SECOND YEAR

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| **DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH** |
| Seven Dispensations of History |

TEXTBOOK

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| Dispensational Truth |
| Seven Dispensations of History |

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# Introduction to Dispensational Truth

*“Dispensation”* is a word that appears in the Bible four times, all in the N.T.

(I Cor. 9:17; Eph. 1:10; 3:2; Col. 1:25)

But its Greek word “oikonomia” can also be found translated as

* “Stewardship” Luke 16:2,3,4.
* “Steward” Luke 12:42; 16:1, 8; 1Cor. 4:1, 2; Titus 1:7; 1Peter 4:10
* “Chamberlain” of the city - Rom. 16:23
* “Governors” - Gal. 4:2

*Dispensationalism* is the interpreting of history as a series of Divine dispensations.

**A dispensation is a period of time during which man’s obedience is tested in respect to some specific revelation of the will of God.**

* What is this class all about?
* Why did God reveal his will gradually?
* Why did God test man diversely?
* What is God’s eternal purpose?

It is the **mercy** of God to reveal His will to man gradually. God did not require of humanity in its infancy what he requires now. After the fall, humanity had the experience with sin to benefit his conscience. He first tested man according to his conscience before he tested him according to the written law. This is both great wisdom and great mercy.

That God might be **just** in eternal judgment, God has provided man with every opportunity and scenario to serve God: Paradise in the Garden, conscience with the experience of what sin does, and even in the millennial reign Christ will literally rule on earth in righteousness. At the end of time, if man still rebels after every opportunity to succeed has been provided, God will be justified in eternal judgment.

Throughout time God has and will deal with man in different ways. The subject of this class “Dispensational Truth” is a study of God’s eternal purpose. Discovery of God’s eternal purpose in all things for humanity and especially His people is the lofty goal of this investigation. We will search out HOW God has dealt with humanity throughout all history and WHY He has chosen to do so.

It is God’s will that man sees things from God’s point of view, but man cannot do this without the Holy Ghost. Each dispensation has a new test that ends in judgment—exposing man’s utter failure in every dispensation. These periods are marked off in Scripture by dealing with man's responsibility to not sin.

I. There Are Seven Dispensations – (Seven Periods of History)

1. Dispensation of Innocence

From the creation of man - to the fall of man

Adam walked with God in the cool of the day and knew God’s will was it was given to him directly from God’s own mouth. He was to hear and obey only God’s very voice. Adam had no firsthand knowledge of what sin does, but had only the Word of God as spoken to him. This was Adam’s one and only test. Then one bite of the forbidden fruit destroyed all such innocence.

Genesis 3:8—*And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.*

2. Dispensation of Conscience (Knowledge)

From the fall of man - to the flood

Genesis 6:5—*And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

3. Dispensation of Human Government (Self - will)

From the flood - to the call of Abram

4. Dispensation of Promise

From the call of Abram - to Moses

5. Dispensation of Law

From Moses - to the cross

6. Dispensation of Grace

From the cross - to the return of Christ

7. Dispensation of Righteousness (Millennium)

From the return of Christ - to the New Heavens and Earth

II. There Are Three Main Periods of History - (or Ages)

An age is the period of time from one marked or violent change in the earth to another marked change involving the earth’s inhabitants.

1. Antediluvian Age - A period of time before the Flood

2. Present Age - From the Flood to the Millennial reign of Christ

3. Age to Come - From the Millennial reign to New Heavens and New Earth

III. There Are Seven Phases of The one Earth -

1. Original Earth -

Gen. 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

2. Chaotic Earth -

Gen. 1:2 “And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness

was upon the face of the deep.”

Hebrew - “Bohuw” - empty, ruin, void

3. Edenic Earth -

Gen. 1:3 - 2:25 The Recreated Earth to the Fall of Man. Gen. 3

4. Antediluvian Earth -

Gen. 1:3 The Recreated Earth to the Flood. Gen. 6-7

5. Present Earth -

Gen. 8 From the Flood to the Second Advent of Christ.

6. Millennial Earth -

From the Second Advent of Christ to the end of the Millennial Reign of Christ. Rev. 20:1-6

7. New Heaven and New Earth -

Rev. 21:1 “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first

heaven and the first earth were passed away;”

Prophecy reveals the plan of God for the overcoming life of the Church but the whole church won’t listen, some will be changed through obeying the Word as revealed and rewarded or through His providential care without the same rewards.

I Cor. 15:26, 38, 42-58; II Cor. 5:17; Mat. 16:16-19; Heb.2:10; 7:25; Eph. 4:24; Phil. 3:20-21; Col. 3:10

IV. Three Features of the Earth

1. The Original Earth - Gen. 1:1

(1) No time element

(2) Created by His Word

(Psa. 33:6-9; 148:5; Jn. 1:1-3; Heb. 1:2-3)

(3) Geologists explore and speculate on fossil remains,

but we have God’s sure Word. (Psa. 27:14; Heb. 11:3)

(4) Created after the Heavens (Gen. 1:1; Job 38:1-4,6,7; Col. 1:16)

2. The Chaotic Earth - Gen. 1:2

(1) Scripture speaks of angels and authorities

Eph. 1:21; 3:10 I Peter 3:22

* Original creation was inhabited
* Lucifer was its ruler - Isa. 14:12-16; Eze. 28:11-17
* He was created - vs. 15
* He was anointed - vs. 14
* He was perfect - vs. 15
* His sin - Pride - Eze. 28:17 Isa. 14:12-13
* The effects of Lucifer’s sin - Rev. 12:4-9

(2) In Judging Lucifer God judged his kingdom

Gen. 1:2 The Earth was <Hyah “became”> formless and void <“Tohu and Bohu”> (Jer 4:23)

3. The Recreated Earth - Gen. 1:3-25

1. It covered six days

Six is the number of man

1. First day - Light

Gen. 1:3-5

1. Second day - Firmament formed

Gen. 1:6-8

1. Third day - Dry land, Vegetation

Gen. 1:9-13

1. Fourth day - Solar light

Gen. 1:14-19

1. Fifth day - Fish, Fowl

Gen. 1:20-23

1. Sixth day - Animals, Man

Gen. 1:26-31

V. From Eternity to Eternity -

1. The Eternal God -

Psa. 90:2 Psa. 93:2 Micah 5:2 Rev. 1:11

2. Three Divine Persons and yet one God - I John 5:7

The Father testified of the Son - Matt 3:17

The Son testified of the Father - John 5:19

The Son testified of the Spirit - John 14:26

The Spirit testified of the Son - John 15:26

3. Proofs from Creation -

(1) The Universe- a single spoken sentence.

-- The Universe: *Space*, *Matter*, *Time* --

(a) Space has three dimensions -

(b) Time has three parts - Future, Present, Past

(c) Matter has three parts - Energy, Motion, Phenomena

(2) Water is one, known in three forms - Liquid, Ice, Steam

(3) Sun is one - Light, Heat, Fire

(4) Light has three rays -

Chemical rays - these rays are invisible and can neither be

felt or seen

Light rays - these rays can be seen but are never felt

Heat rays - these rays are felt but never seen

4. The Eternal Purpose Originated From God -

He is the Source of all that exists outside of Himself. Everything

arose through His will and lives by reason of His creative

energies. Acts 17:24,28

5. The One Eternal Purpose -

Eph. 3:11

It is imperative for us to see how all that the Eternal God has desired, purposed, and intended becomes the key of understanding what He ultimately intends. Rom. 8:29

6. Three Ultimate Themes to His Eternal Purpose

(1) Revelation -

Revelation of the Father - who He is - what He desires -

what He intends.

(2) Redemption -

Of all things to God’s ultimate desire.

The whole of God’s purpose rather than a part.

(3) Realization -

Of all that God originally purposed and bringing to pass

His eternal purpose.

7. Three Ultimate Ministries of the Son -

(1) From the Fall to the Cross

We see an altar

He holds the office of Prophet

(2) From the Cross to the Second Coming

We see a table

He holds the office of Priest

(3) From the Second Coming to Eternity

We see a throne

He holds the office of King

## Study Questions 1: Introduction

1. What is a dispensation?

A dispensation is a period of time during which man is tested in respect to obedience to some specific revelation of the will of God.

1. How many dispensations are there? There are seven dispensations.
2. Name the dispensations.
   1. Dispensation of Innocence
   2. Dispensation of Conscience
   3. Dispensation of Human Government (Self-will)
   4. Dispensation of Promise
   5. Dispensation of Law
   6. Dispensation of Grace
   7. Dispensation of Righteousness)
3. What are the three main periods of history?
   1. Antediluvian Age
   2. Present Age
   3. Age to Come
4. What is an age?

An age is the period of time from one marked or violent change in the earth to another marked change involving the earth’s inhabitants.

1. Name the seven phases of the earth.
   1. Original Earth
   2. Chaotic Earth
   3. Edenic Earth
   4. Antediluvian Earth
   5. Present Earth
   6. Millennial Earth
   7. New Heaven and New Earth
2. What does the Hebrew word “tohuw” mean?

to lie waste; a desolation (of surface), i.e. desert; figuratively, a worthless thing; adverbially, in vain:--confusion, empty place, without form, nothing, (thing of) nought, vain, vanity, waste, wilderness.

1. What does the Hebrew word “bohuw” mean?

(meaning to be empty); a vacuity, i.e. (superficially) an ndistinguishable ruin:--emptiness, void

1. Give scripture to prove the triunity of God.

I John 5:7; Matthew 3:17; John 5:19; John 14:26; John 15:26

1. Using something from creation, illustrate the triunity of God?

i.e., The Universe – Space, Matter, Time

1. What are the three themes to God’s eternal purpose?
   1. Revelation
   2. Redemption
   3. Realization
2. What are the three ministries of the Son?
   1. The ministry of Prophet
   2. The ministry of Priest
   3. The ministry of King
3. Tell what God did on the first day of Re-Creation. God created light – Genesis 1:3-5
4. Tell what God did on the third day of Re-Creation. God created Dry land, Vegetation
5. Tell What God did on the sixth day of Re-Creation. Created the Animals and Man.

# I. Dispensation of Innocence

* The Antediluvian Age (the first of the three Ages) extends from the Re-Creation of the earth, Gen. 1:3, to the flood.
* In this Age are 2 of the Seven Dispensations - The Dispensation of Innocence and The Dispensation of Conscience.

1. The Dispensation of Innocence or Edenic Dispensation

extends from the creation of Man to the expulsion from the

Garden. Its duration is unknown.

2. Man was created by God. Gen. 2:7; Isa. 42:5; Isa. 45:12

3. Man was created in Innocence. Gen. 1:27; Gen. 2:25

4. Man was blessed and commanded by God to do something. 1:28

5. Man was placed in a perfect environment.

Eden in the Hebrew means “a delight” Gen. 2:8-15

6. God planted the Garden.

Gen. 2:8 God commanded man to “dress it and keep it.” Gen. 2:15

7. Man was given one test of obedience. Gen. 2:16-17

The meaning of the term “free moral agent”: *the right to choose*. Created in the image of God, Adam had gone against his own nature when he sinned and lost his liberty in choosing sin. Choosing righteousness brings liberty, but choosing sin brings bondage. Under sin, even the free moral agency of man is taken hostage for in sin man is a slave to sin. (Romans 7:14-17; 2 Timothy 2:26) Man’s free moral agency is only completely intact when he chooses to serve Christ.

8. The Temptation, Test Gen. 3:1-5

(1) Satan was the source of the temptation.

Gen. 3:1 James 1:12-15

God allowed the temptation but did not bring it.

(2) Satan has the power to tempt, but he cannot force to fail.

Gen. 3:6

(3) Satan who is the father of lies uses lies to deceive.

Gen. 3:4

(4) There were three areas of temptation.

a. “The lust of the flesh;”

“The tree was good for food.” Gen. 3:6

b. “The lust of the eye;”

“It was pleasant to the eyes.”

“Delight”

c. “The pride of life;”

“Desired to make one wise.”

Jesus was tempted in all points without sin. Matt. 4:1-11

How did Jesus overcome the temptation?

-By the written Word - vs. 4,7,10

How does the believer overcome? –

Rev. 12:11—*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

2Cor. 6:7—*By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,*

(5) Satan’s purpose in the temptation was to spoil God’s

purpose in the creation of man to repopulate the earth

with a holy race.

(6) In yielding to the temptation and to disobedience it destroyed their innocence and put fear in their heart and broke fellowship with God. This took them from the state of innocence to self-consciousness. Now man knows what sin is and he hides from the presence of the Lord

9. Innocence is one step from righteousness but it cannot become righteousness until tested. Adam and Eve failed the test and the one step from innocence became the one step to sin, and self-consciousness.

10. There was no opportunity for justification for the serpent. vs. 14

11. The First Dispensation (Innocence) ended in judgment and expulsion. The Edenic Dispensation was unique. Characterized by the absence of sin - the presence of God.

Men claim that innocence and a perfect environment are enough of a safe-guard to prevent sin but Eden proves this is not true. Man sinned while enjoying a state of utter innocence and a perfect environment. Man can only overcome sin through the grace of God.

## Study Questions 2: Innocence

1. What was the first Dispensations?

The Dispensation of Innocence was the first dispensation.

1. What period of time does the Antediluvian Age cover?

The Antediluvian Age covers from the Re-creation of the earth to the flood.

1. What period of time does the first Dispensation cover?

The Dispensation of Innocence covers from the creation of Man to the expulsion from the Garden.

1. What state was man created in?

Man was created in Innocence.

1. What was man commanded to do in Genesis 1:28?

Man was commanded to …Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth… in Genesis 1:28.

1. What was the environment the man was in?

It was a perfect environment.

1. What does Eden mean in Hebrew?

pleasure:--delicate, delight, pleasure. See also 1040.

