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# WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE

*Training Laborers for His Harvest*

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## **BI 401 – Baptist History**

### ***Online Syllabus***

**Course Instructor: Dr. John Goetsch**

#### **I. Course Description**

This course is designed to introduce the student to the Biblical distinctives of Baptists and to show how these beliefs and practices can be traced in history back to the time of Jesus Christ. Through this course the student will realize that the price for our freedom to worship according to Scripture has been costly, but one gladly paid by those who have gone before us. Through this course students will not only appreciate their rich heritage as Baptists, but be motivated to hold the convictions, stay true to the purpose, propagate the message, and unashamedly take their place along side those who have claimed the name Baptist.

#### **II. Course Objectives**

1. To give the student a clear understanding of our Baptist distinctives and the Scriptural reasons why we have historically adhered to each of them.
2. To give the student a historical appreciation for our heritage as Baptists.
3. To familiarize the student with men and women throughout the centuries that have stayed true to the Baptist distinctives.
4. To prove historically that Baptists are not an off-shoot of the Roman Catholic Church, but have existed in New Testament form since the time of Christ on earth.
5. To show that Baptists have historically kept evangelism and missions as the primary reason for their existence.

#### **III. Course Requirements**

You must listen to all of the lectures on line in their entirety. A test will be given after each even numbered lecture and must be taken before proceeding to the odd numbered lecture. A final examination will follow all of the lectures and will be comprehensive in nature over all of the material.



The book "America in Crimson Red" must be read in its entirety. Following the syllabus you will find essay questions that must be answered and turned in as you read this book.

Each question should be re-typed along with the answer. These questions must be turned in prior to taking the final examination.

A 750 word paper will also be turned in prior to the final examination in which you will choose one of the Baptists mentioned in the book "America in Crimson Red" and write a sketch of his or her life using at least one other source. This paper is not limited to, but should include the following information:

Their background and salvation testimony

Their family

Their place and type of ministry (Evangelist, Pastor, Missionary, etc.)

The reason for their prominence as a Baptist

How their life spoke to you personally

#### **IV. Grading**

Your grade will consist of the tests, two projects, and final examination. Remember, you will get out of this course what you put into it. If you have any difficulties or questions with any of the material or assignments, please contact my secretary at 888-694-9222, extension 181. You can also e-mail me at [john.goetsch@lancasterbaptist.org](mailto:john.goetsch@lancasterbaptist.org)

