



# BBC UPDATE

## BBC Easter Services

Dr. Thomas Strouse



The Lord blessed with a beautiful Easter day including wonderful services at BBC. The AM sermon focused on four truths about the death of Christ, and the PM expounded I Cor. 15:1-58. The BBC choir sang several Easter songs in the AM, and presented a Christ-honoring rendering of Scrip-

ture reading and spiritual songs, rejoicing in the risen Saviour. The services may be heard on our web site.: <http://www.bbc-cromwell.org/sermons.shtml>



Top Right: The BBC Children's Choir sang sweetly during the Easter music program  
Above: The BBC Choir sang a beautiful arrangement of "Holy is He"!



Above: The Kwon, Gagnon and Hagglund families all ministered in song during the Easter music program.



## 2012 BBTS Spring Lecture Series Who Are the Baptists?

Thursday, April 19, 2012  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Cromwell, CT  
**See Page 2 for details**

## BBTS Commencement Service Announced

There are seven candidates for **BBTS graduation** on **May 20, 2012 at 1:30 PM**. Three of these candidates are from the Philippine and Ireland modules and the remainder are from the USA. The Sunday AM preacher will be Dr. Robert Zemeski, long term missionary to Ireland, and the commencement preacher will be Pastor Ken Brooks of Calvary Independent Baptist Church, West Redding, CT. The **Graduation Banquet** will be **Saturday, May 19, 2012 at 6:00 PM**. Pray for these men.

*Bible Baptist Theological Seminary presents*  
**The Third Annual Spring  
Lecture Series**

# Who Are the BAPTISTS??



**RSVP by April 2, 2012** with  
total number in your party.  
BBTS, Dr. Thomas M. Strouse  
40 Country Squire Rd.  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
860-229-5387  
Drtms\_bbts@juno.com  
[www.bbc-cromwell.org](http://www.bbc-cromwell.org)



**Thursday,  
April 19, 2012**  
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM



*Dr. Joel Grassi*



*Dr. Thomas M. Strouse*



*Pastor Cas Reeves*



*Mr. Noel Meadowcroft*

**The Crowne Plaza**  
100 Berlin Rd.  
Cromwell, CT 06416

## **Preaching Schedule:**

**9:00-10:30 AM** *"John the Baptist"*—Dr. Joel Grassi, ThD, ThM, MDiv

**10:45 AM-12:00** *"The Theology and Polity of Baptists"*— Dr. Thomas Strouse, MDiv, PhD, ThD, DD, DLit, Pastor of Bible Baptist Church and Dean of BBTS.

**1:00-2:30 PM** *"The History of Ancient Baptists"*—Pastor Cas Reeves, MBS, MDiv, Pastor of Heritage Baptist Church and President of HBTS, BBTS Adjunct Professor

**2:45-4:00 PM** *"The History of 20th Century Baptists"*— Noel Meadowcroft, MBS, BBTS Adjunct Professor

Lunch will be provided with free-will offering.  
A book table will be available with relevant material.

# The Bible and Dance

## SERMON

By Dr. Thomas Strouse

### Introduction

The Scripture refers to the practice of dancing in one of two ways, either that which honors the Lord in worship or that which is evil and sensual. The passages with the KJV words “dance,” “dances,” “danced,” and “dancing” occur as follows:

*Dance:* Jdg. 21:21; Job 21:11; Pss. 149:3; 150:4; Eccl. 3:4; Isa. 13:21; Jer. 31:13; and Lam. 5:15.

*Dances:* Ex. 15:20; Jdg. 11:34; 21:21; I Sam. 21:11; 29:15; and Jer. 32:4.

*Danced:* Jdg. 21:23; II Sam. 6:14; Mt. 11:17; 14:6; Mk. 6:22; and Lk. 7:32.

*Dancing:* Ex. 32:19; I Sam. 18:6; 30:16; II Sam. 6:16; I Chr. 15:29; Ps. 30:11; and Lk. 15:25.