1. What was man commanded to do to the garden?

Man was commanded …to dress it and to keep it…

1. What was man tested on?

Man was tested on obedience to not eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil as the Lord commaned.

1. What is the meaning of Free Moral Agent?

The meaning of the term “free moral agent” is the right to choose.

1. What was the source of the temptation?

Satan was the source of the temptation.

1. What does Satan use lies to do?

Satan uses lies to deceive us.

1. What were the three areas of temptation?
2. “The lust of the flesh”
3. “The lust of the eye”
4. “The pride of life”

*Study Questions 2: Innocence,* continued

1. How did Jesus overcome the temptation?

Jesus overcame the temptation by the written word.

1. What was Satan’s purpose in the temptation?

Satan’s purpose in the temptation was to spoil God’s purpose in the creation of man to repopulate the earth with a holy race.

1. What was destroyed in man in yielding to the temptation?

Their innocence was destroyed in yielding to the temptation.

1. What makes innocence righteousness?

The test makes innocence righteousness.

1. What did man become conscious of when he failed the test?

When man failed the test he became self-conscious, and aware of his sin.

1. What did the first Dispensation end in?

The First Dispensation (Innocence) ended in judgment and expulsion.

1. What was the Edonic Dispensation characterized by?

The Edenic Dispensation was characterized by the absence of sin & the presence of God.

BONUS: What can we conclude after man sinned while enjoying a state of utter innocence and a perfect environment?

Innocence and a perfect environment are not enough of a safe-guard to prevent sin. Man’s needs the grace of God to overcome sin.

# II. Dispensation of Conscience

### From the expulsion from Eden to the Flood.

### Man, as a result of the Fall, lost his “God-consciousness” and was now to be governed by his own “self-consciousness” the results of his “eyes being opened”. Conscience produces fear and remorse, but it cannot keep men from doing wrong, for conscience imparts no power.

### Man had a most favorable beginning in this age.

### He had the promise of the curse being lifted. However 1536 years later according to Gen. 6:11-13 the earth was corrupt and filled with violence.

### Adam and Eve had no children before the fall.

### The number of their family must have been large. Gen. 5:3,4

#### The three sons that are recorded -

##### Cain - means acquired or getting

##### Abel - means - vapor or vanity

##### Seth - means - appointed or replacing

#### Cain and Abel are representatives of the two opposing forces in the world today.

* 1. Faith - Abel, being the righteous. Heb. 11:4
  2. Religious - Cain, being the evil. I John 3:12

#### Cain and Abel offered sacrifices -

##### Cain brought a sacrifice of fruit (Gen. 4:3) From the cursed ground

##### Abel brought a sacrifice of blood - vs 4

“Without the shedding of blood there is no remission.” (Heb. 9:22; 11:4, 6)

4. The First-Fruits of the Fall -

##### There is a fixed principle in Gal. 6:7-8; 5:19-21 fulfilled in Gen. 4:8

##### Cain becomes the first murderer as well as the first son.

##### The principle of sin and Satan’s kingdom at work from the beginning. Pride - Jealousy - Division – Death

##### Satan’s desire to destroy Abel was to destroy the Promised Seed. Gen. 3:15

##### The Way of Cain - Gen. 4:11-16 Jude 11. The way of Cain was his own way. Today they have a group called “The Way”.

##### Cain in going his own way went to the Land of Nod. Gen. 4:16 Means wandering - fugitive - the results of going your own way.

5. The Product of Sin - Gen. 4:16-24

These were signs of the times. Solomon wrote, “there is no new thing under the sun” Ecc. 1:9 Knowledge without God can only produce a “god-less” civilization.

(1) vs. 17 “Enoch” means dedicated

“He builded a city and called the name of the city”

Enoch - “dedicated” to sin. / A sign - “City building”

(2) vs. 18 “Irad” means “fugitive” (Dan. 12:4)

Sin produces wanderers. / Another sign - “Wanderers, travelers”

(3) vs. 18 “Mehujael” means grief of God (Heb. 10:22)

Sin is a grief to God. / Another sign -This generation is a grief.

Sin ALWAYS is a grief to God. Hebrews 10:22 expresses the importance of being clean before God. Because of their sin, this generation was a grief to God.

(4) vs. 18 “Methusael” means “death from God”

Sin when it is finished brings death. (James 1:15)

Another sign - Infirmity and death.

“As it was, so shall it be.” (Matt. 24:37) Our hospitals and jails are always overflowing and constantly in need of expansion. We find cots in hospital corridors and jail houses over populated. We cannot expect God to bless when we are disobedient. (i.e., withholding tithes, Mal. 3:8)

(5) vs. 18,19 “Lamech” means “wild man” overthrower

Sin makes psychopaths (Mark 5) - First Polygamist

ANOTHER SIGN-The Number one sickness is mental illness.

Mental illnesses, in general, are more common than cancer, diabetes, or heart disease. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 1 in every 4 people, or 25% per cent of individuals, develops one or more mental disorders at some stage in life. Today, 450 million people globally suffer from mental disorders. Of these, 154 million suffer from depression and 25 million from schizophrenia.[[1]](#footnote-0)

“Psychopathy’s symptoms include a lack of conscience, a disregard for social norms, and a disturbing absence of empathy. They appear to be "wearing a mask," or simply "going through the motions," copying what they observe because they have no real feelings of their own to draw upon.”[[2]](#footnote-1) A report by the American Psychiatric Association in 2000 suggested 3% of men are psychopathic while 1% of woman are. That is 18 million men world-wide and 6 million woman! We do not know exactly how many individuals are psychopathic; however, most experts testify to a rise in the prevalence of psychopathy and that is why some claim that numbers are higher. Dr. Ronald Black claims that psychopathy leads in commonality right behind depression, along with schizophrenia and borderline personality disorder.

ALSO—The Breakdown of marriage.

Marriage appears to have lost its sacredness to the majority of people including Christians. Actor Clint Eastwood epitomized a common feeling toward marriage when he said, “They say marriages are made in Heaven, but so is thunder and lightning.” There is in fact no “perfect marriage”, but it said that so many people do not make things work. God hates putting away (Malachi 2:16) and the ones that suffer most are the children. Andre Maurois spoke more tenderly about marriage, “A happy marriage is a long conversation which always seems too short.”

50% of marriages end in divorce. One of the leading cause of divorce is adultery. A poll[[3]](#footnote-2) of 150,000 women was conducted and the result was that –

* Almost 55% women had caught their spouse committing adultery red-handed
* About 36% women suspected their spouse of adultery
* 7 % women were of the opinion that their spouse had never cheated them

A poll of 8,495 women was executed and this resulted as under –

* 19% of the women were of the opinion that adultery is immoral and hence they would not do it
* 45% of the women were ready for adultery, if they could get away with it

The family as God ordained it is heavily under attack—one man, one woman. Even though the majority of people polled[[4]](#footnote-3) strongly oppose same-sex marriage, the trend has been that the number of people in favor of same-sex marriage has increased at least 1% annually the last 20 years. If this trend holds true, the majority of Americans will be in favor of same-sex marriage by 2012-14.

(6) vs. 20 “Jabal” means “wanderer”

Nomad “such as dwell in tents”; Rancher “and of such as have cattle”; Another sign - Agriculture, Cattle, Farming

(7) vs. 21 “Jubal” means “Music” constant stream

“The father of all such as handle the harp and organ.”

Another sign - A constant stream of music.

Music is called the universal language. The more universally corrupt mankind becomes, the more corrupt his music becomes. Popular artists sell albums by the millions singing about violence, suicide, hate, nudity and perversion. *Backmasking* and subliminal messaging declare messages like “my sweet lord satan” (Led Zeppelin, *Stairway to Heaven*) as people dance to the rhythms.

(8) vs. 22 “Tubal-cain” means “Flowing forth in Cain”

“An instructor of every artificer in brass and iron;”

A metal worker, weapons

Another sign - The most deadly weapons.

(9) vs. 23 Lamech became a murderer.

Unborn - New Born - Homicide - Suicide - Genocide - Matricide - Patricide

6. Gen. 5 deals with the genealogy of the patriarchs from Adam until Noah.

##### Reveals also the confirmation of the curse. “And he died”

##### Enoch was the one exception to the rule. Gen. 5:21-24; Heb. 11:5

##### Enoch means dedicated, instructed, disciplined, initiated, acquainted with mystery or secrets.

##### Enoch was the seventh from Adam. He was translated during the time of his father Jared. Enoch walked with God after the Revelation.

##### Enoch is a type of the Bride – Overcomer; Translated before the Judgment.

##### Methuselah is a type of the Church - His name is a compound Hebrew word - “When he is gone it will come”; He lived until the time of the Flood. vs. 25 187 years vs. 28 182 Chpt. 7:6 600; From Methuselah’s birth to the Flood was 969 years; Methuselah lived 969 years - Chpt. 5:27 He was a sign.

##### Noah is a type of the saved, preserved through the Judgment.

7. Gen. 6 reveals the rapid increase of evil.

(1) vs. 2 reveals a cause for this condition.

“Sons of God saw” “the daughters of men” “that they were fair” “they took them wives”“of all which they chose” Deut. 7:1-4 I Kings 11:1-4 Ezra 9:1-3 II Cor. 6:14

(2) Who are the Sons of God referred to in vs. 2 -

1. Some believe “sons of Seth” - Chpt. 4:26

This seems to place the reference in chapter 4 in a completely different light than its context does. As we read 4:26, we know a ‘positive’ change took place after Seth begat Enos—*then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.*. The “Sons of God” were not a positive influence, but a negative one.

1. Some believe fallen angels - Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7

The problem with this interpretation is that Angels have no seed with which to reproduce. They are a spiritual creation.

1. Some believe Demon Possessed Men

It is most probable that Demons could have possessed men who had relations with the “daughters of men” who conceived giants.

Because of the evil spiritual influence of the fallen angels upon these men, they could have caused the woman to conceive an offspring of grotesque or even exceptional qualities such as the Nephilim in Genesis 6:4. The *Nephilim* were giants and the word *nephilim* comes from the root Naphol *feller; tyrant; bully; cause to fall.* (Num. 13:33)

(3) The results of this union- Gen. 6:4-6

(4) God’s reaction to this godless civilization.

vs. 6 “repented” “grieved”

vs. 7 “I will destroy”

8. The Flood -

(1) God warned the people of judgment.

Gen. 6:7 II Peter 2:5 Jude 14,15; Matt. 24:38-39 Luke 17:27

(2) Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came. Gen. 7:6

(3) Those that entered the ark with Noah. Gen. 7:2; 7:13

(4) God shut the door of the ark - Gen. 7:16

(5) There was a period of grace seven days after Noah entered the ark before God closed the door. Gen. 7:7-10

(6) It rained for forty days and forty nights - Gen. 7:12

(7) The waters prevailed upon the earth for a period of an

hundred and fifty days. Gen. 7:24

(8) God dried up the waters with a wind - Gen. 8:1

(9) Noah knew the waters were abated from the earth when

the dove returned with an olive leaf. Gen. 8:11

9. The Dispensation of Conscience ended in judgment -

Jesus said - *As it was, so shall it be* Matt. 24:37

(1) Enoch translated before the flood

(2) Methuselah removed just before the flood

(3) Noah preserved through the flood

(4) Judgment on the ungodly

## Study Questions 3: Conscience

1. What period of time did the Dispensation of Conscience cover?

The Dispensation of Conscience covered from the expulsion from Eden to the Flood.

1. What did man lose as a result of his fall?

Man, lost as a result of his fall, his “God-consciousness”.

1. Why could not the conscience keep man from doing wrong?

The conscience could not keep man from doing wrong because the conscience imparts no power.

1. What kind of a beginning did man have?

Man had a most favorable beginning in this age.

1. What happened to the earth in Gen. 6:11-13?

The earth became corrupt and filled with violence.

1. Who were the sons of Adam and Eve that were recorded?

The sons of Adam and Eve that were recorded were Cain, Abel, and Seth.

1. What is the meaning of their names?

Cain – means acquired or getting

Abel – means vapor or vanity

Seth – means appointed or replacing

1. What were the sacrifices that Cain and Abel offered?

Cain offered a sacrifice of fruit and Abel offered a sacrifice of blood.

1. Why did Satan want to destroy Abel?

Satan wanted to destroy the Promised Seed.

1. What does knowledge without God produce?

Knowledge without God can only produce a “god-less” civilization.

1. What does Gen. 5 deal with?

Gen. 5 deals with the genealogy of the patriots from Adam until Noah.

1. What rule was Enoch an exception to?

Enoch was an exception to the rule of death.

1. What does Enoch mean?

Enoch means dedicated, instructed, disciplined, initiated, acquainted with mystery or secrets.

1. How far was Enoch from Adam?

Enoch was the seventh from Adam.

*Study Questions 3: Conscience,* continued

1. What is Enoch a type of?

Enoch is a type of the Bride – Overcomer.

1. What is Methuselah a type of?

Methuselah is a type of the Church.

1. What is Noah a type of?

Noah is a type of the saved, preserved through Judgment.

1. What does Gen. 6 reveal?

Gen. 6 reveal the rapid increase of evil.

1. Who are the Sons of God referred to in Gen. 6:2?

The “sons of Seth”, possibly possessed by demons.

1. What was God’s reaction to this godless civilization?

God’s reaction to this godless civilization was repented, grieved, and I will destroy.

1. How old was Noah when the flood came?

Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came.

1. Who entered the ark with Noah?

Seven of every clean beast, male and female, and two of every unclean beast, male and female, and Shem, Ham, Japheth, their wives, and Noah’s wife.

1. Who shut the door of the ark? God shut the door of the ark.
2. How long did it rain? It rained for forty days and forty nights.
3. How long did the waters prevail?

The waters prevailed upon the earth for a hundred and fifty days.

1. How did God dry up the waters? God dried up the waters with a wind.
2. How did Noah know the waters were abated from the earth?

