



BBC UPDATE

BBTS Module in Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse



Dr. Thomas Strouse

During the week of January 16-21, 2017, the Lord allowed the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary module on ecclesiology to commence with about 20 seminarians including Dr. Emmanuel Taniarla and Pastor Flory Maloto. The opportunity arose out of the invitation from Pastor Maloto, Dr. Taniarla's former Filipino church member, to initiate Bible Baptist Theological Seminary modules in Dubai. The two men worked in concert to start Bible Baptist Church of Dubai eighteen years ago and it has flourished with Bible studies in several areas for prospective church plants. The members need to be trained theologically and sought Dr. Thomas M. Strouse for counsel and teaching.

The week was full with sight-seeing in beautiful and opulent Dubai, and with Bible teaching in the evenings, culminating with preaching on Friday to the Dubai church and then to the extension in Abu Dhabi. Bible Baptist Church of Dubai put up Drs. Strouse and Taneirla in a luxurious hotel which included a sumptuous and bountiful breakfast bar. Sight-seeing included traveling to the top of the tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa, and the Great Mosque where the Sheikh worships the moon deity. Since the Muslims control the country, they have instituted Friday as their day of worship. The employment work week is Sunday through Thursday. With all of the church members off work, Bible Baptist Church of Dubai had two church services, as usual, in the above mentioned areas. From the preaching and teaching of the Word of God on Friday, one woman desired biblical baptism and four visiting men were saved. The church evangelizes foreigners who come to Dubai because of employment, but cannot openly evangelize Muslims. The church operates somewhat "underground," not causing disturbances to her neighbors, as Bible Baptist Church of Dubai is housed in a walled villa. Although UAE allows "religious freedom," it is strict in dealing with any foreigners who violate Islamic law, whether they are druggies, thieves, murders, Charismatics or evangelistic Baptists!

Even though the members of Bible Baptist Church of Dubai live in a very lavish atmosphere with many having lucrative employment, they have the fear of the Lord manifested in humility, kindness, and generosity. They look beyond the treasures in Dubai to their mansions in the New Jerusalem, "esteeming the reproach of Christ greater" (Heb. 11:26). Pray that the Lord Jesus Christ will prosper spiritually far beyond the physical prosperity of this humble body of Christ in Dubai.

BBTS SPRING LECTURE SERIES



"Understanding of the Times"

(I Chr. 12:32).

April 14, 2017 (9AM – 3 PM)

BBTS MODULE IN DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

PHOTOS

BBTS Dubai

2

Photos



Bible Study at Abu Dhabi.



Eating freshly roasted goat



The villa in which the BBC meets, with tall walls and secure gates.



Dr. Strouse, Pastor Flory and Dr. Tanierla atop Burj Khalifa--the world's tallest building (2722 feet) in Dubai, UAE



Villa for Bible study.

Beautiful flowers within the villa.

Lunch time.



Two goats for fellowship meal.

BBTS MODULE IN DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BBTS Dubai

3

Photos



The pure gold moon crescent for the moon god atop spires on the Great Mosque.



Golden Palm trees on the capitals of pillars in the Great Mosque-Mosque



Plates with the so-called 99 names of Allah in Great Mosque



Ladies singing.



BBC nursery.



One of two rooms set up for assembly worship



Meeting room for Bible study.

BBTS MODULE IN DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

PHOTOS

BBTS Dubai

4

BBTS Spring 2017



Looks like I am praying at the top of Burj Khalifa, probably in the direction of Cromwell, CT!



The Burj Khalifa



Pool at Versace.



Versace Hotel for breakfast.

BBTS SPRING 2017



Bible Baptist Theological Seminary began its eighth Spring Seminary Semester, offering the courses Ps. 119, Cults, and Ecclesiology. All of these courses as well as past courses may be viewed online at www.bbc-cromwell.org under "Seminary." Students may view these courses for credit towards the Master of Biblical Studies, Master of Divinity, or Doctor of Ministry degrees or may audit the courses.



Dr. Caswell A. Reeves

OVERCHARGED

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it" (Ecclesiastes 12:7).

From the moment we are conceived, we begin our march to the grave. We call it the aging process. It seems when we are young, we think very little about it. In fact, life doesn't move fast enough for us. However, as we become older, we find ourselves thinking about how fast time is going, and wondering where the years have gone. That is precisely why we are told to "remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them" (Eccl.12:1). Note: "when [we] shalt say, I have know pleasure in them." Don't live for the 'golden years.' God tells us plainly to live now, before the aches, pains and problems of the aging process are upon us. We are to give the Lord the best years of our life.

Preceding verse seven, there is a quite interesting description of the aging process. "While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain" (vs.2). The metaphor seems to speak of the winter of one's life, cloudy and dreary. Perhaps the watching from one storm to another, as we go from one crisis to another in our aging process. "In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened" (vs.3). Here we learn of the shaking of the elderly rather than the steadiness of youth. The youthful body is straight and stands tall, but the aged body is bowed and worn-out. The wearing out and lose of the teeth and the dimming of the eye for sight. "And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is

low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of musick shall be brought low" (vs.4). Again, we learn, the aged like to stay at home in the evening, rather than being out and about. They arise early at the first sound of the birds, but they are unable to clearly hear the music of the day. "Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets" (vs.5). We note here the fear of heights, the concern of possible violence in the street and discouragement. This is perhaps from a lack of strength to do the work for harvesting. It might even be over the passing of a friend or loved one, as they are mourned publicly. Finally, the writer says, "Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern" (vs.6). The application of verse six is simple. Everything comes to an end.

