Doctrine of Dispensations

This morning I want to provide the names and authors of source documents used in the preparation of my Doctrine of Dispensations: The Nations by John Walvoord; Prophecy Today by Dwight Pentecost; The Basis of the Premillennial Faith by Charles Ryrie; Book of Revelation by John Walvoord; Footsteps of Messiah by Arnold Fruchtenbaum; Road to Armageddon; The Millennial Kingdom by John Walvoord; Things to Come by Dwight Pentecost; There's A New World Coming by Hal Lindsey.

1. Last week we taught in part, Part IV. When the clock tolled 11:30 we were in the process of teaching the battles of Armageddon.

2. Before we return to the study of the Tribulation, I want to give opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may or may not be necessary.

3. I want to review some of that learned and then begin new material on page three.

4. Just how short will the "Tribulation" be and when will it occur? It will begin after the Rapture of the Church and continue for seven years.

5. The prophecy should not have come as a shock to the disciples as the Old Testament contained many references to this future time of great trauma. The Scriptures speak of a "time of Jacob's distress" and is compared to a "woman in child birth."

6. In a vision Daniel was told of a seventy-week period (literally seventy sevens) that God would give the Jews "to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness ... and to anoint the most holy place."

7. The events occurring in the Tribulation will be the subject of this doctrine. Welcome to events future.

8. The prophecy should not have come as a shock to the disciples; the Old Testament contained many references to this future time as a time of Jacob's distress and compares it to a "woman in child birth." Jer 30:4-7; Eze 20:34-38; Eze 22:19-22.

9. We should not be overly concerned about the timing of the events of

eschatology. When that day and hour will take place, we cannot tell.

9.1 What does matter however, will we be ready to meet Him whenever He comes? In this the Church Age we are to pray for the Rapture and accept the fact that no man knows the hour or the day. 1Th 4:14-17 10. Throughout the Tribulation the gospel will be proclaimed. The world will be evangelized:

The Unholy Trinity

1. There are many passages that describe the maneuvers of the various "kings" of the Tribulation.

2. The four Kings of the North, West, South and East will one day arrive in the valley of death to destroy first Israel and then defeat Jesus Christ when He returns at His Second Advent. Gabriel had earlier brought a warning to Daniel. Dan 10:13-14

3. During the Church Age, Satan's power on earth is so restrained by the ministry of God the Holy Spirit that men often forget the power and existence of demons. However, during the Tribulation Satan will be free to wreak havoc without restraint. Isa 14:13-14

3.1 The culmination of Satan's attempts to be worshiped as God is revealed by the super-natural-power he gives the "man of lawlessness." It is written that the king of the West, as Satan's man, "takes his seat in the temple of god, displaying himself as being god."

3.2 The seed of rebellion planted in the Garden will bear bitter fruit, for in the Tribulation both Satan and "the beast" are worshiped instead of God. The 13th chapter of the Book of the Revelation describe both the Antichrist and the False Prophet.

3.3 From the first pernicious innuendo of the Garden until this very hour, Satan denies that a just and righteous God has taken care of the sin problem. Sin is no longer an issue: "the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus."

3.3.1 The devil has succeeded in blinding men's minds "that they might not see the light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

(2Co 4:4 compared with 2Co 3:14-16)

3.4 The simplicity of "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved" is obscured by endless systems of works and religion through which man seeks to be saved. Acts 16:31-32

4. The Antichrist and the False Prophet are described in Rev 13:1-18.

5. For centuries demons have operated undercover, but in the Tribulation, they assume major roles and their activities become highly visible. The summit talks which precede the alliance between the demon-possessed beast and the false prophet are actually the brilliant strategies of demons motivating mankind.

6. The less people think Bible doctrine, the more they are deluded by the performing of "signs." In the Tribulation, Satan utilizes every means possible to assemble the "armies of the world" to do battle against God. Rev 16:13-14

The Campaign of Armageddon

1. Just as God has used invading armies to punish disobedient Israel in the past, so the king of the North appears during the Tribulation to ravage the Land and destroy its people. But, his invasion of Israel assures his own destruction. Daniel writes of the campaign in great detail. Dan 11:37-45

2. These Arab nations are led by a man called elsewhere in Scripture-the King of the South. By his military might he will attempt to take over Israel. With mechanized infantry, he will start to move his forces overland through Gaza and into Israel.

2.1 This political and military indiscretion will precipitate a response from the Soviet Union.

3. The leader of the Soviet forces is called elsewhere in Scripture-the King of the North. The King of the North will storm out against the Pan-Arabic coalition with infantry, armor, air and sea power.

