



BBC UPDATE

“Understanding of the Times”

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse



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Introduction

David’s ascendancy as King of Israel had just begun (I Chr. 11:1-3), since Saul had died (I Chr. 10:1-14), Jerusalem was conquered (I Chr. 11:4-9), and the tribes of Israel aligned with him (I Chr. 11:10-12:40). As these events began to unfold, the Scripture states, *“And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment”* (I Chr. 12:32). Jacob had predicted that Issachar’s descendants would be strong and desirous of rest in the good land (Gen. 49:14-15). The *“rest”* (*menuchah*) that they desired was that which Jehovah promised about the land of Canaan to the nation of Israel (Dt. 12:9). It was also the rest which He denied to the rebels in the wilderness (Ps. 95:11; cf. Heb. 3:11-19). Moreover, it was the rest that the LORD gave Solomon (I Ki. 8:56) pre-figuring the Millennial rest that the earth would enjoy under the Messiah (Isa. 11:1-10). Therefore, the children of Issachar applied their understanding of Jehovah’s overarching plan for His creation around His chosen people (Ex. 19:5; Dt. 7:6) to their *“sitz im leben,”* and recognized God’s theological and chronological plan of Israel.

Biblical Template

In order for man to have an *“understanding of the times,”* he must take the theological and chronological template of Scripture and apply it to his immediate temporal setting. The theological aspect of the biblical template finds parameters based on the Seed Promise and the Land Promise given to mankind through the Jews. Jehovah promised that the woman’s seed would bruise the head of the serpent’s seed, predicting the coming Messiah and His ultimate victory over the Devil (Gen. 3:15; Isa. 7:14; Mt. 1:23; I Tim. 3:16; Heb. 2:14; Rev. 19:20; 20:10). This predicted conflict between Messiah and Anti-Messiah through the ages would intensify to the point of worldwide rebellion (Gen. 11:1-9; II Tim. 3:1 ff.; I Jn. 4:3) before judgment and ultimate defeat (Rev. 6-19).

UNDERSTANDING OF THE TIMES

ARTICLE

The chronological aspect of the biblical template finds fulfillment in the predicted “seventy weeks” of Daniel’s prophecy (Dan. 9:24-27; 12:11-12). The prophet predicted that a total 490 years would relate to Jehovah’s dealing with His chosen people, culminating in “Jacob’s trouble” (Jer. 30:7). From the time of the rebuilding the Second Temple (445 BC) to the Cross (AD 30) some 483 years would elapse. The LORD revealed that an interval would occur historically between the 483 years and the last 7 years (Tribulation) of Daniel’s prophecy. During this time the Messiah would be crucified and the Second Temple destroyed along with Jerusalem (Mt. 24:1-3). The NT revealed that two other events would have to occur during the interval, namely the death of Peter (Jn. 21:18-19) and the completion of the biblical canon (I Cor. 13:8-10). Since all four prophesied events have occurred in the first century, the next theological and chronological event in the divine template for an “*understanding of the times*” will be the catching away (“Rapture”) of NT saints (I Thes. 4:13-18) which will initiate the appearance of the Anti-Christ (II Thes. 2:3-12). He will make a seven-year covenant with Israel during which time of “peace” the Anti-Christ will allow the Jews to build their Third Temple on the temple mount, presently occupied by the Muslims. Satan has vested interest in this Third Temple since he wants to usurp Christ’s worship by the

chosen people in the Temple (II Thes. 2:4; Rev. 6:1-2; Rev. 11:1-13; Rev. 12:12-17).