God knew the waters were abated from the earth when the dove returned with an olive leaf.

1. Where did the ark come to rest?

The ark came to rest upon the mountains of Ararat.

1. What did Noah send forth from the ark first?

Noah sent forth from the ark first a raven.

1. What did the Dispensation of Conscience end in?

The Dispensation of Conscience ended in judgment.

# III. Dispensation of Human Government

* From the flood to the dispersion at Babel.
* A period of 427 years - Gen. 8:15-11:9
* The Antediluvian Age is the time before the flood.
* The Postdiluvian Age is the time after the flood. It embraces four dispensations – Human Government → Promise → Law → Grace
  + It extends from the Flood to the Millennium.

### The Beginning of Human Government Gen. 8:15-11:9

The Deluge lasted 1 year and 10 days, Noah was 601 years old when the dispensation of Human Government began. God gave them a new start.

#### God commanded Noah after the Flood to “Go forth from the ark” - “Be fruitful and multiply.” Gen. 8:16-17

#### Noah’s first act upon leaving the ark -“builded an altar unto the Lord.” vs. 20

#### God made a covenant with Noah - That He would not destroy the earth again with a flood. vs. 21-22 Chp. 9:8-11

#### God gave the rainbow in the clouds as a sign of the Covenant. vs. 12-17

### God’s Commands Under Human Government

#### “Replenish the earth” Gen. 9:1

#### Everything to fear Noah Vs. 2

#### Could not eat meat Vs. 3

#### Blood was forbidden to be eaten Vs. 4

#### Capital punishment required Vs. 5,6

### Noah’s Action Under Self-Government

#### Became a farmer & Planted a Vineyard Vs. 20

#### Became drunk Vs. 21

#### “Uncovered” from his drunkenness Vs. 21

#### This proves that man cannot govern himself. Gen. 6:9 & 9:21.

#### The best of men have evil in their heart. Human frailty needs the grace of God.

#### Sin influences sin Vs. 22

#### Ham’s sin was two-fold

#### What he did to his father - vs. 24

#### Told his brothers - vs. 22

#### Indication of God’s Grace Vs. 24

#### “Noah awoke” No record that Noah ever got drunk again. Eze. 14:14

### Noah’s Prophecy – Genesis 9

This prophecy was not in anger but history reveals that Noah was God inspired.

#### A curse on Canaan - vs. 25

##### Canaan was Ham’s son - upon which the curse was placed.

##### The curse was that Canaan was to be a servant.

##### Canaan means - subjection, the greatest abasement.

##### “Ham - “Niger” - black, crafty

##### The sons of Ham. Gen. 10:6

###### Cush - Ethiopians

###### Also father of Nimrod - Gen. 10:8-10. His name means “Rebel”

###### Mizraim - Egypt

###### Phut - Libyans

###### Canaan - Canaanites

#### The prophecy on Japheth – v. 27

##### Japheth means “beautiful”

##### Japheth was the father of the Gentiles

##### “God shall enlarge Japheth”

##### They, as a people, spread out everywhere.

##### “He shall dwell in the tents of Shem”

##### This is a prophecy for the Gentiles that they shall receive Christ.

“And Canaan shall be his servant.” It was the Gentile nations that traded in slaves.

The Sons of Japheth - Gen. 10:2:

***Son******Nations******Settled***

Gomer Russians Russia (North)

Magog Seythians Europe (Southern)

Madai Media Iran

Taram Greeks Greece

Tubal Iberians Europe

Meshech Iberians Europe

Tiras Asiatic Italy, Spain, Egypt

#### The Prophecy on Shem Gen. 9:26

##### The blessing of Shem

##### “Shem” means eminency, renown, fame Psa. 144:15

##### The Father of the Jews

##### The Sons of Shem - Gen. 10:21-22:

***Son******Nations******Settled***

Elam Persians East of the Tigris

Asshur Assyrians Syria

Arphaxad Cheldians Persia

Lud Lydians Lydia

Aram Aramaenians Mesopotamia

### The Rebellion at Babel

#### In Gen. 9:1 God told Noah and his sons to replenish the earth.

#### 

#### In Gen. 10:32 the earth was divided into nations after the flood.

#### In Gen. 11:1 they were in rebellion to God’s plan.

#### In Gen. 11:7-9 the Lord brought judgment upon them.

#### “Confounded their language.” “Scattered them abroad.”

#### The dispensation of Human Government, as the dispensations before, end in judgment.

## Study Questions 4: Human Government

1. What period of time did the Dispensation of Human Government cover?

The Dispensation of Human Government covered from the flood to the dispersion of Babel.

1. Name the four Dispensations that the Post Diluvian Age covers.

The Post Diluvian Age covers the Human Government, Promise, Law, and Grace Dispensations.

1. How long did the Deluge last?

The Deluge lasted 1 year and 10 days.

1. What was God’s command after the flood?

God’s command after the flood was to “Go forth from the ark” and “Be fruitful and multiply”.

1. What was Noah’s first act upon leaving the Ark?

Noah’s first act upon leaving the Ark was that he “built an alter unto the Lord”.

1. What was the covenant that God made with Noah?

The covenant that God made with Noah was – That He would not destroy the earth again with a flood.

1. What was the sign of the covenant?

The sign of the covenant was a rainbow.

1. Under Human Government what could man now eat?

“Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you” was what man could now eat.

1. What was man forbidden to eat?

Blood was forbidden to be eaten.

1. What was Noah’s vocation after the flood?

Noah’s vocation after the flood was a farmer.

1. What did Noah do after he planted a vineyard?

Noah became drunken after he planted a vineyard.

1. What does this prove concerning man governing himself?

This proves that man cannot govern himself.

1. What does human frailty need?

Human frailty need the Grace of God.

*Study Questions 4: Human Government,* continued

1. What was the two-fold nature of Ham’s sin?

The two-fold nature of Ham’s sin was what he did to his father and that he told his brothers.

1. What was the curse put upon Canaan?

The curse was that Canaan was to be a servant.

1. Who were the sons of Ham?

The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Phut, and Canaan.

1. Who was Japheth the father of?

Japheth was the father of the Gentiles.

1. What was the prophecy concerning Japheth?

The prophecy concerning Japheth was that, “God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant”.

1. Who was Shem the father of?

Shem was the father of Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram.

1. What was God’s command to Noah after the flood?

God’s command to Noah after the flood was to replenish the earth.

1. What happened to the earth after the flood?

After the flood the earth was divided into nations.

1. What was the rebellion at Babel?

The rebellion at Babel was that they were trying to build a tower to reach the heaven, so that they could basically take over God position.

1. What were they in rebellion to?

They were in rebellion to God’s plan.

1. What was the judgment brought upon them?

The judgment brought upon them was that the Lord “Confounded their language” and “Scattered them abroad”.

1. What did the Dispensation of Human Government end in?

The Dispensation of Human Government ended in judgment.

# IV. Dispensation of Promise

* From the call of Abraham to the Exodus.
* The Dispensation of Promise was 430 years duration.
* This dispensation is also called the Patriarchal Dispensation.

This Dispensation gets its name from the promise made to Abraham and his seed. In our last study Nimrod had introduced idolatry at Babel. This resulted in God confusing the people with language that they could not understand. This was the beginning of Pagan religion. Nimrod, it is believed, worshipped his mother as queen of heaven.

The Apostle Paul, speaks of the pagan world in Romans, Chapter one. They “changed the incorruptible God knot an image made like man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things.” Vs. 23

Deities of human form were worshipped in Greece, those of bestial form in Egypt; and both methods of worship were practiced in Rome. Serpent worship was common in Chaldea and also in Egypt.

The people of Abram’s day, had became so evil minded God singled out one man through which He could bring forth the promised seed.

1. The history of Abraham’s Life - Gen. 11:10-25:11

(1) God referred to Himself as the God of Abraham. Gen. 26:24

(2) God also referred to Abraham as His friend. Isa. 41:8; James 2:23

(3) Abraham is considered the father of three religions of today, Judaism, Christianity and Mohammedism.

(a) Through Isaac - the Jewish religion

(b) Through Ishmael - The Mohammed religion

(c) Through Christ ( the seed of Abraham) the Christian religion. Rom. 4:11 Gal. 3:7

(4) Abraham lived in genealogy “halfway” between Adam and Christ.

2. The call of Abraham

Gen. 12:1-3 Acts 7:1-8

(1) Where did Abraham live? Gen. 11:31

(2) What do we know of the city and the religious background? Joshua 24:2 Heathen country - they worshipped the moon god.

(3) What was God’s command? Gen. 12:1 “Get thee out”

(4) What was God’s promise to obedience? Vs. 2 “I will bless thee”

(5) What two symbols was Abraham recognized by?

(a) An altar - Gen. 12:7, 8 Gen. 13:4,18 Gen. 22:9

(b) A tent -; Heb. 11:9 A temporary dwelling –

Looking for a city.

3. The Land

Gen. 12:1 “Get thee out...unto a land”

For God’s peculiar people there was a peculiar place. It has been said that the Jew is the miracle of history and Canaan is marvel of geography.

(1) It is located between the Euphrates and Nile river valleys.

It was on the international trade routes between Egypt and Mesopotamia.

It is known as a land bridge between the north and the south.

(2) It’s size - Dan to Beersheba - 155 miles long, 55 miles wide.

(3) It’s climate - has two seasons, wet and dry

Early or former rains in November and the Latter rains in April.

(4) It’s production - Deut. 8:7-9 Deut. 32:13

The Dead Sea area contains a tremendous wealth of

minerals. It has been estimated that the chemical wealth of this area is worth $1,267,000,000,000. Russia’s ambition through the centuries has been to conquer this land. Does obedience to the will of God mean that there are no trials? Gen. 13:14-18

4. The Abrahamic Covenant

Gen. 13:14-17 Gen. 15:5 Gen. 17:4-8

(1) Seed shall be as dust of the earth

(2) Stars of the sky

(3) Father of many nations

5. The Promised Son - Isaac

(1) Abraham was a hundred years old when Isaac was born. Gen.17:17

(2) What was Abraham’s reaction to the promise of a son?

Gen. 17:17

(3) What was Sarah’s reaction to the promise of a son?

Gen. 18:12-15

(4) What does Isaac mean?

Laughter

6. Abraham sent his servant to get a wife for Isaac.

Gen. 24:4

(1) Who was the girl? Gen. 24:24

(2) What did her name mean?

To ensnare by beauty.

(3) How old was Isaac when he married Rebecca?

Gen. 25:20

(4) What was unusual about Rebecca being with child?

Gen. 25:23

(5) What are the meanings of the son’s names?

Esau - hairy, rough

Jacob - heel holder, supplanter, trickster

7. Jacob’s sons

(1) Reuben Son of a Vision

(2) Simeon Gracious hearing

(3) Levi Joined

(4) Judah Praising

(5) Dan A Judge

(6) Naphtali Wrestling

(7) Gad A Troop

(8) Asher Blessed

(9) Issachar A Reward

(10) Zebulun Desired

(11) Joseph Added

(12) Benjamin Son of the Right Hand

8. The rest of Genesis is concerned with Joseph who is a type of Christ.

(1) The object of his father’s love Gen. 37:3

(2) The object of his brother’s hatred Gen. 37:4

(3) Dreams of exaltation Gen. 37:5-10

(4) Sold into Egypt Gen. 37:12-28

(5) Life in Egypt Gen. 39:1-6

(6) Steps to the throne

Resistance of evil - Gen. 39:7-9

Divinely favored - Gen. 39:21

Providential circumstances - Gen. 40:5-8

Honored God - Gen. 41:16

Divine revelation - Gen. 41:25-36

Exalted to the throne - Gen. 41:39-44

(7) A Christ-like spirit

In forgiving his brothers - Gen. 45:15

In returning good for evil - Gen. 50:19-21

## Study Questions 5: Promise

1. What period of time did the Dispensation of Promise cover?

The Dispensation of Promise covered from the call of Abraham to the Exodus.

1. How long a period of time did this Dispensation of Promise cover?

The Dispensation of Promise was 430 years long.

1. From where did this dispensation get its name?

The Dispensation of Promise got its name from the promise made to Abraham and his seed.

1. What did God do to the people at Babel?

God confused the people at Babel with different languages that they could not understand.

1. Into what did the people change the incorruptible God?

They changed the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things.

1. What kind of worship was common in Chaldea and Egypt?

Serpent worship was common in Chaldea and Egypt.

1. What is another name for this dispensation?

Another name for this dispensation is the Patriarchal Dispensation.

1. What did God refer to Abraham as?

God referred to Abraham as His friend.

1. What are the three religions that Abraham is considered to be the father of?
   * The Jewish Religion – Isaac
   * The Mohammed Religion – Ishmael
   * The Christian Religion – through Christ (through the seed of Abraham)
2. Where did Abraham live when God called him?

Abraham lived in Haran.

1. What do we know of the city and their religious background?

We know that it was a heathen background and that they worshipped the moon god.

1. What was God’s command to Abraham?

God’s command to Abraham was “Get you out of your father’s country”.

1. What did God promise if Abraham would obey?

“I will bless thee”

1. What were the two symbols that Abraham was known for?
   * An alter
   * A tent
2. What is said of the Jew in regards to history?

It is said of the Jew that they are the miracle of history.

1. What is the land of Canaan known as?

The land of Canaan is known as a land bridge between the north and the south.

*Study Questions 5: Promise,* continued

1. What is the size of Canaan?

Canaan is from Dan to Beersheba – 155 miles long, 55 miles wide.

1. What were the two seasons?

The two seasons were a wet and dry season (early and the latter rains).

1. What were the three promises of the Abrahamic Covenant?
   * 1. Seed shall be as dust of the earth
     2. Stars of the sky
     3. Father of many nations
2. How old was Abraham when Isaac was born?

Abraham was a hundred years old when Isaac was born.