4. From the Bosporus will come a naval force, and from the area west of the Caspian Sea will come a large contingent of armor and infantry with tactical fighter support.

5. The Lord Jesus Christ with His angelic army will descend from the

heavens. With a fury Christ will destroy the armies of the world, and the remnant of Israel will be delivered.

6. In the history of Jerusalem there have been many sieges of the holy city. Prominent is the fall of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar and to Rome. Yet to come is the siege at the end of the Tribulation.

7. The last battles of the Armageddon campaign occur in the closing days of the Tribulation prior to the premillennial return of Christ; thus, fulfilling the promises of the four unconditional covenants.

8. Zechariah 12:1-9 and Zechariah 14:1-5 describe the victory of our Lord over the Antichrist's forces.

The Deliverance of the Saints

1. The largest and arguably the best trained army in all human history might have ruled the world but for one detail---the intervention of Jesus Christ. No man or group of people can progress further than God allows. No army advances once God calls a halt. Jesus Christ controls history, past, present, and future.

2. Everyone will be able to see Jesus Christ as He comes out of heaven. His divine essence is the "light of the world," the only light which can penetrate the abysmal darkness even as He is the only Light who can penetrate the darkness of the human soul lost in sin.

3. The earlier stated paradigm of the Lord doing battle for Israel refers to His action at the cul-de-sac of the Red Sea. The Jews of the Exodus generation were hopelessly trapped with the Red Sea in front of them, the mountains to the side, and the Egyptian army in rapid pursuit.

3.1 The Israelites panicked. Then Moses shouted "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation [deliverance] of the Lord ... the Lord will fight for you while you keep silent."

4. As they quieted-down they beheld the miracle of the sea opening up before them to let them pass through dry-shod, and then they watched the waters return and drown the Egyptians. Grace was the principle of deliverance then as it will be in the future. 4.1 Grace depends entirely on who and what the Lord is. As divine intervention won the day for the Jews in the past, so grace wins the day in that future siege.

4.2 One of the last appearances of vengeance is recorded in Isa 63:1 when He disciplines Jordan for not supporting Israel during the 586 B.C. siege.

Isa 63:1 Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.



Isa 63:2 Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?

Isa 63:3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.

Isa 63:4 For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

Isa 63:5 And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

Isa 63:6 And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them

drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.

5. As the Lord Jesus Christ returns to the earth in glory, the first place His feet touch is the Mount of Olives. The personal presence of the Lord on the Mount of Olives converts this obstacle into a portal of refuge. The Lord splits the mount and through the valley will move the believing remnant of Israel.

6. Just as the exodus generation passed through the Red Sea to safety, so the future, generations surviving the Tribulation will pass through the valley east of the city.

7. After the Tribulation the Lord prepares planet earth for implementation of 1000 years of perfect environment and the Millennium.

Part V

The Millennium

1. Many Old Testament and New Testament passages combine to teach that Christ will be the supreme ruler of the earth in an age called by many the Age of Christ, or the Millennium. The Apocalypse as you might imagine speaks to the subject in several places. Rev 20:1-11 summarizes His role.

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years

were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

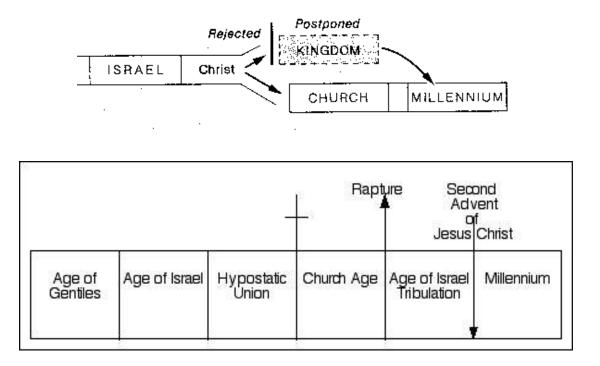
Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Rev 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Rev 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

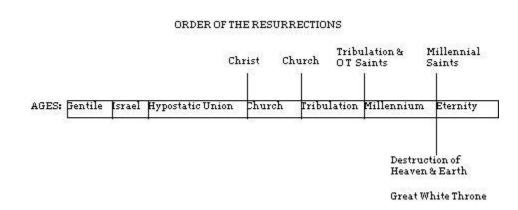
Rev 20:11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.



