

DISPENSATIONS

“Rightly Dividing the Word”

I. The Dispensation Principle: A dispensation is a period of time during which God deals in a particular way with man in respect to sin and to man's responsibility. Distinguish the dispensations and you will understand the Word of God. (Ephesians 1:10; Ephesians 3:2, 5; 1 Corinthians 9:17)

Time is an island in the Sea of God's Eternity. It begins with man and ends with man. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, but His dealings with man are different. Each dispensation is different, and each proves man's failure. Dispensations were made in order to give man another chance. (See Hebrews 1:2; 11:3).

The literal meaning of a dispensation is a stewardship, or administration. In the Word we see that it is used as the administration of the affairs of a house, property, or nation; the rule of a house, the administration of a household, stewardship. A steward is one who has been entrusted with household goods. (Luke 16:2-4.)

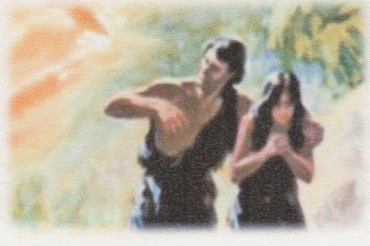
Dispensations begin with a Covenant and end with a judgment.

II. The Covenant Principle: The Word “covenant” means compact, or fetter; that which binds together. In the Word the written covenants were made between God and man, binding them together.

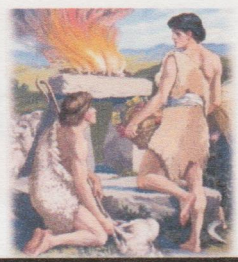
There are two kinds of covenants: (1) “CONDITIONAL”, its formula being: “If thou wilt” (Exodus 19:5). It is based upon the faithfulness of man. (2) “UNCONDITIONAL”, its formula being: “I will” (Genesis 9: 11). It is not based upon what man will do, but rather, upon the faithfulness of God.

Dispensations and Covenants are linked together.

1. INNOCENCE



2. CONSCIENCE



Creation to Expulsion
Genesis 1-3

From the Fall To the Flood
Genesis 3-8 (1656 Years)

I. Edenic Covenant:

1. Conditional: "If thou wilt" Depends on Man's Faithfulness. (1:28; 2:15-17) ; or, "How to live in the Garden."
2. God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply/ replenish the earth/subdue it/have dominion over fish/fowl/and every living thing that moveth...(1:28)
4. "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it:...(2:17)
5. Vegetarian diet (9:3 vs Col. 2:16)
4. Dress and keep (guard) the Garden.

II. Adamic Covenant

1. Unconditional: Depends on God's Faithfulness: "I will..." (3:14-19)

Judgment:

1. Curse on Satan: (3:14) "That old serpent, the Devil." He was seen by unfallen man as he appeared, an angel of light, just as our Lord saw him at his temptation in the wilderness.
2. This is not a "snake and apple" story; but, a true account of a curse being placed upon Satan.
3. Driven out of Garden (3:24)
4. Woman: Pain in childbirth & motherhood. Headship to Husband (3:16)
5. Ground (or Creation) is cursed for Adam's sake. (3:17-19)

Promise of a Redeemer!

Genesis 3:15

The Remedy!

1. Coats of skin to cover their sin.
2. The Innocent Lamb dies for the Guilty—a Type of Christ. (John 1:29)

II. Adamic Covenant

1. Made with Adam before the Expulsion).
2. Unconditional: Depends on God's Faithfulness: (Gen. 3:14-19)

Length:

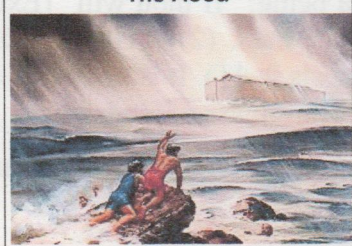
Does not end with the Flood; but continues until the Earth is renovated with fire.(2 Peter 3:12,13)

Man's Responsibility:

1. God made the approach to Him by way of blood sacrifices. (4:2-7)
2. Man now knew good and evil, he was to do right. (4:7)
3. Conscience says "Do right. Only God's Word tells you what IS right.
4. First murder. Cain kills Abel.
5. Man's heart evil continually (6:5, 11, 12)
6. The apostasy of Gen. 6 the same as Matt. 24:37-39, before the 2nd Coming of the Lord.

Judgment:

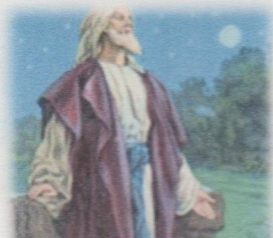
The Flood



3. HUMAN GOVERNMENT



4. PROMISE



Approximately 4,000 YEARS

Flood to Tower of Babel - Genesis 8-11 (427 Years)

III. Noahic Covenant

1. Unconditional Covenant. (8:20-9:17)
2. Made with Noah after the Flood.
 - a. God would never destroy the earth by water again.
 - b. Never again destroy all living.
 - c. Seasons to be preserved.
 - d. Noah and descendants to multiply and replenish earth.
 - e. Dominion over Animals.
 - f. Now eat meat; but, not the blood.(Genesis9:3-5) **"Life is in the blood"**
 - g. Capital Punishment established until the end of time. (9:5,6).

