



BBC UPDATE

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THE LORD'S DIVINELY APPOINTED PLACE



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

From Genesis to Revelation the LORD has always revealed a divinely appointed place for His people to meet with Him. He met with Adam and Eve in the Garden, with Noah and family in the Ark, with the Jews in the Wilderness in the Tabernacle, with David and people in the pitched tent housing the Ark of the Covenant, with Solomon and nation in the First Temple, with the returning exiled Jews in the Zerubbabel-Herod Temple, with the Jewish Christians in the house church of the upper room, with the Tribulation saints in the Temple of God, with the Millennial saints in the Fourth Temple in Jerusalem, and with all the Bride in the New Jerusalem. He

commanded Moses and the people saying, *“But unto **the place** which the LORD your **God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto **his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come**”*** (Dt. 12:5). In whatever dispensation the saints find themselves, they must seek the LORD’s visible habitation and come thither to it. The Lord said, *“if you love me keep my commandments”* (Jn. 14:15). Failure to do this would be sin. Of course there will be obstacles but one must overcome them to be obedient to the Lord Jesus Christ.

The following chart speaks for itself. Several truths become self-evident. The Lord wants believers to worship in the chosen place for their spiritual lives. Obviously there is no universal, invisible meeting place for the saints. All worship must be done in person in the physical meeting place. Since this chart demonstrates the Lord’s desire for His people to meet regularly with Him, who would be against this divine desire and biblical plan? Obviously Satan would be against it and has attempted to thwart the Lord’s plan throughout the ages. Subtle Satan has foisted upon the world the Covid Pandemic with the ultimate goal to keep saints from meeting in the chosen place of *“His habitation”* for worship—the “assembled assembly.”

It should be evident by now that *“the rulers of the darkness of this world”* (Eph. 6:12) and their dupes have exploited the Corona Virus in the name of health and science to perpetuate the fear of an invisible enemy ready to kill all. Satan’s ultimate target of destruction in all of this is the institution that the Lord Jesus loves—the *ekklesia*, and also the calling of the pastor to oversee his flock. Satan has been very effective in his efforts to cause many pastors and church members to disobey the Lord and His word. In Satan’s coming second wave of attack these churches and now others will have the propensity to continue to disobey and weaken further. Even now the plans for the CDC High Risk Isolation Camps are in place which will be a form of self-imposed imprisonment for the “safety” of mankind! Churches will be impacted detrimentally. Internationally, some of the Lord’s assemblies have been or just have begun to meet secretly. Churches in America may need to consider secret or underground meetings in homes or farms or elsewhere, as many of our Anabaptist forefathers practiced before and after the Reformation.

There is a great difference in the two verbs “obey” and “collaborate.” The Lord Jesus obeyed “Caesar” to the extent of paying Temple tax (Mt. 17:24-27), but neither He nor the disciples collaborated with authorities for the physical wherewithal of the population (Acts 4:19; 5:29). They knew that spiritual health was more important than their physical health and they risked physical wellbeing to enjoy spiritual wellbeing. Ultimately, the Apostle Paul asserted about the perspective of the precious Saviour, saying, *“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God”* (Heb. 12:2). Identifying in obedience with the Cross of Christ could prove to be very dangerous. Pastors and church members must seek the place of the Lord’s *“habitation”* and meet with Him at all costs! The Lord Jesus Christ said, *“And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple”* (Lk. 14:27).

THE LORD'S GREAT INTEREST IN MEETING WITH HIS PEOPLE IN THE DIVINELY APPOINTED PLACE

The Garden

- Genesis 2:7-8 And **the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground**, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. 8 And **the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden**; and **there he put the man whom he had formed**.
- Genesis 3:8-9 And they heard **the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden** in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from **the presence of the LORD God** amongst the trees of the garden. 9 And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

The Ark

- Genesis 7:1, 7, 13, 16 And the LORD said unto Noah, **Come thou and all thy house into the ark**; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation. 7 And **Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark**, because of the waters of the flood. 13 **In the selfsame day entered** Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, **into the ark**; 16 **And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh**, as God had commanded him: and **the LORD shut him in**.

