

# Reflections



Bringing you news from the **British Bible School**

Winter 2020/21

## Simply unable to be replicated ...

There are some events that simply cannot be replicated online, and others that really shouldn't even be attempted. Our **Autumn Family Retreat**, scheduled for Letton Hall in September, fits into the former category and became another casualty upon the heap of non-events for 2020. Under the current climate it was simply not possible to go ahead with the event at this location for this year, but we have already made a provisional booking for 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – so there's a date for the new diary.

We also had to postpone our **Autumn Study Week** at

Bassenthwaite Manor in November. We had very much thought that this was going to be able to go ahead, but we will need to wait until sometime later in 2021 before we can resume residential events. Another provisional booking has been made for 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021 for our next Autumn Study Week – do please make a note of that too.

This is also a very trying time for those who run the residential facilities that we use for various events, and we do well to remember them in prayer, along with so many other people and things.



*View from Bassenthwaite Manor in the Lakes*

### Online activities

We are coming near to the end of our third twelve-week round of online weekday classes in which we have been teaching on **Psalms**, **1st Corinthians** and **Hebrews**. Recordings of some previous class presentations are being made available online. These can be found on our YouTube channel, along with an archive of our **Sunday Morning Messages**. We are continuing to broadcast these also, as many are still unable to meet physically with their local groups and are finding these useful.

In the new year we will be commencing another round of classes, and continuing with our weekly **Friday Evening Quiz**. On Monday evenings we will be teaching **Peter's** first letter, and on Thursday evenings the book of **Daniel**. All are welcome to join us for any or all of these classes which are held through Zoom, details of which will be made available on our website and on social media.



*Letton Hall in Norfolk – venue for our usually annual Autumn Family Retreats*



## It's now official!

We have some rather exciting news we would like to share with you – news of things that have been going on behind the scenes for some time, but which have recently all come together to help secure the way forward for the British Bible School.

Over the years we have seen many changes in the way in which the Bible School has been organised. In its earliest days, from its founding in 1979, the School was under the oversight of the leaders of the congregation in Corby, Northamptonshire. Others were later to assume responsibility for its continuing existence until such time as the congregation appointed a team of governors to help develop the School as it moved forward.

The governing body of the School has functioned in both a strategic and operational capacity, steering its way through a period of great transition. From offering a purely

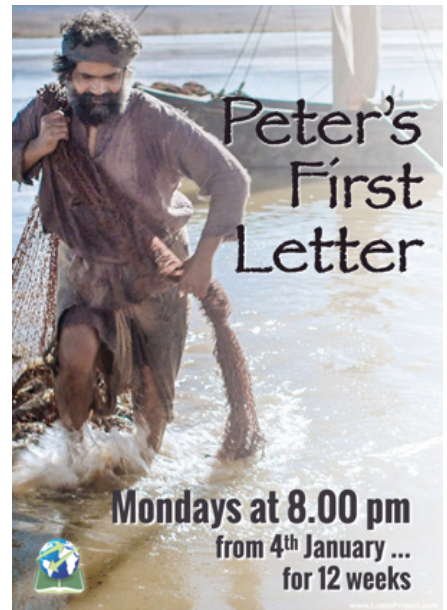
residential programme through the eighties to the mid-noughties, the School now offers a much more diverse and continually growing array of options and resources.

Some time ago, following a review of the School's structure and governance, changes were seen needing to be made. As a result of what has been a fairly involved process, the British Bible School is now a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We have a new board of Charity Trustees responsible for financial, legal and strategic matters, with the day to day running delegated to a Leadership Team.

This will provide a better framework for the continued development of the School and its provision as we move forward. It introduces increased transparency and a greater level of accountability through our new charity status. Those 'Friends of the Bible School' who contribute on a regular, monthly basis will automatically become Members of the charity and so have a voice in the running of the School.

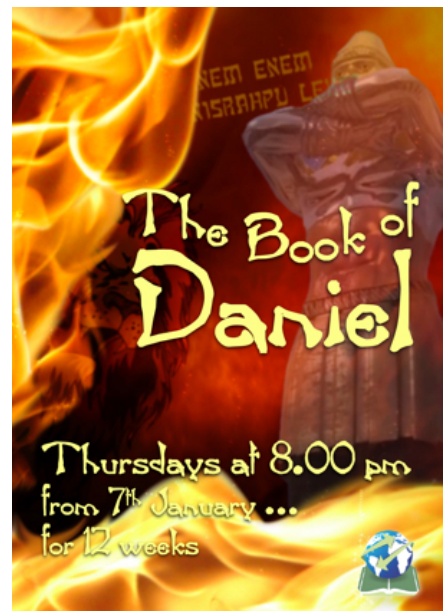
Over the course of the next year we plan to increase the number of Charity Trustees, involving others supportive of our aims and work. We also plan to include others in our various Action Groups, both widening the experience and expertise of those involved in the work of the School as well as helping prepare its development for a new generation.