1. What was Sarah’s reaction to the promise of a son?

Sarah laughed.

1. What does Isaac mean?

Isaac means laughter.

1. Who did Abraham send to get a wife for his son?

Abraham sent his servant

1. What was the girl’s name?

Rebecca

1. What did her name mean?

To ensnare by beauty

1. How old was Isaac when he married Rebecca?

Isaac was forty years old.

1. What was unusual about Rebecca being with child?

That she was with twins; which were in essence two nations in her womb.

1. What are the meanings of her son’s names?
   * Esau – means hairy, rough, red
   * Jacob – means heal holder, supplanter, trickster
2. Who is Joseph a type of?

Joseph is a type of Christ.

1. What are the 6 steps to the Throne for Joseph and, spiritually speaking, for us?
   * 1. Resistance of evil
     2. Divinely favored
     3. Providential circumstances
     4. Honored God
     5. Divine revelation
     6. Exalted to the throne
2. What did the Dispensation of Promise end in?

The Dispensation of Promise ended in Judgment.

# V. Dispensation of Law

**INTRODUCTION**

### **Duration of the Dispensation of Law**

The duration of the fifth dispensation was the period of time from the Exodus to the Crucifixion. The Dispensation of Law covered a period of 1,718 years.

Galatians 3:24*—Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.* (Romans 10:4; Matt. 5:17; Acts 13:39; Romans 3:28,31; 8:3,4)

### **Divisions of the Dispensation of Law**

This Dispensation is divided into four studies:

### First Division – from the Exodus to the Reign of Solomon

### Second Division – from the Division of the Kingdom to the Captivity

### Third Division – from the Restoration to the end of the Old Testament

### Fourth Division – the beginning of the New Testament to the Crucifixion

### **Description of the Law of God**

#### The 613 commandments of the Torah are divided into three major categories:

1. Spiritual Law – codified in the Ten Commandments which tell a person how to conduct their spiritual lives and how to deal with our fellow man.
2. Civil Law - deals with the running of civil society with God as head of that society.
3. Ceremonial law –Includes animal sacrifices, the priesthood, and other rules concerning the temple and worship.

#### The Law of God was a Covenant Israel Agreed to Keep

The law was a covenant between God and Israel. Israel committed themselves to do ALL that God commanded. This was the covenant which the children of Israel readily agreed to observe when they said to Moses, “You tell the Lord that all He hath said, we will do.”

Ex 19:8 *And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.* (Ex. 24:3,7; Deut. 5:27; Josh. 1:16; 2 Kings 10:5; Jer. 18:12; 42:20)

Jas 4:15 *For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.* (2 Thess. 3:4)

#### The Law of God is Often Understood as the “Mosaic Covenant” since the initial instruction from God was given to Moses on Mount Sinai in the book of Exodus. (Ex. 19:1-Matt. 1:1-25)

#### The Dispensation of Law is clearly as vital to the perfect plan of God as the others, and yet the law is most often despised. The Law is rigid and unbending, and this is the narrow picture most have of God.

#### The law though was not the full plan of God, but was as a Tutor “School Master” (Galatians 3:24) to teach man what God is expecting of man. Before in the Law we have the “What” (to know) but in the dispensation of Grace, God gives man the “How”(the enablement). (Romans 8:3)

### **Disappointment of Israel Under the Dispensation of Law**

#### Israel’s vows were well intentioned but were broken over and over. They were about as unacquainted with the wickedness of their sinful hearts as men are today who declare that they can keep the Ten Commandments without any problem whatsoever.

Jer 18:12 *And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.*

Jer 42:20 *For ye dissembled in your hearts, when ye sent me unto the LORD your God, saying, Pray for us unto the LORD our God; and according unto all that the LORD our God shall say, so declare unto us, and we will do it.*

The people of Israel failed the test of the fifth dispensation as well as the previous four dispensations. They broke the Mosaic Law repeatedly. (Jer. 31:32; Eze. 16) God told them that they had a heart of stone. (Ezekiel 36:26 Zechariah 7:12)

Their failure brought God’s judgment upon Israel. The nation suffered many judgments during the fifth dispensation. Among the worst were:

* The Assyrian Captivity
* The Babylonian captivities,
* The Greek oppressions
* The Roman oppressions,
* Israel’s temporary removal from its place of blessing (Romans 11), and its worldwide dispersion as the result of its rejection of Christ.

Ex 19:1-8; 2K 17:1-18; 25:1-11; Ac 2:22-23;7:51-52; Ro3:19-20;10:5; Gal3:10

## The First Division of Law:

## *From the Exodus to the Reign of Solomon*

### A Period of Bondage

#### The oppression in Egypt Exodus 1:7-22

#### The events in the early life of Moses

##### The birth, adoption, failure, and flight of the Levite Moses 2:1-15

##### Moses life was divided into three periods of forty years.

###### The first forty years was in Pharaoh’s Palace Acts 7:20-24

###### The second forty years was in Midian Acts 7:29-30

###### The third forty years was leading Israel in the wilderness Deut. 34:7

### A Period of Deliverance

* + - 1. The Call of Moses at the Burning Bush 3:1-10
      2. His Divine Commission 3:12-22; 4:1-9
      3. Aaron and Moses demands Pharaoh to let the people go. 4:27-31; 5:1-3
      4. The infliction of the Ten Plagues 7-11
      5. The Last Plague 11:5
      6. The Last Passover 12:1-13
      7. The Exodus 12:30-33

### A Period of Discipline

1. The Number that went out of Egypt 12:37-38
2. The reason God led the people through the wilderness 13:17-18
3. The Lord led by a Pillar of Cloud and a Pillar of Fire 13:21-22
4. The lessons:

At the Red Sea (14:15-18) At Marah (15:23-25) Of Manna (16:15) Of the Water out of the Rock (17:5-6; 20:8-13)Of the Brazen Serpent (21:8-9).

### A Period of Legislation

1. The Arrival at Sinai 19:1-2
2. The Laws of God and the Tables of Stone 20:1 - 31:18
3. The Preparation and assembly of the Tabernacle 35:1 - 40:38

### The Wilderness Wanderings

1. The Sending of the Spies Numbers 13:1-2
2. The Report of Joshua and Caleb 14:6-9
3. The Rebellion of the People 14:10-12
4. The Death of Moses Deuteronomy 34:1-7

### The Conquest of Canaan

1. The Invasion of the Land Joshua 1:1 - 5:15
2. The Fall of Jericho 6

The ark represents the fullness of the spirit.The walls of Jericho came down because the Israelites followed the ark (inside contained the commandments of God), they were obeying the word. People’s shout will have some meaning if they live right and follow the word.

1. The Battle of Ai 7-8

7:11 Defeat will always come when sin is in the mix. As soon as corrected the problem, Achan, than victory was restored to Israel.

1. The Conquest of the South 10

v. 9 Joshua knew what God had said, “As I was with Moses, so I will be with you” Joshua told the sun to stand still, and they lost a day 10:13

1. The Conquest of the North 11-12

They crossed over Jordan somewhere 1420 B.C.The land rested somewhere in 1460 B.C. 5 speaks to us of grace and faith, - We need a lot of grace and faith to conquer the land in our life. In Israel’s conquest of the land, you find out they never did totally conquer the land, unless all is conquered, it will come back to destroy you.

Nahum 1:3 – the Lord is slow to anger. Not everyone will go in, not everyone is going to enter in.

1. The Division of the land 13-22
2. The Death of Joshua 23-24

### Israel Demands a King

After the death of Joshua, Israel demands a king. Judges never produced what they should have, because of the weakness of the flesh. In I Samuel 8, Samuel makes his sons judges, but they were wicked, and took money and bribes for certain judgments.

#### King Saul (40 years) *I Samuel 10:20-24; Acts 13:21*

Saul was Israel’s first King. I Samuel 10:1- This is one of the saddest accounts written, Saul died as one having never been anointed. Acts 13:21 At the beginning of Saul’s reign he was a good man, but after a while, you find him doubting the prophet’s words, and performing his own sacrifices, I Samuel 16:13

16:23 – Does God send evil spirit? In this sense when men go their own way, God takes his hand off and lets them go ahead, and even that, they have to get permission to attack someone. God does not give permission unless we are breaking his commandments, and also to test us, to see what is in us. Saul reigned for a long period of time, with an evil spirit.

#### David Anointed King *I Samuel 16:13*

David was chosen to be the King of Israel by the Lord which marked the Brightest Era in Israel’s History. 16:6 – Samuel thought that Eliab was the one God had chosen, he had all the outward appearance of being the one, Man looks on the outside, but God looks at the heart

David was sought out because he had the power of God, There is no coincidence in our life, God has a plan. David was a man after God’s own heart, loved God more than anything else.

In a time when kings were to go out to battle, David said to Joab you go, ill stay here. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 If we rest in the time when we should be fighting, you cannot be successful not doing what God requires. Lust will cloud your mind, and deceive to do the so called pleasure of sin, to only leave you empty.

David’s Death and Burial  *I Kings 2:10-11*

#### King Solomon (40 years) *2:12;11:42-43*

God said to Solomon, serve you with all your heart like you father David did. For one whole year though David was sorrowful, he never repented, until Nathan came to him and said that you are the man, When David repented of his sin, God forgave him, and put his sin in the sea of forgetfulness, never to be remembered of him again. That is why David could say what he said. You know David was a man of like passions as we are. Even when David was fleeing for his life, he lost everything, in the midst of that all, he turned to the Lord, and he brought back all. II Samuel 17:3

The Temple was built under Solomon’s Reign. *5:1-6*

I Kings 2:10-11 - They called Jerusalem the city of David. David promised Bathsheba, that her son would be the king of Israel. All the wealthy and finery of this life should have no attraction to the little bride. One interest and one interest only that being Jesus, our lord. David desired to build the temple, but God said no, because he was a man that had blood on his hand. Now even though he was not allowed to build it, he gathered the material, so that when Solomon put the temple together, not a hammer was heard. It was said that the beauty of that temple was never to be comparable by any other temple that was built after it was destroyed. His wives turned his heart, Solomon, Solomon had been raised and tutored under his father of David. I Kings 11:42, 43 He said you be faithful in a few things he will make you ruler over many.

#### 

## Study Questions 6: Law: Division I

1. What period of time did the Dispensation of Law cover?

The Dispensation of Law covered from the Exodus to the Crucifixion.

1. How many years did the Dispensation of Law cover?

The Dispensation of Law covered 1,718 years.

1. What is the meaning of Exodus?

The meaning of Exodus is – going out

1. Explain the four divisions of this Dispensation?
   1. First – From the Exodus to the Reign of Solomon
   2. Second – From the Division of the Kingdom to the Captivity
   3. Third – From the Restoration to the end of the Old Testament
   4. Fourth – From the beginning of the New Testament to the Crucifixion
2. What was the bondage that Israel experienced?

The bondage that Israel experienced was bondage to Egypt.

1. Why did Moses flee to Midian?

Moses fled to Midian because he feared for his life.

1. Explain the divisions of Moses’ life.
   1. The first 40 years in Pharaoh’s Palace
   2. The Second 40 years in Midian
   3. The third 40 years in leading the people in the wilderness
2. What was the outstanding event of Moses’ Call?

The outstanding event of Moses’ call was the burning bush.

1. What was demanded of Pharaoh?

Pharaoh was demanded to “let my people go”.

1. How many plagues were there and what were they?

There were 10 plagues:

* 1. Water made blood
  2. Frogs
  3. Lice
  4. Flies
  5. Murrain
  6. Boils and blains
  7. Thunder and hail
  8. Locust
  9. Darkness
  10. First born slain

*Study Questions 6: Law: Division I,* page 2

1. What was the last plague, and who did it effect?

The last plague was the slaying of the first born, and it effected every house in Egypt.

1. What was God’s command to Israel because of this plague?

The blood on the lintels and doorposts of their homes.

1. How many went out of Egypt with Moses?

Somewhere around 2 – 2½ million people.

1. Why did God lead them through the wilderness?

To teach them discipline.

1. How did God lead them through the wilderness?

God lead them with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

1. What happened at the Red Sea?

The Lord open the Red Sea and dried the ground so that the Israelites could cross in safety and escape the Egyptians who were coming after them to destroy them, and the Egyptians were destroyed in the Red Sea.

1. What happened at Marah?

The bitter water was made sweat.

1. How did God feed them in the wilderness?

Manna from heaven was feed them in the wilderness.

1. How did they get water in the wilderness?

The Lord provided water out of the rock, a rock that followed them.

1. What happened at Sinai?

Moses received the Laws of God on the tables of stone.

1. What else did Moses receive at Sinai?

Moses also received the pattern for the tabernacle.

1. What kind of a report did the ten spies bring?

The ten spies brought an evil report.

1. What kind of a report did Joshua and Caleb bring?

Joshua and Caleb brought a good report that we are able to go up and take the country.

1. What happened at Jericho?

The walls of Jericho fell down flat

1. Who was Israel’s first King? Saul was Israel’s first King.

## The Second Division of Law:

## *From the Division of the Kingdom to the Captivity*

“Experiences of hard trying and testing is what taught me If I am going to preach this then I am going to believe this. The test is to cause us to overcome…You don’t start believing God for a million dollars, you start believing God with a dime. We are more than conquerors, so there is something to overcome.”—*Rev. James R. Reynolds, Sr*.

### Solomon in his old age

#### Solomon’s Action – I Kings 11:1-8

##### Multiplied women (700 Wives and 300 Concubines)

##### Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

##### Solomon built a high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.

A man like Solomon (like Oral Roberts) had it but lost it. Don’t leave with that thought that a man who once had it cannot be restored. Peter who walked with God for three years and than denied Him but Peter was restored and became the spokesman for God. Would Peter have cursed and swore had he really known him?