Abraham

- Genesis 14:18-20 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was **the priest of the most high God**. 19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: 20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And **he gave him tithes of all**.
- Genesis 22:1-2 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. 2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee **into the land of Moriah**; and **offer him there for a burnt offering** upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

The Tabernacle

- Exodus 40:34-35 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and **the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle**. 35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and **the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle**.

The Promised Land

- Deuteronomy 12:11 Then **there shall be a place which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there**; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your **burnt offerings**, and your **sacrifices**, your **tithes**, and the **heave offering** of your hand, and all your choice **vows** which ye vow unto the LORD:
- 2 Samuel 5:6-7 And the king and his men **went to Jerusalem** unto the **Jebusites**, the inhabitants of the land: which spake unto David, saying, Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking, David cannot come in hither. 7 Nevertheless David took the strong hold of **Zion**: the same is the **city of David**.

The Solomonic Temple

- 2 Samuel 6:17 And they brought in the **ark of the LORD**, and set it **in his place, in the midst of the tabernacle that David had pitched for it**: and David offered **burnt offerings** and **peace offerings** before the LORD.
- 2 Chronicles 3:1 Then Solomon began to build **the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in mount Moriah, where the LORD appeared unto David his father, in the place that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite**.
- 1 Kings 8:10-11 And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled **the house of the LORD**, 11 So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for **the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD**.

THE DIVINELY APPOINTED PLACE

CONTINUED

The Zerubabel Temple

- Ezra 1:3 Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem.
- Ezra 3:2 Then stood up Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and his brethren the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brethren, and builded the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings thereon, as it is written in the law of Moses the man of God.
- Ezra 5:1-2 Then the prophets, Haggai the prophet, and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied unto the Jews that were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, even unto them. 2 Then rose up Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and began to build the house of God which is at Jerusalem: and with them were the prophets of God helping them.
- Ezra 6:15-16 And this house was finished on the third day of the month Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king. 16 And the children of Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the rest of the children of the captivity, kept the dedication of this house of God with joy,

The NT Assembly

- Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- Acts 2:1-2 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- In 70 AD, the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed and remains that way until the present.
- 1 Timothy 3:15 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.

The Tribulation Temple

- Revelation 11:1-2 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. 2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.

The Millennial Temple

- Ezekiel 43:4-5 4 And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east. 5 So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

The New Jerusalem

- Revelation 21:2-3 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.
- Revelation 21:10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,
- Revelation 21:22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

PROPHECY PERSPECTIVE

The Biden-Harris administration controls the United States of America. Eventually a woman controls the country (cf. the curse of Isa. 3:12). The United States of America deteriorates in every way. Canada and then North America crumble. The kings of the east, and especially China, move in to subsume

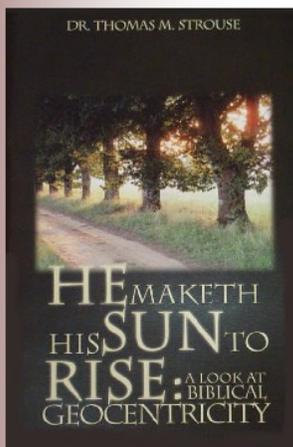
North America and Western Europe under totalitarian control. All of a sudden, a global statesman and military leader steps in and unites North America and Western Europe against the eastern threat. Furthermore, he helps the Jews to build the Third Temple. He says to all—“trust me!” Date? Unknown! Sign? No!

“Even so, come Lord Jesus” (Rev. 22:20)

GEOCENTRICITY BOOK

It is my privilege put forth this second and expanded edition of *He maketh His Sun To Rise: A Look at Biblical Geocentricity* which has been distributed globally and has been received un-reservedly with enthusiasm by many Bible believers. However, the naysayers of the world and Christendom have labeled me “a village idiot,” and the book has received universal notoriety in works such as *The Oxford Handbook of the Bible in America* by Paul C. Gutjahr, editor.

