



BBC UPDATE

Ministry in the Philippines

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor

The Lord blessed in my recent trip to Quezon City, Philippines, with Pastor Jed Raquintan. You may remember that last March his church building and parsonage burnt to the ground, leaving his family with just the clothes on their back, and the children's violins. The rest of their personal and ministry possessions were destroyed, including the church's upright piano and Pastor Raquintan's ministerial library. Nevertheless, under Pastor Raquintan's leadership, the assembly persevered and by faith rebuilt their meeting place and parsonage. He is thankful for his faithful assembly and the other churches that helped in the rebuilding project. The church facility was ready for the first *BPTS* module in Quezon City, with twelve seminarians in attendance. I was privileged to teach the two modules of Genesis and Ephesians, five hours per day for each for five days, using my commentaries as the textbooks. I had



The Modules in the Philippines were attended by 12 seminary students

the blessed opportunity to preach in his church as well as two of the mission churches of Cornerstone Baptist Church. The pastors were eager to learn from the exegesis of these books, and from discussions centering on the exclusivity of the local church, the supremacy of the *Received Text/KJV*, and falsity of the gospel of Calvinism. Most of the seminarians are working toward their Master of Biblical Studies degree from *Bible Baptist Theological Seminary* under the aegis of *Bible Baptist Church of Cromwell, CT*. These pastors have small house churches of congregations averaging about thirty to fifty church members. On behalf of *BBC*, it is a real blessing for us to be able minister to these Filipino pastors who love the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word, and who have a heart for church planting throughout the Philippines and the world. Some of these men have mission works in various places throughout Southeast Asia, including Viet Nam. Pray for them.



New Building for Cornerstone Baptist Church: Pastor Jed Raquintan



Dr. Strouse preaching at Cornerstone Baptist Church



The congregation at Cornerstone Baptist Church

BBTS MODULE UPDATES

Quezon City, Philippines Modules

BBTS Modules

2

Philippines



Song before class



*Dr. Strouse with formerly imprisoned Pastor Binas
(incarcerated for preaching Gospel in Saudi Arabia)*



*< Cornerstone
Church
Choir*



Piano Project

I would like to make an appeal to the Lord's churches to pray about helping Cornerstone Baptist Church to purchase another upright piano for their assembly. Pastor Raquintan's daughters are the accomplished pianists for CBC, and they would love to have another upright (lost in the fire) instead of the electric keyboard. To purchase a good upright piano in the Metro Manila area would cost about \$2000.00. If your church is interested in helping toward this piano project, you could contact Pastor Raquintan through his email (jbraquintan@yahoo.com), or send a check to Bible Baptist Church, with the designation "Piano Project." On behalf of Pastor Raquintan and CBC, thanks in advance for your prayerful support of this project.



BBTS MODULE UPDATES



Robin Santiago, bodyguard on trip north of Manila



Pastor Hitosis house-church plant

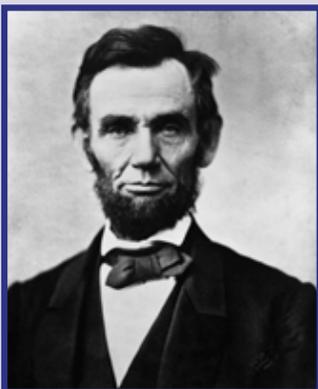


Pastor Jed Requintan and students



Dr. Strouse also ministered at a church in Pangenisen, Philippines, 4 hours north of Manila

Quote from the Past:



Abraham Lincoln 1809-1865

From a speech following the Battle of Bull Run in which he set forth a National Day of Prayer and Fasting:

"It is fit and becoming in all people, at all times, to acknowledge and revere the Supreme Government of God; to bow in humble submission to His chastisement; to confess and deplore their sins and transgressions in the full conviction that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and to pray, with all fervency and contrition, for the pardon of their past offenses, and for a blessing upon their present and prospective action."

THE KEEPING OF GOD'S WORD

Psalm 119:4 - 5

By Pastor Scott Blair ('05)

Keeping God's precepts is not an option for the believer's life, but rather a command. Keeping



Pastor Scott Blair

God's word means we guard or preserve it in order to obey. Keeping God's word not only carries the duty of guarding it, but also of obeying it. For example, the best way to preserve a favorite family recipe is to write it down, keep it in a safe place and then actually make the recipe with one of the next generation. That way, in years to come, not only will they have the experience of making the recipe, but also will have the actual words of the recipe written so they can go back and be certain they are following the directions precisely. Likewise, it

is important that we not only guard the written word, but do the written word as well (cf. James 1:19-27). Too often we undermine ourselves because we fail to practice what we say we believe.

Furthermore, our keeping of the Word is to be marked with diligence. Not only is one's personal diligence important because it pleases the Lord, but also because it is good for the development of our spiritual lives. In order to be diligent we must develop the character of being faithful, disciplined, responsible, focused and driven.