→ AFTER ALL THIS – (after they had been such with God, and than lose all) II Chronicles 35:20; I Kings 11:2 He wasn’t just taking wives but he was doing it in direct disobedience.

#### God’s Reaction 11:9-28

##### The LORD stirred up an adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite:

##### God stirred him up another adversary, Rezon the son of Eliadah

##### Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda… even he lifted up his hand against the king.

The Lord hates backsliding. Hebrews 10:31 – It is one thing to have man angry at you, but it’s another when it is God who is made at you. David had a problem, but he got it to the Lord, and got it taken care of, and it was like it never happened to the Lord. Totally restored – God because of Solomon’s disobedience God is going to rend the tribes, but not in his days, because of David…God had a lot of feeling towards David, because David had a lot of feeling toward God. David loved

1. The Prophecy of Ahijah 11:29-38

Over and over and over again speaking of David – Shows you the grace of God, When David knew that he did wrong, he repented.

1. Solomon’s Reaction to the Prophecy 11:40-43

When Solomon knew that he did wrong, he didn’t repent, but sought to kill the prophet of God, to fight God in essence. Not because of Solomon but because of David

### The Division of the Kingdom

1. The Reason why the Kingdom was Divided 12:1-16

Sometimes young folks mean well, but sometimes there counsel isn’t good. And the word was fulfilled just as God had spoken, and the tribes were divided…

Illus: Assembly of God, meeting, young preachers, decided to disban any other ungodly activaties, and in that meeting they sold more pornography to those preachers than to the sinners in their hotels. If you let a little slide, soon before you know it the whole hills gonna come down. They rejected the counsel of the old men

1. Rehoboam’s action to Israel’s decision 12:18-19

…rebelled against the house of David unto this day…

1. Jereboam was made king over the Ten Northern Tribes of Israel 12:20

…only the tribe of Judah followed the house of David…

1. Samaria became the Capitol of the Northern kingdom :25

Jeroboam established two more places to worship.

1. Jereboam established Bethel and Dan as the places to worship 12:26-31

Convenience, not wanting them to go back to Jerusalem, the designated place that God had told them to worship, He established two other places to worship and puts idol in them to worship, other Gods, “One lesson you ought to learn for today, take counsel but take good counsel. Some will give you counsel but it may not be good. Don’t despise the old gray hairs.”The scripture says, take heed what you hear and take heed how you hear.

REVIEW: Why did Rehoboam establish those other places? For the purpose that they would not go back to the Jerusalem and reestablish their allegiance to David’s kingdom.

The kingdom was troubled from without and within because of their sin

Hebrews 12:1 – lay aside every weight and sin

God allowed the enemy to attack them because of the sin that was within them.

We have a lot of trouble admitting that we are wrong and we are the ones with the sin in our life. Be careful of using continual the I, I did such and such and such and such.

### The Northern Kingdom lasted a little over 200 years

1. The Kingdom was continually troubled from within and frequently attacked from without.
2. The most known King and Queen of the northern Kingdom were Ahab and Jezebel. I Kings 16:30-31

Judah means praise. A Revelation of Pentecost, Out of Judah came Bana. Bana means worshiper of God. Imrai means polished (speakers). Imrai prodced omri. Omri means half heartedness – One of the saddest things, Jezebel is seducing our servants. Revelation 2:20; II Kings 17:17

1. Not one of its nineteen kings were godly men.

Take a stand for truth, you will be persecuted. They attacked the ministry, they attacked God’s prophet. Out of the 19 kings that ruled that northern kingdom, not one of them was godly.

1. Israel was carried away captive to Assyria in 724-722 B.C. – II Kings 17:1-6

They came in to lay siege, but it took 3 years to overtake Israel. II Kings 17:2

1. Their downfall and captivity was because of their rebellion and idol worship.

God hates idolatry, can we get by worshiping idols, Idolatry, is putting anything before God, letting that become a source to you that takes the place of God. You can make an idol out of most anything. You can make an idol out of himself. Whatever that we do, we need to do in the glory of God. What are we basically? Isaiah 41:14, thou worm JacobThings never satisfy. John Rockefeller, “How much more money would you need to be satisfied? And he said just one more dollar”

### Judah was reigned over by 19 Kings and 1 Queen

1. All were descendents of David.

God told Solomon he was going to stripe him and give them to an enemy of his. But he was going to preserve one tribe not for Solomon, but for David.

1. Many of Judah’s Kings were Godly men.
2. Many great revivals and reforms were accomplished.
3. Eventually did evil in the sight of the Lord. 1Kings 14:22

“Judah also did evil in the sight of the Lord”

We don’t have to go through life sacred to death of the devil, but we at the same time need to be on guard against the devil who is doing anything to lure you away.

The devil tries to make you think that it is so hard to be a Christian, but the Bible says and do you remember, how hard it is to be a sinner.

But if you’re really living a Christian life, there is no life like the Christian life.

### Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem

Besieged the city and caused them to pay tribute. God gave them a time that they could repent, but they did not, so God let them to be taken into bondage. For a while God warns you, but then he sends you into judgment. I don’t mind getting in trouble with people, but if I am in trouble with God, dear God. If you fail in one point, you will fail in all. Israel never knew defeat, only when there was trouble within.

1. Judah and Jerusalem fell in the year 587-586
2. 470 years after the dedication of Solomon’s Temple –II Kings 25:1-11
3. The Judean captives were carried away captive to Babylon.
4. In Babylon the exiled Hebrews repented and turned to God.

## Study Questions 7: Law: Division II

1. What period of time did the second division of the Dispensation of Law cover?

From the division of the Kingdom to the Captivity.

1. What was Solomon’s action in his old age?

Solomon married many carnal wives who turned his heart from God and to other gods.

1. What was God’s reaction to what Solomon did?

God was very displeased with what Solomon had done.

1. What was the prophecy of Ahijah?

Ten tribes taken from Rehoboam given to Jeroboam, because of Solomon’s action and God’s reaction to that.

1. What was Solomon’s reaction to this prophecy?

Solomon sought to kill Jeroboam.

1. What was the cause for division of the kingdom?

Rehoboam rebelled against the older men advice, and listened to the younger men, and made the yoke heavier and taxed them more and etc…

1. Who was made king over the ten northern tribes?

Jeroboam was made king over the ten northern tribes, by God’s choice.

1. What was the capital of the ten northern tribes?

Samaria was the capital of the ten northern tribes.

1. What did Jeroboam do at Bethel and Dan?

Jeroboam set up both in Bethel and Dan golden calves, to worship another God.

1. How long did the Northern Kingdom last?

The Northern Kingdom lasted over 200 hundred years.

1. Where did the trouble that came to the kingdom come from?

The trouble came both from without and within.

1. Who were the most outstanding characters of the Northern Kingdom?

Ahab and Jezebel were the most outstanding characters of the Northern Kingdom?

1. How many of the kings of the Northern Kingdom were godly men?

Not one out of the nineteen kings of the Northern Kingdom was godly men.

1. When was Israel carried away captive in Assyria?

Israel was carried away captive to Assyria in 724 – 722 B.C.

*Study Questions 7: Law: Division II,* page 2

1. What caused their downfall and captivity?

They refused to submit to the will of God is what caused their downfall and captivity.

1. How many kings reigned over Judah?

There were nineteen kings and one queen over Judah.

1. Who were they all descendants of?

They were all descendants of David.

1. What was the character of many of Judah’s kings?

They were Godly men.

1. What was accomplished during this time?

Many great revivals and reforms were accomplished.

1. What eventually did Judah do?

Eventually Judah did evil.

1. Who laid siege to Jerusalem?

Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem.

1. What year did Judah and Jerusalem fall?

Judah and Jerusalem fell in the year of 587 – 586.

1. How many years after the dedication of the temple did Judah and Jerusalem fall?

Judah and Jerusalem fell 470 after the dedication of the temple.

1. Where were the captives of Judah carried away to?

They were carried away to Babylon.

1. What did the exiled Hebrews do in Babylon?

The exiled Hebrews in Babylon repented and turned to God.

## The Third Division of Law:

## *From the Restoration to the End of the Old Testament*

### Babylon fell to Cyrus, King of the Medes and the Persians

1. The Proclamation of Cyrus – Ezra 1:1-6

Daniel 2:39. 100 years before Cyrus was there was a proclamation to him, to take over. – Isaiah 45:1

1. Cyrus gave the Jews the vessels that Nebuchadnezzar had brought from Jerusalem - Ezra 1:7-11

Ezra 8:24-This is a tremendous lesson about the vessels. Each man was responsible for what was given to him when he arrives. Don’t lose what God gives to you. Remember the man who hid his talent. Not only were they responsible for the weight but also for the number, by number and by weight. They didn’t travel by trains and plains but they traveled by foot. And along the way there were thieves and robbers, and they had to guard against that.

1. The Reaction of the Jews to this Proclamation. - Psalm 126:1-3

We need to rejoice over our freedom from sin! But, also be cautioned concerning repeating the cycle. The cycle never seems to cease for the Jews, they rejoice because of being free and then they go back into bondage serving other gods. Aimee Semple McPherson when she started was a good person, but popularity got to her, Jimmy Swaggert had a tremendous impact on the Pentecostal churches, he could preach, you couldn’t fault him for his preaching, but it was for his living. He said himself; the devil came upon him and anointed him to play the piano. No step can be taken forward unless all your steps are pure. You have to be living right. Everything must be taken care of, God will not invest in a filthy vessel. God is looking for availability not ability. Comparatively so it is only a few people that are serving the Lord. <50,000 compared to 2 million> Try the best you can to pronounce the names; you have to know how to pronounce before your congregation, you lose something if you don’t.

1. The number of the Jews that returned 49,697 - Ezra 2:64-65

As far as we can figure there was about 2 million that were taken away into captivity in Babylon. And they were there for 70 years. Out of those millions who were in bondage only 49, 697 went back. Where are the multitudes? That is the path that the world follows, but there are few that will go down the straight and narrow way. In actuality only 42,000 Jews actually went back.

### The Return of the Jews was Accomplished in Three Expeditions

1. The First Expedition

Under the Leadership of Zerubbabel -Ezra 2:1-2

Zerubbabel was God’s choice to bring the people back. NOTE: Learn how to pronounce names; it will help in the ministry.

* 1. In Returning to the land they built an Altar - Ezra 3:1-3

The first thing that they did was building that alter showing the change in their heart. That alter had been left barren in all that time that they were in bondage. Our first choice should be Jesus. Not only do you offer to him but he also offers to you. God has a plan for every life, but not every life finds that plan.

Why did they build an alter? Even though they got permission to return by the king, still they were surrounded by enemies. We need to maintain that alter. Should we have a certain amount of fear/respect? We Must Maintain An Alter. Realize we have an enemy continually perusing us.

One time in, it speaks of an alter that is overgrown. It had not been used. At other times the alter was broken down; Elijah took the stones that were laid down, desolate and reared them up. There was one good prophet; Elijah; and 850 false prophets, and 400 that sat at Jezebel’s table. Don’t expect to be in the majority. Not everyone is going to love truth. Paul spoke of this last day, (I Timothy 4).

There are a lot of people saying just pray and God will answer. Why did God answer? I Kings 18:36 Elijah did all these things at thy word. Raised up those stones, God ready to put on the sacrifice, there was wood, cut the bullock up and laid it upon the alter, and then he washed the bullock. A lot will say Elijah didn’t want any funny business, but Elijah was obeying the word. The sacrifice has to be washed, it says in Leviticus. What will cleanse us; it is the washing of the word.

“Availability is what you’re willing to do, Ability is what you can do, and Attitude is how you will do it.” We will not see a great moving of God with a cleansing.

* 1. Shouting and weeping after the foundation of the Temple was laid Ezra 3:10-13

Great provision was made long before the first temple was built. David made great provision. The young men shouted but the old men wept. The new temple was of no comparison to the old temple. Nothing compared to the old temple.

This only says this to us. Sometimes we lose and never regain. We deserve nothing of the Lord, so we are to be happy and excited for what God is doing. The church is not mortar and bricks, but we are the temple of the Lord, the people are the church. The latter house shall be greater than the former house. II Peter 1:4 – by his great and precious promises we become partakers of his divine nature. Gold represent the nature of God. Silver represents the redemption of God. You can’t love sin and God at the same time; you can’t love error and truth at the same time.

* 1. The building operation ceased for nine years until the second year of the reign of Darius -Haggai 1:1-15

We see a problem here. We can not take vacations spiritually. After God had been so good to them they were taken out of bondage and started the temple, but now they had ceased for 9 years. They had taken care of their houses but not the house of God. What is more important, your house or the house of God? What did Jesus say, don’t even take two coats. Matthew 10:10. They were putting money into bags with holes in it. They were working and laboring hard, sowed much, and reaped little. Remember the principal of tithing. → Consider Your Ways. Get to building my house, and you will be blessed.

9 years and they were doing their own thing, and not the thing that the Lord had commanded them to do. Sometimes we get detoured from the vision that God has given to us. We need to be putting on the nature of Christ. What really is the heart of God? Reaching the lost; We need the heart of God, his nature to really produce a love for the lost souls. They say Portland is considered one of the most evil cities in America. But we are going to make a difference. We might not stop it all, but we are going to do our part.

They were so excited, and than all the sudden it stops. Isn’t it so true with Christians, they are on fire, and than all of the sudden it stops.

Illus: Bernard S., was on fire for God for one solid year and than all at once he stopped; I was going to work, doing a lot of odd jobs and stuff, as a preacher, Bernard saved at 19 and left at 20 and than 7 years later, saw him again and talked with him for more than an hour, thought for sure he would come back to Christ, crying and miserable in his sin, one week later, he died crashing into a tree drunk. That liar of a preacher, who preached his funeral, said he went to heaven.

