
The Book Corner

These Books may be purchased through **Bible Baptist Church:**

40 Country Squire Rd.
Cromwell, CT 06416
860-229-5387



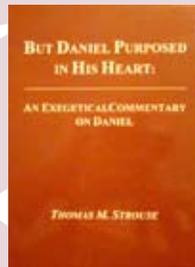
Psalms 1 - 41
\$20.00



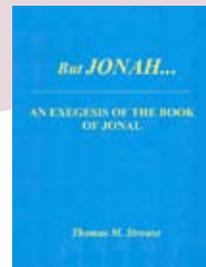
Psalm 119
\$20.00



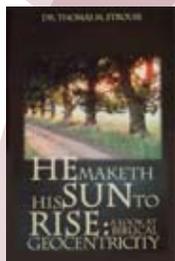
Spiritual Gifts
\$8.00



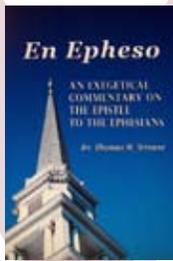
Daniel
\$20.00



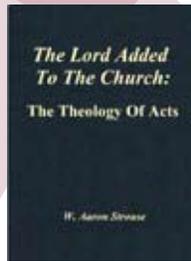
Jonah
\$10.00



Geocentricity
\$10.00



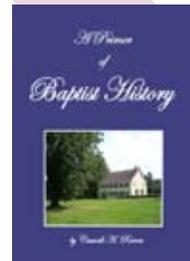
En Epheso
\$20.00



The Theology of Acts
\$20.00



I Will Build My Church
\$15.00



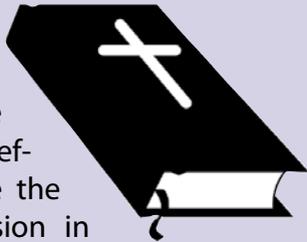
A Primer of Baptist History
\$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken
\$15.00

Manchester Bible Study

Continue to pray for the Manchester Bible Study as Mark Schabert teaches the *Gospel of John* to several families who live in the area. This is an effort to practice the Great Commission in Manchester, CT, evangelizing and edifying folks who come to the study. The Bible study is every Friday night at 7 PM. Please contact the pastor for directions.



Save the Date!!

2012 Spring Lecture Series

April 19, 2012

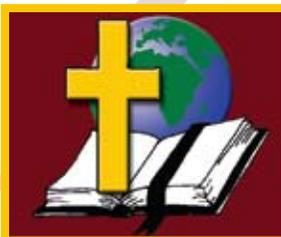
Crown Plaza, Cromwell, CT

Who Are the Baptists?

- I. Dr. Joel Grassi—*John the Baptist*
- II. Dr. Thomas Strouse—*Theology and Polity of Baptists*
- III. Pastor Cas Reeves—*History of Ancient Baptists*
- IV. Noel Meadowcroft—*History of 20th Century Baptists*

If you have any news for the next issue of the BBC Update, please send to the Editor, Cas Reeves, at either

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hbc5923@stny.rr.com



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