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it" (Ecclesiastes 12:7). The great truth is 'serve the Lord, now!' Jesus said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (John 9:4).

Quotes From the Past:

Charles H. Spurgeon

Renowned English Baptist Pastor

1834-1892



Charles H. Spurgeon

"None are more unjust in their judgments of others than those who have a high opinion of themselves."

Psalm 107:11 Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:

Reflection: Our troubles, often times, are our own making. We want to live our own lives, make our own decisions, and do not want to submit to our Creator. Our heavenly Father knows best, knows what we need, how we need it, and when we need it. Living our lives apart from the will of God, which is found in His Word, is rebellion and nothing good will come of that.

Psalm 107:5 Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.

Psalm 107:6 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.

Psalm 107:9 For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.

To whom or to what do you turn when you are in trials or difficult circumstances? Only the Lord Jesus Christ satisfies!

Challenge: Are you hungry and thirsty? Have you tried all that the world has to offer? Have you relinquished your ways and cried unto the LORD, submitting your will to His?

- Please contact Elenas6259@gmail.com if you would like to receive Grow in Grace each morning through email.

- Also, A Complimentary *Grow in Grace 12 Week Devotional* Book is available upon request.

Ladies' Fellowship

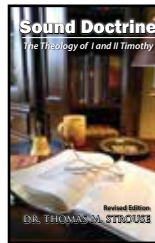
Bible Baptist Church will host the annual Bible Baptist Church Ladies' Fellowship with Mrs. Mandy Breeden, wife of Pastor Greg Breeden of Northside Baptist Church in Windham, ME, giving her testimony on March 25, 2017 (10 AM to 1 PM). All ladies are invited, and there will be crafts and a luncheon but no nursery.



THE BOOK CORNER

The Book Corner

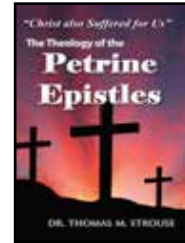
These Books may be purchased through **Bible Baptist Church:**
40 Country Squire Rd.
Cromwell, CT 06416
860-229-5387



I & II Timothy \$20.00



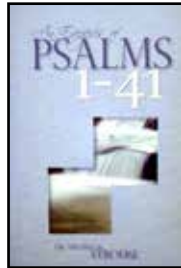
Revelation \$30.00



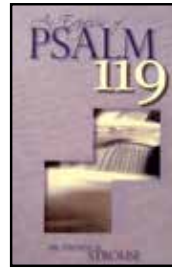
Peter \$20.00



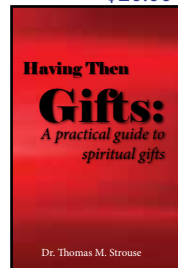
I & II Thessalonians \$20.00



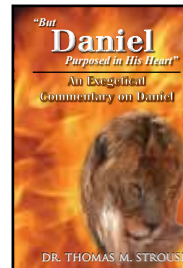
Psalms 1 - 41 \$20.00



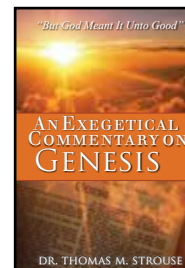
Psalm 119 \$20.00



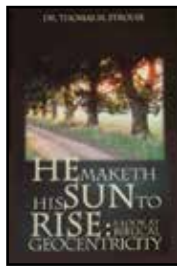
Spiritual Gifts \$8.00



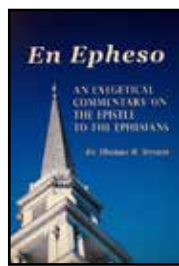
Daniel \$20.00



Genesis \$20.00



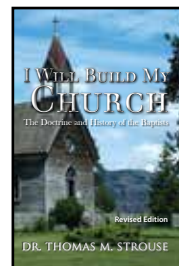
Geocentricity \$10.00



En Epheso \$20.00



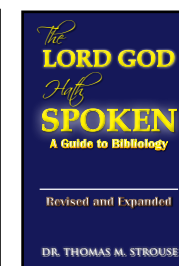
Jonah \$10.00



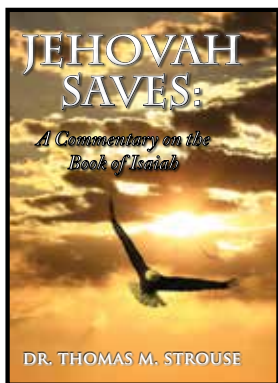
I Will Build My Church \$20.00



A Primer of Baptist History \$20.00



The Lord God Hath Spoken \$20.00



NEW BOOK: JEHOVAH SAVES: A COMMENTARY ON THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

The new book by Dr. Thomas M. Strouse entitled *Jehovah Saves: A Commentary on the Book of Isaiah* is available for purchase. The book is an effort to exegete the contents of all sixty-six chapters of Isaiah, resulting in 508 pages of commentary with 746 footnotes chocked full of word studies, grammatical explanations, and theological teachings. It reflects over forty years of study, research, and reflection from the author. Available now! \$30.00

If you have any news for the next issue of the BBC Update, please send email to:

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