

Rapture Revelation

Session 6: Ages & Dispensations

Hebrews 1:1-2 AMP

IN MANY separate revelations [each of which set forth a portion of the Truth] and in different ways God spoke of old to [our] forefathers in and by the prophets, 2 [But] in the last of these days He has spoken to us in [the person of a] Son, Whom He appointed Heir and lawful Owner of all things, also by and through Whom He created the worlds and the reaches of space and the ages of time [He made, produced, built, operated, and arranged them in order].

Yahweh uniquely spoke in different ways at different times as He planned and saw fit. He determined how the revelation of Himself would be communicated to mankind.

What helps us to understand the distinguishable changes to the _____

_____ of Yahweh is the divine distinction of

_____.

➤ **What is an Age?**

Jesus spoke of “*this age*” and “*the age to come*” and “*the end of the age*” – **Matthew 12:32; Matthew 13:39-40; Matthew 24:3; Mark 10:30**

The epistles reveal many different ages in the history of the Lord’s dealings with man:

“Ages past” (note that is plural) – **Romans 16:25; Colossians 1:26; Titus 1:2**

“the present evil age” – **Galatians 1:3**

“the end of the ages” – **1 Corinthians 10:11**

“the consummation/closing of the ages” – **Hebrews 9:26**

God is declared the “King of the ages” – **1 Timothy 1:17**

Strong’s Concordance Definition: G165 *aion* – an age, perpetuity (also past); the world; present or future age, course, world.

Webster’s Unabridged defines “*age*” as a period of time dominated by a

1) _____ or

2) a _____.

A period in history or human progress. A cultural period marked by the prominence of a particular item.

A period of time in history or in the _____ of man.

Ephesians 3:1-6

Romans 16:25-26.

➤ **Defining Dispensation:**

Strong’s Concordance Definition: G3622 *oikonomia* – administration (of a household or estate);

specially an “_____.” Dispensation, stewardship.

An Etymological Dictionary of the English Language: The Latin verb is a compound meaning to weigh out or dispense. Three principal ideas are connected to the English word:

1. The action of dealing out or distributing
2. The action of administering, ordering, or managing; the system by which things are administered
3. The action of dispensing with some requirement

Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary shows *oikonomia* as the root of economy and defines it as “*an art of managing a household; the management of the affairs of a group, community, or establishment with a view to insuring its maintenance or productiveness; God’s plan or system for the governing of the world.*”

“*The context of having an economy, dispensation, administration, combined with the term age (a period of time in the development of man) means that God has planned, ordered, arranged, and administered certain purposes with the sphere of definable periods of history. The world is a “household” that is being administered by God in growing stages of divine revelation.*” – Hal Lindsey

Ephesians 3:1-12 ESV

All of the “ages” are declared to have a _____
_____ throughout them that the Lord has shown _____
_____ of _____ and His _____.

Hebrews 1:1-2 TPT

Throughout our history God has spoken to our ancestors by his prophets in many different ways. The revelation he gave them was only a fragment at a time, building one truth upon another. 2 But to us living in these last days, God now speaks to us openly in the language of a Son, the appointed Heir of everything, for through him God created the panorama of all things and all time

“*Dispensationalism rests on the view that God’s dealings with men have proceeded through ‘well-defined time-periods’, ‘dispensations’—in each of which God reveals a particular purpose to be accomplished in that period, to which men respond in faith or unbelief.*” –

New Dictionary of Theology: Historical & Systemic

Characteristics of a Dispensation:

1. Each one of the various dispensations that are distinct in the bible _____ with a _____
2. The new revelation contains both _____ of how man is to relate to God, and _____ which enable man to perform them
3. There is then a period of _____ in the new revelations. Each economy reveals huma failure to both assume the blessings and to the revealed responsibilities.
4. Each economy ends with the distinct _____ upon man for his failure and then a new economy is introduced.

Destiny Discovery

5. A new dispensation begins only when from the side of God, He introduces a change to the principles valid up to that time. From the side of God three things occur:
- A _____ of certain ordinances valid until then
 - An _____ of other regulations until then valid
 - A fresh _____ of _____ not before valid

It is important to know that even though there are distinguishable economies, there has always been only one way of salvation presented by God for man. Man has always had to approach God and be forgiven and accepted by Him on the basis of faith alone. The way that a redeemed man is to live for God has changed in the various dispensations. But the way of salvation has not.

➤ **Seven Dispensations in the Word of God:**

- 1. Dispensation of _____ or _____ – Genesis 1-3**
Timeline: From Creation to Adam's Fall
- 2. Dispensation of _____ – Genesis 3-8**
Timeline: From Adam's Expulsion to The Flood
- 3. Dispensation of _____ – Genesis 8-11**
Timeline: From after the Flood to the Tower of Babel
- 4. Dispensation of _____ – Genesis 12 – Exodus 19**
Timeline: From Abram to Moses
- 5. Dispensation of _____ – Exodus 20 – Matthew 21**
Timeline: From the Giving of the Law to Jesus' Death on the Cross
- 6. Dispensation of _____ – Acts 2 – Revelation 20**
Timeline: From Pentecost to The Rapture
- 7. Dispensation of the _____ – Revelation 20**
Timeline: From the Second Coming of Jesus for 1000 years