This is something we should be excited of. Even if we don’t have feeling of jubilant, just think of where I am going, just the knowledge, and that should keep us excited, lets build, we need to build this house and build it strong, so it can stand the wind and stand the hurricane and get attached to the rock; rooted and grounded and stand against any storm.

Israel neglected building the building. Please don’t take any vacations. They said that original foundation was overgrown.

What did Jesus say, come apart and rest. There are some times we need to rest our mind and body. A day now and than is good for me; this is my life and it is not something I just do. Building on the temple, make it strong, make it stand.

Is it possible to have the Bible as an idol? The paper and letter, the book itself can. But the truth of the word of God cannot, there can be no limit of devotion to the Bible.

Swaggert had problems with demons, Branham had problems with demons, after a nervous breakdown twice, he pushed himself too much. God exalted his word above his name.

* 1. The Temple was completed in 516 B.C.
  2. The Promise of God for His House - Haggai 2:1-9

1. The Second Expedition
   1. Under the Leadership of Ezra -
   2. Seventy three years later with about 6000 people.
   3. The Jews being in favor with the kings the temple was restored.
   4. In the years that followed the Jews sank to a low spiritual level.
   5. The Temple was burned, the land laid waste, the Jews taken captive.
2. The Third Expedition
   1. Under the leadership of Nehemiah
   2. Nehemiah found favor with the king
   3. Nehemiah and his men rebuilt the walls in fifty two days
   4. The walls were built under bitter opposition

Nehemiah 2:1-6. The walls were built in 52 days under bitter opposition. They were called the silent years because there was no prophet or preacher at that time. Alexander the Great died at the age of 32. He sat down and wept, and than drank himself to death, because he had conquered the than known world, he had conquered it all, that is why he wept.

The beginning of the New Testament, in 63A.D.

The Golden head : Babylon, Neb

The Silver: Medo Persia

The Four centuries between the Old and the New Testament constituted an important period in the history of Palestine. At the close of the Old Testament the Persians were its masters and with the beginning of the New Testament the Romans had become the rulers of the then known world. These are sometimes called the four hundred silent years. The names of the Maccabees became well known during this time.

## The Fourth Division of this Dispensatio:

## *From the Beginning of the New Testament to the Crucifixion*

### Christ’s Birth

The New Testament begins with God announcing Christ’s Birth And that a Jewish maid would bring forth a son in her virginity.Isaiah 7:14 prophesied of it – fulfilled in Matthew 1:18-23

What happened that caused Christ to be born in Bethlehem? Prophesied in Micah 5:2 – fulfilled in Luke 2:1-7

Little is recorded of the life of Jesus until the 30th year. Luke 3:2. John the Baptist was convinced that Jesus was the Messiah by a sign from heaven. John 1:29-34

### Christ’s Earthly Ministry

Jesus gave Testimony of His Ministry Luke 4:16-21

His Ministry was a fulfillment of Prophecy. Isaiah 53:4 confirmed in Mat. 8:17. He fulfilled completely the prophecies concerning the Ministry of the “Servant of Jehovah”

### Christ offers Himself as King

The Triumphant Entry. Prophesied in Zech. 9:9 – fulfilled in Mat.21:1-11

Cleanses the Temple Mat. 21:12-13; Luke 19:45-46; John 2:14-17

Heals in the Temple Matthew 21:14

### Christ Betrayed and Arrested

Christ was found guilty by Chief Priests and Elders Matthew 27:1-2

He was brought to Pilate because they could not crucify Him under Roman law. Luke 23:1. The Testimony of Pilate and Herod - Luke 23:12-15 Pilate desired to release Jesus but the Chief Priests and people cried out crucify Him. John 19:12-16

### Christ Crucified

Between the Dispensation of Law and Grace stands the Cross of Christ.

The Cross is the place in which all the Prophecies of scripture concerning the redemption of man are centered.

The Results of the Cross:

1. There God’s Justice was satisfied. Rom. 3:24-26
2. God’s Holiness was vindicated. Heb. 7:26-28
3. Our Redemption was accomplished. Heb. 9:12; Rev.5:9
4. Redeemed from the curse of the law. Gal. 3:13
5. The Promise of Everlasting life. John 3:14-16; Titus 3:7

It was on the cross that the seed of the woman bruised the serpents head Gen. 3:15

The cross was neither a mistake nor a tragedy it was God’s plan before the foundation of the world. I Peter 1:18-20; Rev. 13:8

## Study Questions 8: Law: Division III & IV

1. Wasdfsdf
2. Asdfasdf\asdf\
3. asdfasdf

# VI. Dispensation of Grace

From Pentecost to the Second Coming of Christ

Romans 6:14—*For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.*

2Cor. 6:1*—We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.* 2*—(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)*

* From the Sacrificial death of Jesus Christ (the Crucifixion) to the work of Righteousness in the Day of the Lord.
* From The indwelling of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost To The Second Coming Of Christ (the literal coming not the Secret coming in the air)

## The Sixth Dispensation is **The Dispensation of Grace**- The New Testament Covenant

Matt. 28:1-10 Eph:2:8; 4:13; I John 3:2; Rev. 4:1-4

## The Resurrection and Ascension of Christ

Having tasted death for every man. Heb. 2:9

On the third day rose again. Acts 10:40

God sent an Angel to roll away the stone to reveal the empty tomb.

During the forty days after His Resurrection He showed himself alive. Acts 1:3

**The Day of Grace** began the day Jesus Christ arose from the dead and He showed Himself alive by many infallible proofs. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is well documented for the entire world to know. (Acts 1:3; 2:30; Matt. 28:2,6; Mark 16:9*;* Luke 24:1-3; Acts 2:30*;* Romans 1:3*;* 1Cor. 15:3*:*1Peter 1:3)

## The ultimate sin of Israel was the crucifixion of their Messiah and King under the leadership of the religious leaders of that day and yet His death wrought their salvation.

## The Dispensation of Law ended in Judgment. God’s Judgment fell upon the nation in the destruction of Jerusalem by the Roman armies under Titus A.D.70. History records that over a million Jews perished at this time and the nation was scattered among the kingdoms of the earth in fulfillment of the warning given through Moses.

## Deuteronomy 28:25—*The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.*

## The Influence of God’s Grace

### The Saving of the Lost Luke 19:10

#### Grace is God’s “Kindness toward us through Jesus Christ.” (Eph. 2:7)

#### GOD”S GRACE deserves all Glorious Praise. (Eph 1:6)

#### By the giving of the LAW, God's justice and holiness were rendered Glorious;

#### By the giving of the GOSPEL, His Grace and Mercy are abundantly Glorious.

Titus 3:3-6—*For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. 4 But after that the* ***kindness*** *and* ***love of God*** *our Saviour toward man appeared, 5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his* ***mercy*** *he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; 6 Which he shed on us* ***abundantly*** *through Jesus Christ our Saviour;*

### The Building of God’s Church Mat.16:18

### The Day of Grace includes the Day of Pentecost. Joel 2:23-32; Acts 2:17-21;Acts 4:8,10; 10:40,44,45. Also, included is God’s work through the Apostles. Eph.3:2-12; Matthew 10:2-4; Romans 1:1,5

### The Bride of Christ

### Justified→Sanctified→Glorified. A promise left for the dispensation of the fullness of time. We are Responsible for the truth and are to walk in the light that we have. The Absolute Greatest Test of all is the process to becoming the Bride of Christ.

Rev. 19:7,8—*Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.* 8 *And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.*

Luke 12:36—*… men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; …*

Gen. 24:58*—… Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.*

Ruth 3:3,4—*… he will tell thee what thou shalt do.*

Esther 2:15*—…* ***she required nothing but what Hegai*** *the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women,* ***appointed****. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.*

Song 1:4*—Draw me, we will run after thee…* (5:7;7:10)

Psalm 45:9,11,13,14*—… upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir…*

1Peter 1: 3-5—…*To an inheritance …ready to be revealed in the last time*.

Man is incapable of equaling the balances with the character and nature of Christ without the Holy Ghost. Eph. 3:11; It is God’s Eternal Purpose to have a people that would see from God’s point of view and act, think and be like God’s Son. Gal.4:7; Eph.4:13; Rom.8:17; Heb.2:10; **2 Cor. 3:18**.

I Pt. 5:10; God has given man Grace—God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense—to do the work in man. God is working the change in man by his grace, and if man should fall, by God’s grace he can have peace with God restored through faith. (Romans 5:1)

### The Rapture

Luke 12:35-38 Oil constitutes having a burning light, light is type of the Spirit. The church will be caught away in the middle of the week, when christ returns secretly in the air. (I Thessalonians 4:13-18)

### The Tribulation

After the Church is taken out… 2Th 2:7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. (*the Holy Spirit will only leave in the manner that he came in the New Testament, but he will be as he was in the Old Testament, he will come upon them but not* ***in*** *them*). Tribulation is necessary for the Church becausethe church has become worldly and rich but spiritually poor and lukewarm (sickening to the Lord).

The first three and a half years of the Tribulation will be persecution. The first three and half years of tribulation. Mt 24:15 Dan. 12:11; Rev. 12:6; Dan. 12:7 Jer 30:7; Micah 5:3,4;1Thess. 4:16;17

In the last three and a half years of the tribulation hour the judgment and wrath of God will be poured out.The testing under grace will be with Judgment

Luke 17:26-30—v. 30 *Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.*

Luke 18:8 *I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?* (2Thess. 2:7 – 12; Rev. 3:15, 16)

"the great tribulation." Zeph. 1:15-18; Mat.24:21-22; Rev.7:14

## The Right Response to God’s Grace

### Grace is to be continued in.

Acts 13:43—*…* ***continue*** *in the grace of God.* (Romans 6:1)

### Grace is to be Testified

Acts 20:24—*…to* ***testify*** *the gospel of the grace of God.*

### Grace IS TO GROW UP IN

Acts 20:32—*… his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance…*

2Peter 3:18—*But* ***grow in grace****, …* (Ephesians 4:15; 1Cor. 15:49; 3:18; 4:11; Php. 3:21)

### The Day of God's Grace and Longsuffering continues with faith and Love.

### Rom.2:4; 9:23; 2Cor. 8:7; Eph.2:4; 3:2; I Tim. 1:14; 2Peter 3:9,15

### The Day of God's Grace and Longsuffering does not last forever

### Rom.1:18; 2:2-16; 9:22; 14:12; 2Cor. 5:10; 2Peter 3:10

## The Spirit of Grace

Zech. 12:10-14*—*v.10 *And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem,* ***the spirit of grace*** *and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.*

### A Great Blessing -

vs. 10 "*I will pour upon the house of David...the Spirit of grace and of supplications*"

1. An Act of God - "I will pour" Implies abundance - Joel 2:28 2. Results of The Outpouring -

(1) To the sinner - John 16:8-11

* 1. "The Spirit of grace" Leads to salvation –
  2. "The Spirit of supplications" Leads to repentance and prayer–

(2) To the Believer - John 16:13-15

### A Great Revelation - vs. 10 "they shall look upon me whom they have pierced"

Almost 2,000 years ago, they despised and rejected Him - they said, "we will not have this man to reign over us." They cried for His crucifixion.

1. They shall look to Him - "In that day" - The day He returns.

Acts 1:11 "This same Jesus." He shall appear bearing the marks of the Cross in His hands. Zech.13:6 "And one shall say unto Him, What are these wounds in thine hands." These wounds are the marks of His identity -He still bears those wounds - John 20:20 The wounds will remain through all eternity - as a witness to His triumphant resurrection over death.

2. *To look* implies three things: (1) Revelation - Psa. 34:5 (2) Salvation - Isa. 45:22 (3) Faith - Heb. 12:2.

### A Great Revival - vs. 10-12

1. Their mourning compared to two things –(1) The loss of an only son (2) The loss of a firstborn son.

Their blindness and unbelief have been great; now they have discovered their awful guilt in crucifying their long looked for Messiah.

1. The mourning will be universal - "Every family apart"

(1) First the royal family - "The family of the house of David" Nathan - the son of David

(2) Next the Priest-hood - "The family of the house of Levi" Shimei - son of a Levite

(3) Next the rest of the people - vs. 14

"All the families that remain" No one is exempted. The royal - the peasant - the rich - the poor - the great - the small. They must all repent.In every house there will be tears of repentance and confession. Also in every house there will be a well of new-found joy springing up in their hearts. Their long looked for Messiah has come, and brought salvation and deliverance.

## VII. Dispensation of Righteousness

* From the Second Coming of Christ

1. **Dispensation of Righteousness -** Kingdom Covenant Rev. 22:1-21

The final purpose in the plan of God is fulfilled, where righteousness reigns in man and not sin. God is going to work a complete work in us. The New Heaven and New Earth is only the backdrop to the goal and heart of God—fellowship completely restored. God is a holy God and cannot and will not fellowship with sin, but God in his infinite love and knowledge has made a way for us to enter into a place of unrestricted communion with Him separate from sin.

## Description of the Dispensation of Righteousness

Revelation 20:1-21

## God’s Intent

## God’s Timeline

**Christ** reigns through Righteousness

After the Seven Years of the Tribulation hour when the wrath of God is poured out in judgment to bring men to repentance, Christ will return to the earth, He will reign in Righteousness over the earth for one thousand years. This is the millennium reign of Christ. The seat of His power will be New Jerusalem, and the saints, will be associated with Him in His glory. (See Isa. 2:1-4; Isa. 11; Acts 15:14-17; Rev. 19:11-21; Rev. 20:1-6.

Re 20:3, 7-8

Satan is loosed a little season, he finds the heart is easily deceived and effortlessly gathers the nations to battle against the Lord and His saints, known as the battle [***armengedomn***](http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&rls=com.microsoft:en-us:IE-SearchBox&sa=X&ei=s0bFTbDeJqHc0QGnj9nPCw&ved=0CBoQvgUoAA&q=the+battle+of+armengedomn&nfpr=1) and this last dispensation closes, like all the others, in judgment.