Application

In 2017, the student of the Bible has an “*understanding of the times*” by recognizing that the Lord’s eternal plan relates to His chosen people (Jews) in His chosen city (Jerusalem) in His chosen land (Israel). The world’s setting will increase in global rebellion, monetary chaos, theological pantheism (occultism), political hypocrisy, and national militarism. At the center of all this will be extreme anti-Semitism focusing on the obliteration of anything Jewish, including the people, the land, and the city of Jerusalem. The world increasingly will look for a “messiah” to deliver from the ultimate “nuclear option” of self-destruction. He will come! For the unbeliever, he will be the Anti-Messiah. For the Christian, He will be the biblical Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Anti-Christ will be revealed immediately after the biblical Messiah returns for His saints who “*shall be caught up*” in the Rapture. For the reader, preparation must be made spiritually through repentance of sin and reception of Christ (the New Birth) in order to be ready for the coming true Messiah. Paul concluded saying, “*For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself*” (Phil. 3:20-21).

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.

DUBAI MINISTRY

Dr. Emmanuel Tanierla, DMin, has continued to train the brethren in Dubai as well as preached at the 18th year anniversary of Bible Baptist Church of Dubai. After his preaching seven responded seeking biblical salvation. Over 190 were in attendance as the members testified of the blessings through years under the leadership of Pastor Flory Maloto



*Breakfast
at Versace
Hotel in
Dubai.*



*Pastor and Mrs. Flory
Maloto of Dubai BBC.*



*>>Prince Zayed's
Palace.*

BBTS/BBC SPRING SCHEDULE

Mar. 6-10, 2017

Endicott, NY

"Daniel and Hebrew VI"

Mar. 25, 2017

"Ladies Fellowship"

Apr. 14, 2017

"BBTS Spring Lecture Series"

May. 20, 2017

"BBTS Banquet"

May. 21, 2017

"BBTS Commencement"

May. 29-June 2, 2017

Ireland

"Matthew and Creation and
the Flood"

18TH ANNIVERSARY BBC DUBAI

18th Anniversary

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Photos



>>The men of BBC
Dr. Tanierla and
Pastor Flory

<<Pastor Flory and
his wife and Apple
(left) my (Dr. Tani-
erla's) daughter after
the service.



>>The
congregations
attending the 18th
BBC –Anniversary

<<The choir's
presentation in
the Anniversary
Service.



The Children's presentation at
the 18th BBC- Anniversary



Dr. Tanierla speaking at
BBC Dubai Anniversary

PHILIPPINE MINISTRY



BBC Children adding money to the Quezon City Bank.



Bank made from capped off piece of bamboo stalk.



I will be teaching two BBTS modules in Quezon City, Philippines under the bishoprick of Dr. Jed Raquintan. Pastor Raquintan received his DMin recently from BBTS, and has a desire to train men for the numerous churches he has been planting. BBC has been collecting money in a Filipino bank, i.e., a capped-off piece of bamboo stalk, to take as a gift to the Cornerstone Baptist Church in Quezon City, Philippines.



Somehow, I am going to miss all of this, going to Philippines mid-February!

THE MAN THAT FEARS THE LORD

DEVOTIONAL CORNER

THE MAN THAT FEARS ...

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Devotional Corner



Dr. Caswell A. Reeves

THE MAN THAT FEARS THE LORD

Psalm 112:1-4

The man that fears the LORD is one who *fearfully stands in awe of the LORD*. He holds the Lord in great reverence delighting, *pleasuring* in His commandments. The perfect tense of the verb reveals that there was a point in time in the past that he began delighting or *taking pleasure* in the LORD's commandments or words and this delighting or *pleasuring* continues into the present time his life (v.1).

The man that fears the LORD is promised that his seed or *offspring* shall be mighty or *strong, brave, valiant* upon the earth and as part of the upright or *righteous* he shall be blessed or *praised, adored by others* (v.2). As well, he is promised wealth and riches in his house or *household* and his *righteousness or being just* endures or *stands, remains* for ever (v.3).

The man that fears the LORD, being upright, there ariseth light in the darkness. Again it is a perfect tense verb: It is a light or *brightness, illumination* that came to him in the darkness of his past and continues with him even into his present. He is a gracious or kind person, full of compassion or

merciful person, a righteous or *just, saved* person (v.4).