Nevertheless, the Bible is geocentric in expression, narrative, and doctrine, giving the Creator’s absolute truth on His *cosmos*. The precious Lord Jesus Christ has spoken concerning physical and spiritual realities (cf. Jn. 3:12), and has revealed concerning the Father that “*He maketh His sun to rise*” (Mt. 5:45). The Christian must answer the question about final authority, even with regard to the physical heavens and earth, and side either with the Saviour or the scientist!



Included in this expansion are three appendices dealing with “Einstein Versus the Bible,” “Geocentricity’s Rejection by Creationists,” and “A Review of Biblical Geocentricity.” Especially significant is the second Appendix which is Dr. Gerardus Bouw’s exposure about and excoriation of the influence of Bob Jones University on the rejection of biblical geocentricity within the 20th century Creation Movement.

I trust that Bible believers will examine the biblical passages and believe the Lord’s absolute truth about His creation and the relative movement therein.

“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so” (Acts 17:11).

LECTURE SERIES—CANCELLED

The Lecture Presentation, entitled "I Will Joy in the God of my Salvation" BIBLICAL SOTERIOLOGY, will be an effort to instruct and encourage believers in a wicked and chaotic world about the blessings of salvation and the need to rejoice in the Saviour.

The Marriott Cromwell, in connection with the CT governor, has caused the cancellation of the BBTS Fall Lecture Series for 11-13-20. The Lord willing we will have the BBTS Spring Lecture Series over the same topic. I am sorry for the inconvenience of the cancellation.

A.R.M.

ADDICTION
RECOVERY
MINISTRY



*Then they cried unto
the LORD in their trouble,
and he saved them out of
their distresses.*

*He brought them
out of darkness and the
shadow of death, and brake
their bands in sunder.*

Psalms 107:13-14

OUT OF DARKNESS

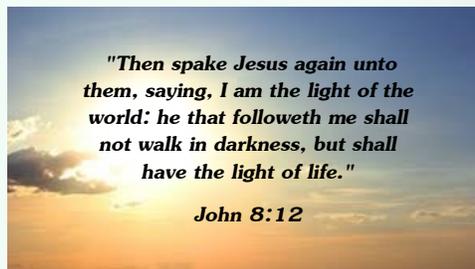
I am thankful to the Lord for the new ministry that He has given Bible Baptist Church under the leadership of Dr. Robert Hovey. Dr. Hovey is experienced in and burdened for those with all types of addictions. Furthermore, he is a knowledgeable and serious student of the Bible with skills to minister to the helpless and hopeless (Lk. 4:18). The Addiction Recovery Ministry (ARM) is under the aegis of Bible Baptist Church and attempts to put a spiritual arm around addicts for their full spiritual and biblical recovery. Please contact Dr. Hovey for more information or help.

rhovey6033@aol.com

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse, Pastor

*"Then spake Jesus again unto
them, saying, I am the light of the
world: he that followeth me shall
not walk in darkness, but shall
have the light of life."*

John 8:12



THE SONG OF HABAKKUK



Pastor Cas Reeves

Habakkuk, the prophet, begin by revealing the burden he saw (1:1). Why wasn't the LORD dealing with the injustices (3-4) and concluding the law was slack (4). Habakkuk records the LORD's response, "I will work a work in your days...the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breath of the land." Thus God promised justice to Judah for its lack of following, violating, and resisting the law of God. Yes, God in His justice would deliver Judah into the hands of the Chaldeans. This began in 609 BC with the deportment of the Jewish nobles of whom Daniel was one.