Length:

Noahic Covenant runs until the earth is renovated with fire. (2 Peter 3:12, 13)(Gen. 9:11-17)

Man's Responsibility:

1. Govern & replenish the earth.
2. Man's Sin: He did not go out to govern and replenish earth; but, joined together in rebellion & idol worship.

"...let us build a city and a tower whose top may reach unto heaven..." (11:4)

3. Sign: the Rainbow! Man's sin is the cloud. Jesus is the Rainbow!

Judgment:

1. Confusion of languages. (Gen. 11:5-9)



Call of Abraham to Bondage in Egypt. Gen. 11 – Ex. 12:41 (430 Yrs.)

IV. Abrahamic Covenant:

1. Unconditional: Gen. 13:14,15; 15:1-16
2. Contents:
 - a. "Make of thee a great nation." (Gen. 12:2; 13:15; 15:5; 17:6)
 - b. "I will bless thee." (Gen. 12:2; 13, 15, 24, 34, 35).
 - c. "Make thy name great." (12:2)
 - d. "I will make thee a blessing." (v.2) "...for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye. (Zech. 2:8)
 - e. "I will give Canaan as an everlasting possession (13:15)
 - f. "In thee all families blessed."
 - g. Is to Jews only. (12:3) and stands today.
3. Sign: Circumcision
4. Abraham always met God at the altar of sacrifice. (Gen. 12:8; 13:4 and other) Then at times God appeared to him.

Man's Responsibility:

1. Abide in the land; God will provide. (Gen. 26:1-3)
2. Abraham went down to Egypt and brought back Hagar. There has been "Trouble in the tent ever since!"
3. Man's failure: In Egypt, Israel fell into unbelief and idolatry; but, were spared so God's Name would not be blasphemed before the "heathen." (Ezek. 20:7 to end of the chapter.)

Judgment:

1. Ended up as slaves in Egypt. (Ex. 1:8) "A new king which knew not Joseph.

the Cross, until then the blood sacrifices only covered s

5. LAW



6. CHURCH AGE; OR, AGE OF GRACE



3 Days
and



PENTECOST

3 Nights
Matt.
12:40

WALKED
40 Days
Acts 1:3

TO WAIT
10 Days
Acts 1:4,5



CEMETERY AFTER
RAPTURE

LAW GIVES WAY TO GRACE 2,000 + YEARS

Exodus to the Cross; Exodus 19:1-5 to
Romans 10:5 (1491 Yrs.)

Descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost
To the Rapture – Acts & The Epistles.

V. Mosaic Covenant:

1. Conditional: made only with the Jews as a nation. (Exodus 24:1-8; 24:9-32:1)
 - a. God continued giving Moses the Law; but, by Ex. 32:1—Israel relapsed to idolatry.
 - b. In Exodus—the Law was broken.
 - c. Leviticus gives sacrifices – (Lev. 16:17,18)
 - d. Lev. 16:17,18 – “Atonement is “kāpar;” or, “to cover.” (Jesus’ blood takes away sin. (Jn. 1:29; Gen. 6:14)
2. Merges with the Palestinian Covenant.

VI. Palestinian Covenant:

1. Conditional: Deut. 30:1-10.
2. Has to do with Israel in their land.
3. Is the only conditional covenant that will be kept. (Romans 11:26,27)
4. Sign: the Sabbath
5. Continues through the Millennium.

VI. Davidic Covenant:

1. Unconditional: God WILL keep all His promises to Israel! (2 Sam. 7:10-16)
2. A Davidic house - tradition.
3. Davidic Throne (7:13)
4. Davidic Kingdom-never to be destroyed; Is unending. (7:14)
5. V.14 – “When iniquity is laid upon, I will chasten him with rods of men.” (cf. Isa. 53)
5. Sign: The Son, the Lord Jesus Christ (Isa. 7:14) who finally comes (Luke 1:30-33; 2:12)
6. A blessing to Jew and the World (John 3:16)

Man’s Responsibility:

1. To render obedience to the Law.
3. Go to Jerusalem 3 times/yr.
2. Keep Passover: “When I see the blood, I will pass over you.” Exodus 12:13
3. Sacrifices looked forward to Cross.

Judgment Deferred!

Daniel 9:24-27 - 7 Weeks of Years to go!

