

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT DISPENSATIONALISM?

Part Four: August 5, 2020

Dispensationalism

- **Definition:**

- A “grid” or _____ of Bible interpretation that says:
 - *“Although God has but one plan of _____, he has had various ways of dealing with man in regard to it, and those over a long period of time....Though God does not change, his _____ often do.”*
Thiessen, Lectures in Systematic Theology, p. 202.
- In short, God has worked with people in different _____ at different _____ to accomplish His sovereign purposes.

Is Dispensationalism Biblical?

- **Dispensation is a good _____ word.**

- Dispensation = “_____, stewardship, administration, management”
- God is unchanging, but His “_____ style” changes from time to time.
- Eph. 1:10: the last dispensation of the _____ state.
- Eph. 3:2: the present dispensation of _____ or the church age.
- Eph. 3:5: other _____ that did not belong to and predated this present dispensation of grace.

What about the Other Dispensations?

- **Each dispensation involves a test, a failure, and a judgment.**

- The test = man’s responsibility to wisely and faithfully _____ God’s revelation
- The failure = man’s _____ of God’s revelation
- The judgment = man’s _____ to God for his stewardship. Afterwards:
 - God makes _____ in the stewardship arrangements.
 - God gives _____ revelation for the new dispensation to follow.

An Overview of Dispensations

- _____ **(before the Fall)**
- _____ **(Fall to Flood)**
- _____ **(Flood to Abraham)**
- _____ **(Abraham to Sinai)**
 - Test: to interact wisely with the family of blessed Abraham
 - Gen. 12:1-3: a blessing for _____ families of the earth
 - Failure: the most powerful nation on earth _____ God’s blessings through Abraham’s family and persecuted his descendants.

- Judgment: the _____ on Egypt
- New revelation: the _____ covenant
- Change in arrangements: Israel in the land, greater accountability for sin through _____

- Rom. 5:13-14: _____
- Gal. 3:17-19: the _____ for the Law

• **Law (Sinai to _____)**

- Test:
 - For Israel: to be a _____ to all nations by wisely stewarding the covenant of God through Moses
 - For others: to respond wisely to the revelation of God through national Israel
 - Deut. 4:5-9: _____
- Failure:
 - Israel failed to _____ the Law, uphold their distinctiveness, and recognize their Messiah.
 - Other nations rejected God's revelation and _____ His people.
 - Deut. 4:23-27: _____
- New revelation:
 - The Mosaic covenant
 - _____ Testament revelation
 - The Person of the _____!
 - John 1:14-18: the revelation of God in human form!
 - Gal. 4:4-5: _____
- Judgments: Babylonian _____, dispersion and _____ of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.
 - Luke 14:34-35: Jerusalem _____
 - Luke 19:41-44: Jerusalem's destruction prophesied
- New revelation:
 - The gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit
 - John 16:13: _____
 - The books of the _____ Testament
- Change in arrangements:
 - The _____
 - Eph. 3:5-6: _____
 - The _____ Christ
 - Col. 1:27: _____

- The _____ of the Spirit
- _____ **(Pentecost to Rapture)**
 - Distinctive characteristics:
 - The dispensation of God's _____
 - Heb. 1:1-2: _____
 - In these last days = at the end of these days
 - The dispensation of the Holy Spirit
 - John 16:7: _____
 - The dispensation of the _____
 - Luke 21:24: the "times of the Gentiles"
 - Test: to believe and wisely steward the _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ
 - Matt. 28:18-20: the Great _____
 - Failure: the vast majority are rejecting the gospel
 - Judgment: the _____
 - Rev. 3:10: _____
 - New revelation: Christ _____ on earth!
- _____ **Kingdom (Rev. 20)**
 - Change in arrangements:
 - An _____ kingdom ruled by Christ
 - Jer. 23:5: _____
 - Perfectly _____ government
 - Rev. 19:15: _____
 - A thousand-year administration involving Resurrected _____
 - Rev. 20:4-6: _____
 - The best time ever to live on Earth since the Fall
 - World _____
 - Partial rollback of the _____
 - Restored human longevity
 - No temptation from _____ or the world system
 - Israel _____ and thriving in their land
 - Global _____ at Jerusalem
 - Test: to respond wisely to the personal revelation and rule of Christ as the righteous King of Kings over all the earth
 - Failure: The vast majority of people will _____ Christ and follow Satan at the end.
 - Rev. 4:7-10: _____

- Judgment: devouring _____ from heaven, Great _____
Throne judgment, lake of fire
- Change of arrangements: _____ heaven and earth, New Jerusalem

- _____ **State (Rev. 21-22)**

- Eph. 1:10: _____
- New revelation: access to God's _____
 - Rev. 22:3-4: _____

Application

- **How do we respond to the _____ we have been given?**

- Luke 12:47-48: _____
