



BBC UPDATE

Operation Cromwell:

Redemption from Sin in 2010

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor

With Easter Sunday falling on April 4, 2010, BBC will endeavor to visit area homes on the Saturdays of March 20 and 27 and invite our neighbors to church. We have received new chairs for the auditorium, and we should have our new sign put up immediately in preparation for Easter. We are trusting that several visitors will come, and are praying that the Lord will give redemption to lost, repentant sinners. Pray that the Lord will grant that we make a spiritual impact on our community of Cromwell, CT. Not only do we have a ministry to "the uttermost part of the earth" through our European and Philippine modules, but also we desire to reach our own Jerusalem (cf. Acts 1:8).



The Bible Baptist Church Family



The new chairs have arrived!



The new sign for BBC went up on Monday!

Make Your Plans to Attend the BBTS Spring Lecture Series!

Bible Baptist Church will host her first Spring Lecture Series for Bible Baptist Theological Seminary on **April 22, 2010, 9 AM to 3 PM**. The subject will focus on theology and practice of the answer to the question, "What is the Body of Christ?" The speakers will be Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, pastor of BBC and dean of BBTS, and Pastor Cas Reeves, pastor of Heritage Baptist Church and president of Heritage Baptist Theological Seminary, Endicott, NY.



Dr. Strouse



Pastor Reeves

BBTS Spring Lecture Series Schedule

8:30-9:00 AM	Coffee, donuts, and registration.
9:00 -10:30	The Biblical Answer to "What is the Body of Christ" (Dr. Strouse)
10:30 -10:40	Break
10:40 to 12:00	The Historical Development of Erroneous Views of the Body of Christ (Dr. Strouse)
12:00-1:00	Lunch served on the ground.
1:00-2:30	Why the Biblical Doctrine of the Body of Christ is important to the Pastor (Pastor Reeves)
2:30-3:00	Questions and Answers.

BBTS MODULE UPDATES



BBTS Modules

2

Philippines

Two New Funds to Support the Philippine Ministry

Concerning the Philippine ministry, we want to encourage churches of like faith to consider praying about and giving towards the special offering for **Pastor Jed Raquintan's piano fund**, as well the **Filipino pastors' module scholarship fund**. It will cost at least \$2000 for a good upright piano in the Metro Manila area, and we are thankful that several churches are praying about the Lord's will concerning this fund. In addition, concerning the Filipino scholarship fund, any amount will help defray costs associated with their tuition, which is \$150.00 for two courses.

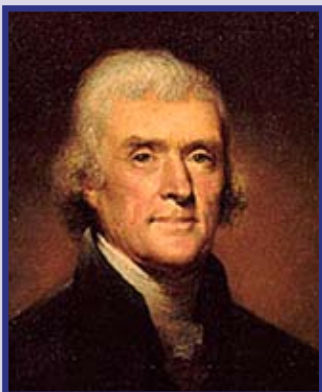


Piano Project

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.

Quote from the Past:

Thomas Jefferson,
1743-1826



"God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift from God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, and that His justice cannot sleep forever."

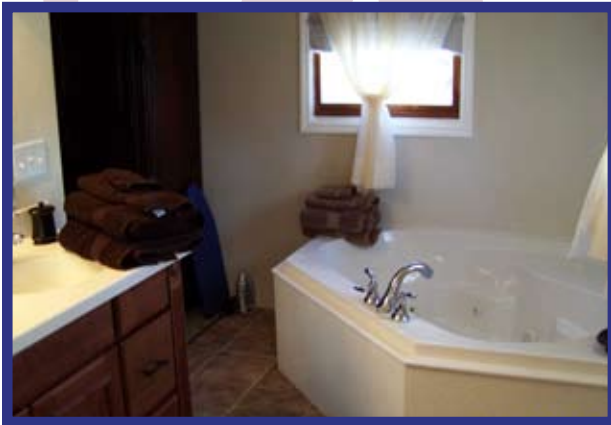
Endicott, NY Module

by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor

BBTS held a seminary module in Heritage Baptist Church entitled "Tools for Biblical Languages." Pastor Reeves had about twenty of his church members attend the class throughout the week, along with the two seminarians, Pastor Jeremy Rice and Mr. Jeff Skorupski. The course covered the Hebrew and Greek alphabets (*aleph-beth*), giving suggestions on how to use available language tools, such as knowing key theological words, utilizing Hebrew and Greek lexicons, understanding the theology of prepositions, and reading interlinear texts in both Hebrew and Greek.



Kitchenette in Toepke Hall



Jacuzzi in prophet's chamber at Toepke Hall

BBTS MODULE UPDATES



Seminarians feasting in Toepke Hall

The new facility at Heritage Baptist Church was Toepke Hall, a donated house that was freshly refurbished, and part of the housing facilities for Heritage Baptist Theological Seminary. The whole church body is behind the seminary and this was evinced in two ways: 1) many members served in various capacities to make the stay of the three guests, brothers Rice and Skorupski, and myself, very enjoyable, and 2) these same church members who were involved in hospitality sat in on and took the seminary module as well. We are thankful the royal treatment extended by the sister church HBC and her ministry of Heritage Baptist Theological Seminary.

