Does Dispensationalism Undermine Christianity? (v1.3)

*Multiple Bodily Resurrections of the righteous contradict Jesus' teaching*Jesus teaches that <u>all righteous</u> people will be raised on the "last day" (**John 6:39-40, 44, 54**). Dispensationalism has two resurrections of the righteous: <u>one</u> at a pre/mid-tribulation rapture, then a <u>second</u> at the start of the millennium, 3.5 to 7 years later. Is 3.5 years a day? Is 7 years a day?

2 Daniel's 70 Weeks Fulfilled - Per Jesus quoting it + "this generation"

Matt 24:15 cites **Daniel 9:24–27**'s 70 weeks, fulfilled when armies surrounded Jerusalem in AD 66 (**Luke 21:20**). Christian Jews fled, and Rome destroyed the city in AD 70. Dispensationalism's 2,000-year gap for a future tribulation – where's the gap in Daniel? Why not agree with Jesus?

3 No 7-Year Tribulation in Scripture

Scripture never mentions a 7-year tribulation. **Daniel 9:27**'s 70th "week" was fulfilled in AD 70, not a future crisis. **Matthew 24:21**'s "tribulation" is Jerusalem's fall (**Luke 21:20–24**), not a global event. **Revelation**'s judgments lack a 7-year marker. Where does the Bible say "7-year tribulation"?

4 Old Covenant Revival Contradicts Christ's Work

Heb 8:13 declares the Old Covenant "obsolete" through Jesus' New Covenant (**Matt 26:28**). Yet Dispensationalism anticipates a future revival of animal sacrifices <u>for sin</u> (**Ezek 43:27,45:15,17,20**), Levite priesthood, circumcision, and other Old Covenant observances, and that God will be pleased. Paul warns that reverting to the law nullifies Christ's cross (**Gal 4:21–31; 5:2-4**). Why restore sacrifices for sin when Jesus' blood is sufficient (**Heb 10:10-14**)? Where does scripture affirm returning to Old Covenant types/shadows after their fulfillment in Christ?

5 Zion Prophecies Fulfilled

Dispensationalism awaits a future earthly Zion, yet scriptures show Zion's prophecies fulfilled in Christ's New Covenant. **Jer 31:34** promises that all God's people "will know" Him without need for Levitical priests, fulfilled in the Church. **Gal 4:26** calls the "Jerusalem above" our mother, and **Heb 12:22-23** identifies Zion as the heavenly Jerusalem, where believers are enrolled now (**Col 1:13**). **Rom 11:26** shows "all Israel"—Jew and Gentile(**Gal 3:28, Eph 2:14-16**)—saved through Christ, secure in His unshakable kingdom (**Heb 12:28**). Albeit, a millennial view that does not contradict scripture is possible, but why expect Jesus to undermine what He accomplished at the cross?

6 Land Promise Fulfilled and Future

Dispensationalism expects a race-based, future land promise, yet scriptures show Abraham's land promise fulfilled and universalized. (Josh 21:43-45,11:23,23:14,1 Kings 4:21-24,8:5,2 Sam 8:3) declares that God gave Israel "all the land" promised, though disobedience led to exile (Deut 28). Rom 4:13 reveals that Abraham's heirs—in Christ—will inherit the cosmos in the new heavens and earth (Rev 21:1). Gal 3:28/Rom 9:6 emphasize that ethnic descent from Abraham is insignificant (Matt 3:9; 21:43; Gal 4:30). Where does the Bible teach God favors based on ethnicity and not faith, or that any Old Covenant offer can still be legitimate today, even though that covenant is obsolete? They were eternal if they did their part. Old Covenant is obsolete - benefits forfeited. If the land promise is unconditionally eternal, so are these: Gen 17:13,Ex 29:9;40:15,Num 25:13,Lev 7:36,1 King 9:3.

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7 Christianity Thrives When Jesus' Truth is Embraced

- God still keeps all His promises, which are only for the faithful (**Ps 50:5,15,16**).
- "This generation" remains "this generation" in **Matt 24:1-34**, and all happened in His most miraculous, specific prophecy He ever made, just as He said. Jesus remains a true prophet.
- No more need to make fulfillments into partial fulfillments, which is false prophecy. Christians discount other religions for this.
- The 70th week of Daniel literally remains 7 instead of 2000+ years.
- Jesus still raises all the righteous and judges the unjust on the last day.
- There are competing 1000 year millennium views which are possible, but only as long as they do not contract Jesus
- Christ continues to have one body, one peoples of God, one olive tree (**Rom 11**).
- Satan had 99.9% of the nations deceived, but has been bound from continuing that pattern. Ruler of this world cast out at the cross(**John 12:31,14:30,16:11**). Jesus bound Satan, the strongman and has been plundering Satan's house(**Matt 12:29**) ever since the cross, via His messengers(*angelos*) in **Matt 24:31**.
- "Absent from the body, present with the Lord"(**2 Cor 5:8**), and continuing to live and reign as 'spirits' with Christ during a current millennium period(**Rev 20:4**), saints had the first resurrection here on Earth (**John 5:25**). The resurrection of the just on the last day is bodily, and the 2nd death has no effect on them, where the unjust are resurrected to one of condemnation.
- Peter and Paul both taught that Christ's kingdom is the everlasting kingdom of David, continued
- Gal 4:21-31 calls Abraham's descendants according to the flesh-only, as Hagar, who was cast out and not heir with the son of the free woman, Isaac. Anyone born according to the flesh-only is not an heir of the promise. John the Baptist says stones can be sons of Abraham, so flesh-only ancestry matters nothing to God. Not all who were of national Israel were part of the faithful remnant Israel of whom God's promises always belong.
- Dispensationalism's view of **Rom 11:26** can be dismissed, which implies 1st-century Jews had to wait 2,000+ years to see if Christianity was true, only for ~.0000001% of Abraham's flesh-only offspring to be saved in the end, instead of all Israel being saved as Paul said.
- We no longer have to imagine that God is meticulously keeping track of who has .0000001% of Abraham's DNA in their bodies. God's promises require faith, not ethnic descent. (**Luke 4:26-27**, **Heb 11:31**, **Isa 56:6-7**, **Gen 12:3**, **Eph 3:6**, **Rom 10:12-13**, **1 Pet 2:9-10**)

What then?

• We should not hold any view which asserts that Jesus must be wrong in order for our view to be right. Confidence does not produce correctness. Our views of the Bible should be able to be supported with scripture. We should be like the Bereans, who tested what they were taught with the Scripture.