VII. New Covenant:

1. Unconditional: Made on Calvary. To make a covenant, blood has to be shed. In Hebrews 13:30 the Blood of Jesus Christ is called the “Blood of the Everlasting Covenant.
2. It was offered to the Nation of Israel at Christ’s 1st coming; but, they did not accept the Salvation made possible by His death on the Cross; or, recognize Him as their promised Messiah and King.
3. They clung to the old ceremony of their religion, an Aaron’s Calf; and, as Abraham’s physical seed rejected the Savior.
4. The Law, or the “Old Covenant” made on Mt. Sinai, was a “school master” to show us we needed a Savior. (Gal. 3:24)
5. If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior; you are the spiritual “seed of Abraham.” (Gal. 3:29)
6. Is to be fulfilled at His 2nd Coming at the end of the Tribulation Period.
7. It is a Universal Covenant: “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:28)

Man’s Responsibility:

1. “Ye must be born again.” (John 1:11-12; 3:36; Rom. 4:5; Gal. 5:6; Eph. 2:8,9; Must come to Christ the only Way, John 14:6.
2. The Law gives way to Grace (John 1:7)

Judgment:

If you have not accepted Christ when the Rapture occurs; you will be LEFT BEHIND to go into the Tribulation. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18) THE SAVED ARE TAKEN TO HEAVEN!

Note: The exact opposite of what happens at the Judgment of the Nations at the end of the Tribulation. (Matt. 25:41) THE LOST ARE TAKEN TO JUDGMENT; THE SAVED ARE LEFT TO ENTER THE KINGDOM. (Matt. 25:34)

Note: The only signs for the Rapture are the following Scriptures: 2 Timothy 3:1-5; 4:4,5; 2 Peter 3:3,4; and many others.

sin; - Hebrews - 10:4,10-12

After Calvary, we are saved by looking back at the Cr

7. TRIBULATION PERIOD

8. KINGDOM; OR, MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

RAPTURE



REVELATION



7 YRS. ("Except...Shortened"—Matt. 24:22)

1,000 YEARS

From Rapture to
Christ's 2nd Coming

From Christ's 2nd Coming at End of Tribulation
To the Great White Throne Judgment

"Fake Renewal" of Mosaic Covenant

I. Events of the 1st 45 days.

1. The Antichrist will make a "covenant" with the Jewish people which they will believe is a renewal of the Mosaic Covenant allowing them to resume their Temple Worship.

1. Satan is chained: (Rev. 20:1,2)
2. Judgment of Nations (Matt. 24:30, 40, 41; Matt. 25:31-34, 41; 2 Tim. 4:1).
3. Battle of Armageddon (Rev. 14:14-20; Rev. 16:10-16; Joel 3:1-4,9-16).
4. Resurrected Bodies (Daniel 12:2; John 6:39,40; Rev. 20:4,6).
5. Feast of Trumpets (Re-gather Israel). Israel Was to Sound the Trumpets: Leviticus 23:23-25).
6. Feast of Atonement, Israel is forgiven (Ro. 11:26, 27; Lev. 23:27).
7. Feast of Tabernacles (Lev. 23:33-44; Zech. 14:16-19).

"And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week." (Daniel 9:27a)

2. Also called "Jacob's Trouble" (Rev. 6-19; Dan. 9:27 Jer. 30:7)

3. People will be saved after the Rapture of the Church. (Rev. 7:14; 14:6,7; Eph. 1:7)

4. In the middle of the week he enthrones himself, defiles the temple and turns on the Jews.

"...and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. Daniel 9:27

5. There is an increasing intensity of judgments from God in Heaven and the vicious persecution by the Antichrist & his people.

6. The Seal, Trumpet, and Bowl Judgments will fall on the lost and saved alike.

7. Some will be martyred for their faith and some will come out alive. (Rev. 6:9-11)

Judgment:

1. It ends at Armageddon.
2. The lost, the Beast and False Prophet go into Lake of Fire; Satan into the Bottomless Pit.

II. Life in the "Kingdom"

1. Israel's Land Restored—all of it and now the desert shall bloom like a rose.
2. Peace At Last, For the Whole World. (Micah 4:3)
3. No More Sickness or Disease. (Isa. 35:5,6; 60:22; Ps. 127:3-5)
4. No Ferocious Animals To Attack Man (Isa. 11:6; Ro. 8:19-22).
6. No Need to Steal, People Will Have All They Need.
7. The Lord IS King Over All The Earth (Zech. 14:9; Jer. 23:5,6).
8. Satan is loosed for a short season and even in a world ruled by the Savior, Himself, he can gather an army as "the sand of the sea" to fight the 2nd Battle of Gog and Magog. God sends fire from Heaven—Game over! (Rev. 20:7-10)

Great White Throne Judgment:

Revelation 20:11-15

New Heaven and New Earth "wherein dwelleth righteousness." (2 Peter 3:13)