2010 BBTS SPRING CALENDAR

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

Book Suggestion

by Jeff Skorupski

MARTYRS MIRROR of the DEFENSELESS CHRISTIANS

Like John Foxe's book of martyr stories, *Martyrs Mirror* tells the tales of those, beginning with Christ's apostles, who were willing to stand alone for a simple, obedient faith. This classic 1660 Dutch book memorializes the godly lives and glorious deaths of European Anabaptist martyrs between 1524 and 1660 and thousands of other early Christians. The compiler T.J. Van Braght draws on the work of other historians, such as John Foxe (who even tried to defend some of the jailed martyrs in this book), Eusebius, P.J. Twisck, Sebastian Franck, and Abraham Melinus. These stories shine a mirror on ordinary people who experienced a spiritual reality that few today can even imagine.

WALKING IN GOD'S WAY

Psalm 119:6 - 8

By Pastor Scott Blair ('05)

What a blessed thought on the impossibility of shame if we will only "look to" or have respect to all of God's commandments. How often are believers tied down to the guilt and shame that is associated with sin and its unpleasant consequences? If we will only "walk in His ways" we will "do no iniquity" (v. 3), and then we "shall not be ashamed" because we "have respect to all His commandments."



Pastor Scott Blair

Living a life that is marked by "walking in His ways" also leads to joy, which is the opposite of shame. As we walk in the Lord's ways, our attention is turned away from ourselves and from the things of the world; and instead, turned toward God. The believer's joy is not rooted in circumstances; but in the

Lord, and in learning His righteous judgments. This joy manifests itself in praise to the Lord with an upright heart. What is your source of joy today?

Finally, David affirms his commitment to keep God's statutes. Walking in His ways is walking by faith. Walking by faith is what is best. Without a doubt it pleases God, but that does not mean that it is easy. Walking by faith means we are completely dependent upon God. David expresses his dependence upon God, asking for His continued presence. If we walk in His word we are always in His presence, because His word is an extension of Himself.

"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."

- Hebrews 11:6

Then shall I not be ashamed,
when I have respect unto all
thy commandments.

I will praise thee with upright-
ness of heart, when I shall
have learned thy righteous
judgments.

I will keep thy statutes: O
forsake me not utterly.

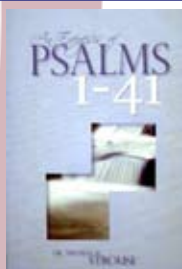
Psalm 119:6 - 8

THE BOOK CORNER

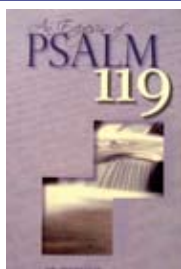
These Books may be purchased through
Bible Baptist Church:

40 Country Squire Rd.
Cromwell, CT 06416

860-229-5387



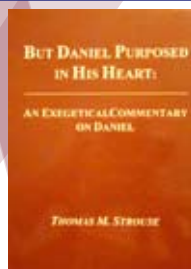
Psalms 1 - 41
\$20.00



Psalm 119
\$20.00



Spiritual Gifts
\$8.00



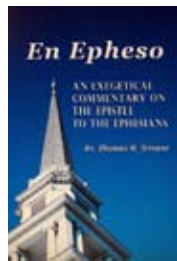
Daniel
\$20.00



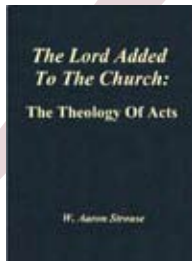
Jonah
\$10.00



Geocentricity
\$10.00



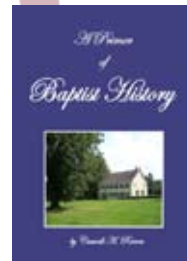
En Epheso
\$20.00



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

“Where Prayer Was Wont To Be Made”

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor

Scripture: Acts 16:13

And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

Acts 16:13

Introduction: Paul had his first European convert on his second missionary journey into Macedonia. Responding to the call of the “man of Macedonia” (Acts 16:9), Paul won Lydia to the Lord (16:14).

One should observe several *features* about the expression “Where prayer was wont to be made”:

I. The Place (vv. 12-13)

- A. It was not in a Synagogue (Jews needed 10 men in a city to have synagogue).
- B. Since Philippi was such a pagan city, God-fearers went outside of the city.
- C. They prayed by the riverside, perhaps looking for visions as others had:
 1. Ezekiel had visions by the riverside (Ezk. 1:1).
 2. Daniel had visions by the riverside (Dan. 10:4).

II. The Persons (v. 14-15)

- A. Women have a proclivity for the spiritual realm (cf. Acts 17:4, 12, 34).
- B. Lydia was Paul’s first European convert.
 1. She was a seller (not a wearer) of purple for royalty.
 2. She was from Thyatira (perhaps influenced the starting of that church in Rev. 2:18 ff. The city was known for its purple dye.
 3. She had a household (which may have included adult children and servants).
 4. As a God-fearer, she had a love for truth (II Thes. 2:10) as she responded to Paul’s preaching.

III. The Product (vv. 15-16)

- A. One product of her prayer was her salvation and that of her family.
- B. Another product of her prayer was that of her and her family’s baptisms (no babies [cf. Acts 8:12]).

SERMON OUTLINE

- C. Another product of her prayer was the establishment of the Philippian church.
- D. Another product of her prayer was more evangelism, as Paul won the demon-possessed maiden to the Lord (v. 18).

Application: Is your life, family, work place, and church characterized as a place “where prayer was wont to be made”?



BBC Youth group enjoying Sunday lunch!



BBC Youth Tyler Strouse makes all tourney team in Regional BB tournament and MVP in state

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



Bible Baptist Theological Seminary

A ministry of Bible Baptist Church

40 Country Squire Road

Cromwell, CT 06416

860-613-2096