



BBC UPDATE

BBTS Fall Semester Online



Dr. Thomas Strouse

On August 26, 2013, Bible Baptist Theological Seminary will begin its fourth year of offering seminary courses with the purpose of training men in the word of God for the work of God. A full schedule of courses is being offered at BBC, Cromwell, CT. The Lord willing, BBTS will begin to

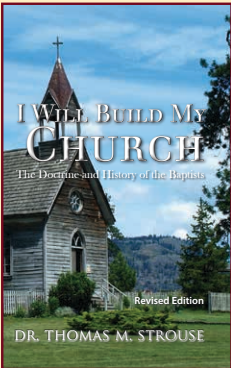
video courses for seminarians to take online. Those taking courses for graduation credit may only be able to take 50% online and the rest in modules or on the Cromwell campus. Courses for credit must be paid for in advance. BBTS offers Bible, theology, and biblical language courses (Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek) for all serious students. For registration of either Online or Campus courses, please contact the Dean drtms_bbts@juno.com. For schedule or programs, check out our web site www.bbc-cromwell.org.



One of many BBTS classes taught in Cromwell, CT. They will be available this fall via the internet!



I Will Build My Church Revised Reprint



Bible Baptist Church has printed the revised edition of *I Will Build My Church* by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse. The premise of the book is that the Lord's immersionist assemblies will have a history since He promised the perpetuation of them, declaring, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Mt. 28:20). He will be with His baptizing institution unto the end of the local church age. The effort has been made to demonstrate Baptist churches in every century based on theological presupposition and historical confirmation. The book also contains twenty pages of Baptist bibliography to benefit Baptist pastors, missionaries and seminarians.

BBTS/BBC Picnic!

The annual Labor Day BBTS/BBC picnic is planned for **Sept. 2, 2013** at the Strouse house from **3:00 - 7:00 PM**. All past and present seminarians and all BBC members are welcome to attend!! Those whose last names end in **A-N** should bring a side dish and those ending in **O-Z** should bring dessert. Please also bring lawn chairs. Please RSVP to drtms_bbts@juno.com with total number coming by Aug. 29.



CAMP REPORT

Galilean Baptist Church Camp Report

By Bill Gagnon

Galilean Baptist Church held their annual youth camp this year under the leadership of their pastor, Steven Hinebaugh. After a one year hiatus, camp was blessed with good weather and many answers to prayer. With one of its highest attendance in recent years, camp welcomed 70 campers and 33 adult volunteers including 4 pastors with this total representing 13 different churches. There were quite a few first-time campers in addition to the seasoned veterans.

Pastor Scott Blair was the guest speaker, preaching from Matthew 4:18-20 on the theme: "Fishers of Men". He challenged the campers, as well as the adults, to his four point outline:

1. **FAITH.** You must put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour.
2. **FOLLOW.** After you have faith, you will become a follower. Jesus wants us to leave our nets behind and follow Him completely.



Lunch!



The campers' accommodations!

3. **FISH.** As a follower, the Lord will make you a fisher of men. You will want to share the gospel and see others put their faith in Jesus.
4. **FINISH.** Upon leaving camp you must be willing to finish the work the Lord has started in you. Pastor Blair stressed that camp does not end when we get home, but we must continue to have faith, follow and fish every day of our lives.

The campers were fed daily from the Word of God through devotions, morning chapel and evening services. They also enjoyed delicious meals of food donated by many sister churches and cooked by GBC members and other volunteers. The team games and sport activities are always a camp highlight. These included games such as soccer, basketball, and volleyball; but also included schwartzball, German kickball, flickerball, trench and bacon, just to name a few. Even Pastor Hinebaugh participated right along with the campers. As usual, Bible Memory was a key element to camp this year. The teen and junior camper with the most memorized verses each received a personalized study Bible. During the course of the week, there were four professions of faith and many others made decisions to be better followers of Christ.

Camp preparations for 2014 have already begun (July 28-August 1) and I encourage parents to set aside these dates to have your 9-18 year old children attend a great "local church camp" camp.



Above: The campers during evening chapel with Pastor Scott Blair.



Left: A Camp Favorite... the Swing!!

Boaz, “Mr. Right”

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

ARTICLE

How did Naomi and Ruth know that Boaz was “Mr. Right” for Ruth? After all, Naomi laid out a strategy for Ruth to pursue, and Ruth willing said, *“All that thou sayest unto me I will do”* (Ruth 3:5). Before considering an answer to this practical query, several factors must be considered.