The related Hebrew and Greek words are the following:

### Old Testament

#### Verbs

הִגִּיג (verb meaning to dance by going around [16x])

הוּל (verb meaning to dance, be pained, tremble, travail, shake [62x])

כָּרַר (verb meaning to dance in a whirl [2x])

רָקַד (verb meaning to dance, skip, leap jump [9x])

#### Nouns

מְהוּל (noun meaning dance [6x])

מְהוּלָה (noun meaning dance [6x])

### New Testament

#### Verb

ὀρχέομαι (verb meaning to dance in a circle [4x])

#### Noun

χορός (noun meaning circle [1x])

NT saints should **W.E.A.N.** themselves from OT practices such as dancing for the following reasons:

### I. WORSHIP

*Worship in spirit and truth* (Jn. 4:24; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16)

NT church members worship the Lord in spirit and truth, rather than in public display of the externalization of OT worship. OT sacrifices were physical and external, whereas NT sacrifices are spiritual and internal. NT worship in the assembly is internal whereas OT worship of the state religion was external. NT worship comes from the heart without necessary outward display (Eph. 5:18-19; Col. 3:16; Heb. 13:15-16).

### II. EXAMINE

*Examine all things* (I Thes. 5:21; II Cor. 13:5)

NT church members must examine all things in the light of Scripture, rightly dividing the word of God (II Tim. 2:15). This examination shows distinctions between the worship practices of the OT state religion (animal sacrifices, majestic orchestras, etc.) and the NT assembly.

1. The lifting up of holy hands was the gesture of open hands with palms facing recipient to receive the Lord's blessings, not to wave at Him (cf. Ps. 28:2; I Tim. 2:8).
2. The Scripture does not refer to the words “drum” or “drums,” therefore, certainly not as a musical instrument in worship. “Loud cymbals” (Ps. 150:5) and other orchestra instruments were for public worship for the thousands in the sacral society (Dan. 3:5-10).
3. Cultural instruments must be avoided if their music violates biblical principles for the NT congregations. Melody must drive the music (Eph. 5:19).

### III. AVOID

*Avoid appearance of evil* (I Thes. 5:22)

NT church members must avoid the appearance of evil in all areas including worship. Both the secular world and paganism employ perversion in music and worship, including music and musical instruments and the use of dancing. Worldly and pagan practices must be avoided in a careful and consistent manner. Music does have spiritual bias, and either honors God and dispels the attraction of demons (cf. I Sam. 16:23), or is sensual leading to carnal activity (Ex. 32:17-19).

### IV. NO EXAMPLE

*No example in the NT churches* (Jn. 14:15)

NT church members recognize that there is no example of dancing or playing drums in the NT assembly in Christ's teaching and practice, or in Paul's teaching and practice. Nowhere in the NT do the assembly members ever dance or are ever instructed to dance, nor to play drums. Just as there is no example or teaching concerning baby baptism, there is no teaching concerning dancing or drums in the NT assembly.

### CONCLUSION

NT church members must be **WEANED** from OT practices and honor the Lord Jesus Christ in NT assembly worship.



## The Question

By: Keren Strouse Campos

*To seek or not to seek? This is the question.  
Some say they want the truth, but never look  
beyond their oppression.*

*Desperately, they wish and hope for more,  
but never humbly come to the Savior's door.  
Pride and religion, take the place, of a true  
relationship by God's saving grace.*

*Works and tradition become a lonely friend,  
in place of the Holy Spirit dwelling within.*

*The sinner's prayer was once said long ago,  
but the fruits of the Spirit never began to show.  
So, on they go, ceasing to look for the Way, the  
Truth, the Life and settling with a false hope,  
believing the devil's lie.*

*Blinded by the cares of this world, the hope they  
once longed for begins to harden,  
as the resolution of fear and heartache become  
tools to bargain.*

*But only if they continued to seek, the One, who  
could fill their void, the One, who died on the cross,  
the One, who could give them joy.*

*Then their hearts would be changed forever  
with a love and relationship like no other.*

