



BBC UPDATE

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 16

AUGUST 18, 2025



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

THE VIETNAM MODULE REPORT

Between 1963 and 1970, my high school generation lived under the spectre of going to Vietnam and fighting in guerrilla warfare against the Vietcong. In the spring of 1963 our senior class of teenagers reported for physical exams in preparation of the Military Draft. One's number in the national Military Draft Lottery determined the timing of being drafted, and two teenage men with whom I was familiar were drafted and killed within their first year of combat. In the providence of the Good Lord I was not drafted as a United States soldier for combat. Now, some sixty years later I have had the privilege to go to Vietnam as a soldier for the LORD involved in spiritual warfare. The Lord blessed in the arduous travel to and from JFK International Airport, to Taipei, Taiwan, and ultimately to Hanoi, Vietnam, on China Airlines, whose employees were gracious and respectful. I arrived safely but my luggage was left behind in NY. Upon arrival my hosts, Dr. Jed Raquintan and Matthew Malonzo, the affluent language son of Missionary Fiel Malonzo, awaited my arrival, and afterward took me along Missionary Fiel and family for lunch at Pizza Hut, over which Missionary Fiel is the general manager of some 54 Pizza Hut restaurants in Hanoi. His entry into Vietnam was as an employee of Pizza Hut and not as a prohibited Christian missionary. Since my clothes were in the delayed luggage still at JFK, they had to outfit me with pants, shirts, socks, skivvies, etc. Finding my size in clothing was difficult because of the small stature of the Vietnamese men. My 36 inch waist could not fit into the "large" 34 inch pants!

Hanoi has become a beautiful city with recently built skyscrapers, one of which myself and the Raquintans stayed, along with the Malonzo family, and the visiting pastors in separate condominium units. On Sunday, I had the privilege to preach in Pastor Fiel's house church with nine in attendance (several attendees missing). Dr. Raquintan taught Sunday School and Missionary Fiel preached in the PM service. For security reasons our Bibles were not exposed publicly in conveyance to different locations. After the afternoon service Missionary Malonzo and family took Dr. and Mrs. Raquintan and myself to the Old City of Hanoi where tourists visit see 50's and 60's version of Hanoi with many quaint cafes and coffee shops.



VIETNAM MODULE

Hanoi is the capital of Vietnam and means “inside the river,” bordered by the Red and Black Rivers. Vietnam has three religions, namely Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism all of which may be worshipped personally in homes. Public Christian evangelism is prohibited, and biblical knowledge is limited among many professed Christians and pastors. Baptists must be careful about the public display of their biblical doctrine and practice, since there may be efforts by Communists to infiltrate churches. In the past, Catholicism has made some inroads in Vietnam. The skyline of Hanoi has many high-rise condominiums and downtown Hanoi looks like many American cities.

On Monday, I met with six Vietnamese pastors to cover basic ecclesiological interpretations and practices. The men were two pastors from the tribe of Bru, Jonathan, Jeremy, Ezekiel (the excellent interpreter), a Methodist pastor Nhien, Missionary Dan Armacost to Myanmar, and Missionary Fiel, the host pastor, and his son Matthew. Missionary Armacost, MDiv from Bible Baptist Theological Seminary and good friend in the Lord, sat in for the lecture material as he is working toward his doctorate. I was greatly encouraged that he wanted to attend, flying two hours from Myanmar. Concerning these Vietnamese pastors, I could say with the Apostle Paul, *“For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge”* (Rom. 10:2). Most of the Vietnam pastors have small house churches and recognize that they need more formal training. For instance, the Methodist pastor recognized that his baptism was unbiblical and asked if I would baptize him, since I was his senior. I suggested that he join one of the other pastor’s churches *via* biblical baptism and be sent by that church. Throughout the rest of the week, I taught in the mornings and Dr. Raquintan taught in the afternoons, and we ate out every evening with the Raquintans and Brother Fiel’s family, including his wife Veritas, Faith, Matthew, and Paul.

American fundamentalist Baptist missionaries have caused a great deal of biblical confusion to foreign Christianity by superimposing the American business model upon churches including the need to have a “church building” to have a church, the question of where does the tithe go, the practice of church discipline, the acceptance of divorced pastors, and the fawning over parachurch ministries.

One issue for Christians in Buddhist countries is attending relatives’ homes which worship ancestors with the death of a family member. The food is offered to Buddha and then presented to the family members, even if they are Christians. The Apostle Paul dealt with this very theological problem in I Cor. 10:18-33.