Dr. Thomas Strouse

First, the great overarching motivational agenda for all women in ancient times was not merely to have children, but to have a male offspring in hopes of mothering the Messiah. The Seed Promise (cf. Gen. 3:15) that Jehovah gave the sinful couple in the Garden was for Eve to give birth to their Saviour,¹ and hence Adam named his wife “Eve” (חַוָּה),² indicating he had requisite faith in God’s means of redemption. Because of the faith of Adam (and Eve), the LORD accepted their faith and covered them with the product of the first blood sacrifice (cf. Gen. 3:20-21). Subsequently, Eve thought her firstborn Cain was the incarnate Jehovah, saying literally, “I have begotten a man, even Jehovah” (אֶת־יְהוָה (קָנִיתִי אִישׁ). This interpretation is confirmed in her later statement as Scripture stated, saying, *“And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew”* (Gen. 4:25). Eve, no doubt, told her daughters of this hope, who in turn told the women on Noah’s ark, who in turn passed on this hope of having the Messiah to the nations represented in the Table of Nations (cf. Gen. 10:1 ff.). Thus, Daniel used the *hapax legomena* expression “the desire of women” (נְשִׁים חֲמֻדָּה)³ as a periphrastic (roundabout way of speaking) construction referring to Christ the Messiah (cf. Dan. 11:37). In other words, the Antichrist will not regard the desire that women had (i.e., to birth the Messiah); he will be opposed to the ultimate product of this desire—Christ!

Second, the Scripture gives the record of four women in the Messiah’s lineage who were highly motivated theologically to mate with a Jewish man in hopes of producing the Messiah (cf. Mt. 1:3-6). These women were Tamar (cf. Gen. 38), Rahab (cf. Josh. 2), Ruth

(cf. Ruth 1-4), and Bathsheba (cf. II Sam. 11). Three of these women used unsavory methods (immorality or deception) to get into the messianic lineage, as God honored their faith and not their means. Ruth, with the same theological motivation of her soon-to-be mother-in-law Rahab, used aggressive but honorable means to pursue Boaz.

Third, the Christian perspective on interpreting Ruth and the Song of Solomon especially, must be built upon the truth found in Paul’s letter to Titus, which states, *“Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled”* (Tit. 1:15). In other words, a man’s commentary on the Bible is really a commentary on the man. If the reader of Scripture sees impure and immoral behavior in passages of Ruth, he is reading in his wicked presuppositions. Scripture avers about the virtue of the woman Ruth, saying, *“And now, my daughter, fear not; I will do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman”* (Ruth 3:11).⁴

So why did Naomi eagerly propose her unusual plan⁵ and Ruth submissively accept it without question or hesitation? The women followed several biblical teachings and concluded Boaz was “Mr. Right” for Ruth.

1. **Ruth met Boaz in the place of truth.** She did not go back to Moab, but went to the geographical location of truth—Bethlehem Judah. The Messiah was promised through the man Judah (cf. Gen. 49:10) and in the Promised Land (cf. Mic. 5:2). In this dispensation, the Baptist assembly is the divinely-ordained place of truth to meet one’s mate.
2. **Ruth honored her “mother.”** As a grown woman, Ruth nevertheless submitted to her guardian’s biblical advice (cf. also Ruth 1:16-17). Ruth probably was aware of the biblical truth of the Law, which stated, *“Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee”* (Dt. 5:16).

Continued on page 4

¹The Apostle Paul confirmed this interpretation, saying, *“And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety”* (I Tim. 2:14-15).

² This is a redemptive pun on the word “living” (חַיָּה).

³ The Hebrew refers to “women’s desire (to bear the Messiah)” and not to “a desire for women,” as is often fallaciously taught.

⁴ Cf. Prov. 31:10-31.

⁵ The plan was unusual for the Western mind, but apparently it was an accepted biblical practice (cf. Dt. 25:5 ff.; Ezk. 16:8).

ARTICLE

Continued from page 3

3. **Ruth recognized that Boaz was spiritual.** Boaz's tenor around everyone exuded spirituality. For instance, he greeted his workers with a beatitude from Jehovah (cf. Ruth 2:4). He commended Ruth for trusting in Jehovah (cf. Ruth 2:12).
4. **Ruth realized that Boaz was single.** She was interested in one who was a biblical candidate for marriage, and not in a divorcee (cf. Mk. 10:11-12; Rom. 7:2-3).
5. **Ruth experienced that Boaz was considerate.** She already knew that he was considerate of her needs before their relationship blossomed (cf. Ruth 2:8 ff.). She did not anticipate that she would have to change some inconsiderate man into becoming a gentleman after marriage!