*The yearning would be gone, now that Truth was discovered.*

*Today is the day of salvation. Tomorrow is not guaranteed.*

*He says in His word, "And ye shall seek me, and  
find me..."*



## “The Practice of Prelates”

published in 1530 by William Tyndale



William Tyndale

“Even so the Bishop of Rome, at the beginning, crope along upon the earth, and every man trod upon him in this world. But as soon as there came a Christian Emperor, he joined himself unto his feet, and kissed them, and crope up a little with begging,—now this privilege, now that,—now this city, now that ... St. Peter’s patrimony,—St. Peter’s rents,—St. Peter’s lands,—St. Peter’s right; to cast a vain fear and superstitiousness into the hearts of men ... And thus, with flattering and feigning, and vain superstition, under the name of St. Peter, he crept up and fastened his roots in the heart of the Emper-

or; and with his sword climbed up above all his fellows; and brought them under his feet. And as he subdued them with the Emperor’s sword, even so, by subtilty and help of them, after that they were sworn faithful, he climbed above the Emperor and subdued him also; so did his branches and his members, the bishops, play in every kingdom, dukedom, and lordship ... And thus,—the Ivy tree hath under his roots, throughout all christendom, in every village, holes for foxes, and nests for unclean birds, in all his branches,—and promiseth unto his disciples all the promotions of the world.”

## DEVOTIONAL CORNER

### Quotes From the Past:

#### William Kiffin (1616-1701)

Baptist Pastor in London,  
England.

An excerpt from a letter to  
his family in 1793.



William Kiffin

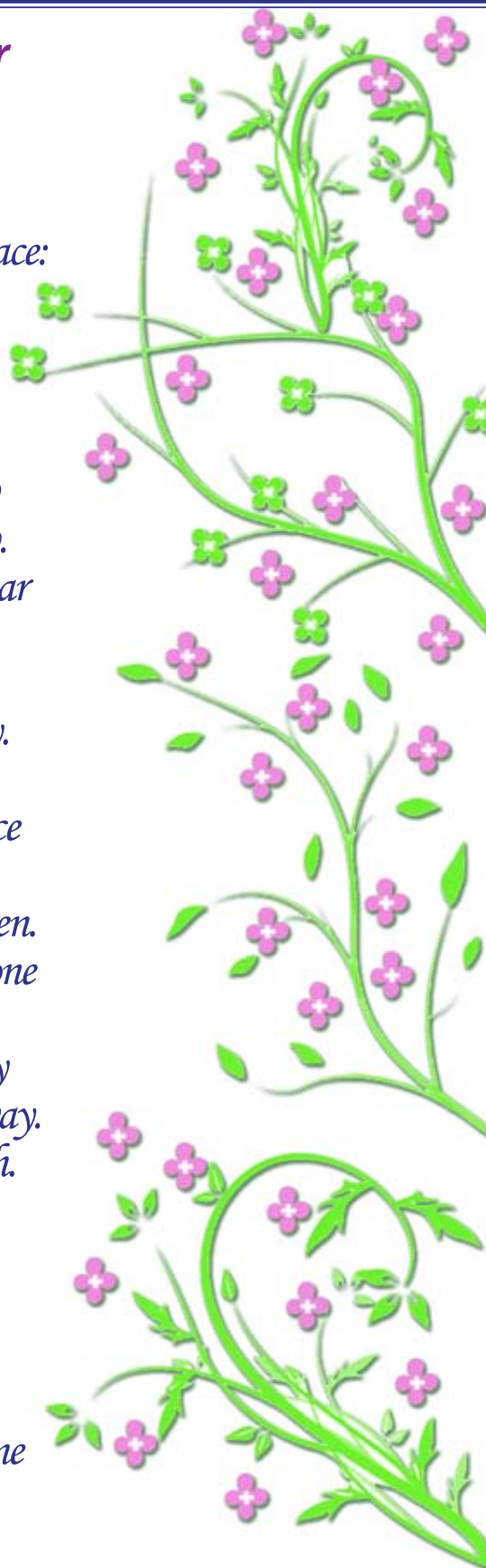
I leave these few instances of Divine care.... To know God and Jesus Christ is eternal life. Endeavor to be diligent, to enquire after and to be established in the doctrines of the Gospel, which is of absolute necessity to salvation. I must every day expect to leave the world having lived in it much longer than I expected, yet I know not what my eyes may see before my change. The world is full of confusion. The last times are upon us. The signs are very visible. Iniquity abounds, and the love of many in religion waxes cold. God is by His providence shaking the earth under our feet. There is no sure foundation of rest and peace but only in Christ Jesus. To His grace I commend you.

