

**NEW TESTAMENT AUTHORITY**  
**AND BEING BAPTIST**  
**- I Thessalonians 2:13**

**Tonight we'll consider the Baptist's dependence on New Testament teachings as we examine how that makes us unique.**

*New Testament authority affects ...*

**I. THE PERSPECTIVE OF BAPTISTS**

- The foundation of our churches is Bible based.

A. IT IS GOD'S WORD THAT ENERGIZES - I Thess. 2:13

B. IT IS GOD'S WORD THAT INSTRUCTS - II Tim. 3:16-17  
- Note the superiority and sufficiency of the Word

C. IT IS GOD'S WORD THAT CONVICTS - Heb. 4:12

*New Testament authority affects ...*

**II. THE PRACTICES OF BAPTISTS**

A. WE RESIST OLD TESTAMENT CONNECTIONS

- We are not a part of Israel, God's covenant people - Rom. 11

B. WE RUN BY NEW TESTAMENT GUIDELINES

1. Our Organization

a. Two ordinances

1) Baptism - Acts 8:36-38, 16:31-33

2) The Lord's Supper - I Cor. 11:23-24

b. Two offices

1) Pastor - I Tim. 3:1-7

2) Deacon - I Tim. 3:8-13

2. Our Objectives

a. Churches plant churches - Acts 13:1-3, 15:40-41

b. Churches discipline members - I Cor. 5

3. Our Opposition

a. Homosexuality is a sin - Rom. 1:18-32

b. Living together is immoral - I Thess. 4:3-8

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C. WE REJECT HUMANISTIC TRADITIONS - Col. 2:8-23

1. Their description (8a)
2. Their distinction (8b-10)
3. Their distraction (18-19)
4. Their disgrace (20-23)

D. WE REFUSE UNBIBLICAL DOCTRINES

- Like the prosperity gospel and many Roman Catholic traditions

*New Testament authority affects ...*

III. **THE PREACHING OF BAPTISTS**

A. EXPOSITORY PREACHING

1. Preaching that comes “out of” the text
2. See Acts 8:36, Rom. 4:3 and I Thess. 2:3-5

B. EVANGELISTIC PREACHING

1. Paul in Athens - Acts 17:16-21
2. Faith comes by hearing - Rom. 10:13-17

C. EXHORTATIVE PREACHING

1. Bible-based instruction - Titus 1:9, 2:1
2. Not based upon rhetorical skill - I Cor. 2:4-5

D. ENTHUSIASTIC PREACHING - II Tim. 4:1-5

**CONCLUSION:**

The authority of the New Testament affects Baptist’s perspective, practices and preaching.

- These things will affect our beliefs and behavior.
- **Do those things make a difference to you?**

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