

# BAPTIST BASICS

AN ELECTIVE COURSE

Paul and Kay Eaton

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Paul and Kay Eaton

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# BAPTIST BASICS

## INTRODUCTION

Who are the Baptists? What do Baptists believe? Why do Baptists do the things they do? How do Baptists worship? These are questions we often hear. This book was written to give you answers to these questions.

This book is not a manual for new Christians. It is for new Baptists or ones who want to know about Baptists. Many books by authors much more learned than we are have been referred to in the writing of this book. The result is an explanation of Baptist basics that is our personal understanding at this time. It is written as clearly as possible, with Bible verses for you to read, so that you may understand Baptists when you have completed the last page.

Please read every Bible reference given. When a particular translation, or version, makes something easier to understand, we have written out the verse. These are from Good News Bible (TEV) and New International Version (NIV).

In the back of this book is a list of some of the books we referred to when writing these lessons. If you want to study more about Baptists they can be helpful to you.

## HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book is your teacher. It will teach you a lesson each day. Obey carefully what the book says just as you would obey a teacher. When the teacher tells you to take your Bible and read, you do not just look at him. You take your Bible and read. This is what you must do with this book.

In school the teacher tells the students something. He explains it carefully. Then he asks questions. When students answer well, the teacher goes on to the next teaching. This book uses the same way of teaching. First it gives you a small part of the lesson. Then it asks you a question. If you read carefully, you will be able to answer well. If you answer well it shows that you have understood. It also helps you to remember what you have read.

Usually you will be able to give the right answers. If you are not sure of the answer, read again the teaching from the last question. If you are still not sure, then write the best answer you can. Then go on. As you do the lesson you will find out if you are answering well. But it is very important that you always write your best answer before you read the next part. It will help if you use a piece of paper to cover the rest of the page as you read.

Move the paper down to the double line which looks like this:

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**Read the teaching and answer the question.** Then move the paper down to the next double line. In this way you will not read the answer before you are ready for it. As you read the answer, think about it. It will correct you if you are learning wrong.

It will take you 10 weeks to finish this book. Do one lesson each day for five days of each week. Do not try to do two or three lessons in one day.

This book should be used with a discussion meeting each week. You should have a leader to help you with your problems. The leader should also help you discuss with other students what you have learned. If you have not studied the lessons before class, you will not understand what is being said.

If there is no leader to help you with these lessons, call together some of your friends. Ask them to study the lessons. Then meet together and let someone in the group lead a discussion. We believe you will like this kind of learning. When you come to the end of the book, you will be surprised how much you have learned

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