



BBC UPDATE

BBC News

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor



Dr. Strouse

In spite of several families being gone on vacation, we thank the Lord for the visitors we have had. The church is gearing up for **Vacation Bible School on August 2-4, 2010**, for K-6, with the finale on Wednesday night for the children and their parents. Many church members are anticipating involvement as we attempt our first VBS. We will be distributing VBS brochures to various neighborhoods in the next few weeks. We also are completing our new web site which should have articles and information to bless our congregation and others as well. Brochures for BBC are being written for visitation distribution in our neighborhood.

BBTS News

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The Summer Modules have begun with some familiar faces and with some new. Six seminarians attended the module on *Revelation* in Cromwell, including Hawaiian Jared Yokoyama. Seminarian Jeff Skorupski housed him for a few days as they both studied the *Apocalypse*. Pastor Cas Reeves brought his son Eli with him for the module as well. Mr. Jim Lawrence came from western PA for the module on the History of Christianity, staying with Brother Skorupski as well. Pastor Reeves attended this module along with Ryan Strouse, both of whom are in the BBTS



BBTS Module on The History of Christianity held in Cromwell- Cas Reeves, Jeff Skorupski, Ryan Strouse and Jim Lawrence



BBTS Module on Ephesians held at Fairhaven Baptist College Eric Ramos, Jerry Mitchell, Don Whitecar, Dan Armacost

program. Last week I flew to Chesterton, IN to teach the Book of Ephesians to four staff members at Fairhaven Baptist College. New to the BBTS program are Eric Ramos, Jerry Mitchell, and Don Whitecar, along with recent alumnus Dan Armacost who received his MDiv on May, 16, 2010. Please continue to pray for the ministry of BBTS.



BBC NEWS

Father's Day at BBC!

BBC News

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Cromwell



Some of the Strouse family celebrating Father's Day at BBC



Bill Gagnon and daughter Sabrina



Two young boys
"We didn't do it!"



Recent MDiv Graduate from BBTs,
Dan Armacost and family



Candid shots from
BBTs Module 'The
History of
Christianity'



Noah Webster, 1758-1843

"All the miseries and evils which men suffer from vice, crime, ambition, injustice, oppression, slavery and war, proceed from their despising or neglecting the precepts contained in the Bible."



YE ARE THE
BODY OF
CHRIST

YE ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST



Dr. Strouse's article on the doctrine of the local church has been printed and is still available through Bible Baptist Church.

DR. THOMAS M. STROUSE

All Flesh Shall Come

Psalm 65:2

by Pastor Cas Reeves

"O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come" (Psalm 65:2).

We live in a day in which there are many who doubt whether there is a God. This is not something that is exclusive to our day only. But for centuries there have been many who have doubted God's existence. That is why God has given to man promises, very impossible tasks which only He can do in order to prove "that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

One of those promises which was an impossible task is the birth of Christ: "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). This promise was given to clearly identify God's only Savior to the world. And this Savior was heaven sent – Jesus Christ who was born of a virgin.

God has also given us a promise with hope, Psalm 65:2. Therefore, as we live amongst the ungodly and unbeliever and the blasphemer, that we may know, one day all flesh will come before Him. This promise is again reiterated; "And it shall come to pass, that from

DEVOTIONAL CORNER

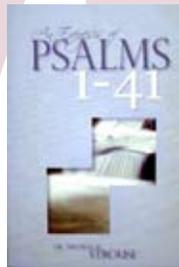
one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord" (Isaiah 65:23). Again, God says: "As I live saith the Lord, every knee shall bow unto me, and every tongue shall confess to God" (Romans 14:11). And with striking detail, we are told, "that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11).

