

Eschatology 202

Why Dispensationalism?

So What is Dispensationalism?

- A system of theology that views the end times (eschatology) in consistency with God's overarching program in history
- Dispensationalism views God as working differently with individuals at different times (an administration or dispensation)
- Simply put "Israel is not the church"

Traditional Dispensationalists list 7 periods in which God by grace provided ever-increasing data as to how man can worship and serve Him by faith

- Innocence
- Conscience
- Human Government
- Promise
- Law
- Grace
- Kingdom

Why Dispensationalism?

- It consistently upholds the literal interpretation of Scripture
- It constantly undergirds the integrity of God
- It comprehensively unites all individuals in God's program

Dispensationalism consistently upholds the literal interpretation of Scripture

- Literal interpretation allows God to be the authority of meaning
- Other forms are anthropocentric
- 12 tribes of Israel in Matthew 19:28 must mean Israel

Dispensationalism constantly undergirds the integrity of God

- Dispensationalism is built on the skeleton of the Biblical covenants
- The Biblical covenants require that God fulfill His obligations

Primary Covenants

- Abrahamic (Gen. 12:1-3, 15, 17)
- Mosaic (Ex. 19)
- Palestinian (Deuteronomy 29-30)
- Priestly (Num. 25:13)
- Davidic (2 Samuel 7)
- New (Jeremiah 31:31ff)

Dispensationalism comprehensively unites all individuals in God's program

- People remain individuals in God's program
- They are all the united people of God
- Easy as Pie >> work with the crust, then set aside >> work with the filling >> thus complete a separate unity

Applicational Similarities

- If God elects Israel and does not abandon them for their sin
 - Then we can be secure in God's election
- If God expects obedience after relationship with Israel for blessing
 - Then should we not strive for obedience to receive blessing
- Note how God applies the covenant blessings of Israel to those who are "in Christ"