

# HOW TO READ THE BIBLE DISPENSATIONALLY

## MAKING SENSE OF THE DIFFERENCES

*"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners  
spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days  
spoken unto us by his Son..."*

*~ Hebrews 1:1-2*

### 1. Progressive Revelation

- a. God, who at sundry times and divers manners spake - Heb 1:1
- b. Not everyone knew everything God would reveal:
  - i. Prophets searched diligently - 1 Peter 1:10-11
  - ii. John the Baptist was unsure about Christ – John 1:33; Matt 11:2
  - iii. The disciples were ignorant of the cross – Mark 4:34, 6:7,12, 9:9-10, 30-32
  - iv. You cannot bear them now – John 16:12-13; 1 John 2:20
  - v. It is not for you to know - Acts 1:6-7
  - vi. Having made known unto us - Ephesians 1:9

### 2. God Spoke Different Times, Manners, People

- a. In common: God inspired all scripture.
- b. Speaking in his wrath - Psa 2:5; I will speak comfortably - Hos 2:14
- c. Plowshares and pruning hooks – Micah 4:3; Joel 3:10
- d. Angels: "Peace on earth" – Luke 2:13-14; Jesus: "nay" - Luke 12:51
- e. Sabbath day importance - Exodus 20:8, 31:15; Col 2:16; Gal 4:9-10

### 3. God Spoke Different Diets

- a. In common: God provides food.
- b. Fruitarians in the garden - Genesis 1:28-30
- c. Carnivorous after the flood – Genesis 9:3-4
- d. Only clean animals after the Law – Lev 11:1-3, 9,20-23,27
- e. Don't worry about chasing them – Matt 6:11, 25
- f. Paul says you can eat anything with thanksgiving – 1 Tim 4:1-4

### 4. God Spoke Different about the Law

- a. In common: right and wrong, sin and holiness.
- b. It shall be our righteousness - Deut 6:24-25
- c. He did not come to destroy but to fulfill the law - Matt 5:17; 23:1
- d. They were daily in one accord in the temple - Acts 2:46
- e. The law will be written on their hearts - Heb 7:12, 8:8-10, 1 John 2:3-4
- f. Without the law, not under law, abolished the enmity- Rom 3:21-22; 6:14, Eph 2:15

## **5. God Spoke Different Gospels**

- a. In common: belief and salvation.
- b. Repent and be baptized, kingdom at hand - Matt 3:2,6, 8-11; Acts 22:16
- c. Believe Jesus as the Son of God/Messiah, kingdom come- Mt 16:13-17; 20; Jn 20:31
- d. Believe in Jesus as Messiah resurrected, kingdom power - Acts 2:23,36; 3:13-16
- e. Believe in the blood of Jesus Christ's death, burial, and his resurrection for the justification of eternal life (kingdom not flesh) - 1 Cor 15:1-4; Rom 4:25, Gal 6:14

## **6. His Son Spoke through Different Apostles**

- a. In common: Lord Jesus Christ chose men.
- b. Twelve apostles witnessed resurrection, prophecy, end - Acts 3:21, 4:33, 2 Pet 3:2
- c. Jesus chose apostles to Israel, and an apostle to Gentiles - Gal 1:1, 2:8
- d. Paul witnessed "the preaching of Jesus Christ according to ... mystery" - Rom 16:25
  - i. Last of all he spoke to Paul -1 Cor 15:8
  - ii. "By revelation [Christ] made known unto me..." - Eph 3:3
  - iii. "unto [Paul] ... is this grace given, ... to make all men see" - Eph 3:8-9
- e. It is not enough to be Biblical; you must be dispensational. Context matters.