

*An Introduction to*  
**BEING BAPTIST**  
**II Timothy 2:15**

**Being Baptist means something.  
Our goal in the coming weeks will be to discover what that is.**

**I. OUR GOAL** - II Timothy 2:15  
*- What are we seeking?*

**A. GOD'S APPROVAL**

- We want to be approved and unashamed when evaluated

**B. GODLY DILIGENCE**

- God's expectation is that we know how to accurately handle His Word.

**II. OUR PRIORITIES** - II Timothy 3:13-17  
*- What is most important?*

**A. BIBLICAL INTEGRITY** - II Tim. 3:13-17

- We must remain devoted to God's Word

**B. BIBLICAL DISCERNMENT** - Acts 17:11

- Filtering various truth claims through Scripture

**C. BIBLE BASICS:** Things essential to the true Christian faith

1. The inspiration and inerrancy of the Bible - II Tim. 3:16-17 and II Peter 1:20-21
2. The virgin birth of Christ - Is. 7:14, Matt. 1:22-23 and Luke 1:30-35
3. The substitutionary atonement of Christ - Rom. 3:24-25; 5:6-11 and I Peter 2:24
4. The literal bodily resurrection of Christ - Acts 1:9; 2:32 and I Cor. 15:3-4
5. The second coming of Jesus Christ - I Thess. 4:13-18 and Titus 2:13

### III. OUR MOTIVATION

- *Why study our characteristics?*

- A. KNOWING WHAT TO EMBRACE - Acts 8:4
  - Demonstrating the biblical basis for our particular beliefs
- B. KNOWING WHAT TO AVOID - Rev. 2:18-20
  - When we know the truth we will better recognize errors
- C. KNOWING WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT - I Tim. 4:6-7
  - An understanding of what sets us apart from others
- D. KNOWING WHAT TO SEEK - Acts 10:30-33
  - Having the discernment to know what to look for when considering a church home.

### IV. OUR DANGER

- *What are some potential disadvantages to studying our distinctives?*

- A. ARROGANCE - John 10:6
  - Believing we are the only ones who have the truth.
- B. HARSHNESS - Luke 9:49-50
  - Badly treating those with whom we disagree
- C. CONFUSION - I Tim. 1:6-7
  - Not taught or informed enough to understand divisive doctrinal issues
- D. DISAGREEMENT - Galatians 2:11-14
  - “We” may not all agree on what “we” believe.

### V. OUR APPLICATION - Isaiah 8:20

- *What difference does any of this make?*

- A. IT REFLECTS OUR CONVICTIONS
- B. IT AFFECTS OUR TEACHING
- C. IT AFFECTS OUR ASSOCIATIONS
- D. IT AFFECTS OUR MISSIONS RELATIONSHIPS

**CONCLUSION: More than anything else being Baptist is an attempt to be biblical in all our ways.**