1.1 In Daniel 12:2 the two resurrections are also mentioned in connection with the resurrection of Israel to judgment at the Second Advent, when some are cast into the Lake of Fire and some are brought forward to live and reign with Christ in the Millennium.

1.2 For example, in a message to Israel:

Dan 12:2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.



2. During the Millennium, Christ, as David's son, will sit on the throne of David and David will serve as Christ's executive officer.

Jer 30:9 Instead, they will serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

Eze 34:23 I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd.

Eze 34:24 I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

Eze 37:24 "My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. Eze 37:25 They will live in the land I gave to my servant Jacob, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children will live there forever, and David my servant will be their prince forever.

Hos 3:5 Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

3. God's faithfulness to perform what He has promised to David and believing Israel is emphasized in Jer 33:20-21.

Jer 33:20 "This is what the LORD says: 'If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time,

Jer 33:21 then my covenant with David my servant--and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before me--can be broken and David will no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne.

4. Israel's boundaries will be extensive, far beyond the boundaries of any prior kingdom of David, and it will be a forever kingdom.

Gen 15:18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

Gen 15:19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, Gen 15:20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, Gen 15:21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

Dan 2:44 "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.

Dan 2:45 This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands--a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. "The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy."

5. Christ's reign will be a universal rule.

Mic 4:1 In the last days the mountain of the LORD'S temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it.

Mic 4:2 Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths."

"The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem."

6. Christ will rule with a rod of iron in absolute power.

Psa 2:8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.

Psa 2:9 You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery."

Rev 19:15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty.

7. All who oppose Him will be punished. Christ's government shall be one of righteousness and peace.

Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--

Isa 11:3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; Isa 11:4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

8. These unusual characteristics are made possible in part because Satan is bound and rendered inoperative. The only source of evil in the world will be the sin nature residing in unbelievers.

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

9. The Millennium will begin with believing adults transformed by the application of the New Covenant. However, there will be unbelieving children born into this age with old sin natures.

9.1 Children who are born during this Age of Christ will be subject to the righteous rule of Christ. Many will not believe, and, if deemed appropriate

by Christ, they may even be executed. Such capital punishment will be summarily executed by Christ if their manifest sin or evil adversely affects perfect environment.

9.2 Volition will remain a divine institution and some number of progenies will reject the "Christ." This unbelieving ilk will produce both sin and evil.

10. "Open sin and evil" will be punished; no one will be permitted to disrupt perfect environment.

Zec 14:16 Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. Zec 14:17 If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain.

Isa 11:4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

11. Israel will enjoy a place of privilege and special blessing as God's priest nation.

11.1 Many passages bear on this subject. In the Millennium the Israelites will be re-gathered and restored to their Promised Land.

Jer 30:3 The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will bring my people Israel and Judah back from captivity and restore them to the land, I gave their forefathers to possess,' says the LORD."

Jer 31:8 See, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth. Among them will be the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labor; a great throng will return. Jer 31:9 They will come with weeping; they will pray as I bring them back. I will lead them beside streams of water on a level path where they will not stumble, because I am Israel's father, and Ephraim is my firstborn son.

Eze 39:25 "Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will now bring Jacob back from captivity and will have compassion on all the people

of Israel, and I will be zealous for my holy name.

Eze 39:26 They will forget their shame and all the unfaithfulness they showed toward me when they lived in safety in their land with no one to make them afraid.

Eze 39:27 When I have brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, I will show myself holy through them in the sight of many nations.

Eze 39:28 Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind.

Amo 9:11 "In that day I will restore David's fallen tent. I will repair its broken places, restore its ruins, and build it as it used to be,... Amo 9:14 I will bring back my exiled people Israel; they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit.

11.2 The people of Israel will be the subjects of the King.

Isa 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isa 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Jer 23:5 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.

Jer 23:6 In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.

Rom 9:4 Who are Israelites; to whom pertained the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God and the promises ...

Rom 9:6 Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel:

Rom 9:7 Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.

Rom 9:8 That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed ... Rom 9:13 As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.

Rom 11:1 I say then, Hath God cast away his people? ...

Rom 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

12. Israel will have title to their land even as the Gentiles receive abundant blessings in their lands.

Isa 19:23 In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians will go to Egypt and the Egyptians to Assyria. The Egyptians and Assyrians will worship together ...

Isa 19:25 The LORD Almighty will bless them, saying, "Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance."

Isa 49:5 And now the LORD says--he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength---Isa 49:6 he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

Isa 49:7 This is what the LORD says--the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel--to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: "Kings will see you and rise up, princes will see and bow down, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

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