6. **Ruth knew that Boaz had means to support her.** Since he was her kinsman or נָסִיךְ (Ruth 2:20; 3:2), this necessitated that he had met the requirements: he was a "near" relative (cf. Lev. 25:48); he was able (cf. Ruth 4:4-6); he was willing (cf. Ruth 4:6); and he could pay the price (cf. Lev. 25:26-27).⁶
7. **Ruth appreciated that Boaz was mature and witty.** Boaz did not identify himself with younger field workers (cf. Ruth 3:10), suggesting that he was older and more mature (his actions belied this perspective). He also punned to her as she did to him (cf. Ruth 2:10-11). They both enjoyed clever repartee.

The women considered that Boaz was "Mr. Right" for Ruth for the aforementioned reasons. Of course, Scripture confirms their choice as the biblical choice, based on biblical precepts (cf. Ruth 4:13-22; Mt. 1:5). Christian young people ought to follow this biblical example for the Lord's full blessing when looking for God's will in a spouse.

⁶Of course, Boaz prefigured the Lord Jesus Christ, the ultimate Kinsman-Redeemer Who met all of the qualifications (cf. Rom. 8:3; II Cor. 8:9; Mk. 10:45; I Pet. 1:18-19).

2013 BBTS Fall Semester Class Schedule

Mondays

<i>Greek I</i>	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
<i>Aramaic II</i>	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
<i>Hebrew V</i>	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Wednesdays

<i>2 Corinthians</i>	8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
<i>Greek V</i>	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Thursdays

<i>Theology Proper</i>	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
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Fridays

<i>Greek III</i>	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
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*All classes taught by
Dr. Thomas M. Strouse
at Bible Baptist Church*

Upcoming BBTS Module Classes

August 19-23, 2013

BBTS Module Chesterton, IN
"1 Corinthians"

September 23-27, 2013

BBTS Europe Module Prague, Czech Republic
"Bibliology"
"Ecclesiology"



Ephesians 5:19 "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs..." Sunday Morning Musical Special was the singing of Psalm 119: 17 - 24

Save the Date!

BBTS Fall Lecture Series

**Friday,
November 15, 2013**

**"Sound Doctrine in the
Book of Titus"**



Two Great Truths

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Romans 1: 16-18

When the Apostle Paul addressed the Roman church members he made it very clear that there were two great truths. He declared first that the Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation and secondly, the wrath of God is revealed from heaven.

Regarding the first truth that Paul reveals, it is a wonderful thing to know that Christ Jesus makes possible through His work the offer of salvation to all and that everyone that through faith believes can receive His salvation. Regarding the second truth, Paul clearly reveals heaven's wrathful revelation toward the ungodliness and the unrighteousness of men.

It is simple to understand what the Apostle was sharing: (1) God has given His Son that sinful men could be saved through faith and that men need to be saved. (2) Man is under the wrath or judgment of God because of his sinfulness. It is this second truth that is denied by sinful men. They just don't think they personally are sinful enough for God to judge them negatively. Yet, regarding the second truth Paul reveals this wrathful judgment of God is *against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.*

For one to recognize sinfulness he simply needs to comprehend what God calls ungodly. Paul reveals: That sinful men choose not to glorify God, but rather profess their own wisdom above that of God (Romans 1:21,22). Further, Paul identifies individual sins which reveal man's sinful nature. He states that sinful man *changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do*

DEVOTIONAL CORNER

those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them (Romans 1:23-32).

Finally, let us remember these two great truths that the Apostle Paul shares and let us act upon them. Receive the Gospel of Christ because it saves us from the penalty of the second truth, the wrath of God upon our sinfulness. These are God's Truths and they are believed and received by faith simply because God has declared these truths in His word (John 17:17). Do you know you are sinner and the Gospel of Christ is the answer to save you from your sinfulness? -CAR

Quotes From the Past:

Thomas Paine, 1737-1809

**Founding Father, American Patriot, and
Author of *Common Sense***

"This new world hath been the asylum for the persecuted lovers of civil and religious liberty from every part of Europe. Hither have they fled, not from the tender embraces of the mother, but from the cruelty of the monster; and it is so far true of England, that



Thomas Paine the same tyranny which drove the first emigrants from home, pursues their descendants still."