## Classes from January 2021



**Peter's First Letter**

Mondays at 8.00 pm  
from 4<sup>th</sup> January ...  
for 12 weeks



**The Book of Daniel**

Thursdays at 8.00 pm  
from 7<sup>th</sup> January ...  
for 12 weeks



**THE AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE**

A British Bible School Applied Biblical Studies Module

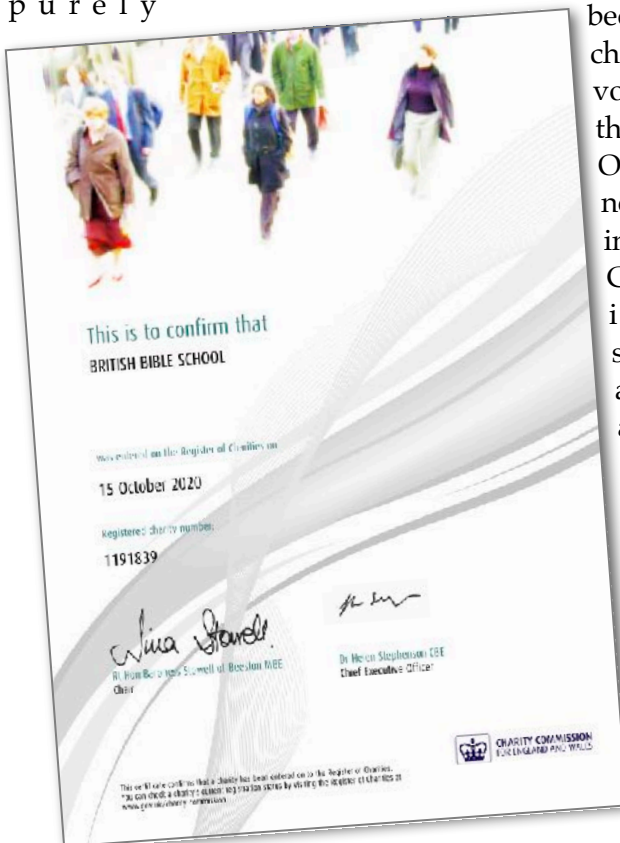
This introductory module examines the processes by which the Scriptures came to be written, from their composition to their compilation, and explores the reasons for there being 66 books in our Bible, with an emphasis on their authoritative role in our lives.

- TWO HOURS EACH TUESDAY
- ENROLMENT REQUIRED
- ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS
- PERSONAL TUITION
- BBS CERTIFICATION

Tuesdays at 7.30 pm

Online from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
... for 12 weeks

[www.britishbibleschool.com](http://www.britishbibleschool.com)





## Never the same again

People talk about things returning to some semblance of normality, but the likelihood is that things will not ever be the same again. Of course, that could be said of life in general as each day brings new opportunities and leaves behind past experiences, but life beyond this current crisis will likely be significantly different from life BC.

In some ways, some of us may find this a little disconcerting, but I am persuaded that many positive changes have already come about. We have been particularly impressed by the continued enthusiasm for our Online Bible Classes, so much so that we are looking forward to a new programme of activities beginning in the new year (see above). All this has essentially been made feasible through a general acceptance and growing familiarity with online conferencing.

## Online Extension Programme

Perhaps the most significant development is that we will be offering opportunities to study



*Students at our Study Weekend in Aberdeen earlier in the year*

our Applied Biblical Studies curriculum modules in online, weekly two-hour classes. These will be open to anyone interested in more in-depth, structured classes, but numbers will be limited. Our current plan is to offer three modules per year.

Unlike our weekly Online Bible Classes, students will need to enrol for these classes and a nominal fee will apply. There will also be additional class assignments which students will be expected to complete – all designed to enhance the learning experience. Smaller classes will also enable greater class participation and give better opportunity for useful discussion.



*Filming for The Book Programme in Northampton earlier in the year*

The first module on offer from Tuesday, 5th January will be “The Authority of Scripture” (INT02), one of our introductory modules which explores the processes by which the Scriptures came to be written, from revelation to compilation, with an emphasis on their authoritative role in our lives. Details, including a syllabus, can be found on our website.

## Thank you

As always, we thank you for your prayers and ask that you continue to remember the work of the School both in private and within your assemblies. And we thank you for helping with our funding too – for sharing with us in our work.

**Reflections** is published by the British Bible School in the U.K.



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