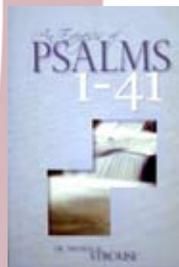
David's heart and pen dripped with his intense desire to keep God's statutes. To the believer, God's command to keep His words is not a grievous burden, but a pleasurable task (cf. 1 John 5:3). It should be a delight for a believer to read, study, defend and meditate upon the Word of the Lord. Although at times the believer may struggle in the flesh to be diligent, the heart's desire is consistently drawn to God's word. How has your desire and diligence been toward the Word of God?

Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently. O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!
Psalm 119:4 - 5

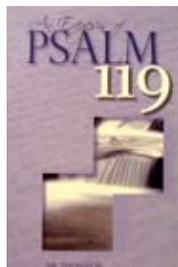
THE BOOK CORNER

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

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



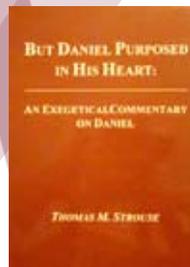
Psalms 1 - 41
\$20.00



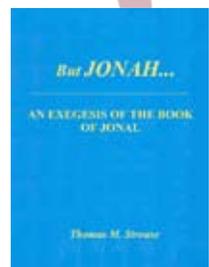
Psalm 119
\$20.00



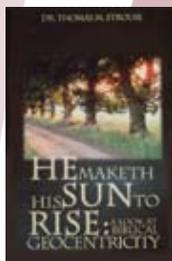
Spiritual Gifts
\$8.00



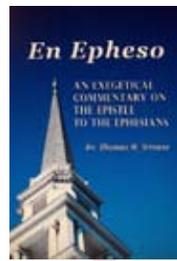
Daniel
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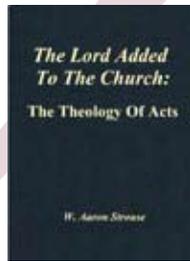
Jonah
\$10.00



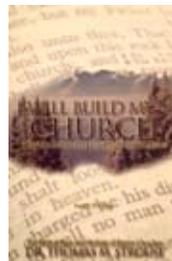
Geocentricity
\$10.00



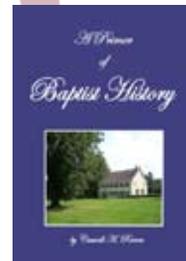
En Epheso
\$20.00



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

“Call Unto Me”

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor

February 24, 2010

Scripture: Jeremiah 33:3

CALL UNTO ME, AND I WILL ANSWER THEE,
AND SHEW THEE GREAT AND MIGHTY
THINGS, WHICH THOU KNOWEST NOT.

JEREMIAH 33:3

Introduction: The Saviour said, “that men ought always to pray, and not to faint” (Lk. 18:1).

The Scriptures give great detail about prayer, including the *Position*, the *Procedure*, and the *Place of Prayer*.

1. The *Position of Prayer* includes standing (Jer. 18:20), kneeling (Dan. 6:10), sitting (II Sam. 7:18), and lying down (Mt. 26:39).
2. The *Procedure of Prayer* includes in silence (I Sam. 1:13), aloud (Ezk. 11:13), alone (Mk. 1:35), together (Ps. 35:18), at fixed times (Ps. 55:17), and anytime (Lk. 18:1).
3. The *Place of Prayer* includes in bed (Ps. 63:6), outside (Gen. 24:11), inside (II Ki. 19:14), by the river-side (Acts 16:13), and by the seashore (Acts 21:5).

Choose your position, procedure, and place, but remember that men should “pray without ceasing” (I Thes. 5:17).

Exegesis (Jer. 33:3)

I. Exhortation for Prayer (“Call unto Me”)

- A. Jeremiah was imprisoned by Zedekiah for preaching the truth (Jer. 32:3-5).
- B. Jeremiah’s condition was such that he had lost support of his nation, had threat of the national enemy, had no immediate family, and had received abandonment in prison.
- C. With unique Hebrew, the Lord **had to command** the prophet to pray (33:3).

II. Reciprocation in Prayer (“I will answer thee”)

SERMON OUTLINE

- A. If only Jeremiah would cry out to Jehovah, the Lord was ready to answer.
- B. God was ready to bring health and cure (v. 6), cause the captivity to return (v. 7), and cleanse and pardon the nation (v. 8).

III. Explanation about Prayer (“Show thee great and mighty things”)

- A. The great and mighty things included the coming “Branch of righteousness”—the Messiah (v. 15; cf. Isa. 11:1 ff.),
- B. The salvation of Judah and Jerusalem (v. 16),
- C. Finally, the assurance of fidelity to His covenant based on the continuity of His creation (vv. 20-22).

Conclusion: *Pastoral exhortation:* if you have been betrayed by your country, threatened by national enemies, ignored by family, and abandoned in prison to die, you might want to consider God’s remedy—“**Call unto Me!**”

2010 BBTS SPRING CALENDAR

Mar. 8-12	Module: <i>Tools for Biblical Languages</i> Endicott, NY
Mar. 15-19	Spring Break
April 12 - 16	Modules: <i>Romans</i> and <i>Tools for Biblical Languages</i> Iloilo, Philippines
April 22	Spring Lecture Series
May 16	Commencement

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

bbts@stny.rr.com



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