Overall, the opportunity was beneficial to me personally, and I trust to all involved as well. In the providence of the LORD, He spared me from the suicide mission of the Vietnam War in the 60’s, and has allowed to me fight the good fight for biblical truth, and to war against the heresies of Satan in Vietnam!



PHOTOS OF VIETNAM



*View from my room on
26th floor*



Hanoi skyline



Old city transportation



Well-known symbols



*Who is behind
socialist communism?*



Famous Red Bridge



*Fiel Malonzo,
Dr. Raquintan, Dr. Strouse,
Dan Armacost,
Matthew Malonzo*



*Attendees for the
Wednesday Service*



Class picture

LABOR DAY COOKOUT

You are invited to the **Labor Day Cookout** at the Strouse House 164 Hickory Hill Rd., New Britain, CT on **September 1, 2025** from 2-7 PM, eating at 4PM. Meat and drinks will be supplied. If attending, **RSVP** with your name and number **ASAP** to drtms_bbts@juno.com. If bringing a dish: A-M sides; N-Z desserts. Don't forget lawn chairs and specialty drinks (soda, diet, etc.) Modest Christian attire appreciated.



Recently BBC started a choir where we can minister to each other and the Lord.

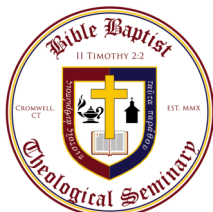
BBTS FALL SEMESTER

Beginning August 25, 2025

Monday (6-9 PM)

Galatians

Dr. M. Ryan Strouse



Beginning August 28, 2025

Thursday (6-9 PM)

Hebrew/Greek

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

BBC/BBTS 2025-2026 SCHEDULE

September 1

Labor Day Cookout
Strouse House

September 22-26

Bible Baptist Church
Nashua, NH
Minor Prophets II

October 19-22

Timeless Truths Bible Conference
Willow Grove Baptist Church
Waynesburg, PA
Zephaniah

November 7, 2025

BBTS Fall Lecture Series
Galilean Baptist Church
Stafford Springs, CT
TBA

Jan 5-9, 2026

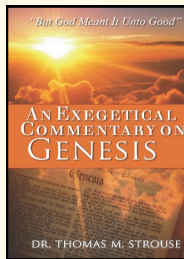
Ireland Module
Hebrew Exegesis

Jan 12-16, 2026

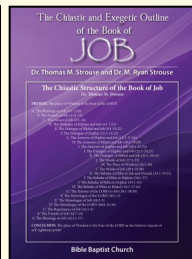
Fairhaven Baptist College
Chesterton, IN
The Book of Job

The Publication Page

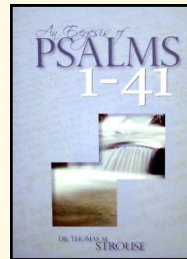
The books on this page may be purchased by contacting:
Bible Baptist Church at 860-229-5387 or drtms_bbts@juno.com