Have you bowed your knee and confessed your sin to Christ and received him as your Savior? Do you bow to him daily as your Lord? One day you will. What will you hear Him say to you? Will you hear him say, 'Well done,' or will you hear Him say, 'depart from me.' Remember, you can come to Christ now and be saved or come later and be cast into to hell with the rest of the unbelieving (Rev.21:8), but unto him "shall all flesh come." CAR

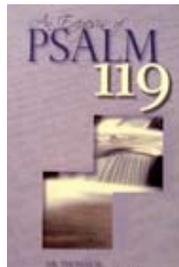
The Book Corner

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

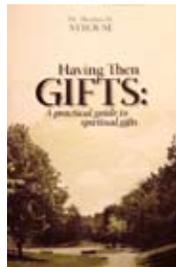
40 Country Squire Rd.
Cromwell, CT 06416
860-229-5387



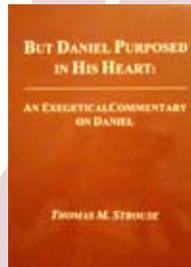
Psalms 1 - 41
\$20.00



Psalm 119
\$20.00



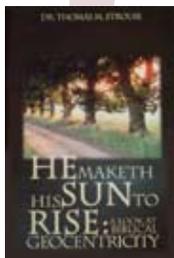
Spiritual Gifts
\$8.00



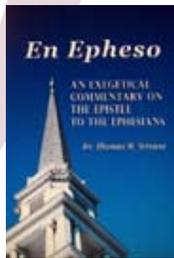
Daniel
\$20.00



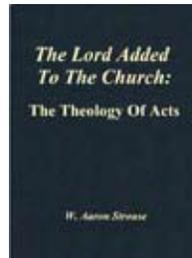
Jonah
\$10.00



Geocentricity
\$10.00



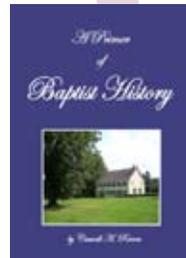
En Epheso
\$20.00



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

BOOK REVIEW

Book Review

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The Church...

The Church Which Is His Body: *Is it Local or Universal*

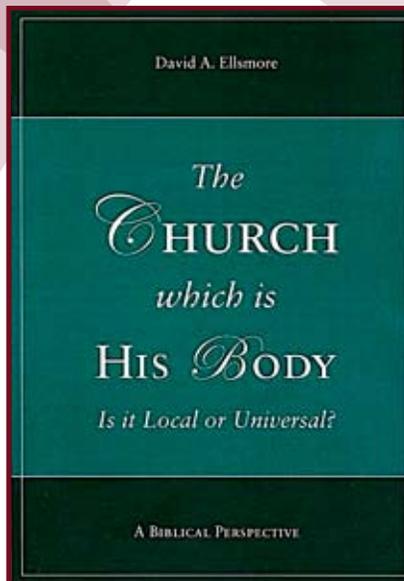
Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor

The recent book by David A. Ellsmore, *The Church Which Is His Body: Is it Local or Universal*, (West Basingstoke, England: West Basingstoke Baptist Church, 2010 [144 pp.]) is a work that has come out of the crucible of fire. Pastor Ellsmore has been the pastor of West Basingstoke Baptist Church since 1981. While in seminary (2005) through the Emmanuel Baptist Theological Seminary extension in Ireland, his ecclesiological position of holding to the universal, invisible church was biblically challenged. As he conformed his ecclesiology to that of Scripture, he recognized the Christian responsibility to instruct his church in harmony with Christ's teaching. Pastor Ellsmore realized the potential for costly consequences in his assembly, but desiring to please his Savior rather than man, counted the cost and ultimately lost half of his congregation. His studies and teaching during this time of fiery trial resulted in the finished manuscript. He lost favor with friends, family, and pastors because of his position that Scripture teaches that the *ekklesia* is the visible assembly of immersed saints, while at the same time gaining favor with the Lord Jesus Christ. I take great joy in presenting and promoting *The Church Which Is His Body* as the manifestation of his walk in truth (III Jn. 1:4), and as the fruit of the exposition of Scripture through the seminary extension in Europe (Jn. 15:16).