In chapter 2, Habakkuk is commanded to write plainly or distinctly God's words regarding the vision God gave to him. It is interesting because it reveals what we understand today—the received text movement. Habakkuk received the truth of God in a vision; he believed the truth of God; he obeyed the truth of God. The reader or runner is the one to carry it forth; thus, implied is that the runner receives the truth from Habakkuk, believes it, and obeys it by carrying it forth (2:2). This, received method, is the method employed through the centuries. Today, we can be assured that our King James Bible, which has come to us by the received text movement, is God's Word. In this chapter God's indictments or woes against Judah are issued: 1) against those who steal

(2:6), 2) against those with evil designs (2:9), 3) against those who employ mayhem to build (2:12), 4) against those who give intoxicating drink to others (2:15), and 5) against those who worship idols (2:19).

In Chapter 3, Habakkuk puts his prayer to music. This is the song of Habakkuk, it is about the coming of the LORD. Though Judah will be judged, and the justice of God will prevail against them for their wrong doing, the LORD will still give them hope for the future through the promise of His coming and victory over Judah's enemies. We are told in Habakkuk's song that God's glory will cover all the heavens, and that all the earth will praise Him (3:3), His brightness shall shine as light and His power is concealed in His hand (3:4), His judgment will be upon the earth, geological in nature, and toward all nations with pestilence and fire (3:5-7).

There will be a judgment upon the waters, of which nations are defenseless (3:8-9). Mountains shall tremble; the sun and moon shall stand still (3:10-11). Judgment will be complete against the heathen and the wicked (3:11-15). But the people of God shall find their salvation through this great and terrible judgment (3:16-17). In this great truth, Habakkuk found cause for rejoicing, acknowledging that his strength was in God, and praising Him with stringed instruments. -CAR



Left: Landon intently takes notes during the sermon.

Below: Pastor has some fun as Sabrina holds Preston.



Quotes from the Past



"It is when a people forget God, that tyrants forge their chains."

Patrick Henry 1736-1799

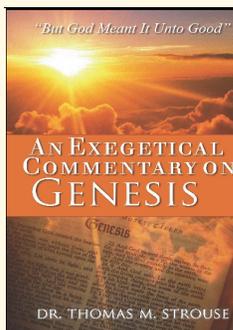
Early American Patriot

THE BOOK CORNER

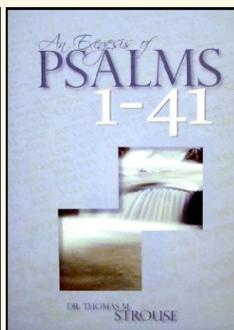
These books may be purchased through

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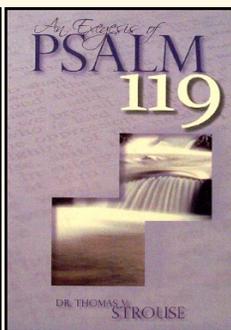
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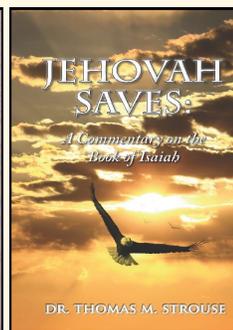
Genesis
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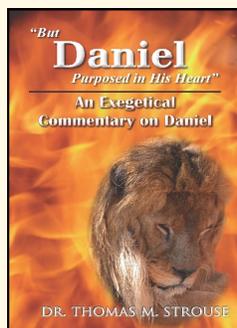
Psalms 1-41
\$20.00