Amen.

## A Gospel Hymn for Easter

by Pastor Brad Berglund  
First Baptist Church, Cannon Falls

*Never before did such take place.  
 Man's days were marred by sin's disgrace:  
 Death - an end with no recall,  
 Until the day He changed it all.  
 Long time ago, in garden fair  
 The stillness of the calm night air  
 Did lull the guards to senseless sleep  
 Before the tomb which they did keep.  
 The ground did shake; they froze in fear  
 Because an angel drawing near  
 Had cast the weighty stone away  
 From empty tomb where once He lay.  
 Never before did such take place  
 - Redemption's hope: the God of Grace  
 Dying, He paid our debt for sin  
 - Rose from the grave - was seen by men.  
 Two thousand years have come and gone  
 But Sunday morning yet lives on.  
 Each passing year still marks the day  
 When death's cold clutch was cast away.  
 The Risen Lord has vanquished death.  
 There's life beyond our final breath.  
 A promised day is coming when  
 Each one who died will rise again.  
 Never before did such take place  
 - Yet every one from Adam's race  
 Risen, will weep for what they've done  
 Or own God's gift: His Saving Son.*



# THE BOOK CORNER

## 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.



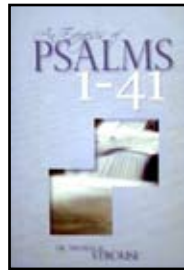
Another BBC youth catches a snooze!!

## The Book Corner

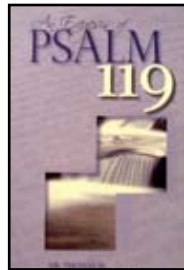
These Books may be purchased through **Bible Baptist Church:**  
40 Country Squire Rd.  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
860-229-5387



I & II Thessalonians  
\$10.00



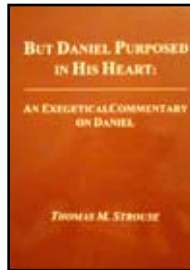
Psalms 1 - 41  
\$20.00



Psalms 119  
\$20.00



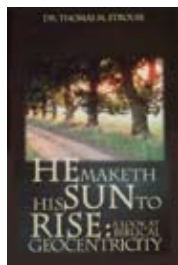
Spiritual Gifts  
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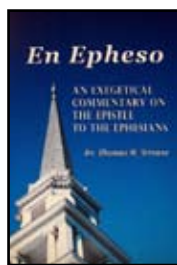
Daniel  
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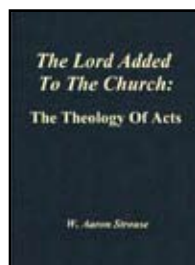
Jonah  
\$10.00



Geocentricity  
\$10.00



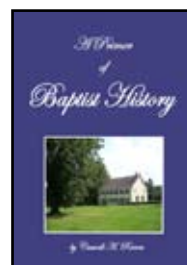
En Epheso  
\$20.00



The Theology of Acts  
\$20.00



I Will Build My Church  
\$15.00



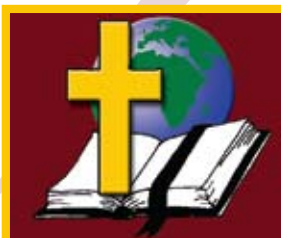
A Primer of Baptist History  
\$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken  
\$15.00

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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## Bible Baptist Theological Seminary

A ministry of Bible Baptist Church

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