



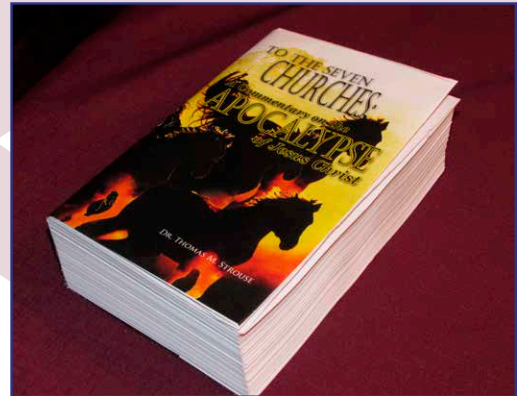
# BBC UPDATE

## Revelation Commentary

Dr. Thomas Strouse



The commentary on the book of Revelation entitled *To the Seven Churches: A Commentary on the Apocalypse of Jesus Christ* by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse will be available by Dec. 23, 2013. This is an expositional commentary on every verse in the *Book of Revelation*, examining the Greek Received Text and explicating the contextual meaning of the Lord's last unveiling of truth to His NT assemblies. The commentary has 1022 pages, including an eschatological timeline chart of the Tribulation, and 3760 footnotes. Currently the book will be available for \$30.00.



*A mocked up copy of Dr. Strouse's new book: To the Seven Churches: A Commentary on the Apocalypse of Jesus Christ. The book will be available Dec. 23 for \$30.00*

## Christmas Banquet

The Lord blessed BBC with a wonderful Christmas Banquet on Dec. 13, 2013, commemorating her four years as a NT assembly in Cromwell, CT. In attendance were not only BBC members, but also friends and area pastors as we enjoyed eating a delicious ham meal, hearing several challenging testimonies, receiving edifying Scripture reminders, and participating in the gift exchange. An especial blessing was hearing of Pastor and Mrs. Chris Camp's intention of planting a Baptist church in the spiritually needy area of Sandy Hook, CT.

*Right and Bottom Right: A good time of fellowship!*



*These young ladies played a beautiful Christmas medley!*



*As always, an "interesting" collection of gifts!*



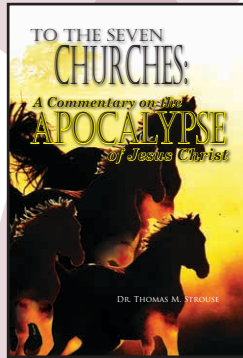
# BOOK EXCERPT

## Preface

Dr. Thomas Strouse

*Excerpt from Dr. Thomas M. Strouse's latest book **Unto the Seven Churches: A Commentary on the Apocalypse of Jesus Christ***

*To the Seven Churches: A Commentary on the Apocalypse of Jesus Christ* has become my *magnum opus*, at least quantitatively. By the Lord's grace



perhaps there is a qualitative truth to this description as well. I certainly have grown spiritually in the precious Lord Jesus Christ as I have read, mediated upon, exegeted, and attempted to keep the words of the Ἀποκάλυψις Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ultimately all commentaries on the Bible are commentaries on the commentator. *Unto the Seven*

*Churches* should reflect my spiritual relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and my evaluation of His words. Prayerfully, both will honor and glorify Him.

This commentary is built upon two premises which come from Paul's theological affirmation, which states, "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (II Tim. 3:15). He connected ecclesiology and bibliology as basic truths which undergird the doctrine of sanctification. Of course, *Revelation* gives the full gamut of theology for the Lord's New Testament (NT) assemblies. Therefore, the premises are the following: 1) That the Lord wrote the Ἀποκάλυψις to the NT immersionist assemblies of Asia and by extension to all other NT assemblies; 2) That NT assembly members will recognize, receive, and keep the Lord's inspired and preserved words as

reflected in the *Textus Receptus*. As far as this author knows, no other commentary has approached the *Book of Revelation* from the ecclesiological perspective that it was written exclusively to NT church members and from the bibliological perspective that the true text is the *Received Text* behind the King James Version.

Further, I have spent the last forty years of my life acquiring a precise knowledge of the biblical languages of Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek to aid in my exegesis of the Masoretic Hebrew and Greek Received Texts of the Scripture. I have not come to my interpretations as a novice or as an unskilled workman, but as a NT immersionist church member, in constant prayer, seeking the help of the Spirit of God while examining the words of Scripture with Scripture. This of course does not mean that my interpretations are always correct, but it does mean that they should not be easily dismissed. I have purposefully not sought to document my interpretations with those of others, and so my footnotes reflect very few references to other works except to refute them. This is not a collation of quotes of what everyone else believes. I have included an extensive bibliography to indicate other perspectives, but *To the Seven Churches* is my commentary on the Holy Scripture. It reflects my understanding, research and interests.