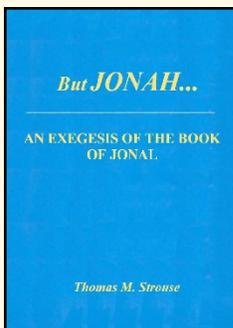
Psalm 119
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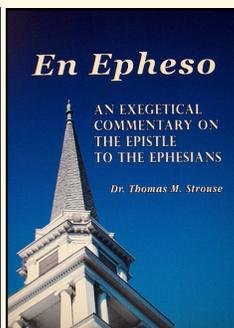
Isaiah
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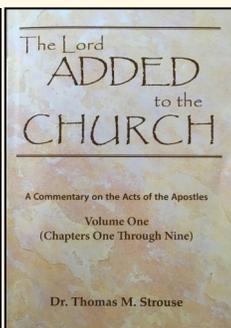
Daniel
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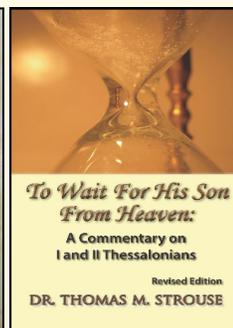
Jonah
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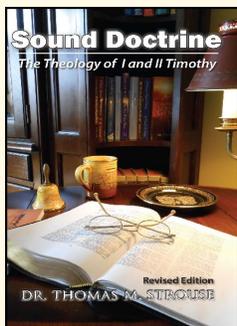
Ephesians
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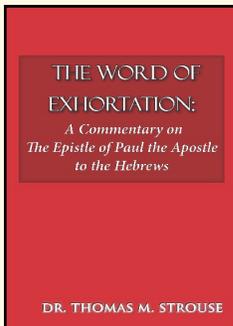
Acts 1-9
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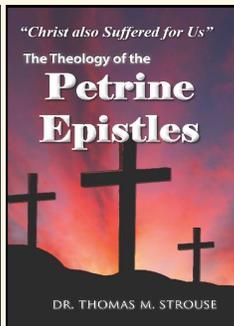
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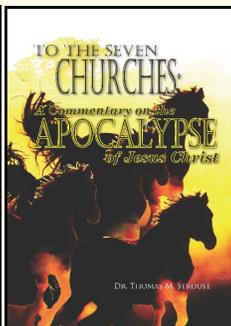
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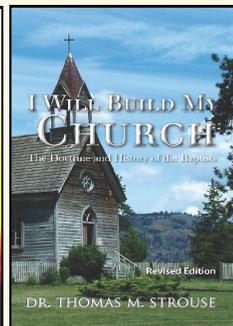
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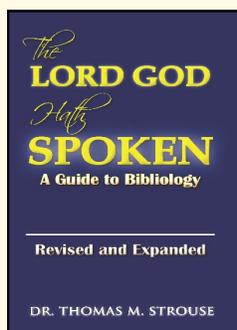
Peter
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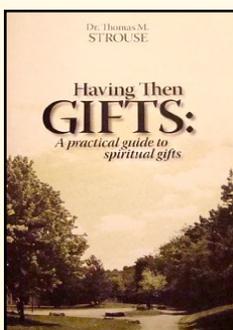
Revelation
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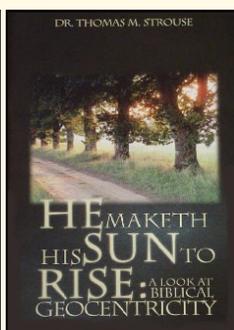
Baptist Doctrine & History
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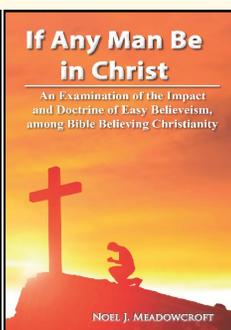
Bibliology
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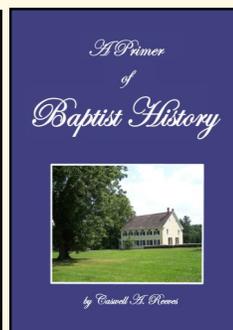
Spiritual Gifts
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Geocentricity
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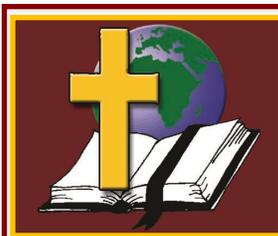


Easy-Believeism
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Baptist History
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