The great white throne is set, the wicked dead are raised and finally judged, and then come the "new heaven and a new earth."

Eternity is begun. (See Rev. 20:3,7-15; Rev. 21 and 22.)"

## Study Questions 9: Grace *&* Righteousness

1. Wasdfsdf
2. Asdfasdf\asdf\
3. asdfasdf

## Quiz 1: Introduction

1. What is a dispensation?

A dispensation is a period of time during which man is tested in respect to obedience to some specific revelation of the will of God.

1. How many dispensations are there? There are seven dispensations.
2. Name the dispensations.
   1. Dispensation of Innocence
   2. Dispensation of Conscience
   3. Dispensation of Human Government (Self-will)
   4. Dispensation of Promise
   5. Dispensation of Law
   6. Dispensation of Grace
   7. Dispensation of Righteousness)
3. What are the three main periods of history?
   1. Antediluvian Age
   2. Present Age
   3. Age to Come
4. What is an age?

An age is the period of time from one marked or violent change in the earth to another marked change involving the earth’s inhabitants.

1. Name the seven phases of the earth.
   1. Original Earth
   2. Chaotic Earth
   3. Edenic Earth
   4. Antediluvian Earth
   5. Present Earth
   6. Millennial Earth
   7. New Heaven and New Earth
2. Give scripture to prove the triunity of God.

I John 5:7; Matthew 3:17; John 5:19; John 14:26; John 15:26

1. Using something from creation, illustrate the triunity of God?

i.e., The Universe – Space, Matter, Time

1. What are the three themes to God’s eternal purpose?
   1. Revelation
   2. Redemption
   3. Realization
2. What are the three ministries of the Son?
   1. The ministry of Prophet
   2. The ministry of Priest

## The ministry Quiz 2: Innocence

1. What period of time does the Antediluvian Age cover?

The Antediluvian Age covers from the Re-creation of the earth to the flood.

1. What period of time does the first Dispensation cover?

The Dispensation of Innocence covers from the creation of Man to the expulsion from the Garden.

1. What state was man created in?

Man was created in Innocence.

1. What does Eden mean in Hebrew?

pleasure:--delicate, delight, pleasure. See also 1040.

1. What was man tested on?

Man was tested on obedience to not eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil as the Lord commaned.

1. What is the meaning of Free Moral Agent?

The meaning of the term “free moral agent” is the right to choose.

1. What was the source of the temptation?

Satan was the source of the temptation.

1. What were the three areas of temptation?
2. Lust of the flesh”
3. Lust of the eyes
4. Pride of life
5. What was destroyed in man in yielding to the temptation?

Their innocence was destroyed in yielding to the temptation.

1. What did the first Dispensation end in?

The First Dispensation (Innocence) ended in judgment and expulsion.

1. What was the Edonic Dispensation characterized by?

The Edenic Dispensation was characterized by the absence of sin & the presence of God.

## Quiz 3: Conscience

1. What period of time did the Dispensation of Conscience cover?

The Dispensation of Conscience covered from the expulsion from Eden to the Flood.

1. What did man lose as a result of his fall?

Man, lost as a result of his fall, his “God-consciousness”.

1. Why could not the conscience keep man from doing wrong?

The conscience could not keep man from doing wrong because the conscience imparts no power.

1. What is the meaning of the names Cain, Abel and Seth?

Cain – means acquired or getting

Abel – means vapor or vanity

Seth – means appointed or replacing

1. What were the sacrifices that Cain and Abel offered?

Cain offered a sacrifice of fruit and Abel offered a sacrifice of blood.

1. Why did Satan want to destroy Abel?

Satan wanted to destroy the Promised Seed.

1. What does knowledge without God produce?

Knowledge without God can only produce a “god-less” civilization.

1. What rule was Enoch an exception to?

Enoch was an exception to the rule of death.

1. What does Enoch mean?

Enoch means dedicated, instructed, disciplined, initiated, acquainted with mystery or secrets.

1. What is Enoch a type of?

Enoch is a type of the Bride – Overcomer.

1. What is Methuselah a type of?

Methuselah is a type of the Church.

1. What is Noah a type of?

Noah is a type of the saved, preserved through Judgment.

1. Who are the Sons of God referred to in Gen. 6:2?

The “sons of Seth”, possibly possessed by demons.

1. What was God’s reaction to this godless civilization?

God’s reaction to this godless civilization was repented, grieved, and I will destroy.

1. What did the Dispensation of Conscience end in?

The Dispensation of Conscience ended in judgment.

## Quiz 4: Human Government

1. What period of time did the Dispensation of Human Government cover?

The Dispensation of Human Government covered from the flood to the dispersion of Babel.

1. What was God’s command after the Flood?

God’s command after the flood was to “Go forth from the ark” and “Be fruitful and multiply”.

1. What was Noah’s first act upon leaving the Ark?

Noah’s first act upon leaving the Ark was that he “built an alter unto the Lord”.

1. What was the covenant that God made with Noah?

The covenant that God made with Noah was – That He would not destroy the earth again with a flood.

1. What was the sign of the covenant?

The sign of the covenant was a rainbow.

1. Under Human Government what could man now eat?

“Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you” was what man could now eat.

1. What was man forbidden to eat?

Blood was forbidden to be eaten.

1. What did Noah do after he planted a vineyard?

Noah became drunken after he planted a vineyard.

1. What does this prove concerning man governing himself?

This proves that man cannot govern himself.

1. What was the curse put upon Canaan?

The curse was that Canaan was to be a servant.

1. Who were the sons of Ham?

The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Phut, and Canaan.

1. Who was Japheth the father of?

Japheth was the father of the Gentiles.

1. Who was Shem the father of?

Shem was the father of Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram.

1. What happened to the earth after the flood?

After the flood the earth was divided into nations.

1. What did the Dispensation of Human Government end in?

The Dispensation of Human Government ended in judgment.

## Quiz 5: Promise

1. What period of time did the Dispensation of Promise cover & how long was it?

The Dispensation of Promise covered from the call of Abraham to the Exodus.

1. Into what did the people change the incorruptible God?

They changed the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things.

1. What is another name for this dispensation?

Another name for this dispensation is the Patriarchal Dispensation.

1. What are the three religions that Abraham is considered to be the father of?
   * The Jewish Religion – Isaac
   * The Mohammed Religion – Ishmael
   * The Christian Religion – through Christ (through the seed of Abraham)
2. What do we know of Haran and its religious background?

We know that it was a heathen background and that they worshipped the moon god.

1. What was God’s command to Abraham?

God’s command to Abraham was “Get you out of your father’s country”.

1. What is said of the Jew in regards to history?

It is said of the Jew that they are the miracle of history.

1. What were the three promises of the Abrahamic Covenant?
   * 1. Seed shall be as dust of the earth
     2. Stars of the sky
     3. Father of many nations
2. How old was Abraham when Isaac was born?

Abraham was a hundred years old when Isaac was born.

1. What does Isaac mean?

Isaac means laughter.

1. What was unusual about Rebecca being with child?

That she was with twins; which were in essence two nations in her womb.

1. What are the meanings of Rebecca’s sons’ names (Jacob & Esau?
   * Esau – means hairy, rough, red
   * Jacob – means heal holder, supplanter, trickster
2. Who is Joseph a type of?

Joseph is a type of Christ.

1. What are the 6 steps to the Throne for Joseph and, spiritually speaking, for us?
   * 1. Resistance of evil
     2. Divinely favored
     3. Providential circumstances
     4. Honored God
     5. Divine revelation
     6. Exalted to the throne
2. What did the Dispensation of Promise end in?

The Dispensation of Promise ended in Judgment.

## Quiz 6: Law: Division I

## Quiz 7: Law: Division II

## Quiz 8: Law: Divsions III & IV

## Quiz 9: Grace & Righteousness

## FINAL EXAM

What is a dispensation?

Name the dispensations.

What are the three themes to God’s eternal purpose?

What period of time did the Dispensation of Conscience cover?

Why did Satan want to destroy Abel?

What is Enoch a type of?

What was Noah’s a type of?

# Addendum

## Original Creation to Recreation

Original Creation to Recreation

Gen. 1:1—*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

*2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*

Most Young Earth creationist organizations reject the gap theory, and say it is unscriptural, unscientific, and not necessary, in its various forms. YECs assert that the entire universe is only 6-10 thousand years old.

Neh. 9:6 Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

Col 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Job 38:6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;

7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

2. The Chaotic Earth - Gen. 1:2

(1) Scripture speaks of angels and authorities

Rom. 8:38-39; Eph.1:21; 3:10; 6:12; Col 1:16; 2:15; I Peter 3:22

Original creation was inhabited

Lucifer was its ruler

Isa. 14:12-16 Eze. 28:11-17

He was created - vs. 15

He was anointed - vs. 14

He was perfect - vs. 15

His sin - Pride Eze. 28:17 Isa. 14:12-13

The effects of Lucifer’s sin - Rev. 12:4-9

(2) In Judging Lucifer God judged his kingdom

Gen. 1:2 The Word “was” “Hyah” “became”

“Tohu and Bohu” Jer 4:23

## Refutations to Ruin and Reconstruction Theory

Refutations of

‘The Gap Theory’ *or* ‘Ruin & Reconstruction Theory’

1. **Genesis 1:28 *“Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it:”***

ARGUMENT: “RE-plenish means to fill AGAIN. This suggests it WAS full, then emptied and now needing to be filled AGAIN.”

Refutation: The Hebrew word here is *male’*. It is found in 240 verses. In all of these uses the emphasis of the word is to relay the thought of ‘making full’ or ‘wholly (completely)’ and not necessarily to make full *again.* (That is to say, it is not the ONLY way to translate the word.)

*EXAMPLES*:

Gen. 42:25 Then Joseph commanded to fill their sacks with corn, and to restore every man's money into his sack, and to give them provision for the way: and thus did he unto them.

Gen. 24:16 And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

Ex. 1:7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

Job 15:2 Should a wise man utter vain knowledge, and fill his belly with the east wind?

## GODHEAD

THEIOS - Acts 17:29; 2 Pt. 1:3,4

**The** Godhead; **THE ONE TRUE** GOD

Used instead of Theos purposely---(general: a god, or diety; *not as strong a term)*

THEIOTES - Romans 1:20 → the attributes of God; His Divine Nature and Properties

How much of God can be known from the revelation of Himself which may be known from the revelation of Himself which men may everywhere trace in the world around them. It is not the ‘personal God’ which men may know by these aids. He can be known only by the revelation of Himself in His Son. Hence:

THEOTES Col. 2:9 → The Divine Essence of God; personality of God

In the Son dwells the fullness of absolute Godhead (not temporally, not FILLED with, but was, is and always will be GOD

## Characteristics of The Devil Gen. 3:1-5

# Subtle- Vs. 1

# Cunning -Crafty -Artful -Sly Treacherous -Operating secretly - Tricky -Slippery -II Cor. 11:3 Concealed himself ~ used a serpent

1. Tempter -Vs. 1

"Said unto the woman"

Tempted the woman when alone. Matt.4:3 I Thess. 3:5

1. Seducer -Vs. 1

"Yea, hath God said, he shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" I Chron. 21:1 Acts 5:3

1. Deceiver -Vs. 1

"Ye shall not eat of every tree"

II Cor. 11:3 E hp. 4:14 Rev. 12:9

1. Liar -Vs. 4

"Ye shall not surely die"

John 8:44

6. Slanderer -Vs. 5

"For God doth know"

Job 1:9-11 Rev. 12:10

7. Thief -Vs. 6

"And when the woman saw"

Matt. 13:19 John 10:10

## The Ancient View of Early Antiquity

Early literate civilizations generally looked back to antiquity as the "golden Age," and thought of their own era as decadent.

1. The ancient **Egyptians** mention their first historical epoch as the time: the gods ruled upon the earth.
2. The **Chinese** refer to the years before their great flood as when man reached his greatest perfection.
3. The sages of **India** thought of history in terms of four ages: the first of these, the Krita age, was the most glorious—when man knew no disease and lived for 400 years; the next two ages showed a steady degeneration from this time; then came the flood and after it this present age of Kali, the darkest time of human existence.
4. The **Greeks,** too, perceived human history in terms of four ages: the best of these, the "Golden Age," ended when the: first woman, Pandora, opened the forbidden box; the following, ages of Silver and Bronze showed a steady worsening of the human condition; then came the flood and this present era.

**FIND PLACE F OR NOTES:**

1. **Dispensation of Innocence -** Edenic Covenant Gen. 1:1-3:24

God created man perfect and in His own image. God deals with man as a perfect infant—untested, but perfect still the same. Sin had not entered the world and so man for the first and last time was initially innocent.

1. **Dispensation of** **Conscience -** Adamaic Covenant Gen. 4:1-8:19

God deals with man in the Dispensation of Conscience by his conscience. Everyone is born with a conscience which is not a curse but the providence of God at work. God has placed within man the awareness of what is right or wrong, of acts and motives then God holds man responsible to his conscience.

1. **Dispensation of Human Government-**Noahaic Covenant Gen.8:20-11:32

Man left to himself will self destruct, because of his carnal nature he is very heavily driven by his flesh and emotions, and so for a guiding force, God instituted human government. This did not replace man’s responsibility to God, but was to serve as a lower court of sorts. Man is ultimately responsible to God.

1. **Dispensation of Promise**- Abrahamic Covenant Gen. 12:1-Ex. 12:10

In God’s dealing with man we see a new method, not replacing any before this point, but a step higher and closer to an intimate relationship being restored between God and man. God, Who owes no one anything, but in Him all things have their existence and by Him ALL things are made, The Lord is the One making covenants and promises with believers.