The man that is saved is the man that fears the LORD and delight in God's words and this is an eternal state that he finds himself in from the beginning of his salvation in Christ. This man and his offspring are the recipient of many of God's promises. He is given a heavenly light at salvation that makes him a gracious, compassionate and righteous person. Do you fear the LORD? -CAR

Quotes From the Past:

Charles H. Spurgeon

Renowned English Baptist Pastor

1834-1892



Charles H. Spurgeon

"You may speak but a word to a child, and in that child there may be slumbering a noble heart which shall stir the Christian Church in years to come."

BBTS SPRING LECTURE SERIES



"Understanding of the Times"

(I Chr. 12:32).

April 14, 2017 (9AM – 3 PM)

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

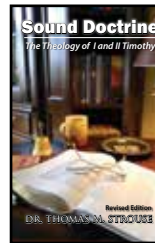
Bible Baptist Church will host the annual Bible Baptist Church Ladies' Fellowship with Mrs. Mandy Breeden, wife of Pastor Greg Breeden of Northside Baptist Church in Windham, ME, giving her testimony on March 25, 2017 (10 AM to 1 PM). All ladies are invited, and there will be crafts and a luncheon but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



THE BOOK CORNER

The Book Corner

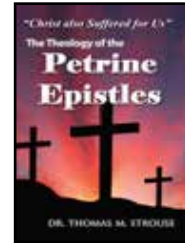
These Books may be purchased through **Bible Baptist Church**:
40 Country Squire Rd.
Cromwell, CT 06416
860-229-5387



I & II Timothy \$20.00



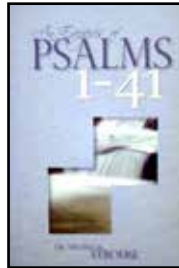
Revelation \$30.00



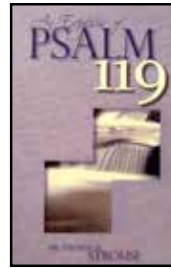
Peter \$20.00



I & II Thessalonians \$20.00



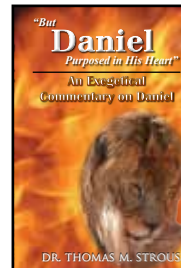
Psalms 1 - 41 \$20.00



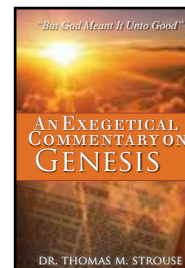
Psalm 119 \$20.00



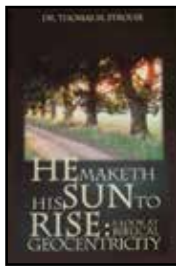
Spiritual Gifts \$8.00



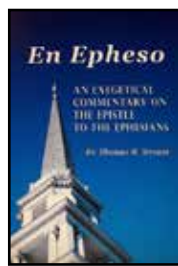
Daniel \$20.00



Genesis \$20.00



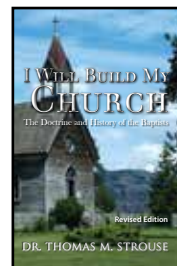
Geocentricity \$10.00



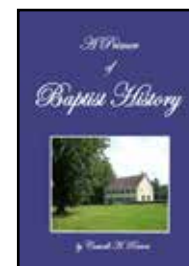
En Epheso \$20.00



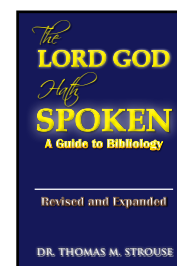
Jonah \$10.00



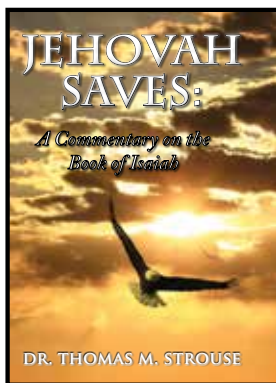
I Will Build My Church \$20.00



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:

drms_bbts@juno.com



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