BBC UPDATE

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OCTOBER 5, 2026



Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

MARRIAGE AND THE BIBLE

The Scripture teaches the following truths about Biblical Marriage:

A. The LORD God gave Adam and Eve the biblical requirements for divinely approved marriage: *"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh"* (Gen. 2:24). God gave the institution of marriage to Adam and Eve before they could fornicate! Four thousand years later, the Lord Jesus Christ repeated, confirmed, and validated this divine perspective (Mt. 19:6-7). The Bible teaches three aspects or components to marriage:

1. Leaving—the *Social*.
2. Cleaving—the *Spiritual*.
3. Weaving—the *Sexual*. The LORD encouraged the couple on the Wedding Night to enjoy what He had given them. He was the third party in the consummation chamber: *"I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse: I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk: eat, **O friends**; drink, yea, drink abundantly, O beloved"* (Song of Solomon 5:1).



B. Furthermore, the Bible teaches "one wife for life": *"And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth"* (Mal. 2:15).

C. Marriage is divinely instituted:

1. *"Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge"* (Heb. 13:4).

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2. *"And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband"* (Rev. 21:2). The Marriage metaphor pictures the intimate relationship the believer has with Christ. It is called "wedlock." Don't break the lock!

D. The Bible also teaches no divorce: *"And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife"* (I Cor. 7:10-11).

1. *"And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation"* (II Cor. 5:18).
2. *"To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation"* (II Cor. 5:19). There may be temporary separation but NO DIVORCE!

E. The Scriptures teach that widows (widowers) may re-marry: *"The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord"* (I Cor. 7:39).

F. The Lord prohibited divorce after consummation and the disciples despaired: *"And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery. His disciples say unto him, If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry."* (Mt. 19:9-10).

G. The Scriptural way to maintain a marriage is by being saved, baptized, & an active church member filled with the Spirit.

1. *"And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel"* (Mk. 1:15).
2. *"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls"* (Acts 2:41).
3. *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God"* (Rom. 12:1-2).

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MARRIAGE AND THE BIBLE (CONCLUSION)

4. *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law"* (Gal. 5:22-23).

Before the Fall, Jehovah told the first couple, saying, *"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply"* (Gen. 1:27-28). After the Fall, He said to Noah, *"And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth"* (Gen. 9:1). The institution of biblical marriage is still valid and still commanded!

FITTZ-GAGNON WEDDING: SEPTEMBER 25, 2026





"Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother...

...and shall cleave unto his wife...











*...and they shall be **one flesh**."*
(Genesis 2:24)

BIBLE QUIZ TEAM

Young people from various churches in New England went to Community Baptist Church in Coopersburg, PA for the annual Bible Quiz competition on the content of the Gospel of Mark. Mr. and Mrs. Aiko Tinte headed up the preparation for the young people. Pastor David Smith hosts the event yearly, and Pastors Dan Herr, Stephen Hinebaugh, David Short, Scott Blair, and Thomas Strouse sent their church youngsters.











NEW HAMPSHIRE MODULE

During the week of September 28 to Oct. 2, 2026, Dr. Thomas M. Strouse taught the Bible Baptist Theological Seminary course on the *Book of Isaiah* to several students at Bible Baptist Church in Nashua, NH, pastored by Pastor Jon Stockton. We are thankful for this sister church and the men interested in growing in the Word of God.

BBC FALL LECTURE SERIES

"The Inspiration of Scripture is Profitable for the OT, the NT, and Biblical Counseling"

DRS. CHET KULUS, THOMAS STROUSE, AND RYAN STROUSE

Nov. 6, 2026 | 9 AM to 3 PM

RSVP by 10-15-26

BBTS FALL SEMESTER

Beginning August 31, 2026
Monday (6-9 PM)
Ecclesiastes
Dr. M. Ryan Strouse

Beginning September 3, 2026
Thursday (6-9 PM)
Hebrew/Greek
Dr. Thomas M. Strouse

BBC/BBTS 2026-2027 SCHEDULE

Oct. 18-21, 2026
Willow Grove BaptistChurch
Waynesburg, PA
Habakkuk

Nov. 6, 2026
BBTS Fall Lecture Series
Stafford Springs, CT
The Inspiration of Scripture is Profitable