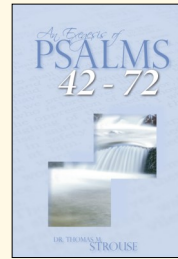
Genesis
\$20.00



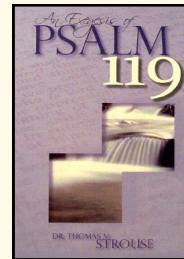
Job
\$25.00



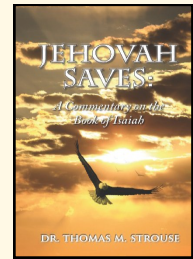
Psalms 1-41
\$20.00



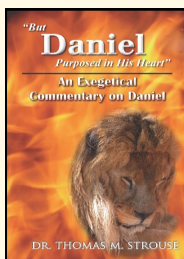
Psalms 42-72
\$25.00



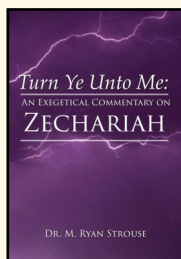
Psalm 119
\$20.00



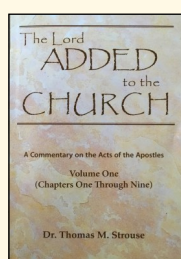
Isaiah
\$20.00



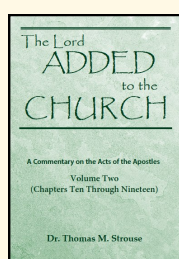
Daniel
\$20.00



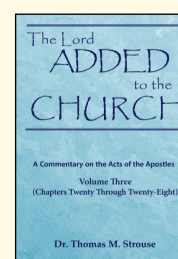
Zechariah
\$30.00



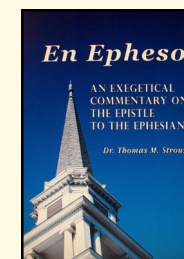
Acts 1-9
\$30.00



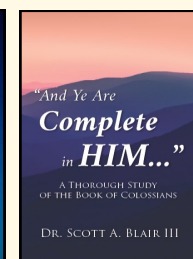
Acts 10-19
\$30.00



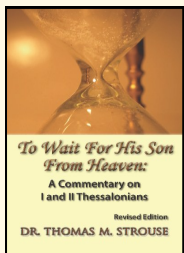
Acts 20-28
\$30.00



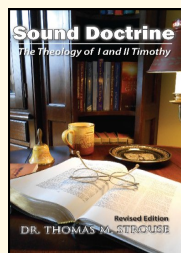
Ephesians
\$20.00



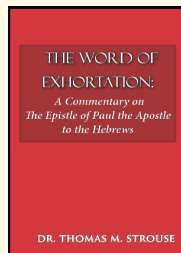
Colossians
\$20.00



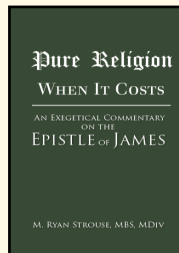
Thessalonians
\$20.00



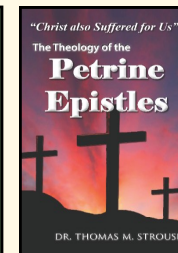
1 & 2 Timothy
\$20.00



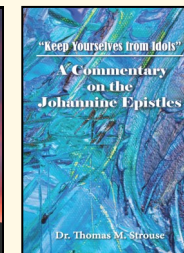
Hebrews
\$30.00



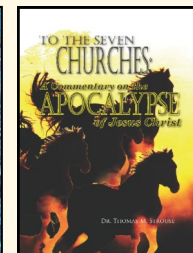
James
\$30.00



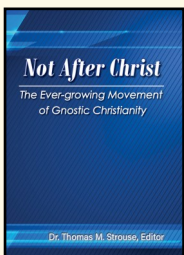
1 & 2 Peter
\$20.00



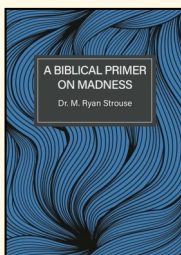
Johannine Epistles
\$30.00



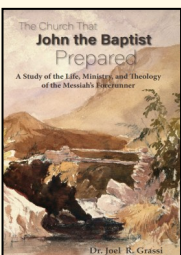
Revelation
\$30.00



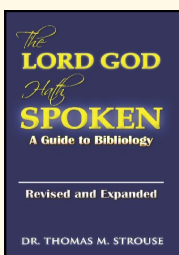
Gnosticism
\$25.00



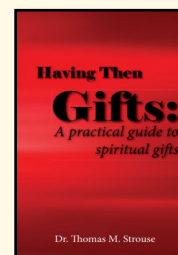
Biblical Madness
\$20.00



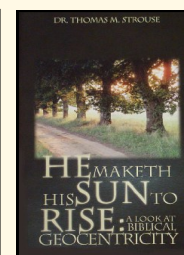
John the Baptist
\$35.00



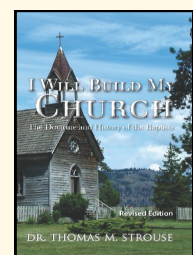
Bibliology
\$15.00



Spiritual Gifts
\$8.00

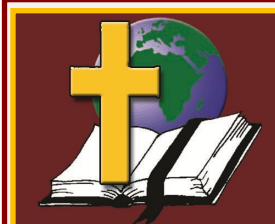


Geocentricity
\$10.00



Baptist Doctrine & History
\$15.00

If you have any news for the next issue of the BBC Update, please send an email to: drtms_bbts@juno.com



Bible Baptist Theological Seminary
A Ministry of Bible Baptist Church
40 Country Squire Drive
Cromwell, CT 06416
860-613-2096
www.bbc-cromwell.org