1. **Dispensation of Law-** Mosaic Covenant Ex. 19:1-Matt. 1:1-25

The Dispensation of Law is clearly as vital to the perfect plan of God as the others, and yet the law is most often despised. The Law is rigid and unbending, and this is the narrow picture most have of God. The law though was not the full plan of God, but was as a Tutor “School Master” (Galatians 3:24) to teach man what God is expecting of man. Before we have the “What” (to know) but in the dispensation of Grace, God gives man the “How”(the enablement). (Romans 8:3)

1. **Dispensation of Grace**- New Testament Covenant

Matt. 28:1-10 Eph:2:8; 4:13; I John 3:2; Rev. 4:1-4

Man is incapable of equaling the balances with the character and nature of Christ without the Holy Ghost. Eph. 3:11; It is God’s Eternal Purpose to have a people that would see from God’s point of view and act, think and be like God’s Son. Gal.4:7; Eph.4:13; Rom.8:17; Heb.2:10; 2Cor. 3:18 “are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord” I Pt. 5:10; God has given man Grace—God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense—to do the work in man. God is working the change in man by his grace, and if man should fall, by God’s grace he can have peace with God restored through faith. (Romans 5:1)

1. **Dispensation of Righteousness -** Kingdom Covenant Rev. 22:1-21

Here is where the final purpose in the plan of God is fulfilled, where righteousness reigns in man and not sin. God is going to work a complete work in us. The New Heaven and New Earth is only the backdrop to the goal and heart of God—fellowship completely restored. God is a holy God and cannot and will not fellowship with sin, but God in his infinite love and knowledge has made a way for us to enter into a place of unrestricted communion with Him separate from sin.

The Seven Tests of the Dispensations

Test - Failure - Judgment

1. The First dispensation,( Gen.1:1-3:24) of **innocence** was with one specific test; do not touch the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

a. 1:28- Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion--- Rule over all creatures and the earth. b. 1:29 “every herb bearing seed… to you it shall be for meat”. c. 2:15 God put Adam in the “garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it”. d. 2:16 Man may eat of all trees in the Garden - (but one). e. 2:17 Man MUST NOT eat of the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. f. 2:24-25 Man and wife must work together as one.

2. The Second dispensation,( Gen. 4:1-8:19) of **Conscience** was with the added test to obey your conscience. The specific test which all had to pass was two-fold.

a. Must obey your conscience of right and wrong, good and evil. b. Acceptable blood sacrifices offered by faith for true worship.

3. The Third Dispensation, ( Gen. 8:20-11:32) of **Human Government** was with the test be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth and he failed.

God’s rule demonstrated that mankind would not obey God on a threefold basis

1. The human conscience
2. Restraint of lawlessness by the Holy Ghost striving against sin.
   1. Abraham’s prayer and witnessing
   2. God’s Judgment on sinful people and cities
3. Human government, man would not be able to judge himself properly..

4. The fourth dispensation, (Gen. 12:1- 18:27) of **Promise** is with a test to believe for the Promised Son.

God’s special dealing with Abraham is made evident in Gal.3:15-22; Heb.6:13-15

A principle is a ruling factor if it makes a difference in the way people live.

God intended His promises to Abraham and his seed to make a difference in the way that they would live.

Hebrews 11:8-30 demonstrates the fact that God’s promises did make a difference in the lives of Abraham and his seed.

1. The human conscience
2. The restraint of lawlessness through the Holy Ghost striving once again against sin.
3. Human government
4. Plus the Promises of God to Abraham

The fourth dispensation is distinct from the third by adding the promises to Abraham’s conscience.

1. The special revelation God gave to Abraham and his seed in the fourth dispensation is in Genesis 12:2-3; 13:14-17; 15; 17:1-22; 22:16-18.
2. God made personal promises to Abraham. He would bless him, make

his name great, give him many physical descendants, make him the father of many nations, give him the land of Canaan for an everlasting possession, and bless those who would bless him and curse those who would curse him .

2. God made national promises concerning Israel. He would bring Israel into existence as a nation and make it great, give Israel the land of Canaan forever, and establish the Abrahamic Covenant with the nation as an everlasting covenant.

3.`God also made a universal promise. He would give blessing to all the families of the earth through Abraham’s seed. (Messiah-Redeemer-The Promised Seed)

1. The responsibility of Abraham and his seed in the fourth dispensation was a test to obey God on a fourfold basis of the human conscience,

Abram and his descendants failed the test; they disobeyed God as the result of lapses of faith concerning the fulfillment of His promises. Abram fathered Ishmael through Hagar, because he failed to believe God’s promise to give him a son through Sarah, his wife. Twice he lied concerning his wife. Isaac lied concerning Rebekah, his wife. Jacob was a great deceiver.

The Jews did not return from Egypt to Canaan after the famine of Joseph’s time ended.

They forgot their destiny was related to the promised land of Canaan rather than Egypt.

This failure brought divine judgment to the Jews they have continued to have problems with Ishmael’s descendants. Through time they were subjected to slavery and threatened with extinction in Egypt.

**5. The fifth dispensation** of Law Ex19:1;Mt.27:56;Mk15:4;Lk.23:49;Jn.19:30 Extended from the giving of the Mosaic Law at Mount Sinai to the death of Jesus Christ on the cross at Mount Calvary and rent veil.

The fifth dispensation had five ruling factors which God used to governed Israel:

* 1. The Human conscience
  2. The restraint of lawlessness by the Holy Spirit,
  3. Human government,
  4. The Promises of God
  5. plus the Mosaic Law.

The central core of the Mosaic Law (the ten commandments) was

written on tables of stone. The Law inflicted external penalties upon those who broke its

precepts. The Mosaic Law was a totally external way of God administering His rule over Israel (it should be noted that God gave the Mosaic Law exclusively to Israel, not to the Gentiles—see Romans 2:14 and 9:4). Thus, the Apostle Paul declared that the Mosaic Law functioned as (an external moral restrainer, Galatians 3:23-25).

The special revelation that God gave to Israel for the fifth dispensation is recorded in Exodus 20 through Deuteronomy. It consisted of the Mosaic Law with its 613 commandments. These gave in detail God’s will for the moral, civil, and ceremonial aspects of Israel’s life.

**The** test would be for them to obey God on a fivefold basis.

The people of Israel failed the test of the fifth dispensation.

They broke the Mosaic Law repeatedly Jer. 31:32; Ez 16. God told them that they had a heart of stone (Ezekiel 36:26; Zechariah 7:12).

This failure brought God’s judgment upon Israel. The nation suffered many judgments during the fifth dispensation. Among the worst were the Assyrian and Babylonian captivities, the Greek and Roman oppressions, Israel’s temporary removal from its place of blessing (Romans 11), and its worldwide dispersion as the result of its rejection of Christ. Ex 19:1-8; 2K 17:1-18; 25:1-11; Ac 2:22-23;7:51-52; Ro3:19-20;10:5; Gal3:10

**The Usage Of The Word For Dispensation In The New Testament**

The word *oikonomia* appears nine times in the New Testament. In six of these appearances (Luke 16:2-4; 1 Corinthians 9:17; Ephesians 3:2; Colossians 1:25) it is translated *stewardship* or *dispensation* and refers to a responsible office or ministry entrusted to one’s care by a higher authority. In the other three appearances (Ephesians 1:10; 3:9; 1 Timothy 1:4) it is translated *dispensation, fellowship,* and *edifying* in the King James Version and *administration* in the New American Standard Bible. In these three passages it refers to a particular way of God administering His rule over the world. Ephesians 1:10 is of special interest, because it appears to refer to the particular way that God will administer His rule over the world in the future Millennium (the Millennial Dispensation). Ephesians 3:9 and 1 Timothy 1:4 refer to the particular way that God administers His rule now (the present dispensation).

**A Definition Of The Term *Dispensation* As It Relates To Dispensational Theology**

In light of the usage of the word for dispensation in the New Testament, the term *dispensation* as it relates to Dispensational Theology could be defined as follows: *a dispensation is a particular way of God administering His rule over the world as He progressively works out His purpose for world history*.

**Essential Characteristics Of Each Dispensation**

In order for each dispensation to be distinct from all other dispensations, it must have three essential characteristics. First, it must have a particular way of God administering His rule. Each dispensation is characterized by a unique ruling factor or combination of ruling factors. Second, it must involve a particular responsibility for man. Each dispensation makes mankind responsible to obey God in accordance with the dispensation’s unique ruling factor or combination of factors. Third, it must be characterized by divine revelation which had not been given before. In order for mankind to know God’s new way of ruling and the new responsibility, mankind must have these things revealed to it. Thus, each new dispensation requires new revelation from God

The Apostle Paul indicated that the present dispensation is definitely related to new revelation which God gave to the apostles and New Testament prophets (Ephesians 3:2-10).

**Secondary Characteristics Of Each Dispensation**

The fact that each new dispensation involves a newly revealed responsibility for mankind indicates that each dispensation also has three secondary characteristics. First, each dispensation applies a test to mankind. The nature of the test is whether or not mankind will perfectly obey God’s rule by fulfilling the responsibility which is characteristic of that dispensation. Second, each dispensation demonstrates the failure of mankind to obey the particular rule of God which characterizes that dispensation. Third, each dispensation involves divine judgment because of mankind’s failure

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| **DISPENSATIONAL THEOLOGY**  (Lewis S. Chafer, John Walvoord, Tim LaHaye, John Nelson Darby, C.I. Scofield) | **COVENANT THEOLOGY**  (Charles Hodge, Loraine Boettner, Louis Berkhof, John Murray, B.B. Warfield) |
| 1. May be Arminian or modified Calvinist. | Usually 5-point. |
| . | 2.Accepts 'normal' interpretation of the Bible text (allows both literal and figurative) |
|  | 3. Almost always accepts the idea of The "Analogy of Faith." |
|  | 4. "Israel" may mean either literal, physical descendants of Jacob or the figurative, spiritual Israel, depending on context. |
|  | 5.  "Israel of God" in [Gal. 6:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Gal+6%3A16) means spiritual Israel, parallel to [Gal. 3:29](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Gal+3%3A29); [Rom. 2:28-29](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+2%3A28-29) , [9:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+9%3A6); [Phil. 3:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Php+3%3A3). |
|  | 6.  God has gradually developed His people. |
| . | 7.  The Church was born at Pentecost The Church began in prophecy O. T. ([Acts 7:38](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ac+7%3A38)) and reached fulfillment in the N. T. |
|  | 8.  There are many O. T. prophecies of the N. T. Church. |
|  | 9.  Some O. T. prophecies are for the literal nation of Israel, others are for spiritual Israel. |
|  | 10.  God's main purpose in history is Christ and secondarily the Church. |
|  | 11.  The Church is the culmination of God"s saving purpose for the ages. |
|  | 12.  The main heir to Abraham"s covenant was Christ and spiritual Israel. |
|  | 13.  The eternal Covenant of Redemption was within the Trinity to effect election. |
|  | 14.  God made a conditional Covenant of Works\* with Adam as representative forall his posterity. |
|  | 15.  God made a Covenant of Grace with Christ and His people, including Adam. |
|  | 16.  Israel was right to accept the Covenant Mt.  Sinai. |
|  | 17.  The "New Covenant" of [Jer. 31](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+31) is the same as in [Lk. 22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+22); both are for spiritual Israel according to [Heb. 8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8). |
|  | 18.  God"s program in history is mainly through related covenants. |
|  | 19.  No man has ever been saved by works, but only by grace. |
| . | 20.  All men who have ever been saved have been saved by faith in Christ as their sin-bearer, which has been progressively revealed in every age. |
|  | 21.  O. T. believers believed in the Gospel of Messiah as sin-bearer mainly by the sacrifices as types and prophecies. |
| 22. The Holy Spirit indwells only believers in the dispensation of Grace, not O.T. and not after the Rapture. |  |
|  | 23.  Jesus made only an offer of the spiritual Kingdom, which was rejected by literal Israel but has gradually been accepted by spiritual Israel. |
| 24. O.T. believers were not in Christ, not part of the Body or Bride of Christ. |  |
| . | 25.  The Law has 3 uses: to restrain sin in society, to lead to Christ, and to instruct  Christians in godliness.  The ceremonial Laws have been abolished; the civil laws have been abolished except for their general equity; the moral laws continue. |
|  | 26.  O. T. laws are still in effect unless abrogated in the N.T. |
|  | 27.  The Church is the Kingdom of God.  Covenanters are usually AMillennial, sometimes Pre-Millennial or Post-Millennial, rarely Pre-Tribulational. |

Original Creation to Recreation

Gen. 1:1—*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

*2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*

Most Young Earth creationist organizations reject the gap theory, and say it is unscriptural, unscientific, and not necessary, in its various forms. YECs assert that the entire universe is only 6-10 thousand years old.

Neh. 9:6 Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

Col 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Job 38:6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;

7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

2. The Chaotic Earth - Gen. 1:2

(1) Scripture speaks of angels and authorities

Rom. 8:38-39; Eph.1:21; 3:10; 6:12; Col 1:16; 2:15; I Peter 3:22

Original creation was inhabited

Lucifer was its ruler

Isa. 14:12-16 Eze. 28:11-17

He was created - vs. 15

He was anointed - vs. 14

He was perfect - vs. 15

His sin - Pride Eze. 28:17 Isa. 14:12-13

The effects of Lucifer’s sin - Rev. 12:4-9

(2) In Judging Lucifer God judged his kingdom

Gen. 1:2 The Word “was” “Hyah” “became”

“Tohu and Bohu” Jer 4:23

ENDNOTES

1. <http://www.myasha.org/node/12>, *Startling Statistics About Mental Illness.* [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. Hare, Robert D., PHD*. Without Conscience: The Disturbing World of the Psychopath Among Us*. New York, NY: Guilford Press,1999.ISBN 157230 451 0. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. [www.edivorcepapers.com](http://www.edivorcepapers.com), statistics via World Nations Fertility Report 2003. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
4. Pew Research Center, October 2010. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)