With theological precision and Christian grace, Pastor Ellsmore repudiates his previous notion of the universal, invisible church. Theologically, he shows the biblical fallacy of holding to two churches and two baptisms. Pastorally, he carefully and compassionately repudiates the position because of the practical ramifications that affect the sanctification of believers, and especially the sanctification of Baptist church mem-

bers. The book layout effectively reflects the biblical logic which counters human logic when ecclesiological discussions occur. Pastor Ellsmore knows the so-called "objections" and counters them head on with Scripture. He gives biblical definitions for "church" and "body" and deals with John's theology of Spirit Baptism. He asks whether there was an assembly before Pentecost, and shows the biblical affirmation replete through the Gospel accounts. He addresses other questions such as the nature of the "Bride," the "Kingdom of God," and the "Family of God." He argues for the defense that John's baptism was New Testament baptism, and the "one baptism" (Eph. 4:5), while clearly rejecting and avoiding any scandal of "Landmarkism" or "Baptist Bride-ism." His book is filled with lists, footnotes, and diagrams, illustrating and elucidating his points with great clarity. He attaches five appendices, focusing on

auxiliary ecclesiological issues, and rounding out a very thorough study of *ekklesia* in the New Testament. With great pastoral care, Ellsmore gives his final plea, saying, "It is highly likely that Baptists will again be persecuted in our Western society and those Baptists who support the non-biblical concept of a universal church or body will, albeit inadvertently, be helping to bring about this persecution on themselves."



Remaining BBTS Summer 2010 Module Schedule

July 19 - 23	Romans	Plymouth, NH
August 2-6	Baptist History	Northfield, NJ

All courses taught by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

“WHATSOEVER HE DOETH SHALL PROSPER”

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor

Background

Presumably David wrote this Psalm to begin the theme of the Psalter. He outlined it with Hebrew parallelism.

- A The Way of the Blessed—Delight (vv. 1-2)
- B The Prospects of the Blessed—Prosperity (v. 3)
- B' the Prospects of the Wicked—Judgment (vv. 4-5)
- A' The Way of the Wicked—Perish (v. 6)

Three *Truths* about Spiritual Prosperity (*Tsalach*)

I. It is the Goal--Prosperity

- A. Positive
 - 1. Prosperity comes via the Word (II Chr. 26:5)
 - 2. Prosperity comes via Obedience (Gen. 39:2)
- B. Negative
 - 1. Prosperity is thwarted with Defiance (Num. 14:41-43)
 - 2. Prosperity is thwarted with Disobedience (Dt. 28:15-29)

II. There is an Analogy--Tree

- A. Planted by water with deep roots (Jer. 17:8)
- B. Seasonal Fruits (Gal. 5:22-23)
- C. No withering leaves (*nabal* [I Sam. 25:25])

III. It has a Means—Biblical Behavior

- A. Avoiding sinners (v. 1)
- B. Loving Word by meditating in it (Col. 3:16).

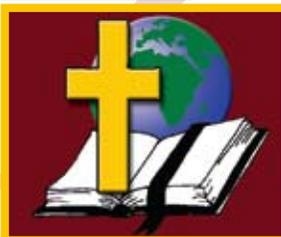
Conclusion

If you want spiritual prosperity, start reading, memorizing, and practicing the words of God. The Scripture will direct you in the Lord's will, and you will be blessed along the way with spiritual prosperity.

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.
Psalm 1:1-2

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



SERMON OUTLINE

Vacation Bible School



Bible Baptist
Church

Paul's Missionary Journeys

August 2nd - 4th
9:00 - Noon



Songs



Games

Snacks



Crafts

Bible
Lessons



40 Country Squire Rd.
Cromwell, CT

Seminary Picnic!

The BBTS picnic is tentatively planned for **Sept. 6, 2010** at the Strouse house for all BBC members, BBTS graduates, and friends of BBTS. Please make plans to attend!



Bible Baptist Theological Seminary
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