I am thankful for the support and help of Bible Baptist Church members, and especially for Dr. Harold Davidson and Mr. Ryan Strouse regarding proofreading and technical advice. I thank the Lord for my beloved wife Jan who has supported my endeavors. My prayer is that the Lord will use this as a tool to benefit Bible Baptist Church and other immersionist assemblies, including their respective church members/seminarians. The Lord's churches need to live in light of the promise of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who said, "Surely, I come quickly" (Rev. 22:20).

## Upcoming BBC/BBTS Events

**BBC Youth Christmas Program**  
Sunday, December 22, 1:30 PM

**BBTS Winter Module - Ireland**  
January 6-10 - 7, 2014

**BBC Ladies Meeting**  
Saturday, March 8, 2014

See [www.bbc-cromwell.org](http://www.bbc-cromwell.org) for more information

## New Revelation Commentary Available December 23

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse has completed his latest book: *Unto the Seven Churches: A Commentary on the Apocalypse of Jesus Christ* (1022 pages and 3760 footnotes). The book will be available Dec. 23, 2013 for \$30.00.



**"The Church"**  
**a Limerick Poem for 2013**  
*by Kirsten Gagnon*

*There seems to be this false notion,  
 All over the world and in our nation;  
 The church is a universal, invisible thing,  
 That is not worth the joining.  
 But let's see examples of a Biblical definition:*

*The Lord built a church in Cromwell,  
 Wherein doctrinal unity does dwell,  
 And the members you can see  
 Are serving in Christ's body.  
 They all think their pastor is pretty swell.*

*Another church in Cody, we know;  
 The truth, its pastor will always follow.  
 Their members total two,  
 But God's will they will do.  
 Keep praying that it will someday grow.*

*We know a church in Czech Republic,  
 Reaching out those who are all atheistic.  
 There's a church in Belarus too,  
 Doing God's work with a few.  
 These local churches deserve a limerick.*

*Pastor Hinebaugh's church in Stafford Springs,  
 Had several visible gatherings.  
 They host a "local church camp" camp,  
 Where Pastor Blair got the approval stamp.  
 And Pastor Smith challenged the Men's standings.*

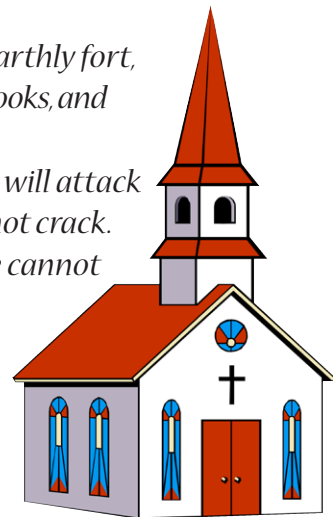
*Pastor Akers started a church in Idaho.  
 You can see through them God's glory show.  
 And Jim Lawrence is off to Utah.  
 His presentation I hope you saw.  
 We are sad to see our church members go.*

*There are more churches overseas,  
 Serving the Lord in their respective countries:  
 Indonesia, Philippines, Ireland too  
 Korea and Portugal are just a few  
 You can see God working, even in Belize.*

*Local churches, you can see, are everywhere  
 The gospel truth they want to share.  
 Breeden, Hammond, Herr and Bates...  
 More churches in other states.  
 Even Pastor Kulus has a pair.*

*There is one more church we must acknowledge.  
 Whose family populates the whole village.  
 They sure like to drive,  
 Four or five hours to arrive,  
 Our Bible believing friends from Heritage.*

*The church is our earthly fort,  
 With pastors like Brooks, and  
 Camp, and Short.  
 Even though Satan will attack  
 Our armor he will not crack.  
 The local church he cannot  
 thwart.*





## DEVOTIONAL CORNER

### The Unspeakable Gift



Pastor Cas Reeves

*"Thanks be unto God for  
his unspeakable gift"*  
2 Corinthians 9:15

When the Apostle Paul wrote his second letter to the church of Corinth, he spoke to them about giving. As he concludes his thoughts of giving, he thanks God for his unspeakable gift.

What is God's unspeakable gift? Paul was alluding to the example of God's giving, His gift of everlasting life that comes by faith in His only begotten Son: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved" John 3:16-17.

Jesus Christ was acknowledged as God's gift who could give the living water of eternal life. In John's account of the woman at the well: "Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water" John 4:10. Further, Peter when speaking of the

salvation through Jesus Christ to Simon in the city of Samaria, he acknowledges this as the gift of God: "But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money" Acts 8:20.

Also, the Apostle Paul acknowledges that salvation, eternal life, through Jesus Christ is the gift of God to all of mankind. He shared with the church at Rome: "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" Romans 3:23, and with the church at Ephesus: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" Ephesians 2:8-9.

