



# *Back to Basics – “returning to the simple and most important things”*

*with Derrick Harrison of Edgbaston,*

***Birmingham***

The above dictionary definition expresses perfectly the nature of these radio talks and my intention to teach about the basic character of the Bible, followed by a survey of each book in the Bible. This will be followed by talks on all the important doctrines in the Bible.

## **Projected programme of talks:**

- **the basic and most important characteristics of the Bible**
- **a basic survey of each book in the Old Testament and New Testament.**
- **The basic and most important doctrines of the Bible**

### **1. The basic and most important characteristics of the Bible**

The first talk will be about reading the Bible and I will use this first session to share with you my own journey with the Bible.

I will simply describe the importance of the words of God – (1) His speaking. (2) I will focus on the Word of God who is the Lord Jesus Christ and (3) I will talk about the prophetic word of the Lord. These 3 words are the backbone of the Bible.

The basic key words which describe the important features of the Bible: **authority** (the Bible is God’s word and must be believed and obeyed), **inerrancy** (free from error), **clarity** (easy to understand), **necessity** (to know salvation, to feed the soul, to know God’s will) and **sufficiency** (what God has revealed is sufficient for salvation and everything we need to know).

### **2. A basic survey of each book in the Old Testament and New Testament.**

A library of 66 books (39 in the OT and 26 in the NT). The books are separated into key sections which are classified as:

#### **Old Testament books:**

- 5 Books – Law — Genesis to Deuteronomy
- 12 books – History — Joshua to Nehemiah
- 5 books – Poetry/Wisdom — Job to Song of Solomon
- 17 books – Prophecy — Split between major and minor prophets
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#### **New Testament books:**

- 4 Gospels

- 1 book – History – Acts
- 13 Letters of Paul
- 8 General Letters
- 1 book – apocalyptic – Revelation

We will further refine our library by identify the *genre* of each book e.g. let's take the *genre* which we call “apocalyptic” and in this category we include Zechariah (minor prophet), parts of Daniel and the book of Revelation. We can speak of the *genre* of poetry or history and these tags help us to understand the basic content of each book which helps us in our reading of the Bible.

### **1. The basic and most important doctrines of the Bible**

- God (3 Persons) – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- The person of Jesus Christ
- The personhood (human) of man and woman
- Sin
- Salvation/sanctification
- Church
- Second Coming

Each talk will be accompanied by basic Notes and on occasion a pamphlet in the subject may also be available from Mike's website and my own website.

Further projected talks on Revival and Christian History, Bible characters, and discussion on specific books of the Bible may follow this present series.

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