Jan. 4-8, 2027
River View Baptist Church
Ireland
Hebrew &Psalms 90-106

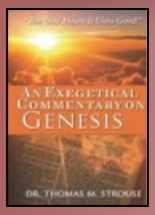
Jan. 11-15, 2027
Fairhaven Baptist Church
Chesterton, IN
I & II Peter

Jan. 25-29, 2027
Bible Baptist Church
Dubai
TBD

Feb. 8-12, 2027
Cornerstone Baptist Church
Philippines
Psalms90-106

The Publication Page

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Bible Baptist Church at 860-930-9960 or drtms_bbts@juno.com



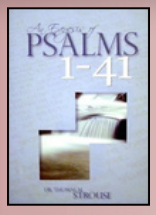
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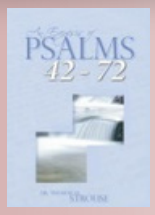
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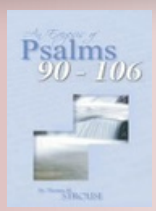
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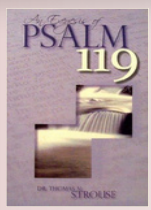
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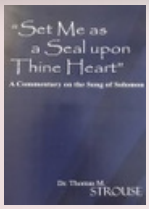
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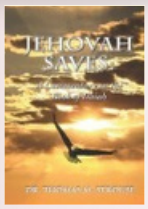
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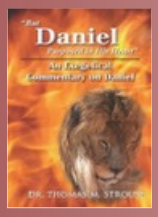
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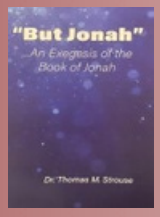
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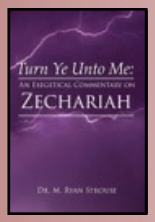
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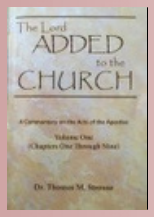
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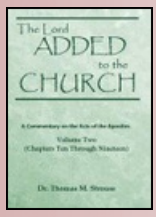
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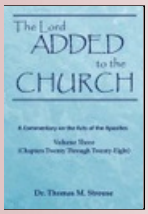
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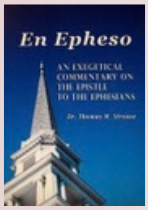
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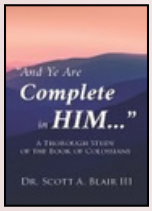
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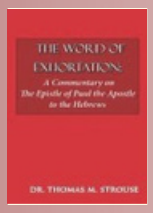
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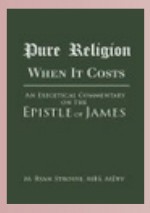
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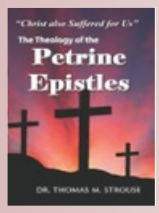
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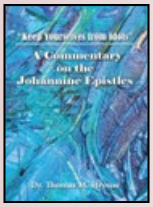
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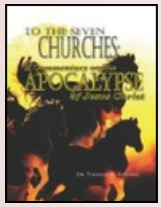
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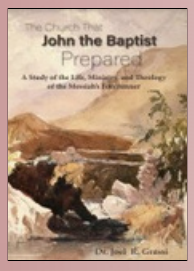
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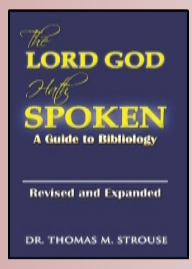
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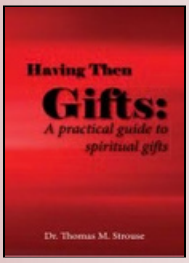
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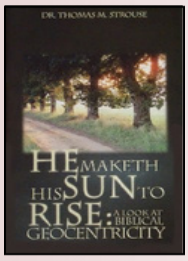
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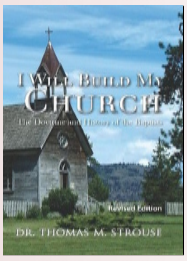
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