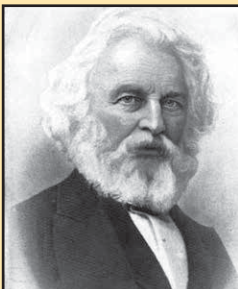
What is the unspeakable gift of God? It is the salvation, everlasting life to man, that God gives to all men who will receive His only begotten Son. Have you received Jesus Christ as your Savior and become partaker of God's unspeakable gift? -CAR



#### Quotes From the Past:

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1807-1882

American Poet and Educator



Henry Wadsworth  
Longfellow

*"I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet  
The words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"*



# BBC/BBTS CHRISTMAS BANQUET

BBC/BBTS Banquet

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Photos



*The church was decorated beautifully for the event!*

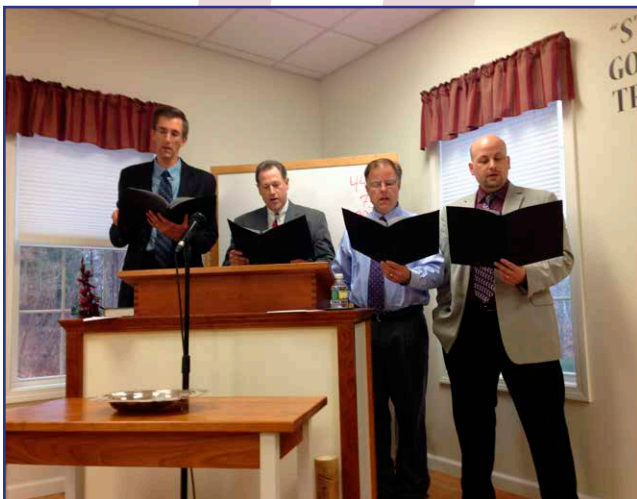


*These boys scored great gifts at the banquet!*



*The BBC Ladies ensemble sang "Silent Night! O Holy Night!"*

## BBC Music Ministry



*The BBC Men's Quartet*



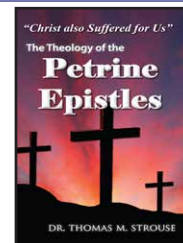
*The BBC young ladies sang "Ring the Bells"*



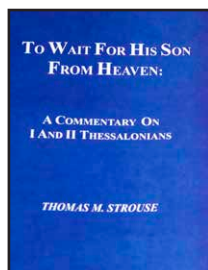
# THE BOOK CORNER

## The Book Corner

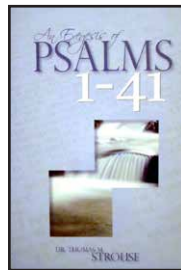
These Books may be purchased through **Bible Baptist Church:**  
40 Country Squire Rd.  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
860-229-5387



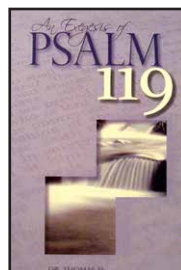
Peter  
\$20.00



I & II Thessalonians  
\$10.00



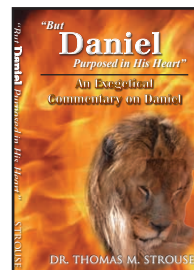
Psalms 1 - 41  
\$20.00



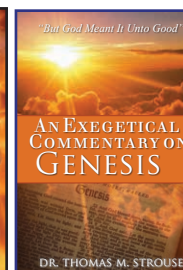
Psalm 119  
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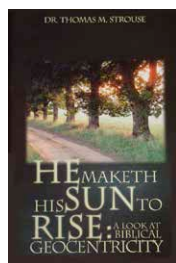
Spiritual Gifts  
\$8.00



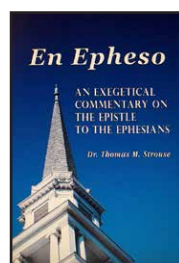
Daniel  
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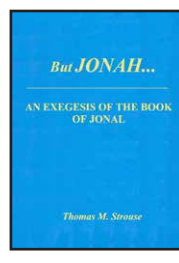
Genesis  
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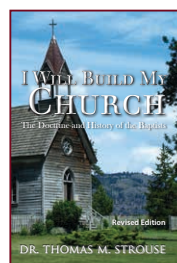
Geocentricity  
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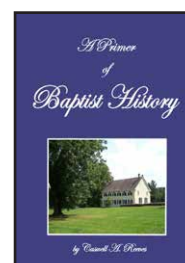
En Epheso  
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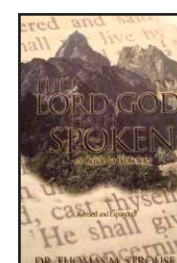
Jonah  
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I Will Build My Church  
\$15.00



A Primer of Baptist History  
\$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken  
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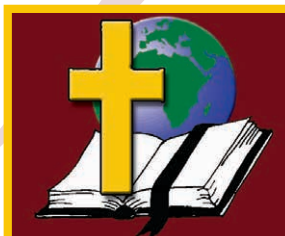
## BBC Fun!



BBC's newest addition to the cleaning crew!!

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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hbc5923@stny.rr.com



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