CAMP PHOTOS

More Camp Photos

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BBC Sunday School



Camp Counselors along with Pastor Hinebaugh and Guest Preacher Scott Blair.



The Special Music was a blessing at camp!



Upcoming BBC Family Events

Family Hike: Dividend Pond Trail Hike, Rocky Hill
Tuesday, August 20 10:00 am

BBC Family Fishing: Northfarms Reservoir Wallingford
Sunday, September 8 after church

BBC Men's Fishing Trip: Old Saybrook
September 17

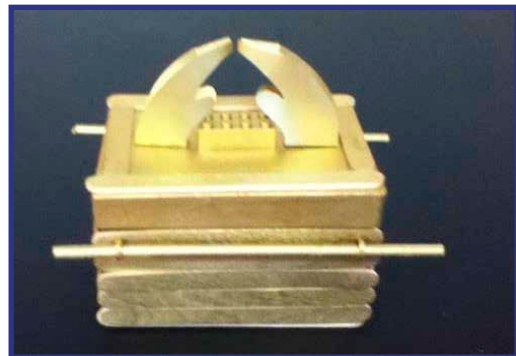
BBC Homeschoolers' International Day Celebration
Saturday, October 26

See www.bbc-cromwell.org for more information

BBC Children's Sunday School Project



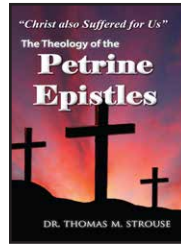
For the past few weeks, Mrs. Gagnon has been teaching the children's Sunday school class about the Ark of the Covenant. The kids made this ark craft to remind them of God's promises and the importance of Godly worship.



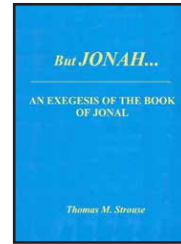
THE BOOK CORNER

The Book Corner

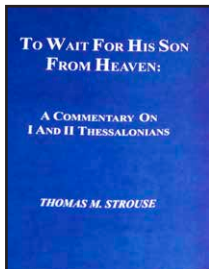
These Books may be purchased
through **Bible Baptist Church:**
40 Country Squire Rd.
Cromwell, CT 06416
860-229-5387



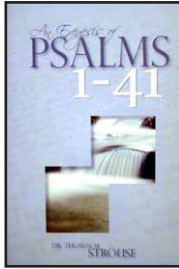
Peter
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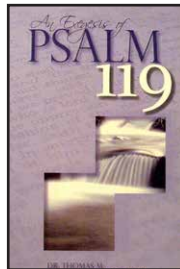
Jonah
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I & II Thessalonians
\$10.00



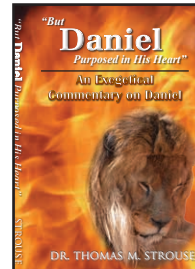
Psalms 1 - 41
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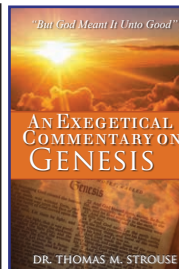
Psalm 119
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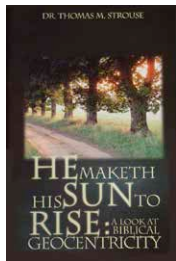
Spiritual Gifts
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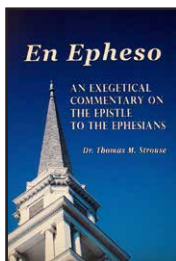
Daniel
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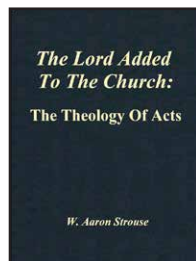
Genesis
\$20



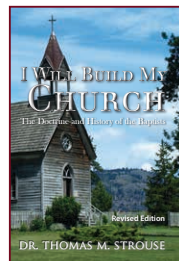
Geocentricity
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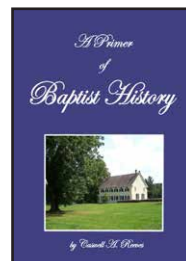
En Epheso
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I Will Build My Church
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The Lord God Hath Spoken
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The Book Corner

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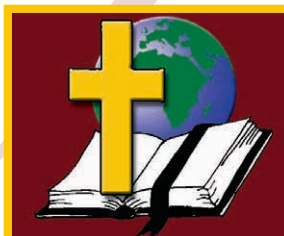
BBC Photos

BBC Fun



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

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