

What's It All About?

A. Why study this subject?

1. We are a _____ Bible church.
2. It is found in the _____. (Eph. 1:10)
3. We must strive to _____ understand the Bible. (2 Tim. 2:15)
4. We must understand that all the Bible is written _____ us but not _____ us. (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

B. What is a dispensation?

1. A dispensation is...
 - a. ...a biblical term used ____ times in the New Testament and means house rule or house management.
 - 1) Oikonomia/Oikonomos
 - 2) Characteristics of a dispensation
 - a) There are two parties: one to _____ authority and the other to _____ authority.
 - b) There is a specific _____.
 - c) There is _____.
 - d) A _____ may be made due to unfaithfulness.

- b. ...a particular way of God _____ His rule over the world as He progressively works out His purpose for world history. (Renald Showers, There Really Is A Difference)
- c. ... a method of interpretation which leads to understanding and applying certain biblical _____. (Israel vs Church; Law vs grace)
- d. ...recognizes the aspect of _____ revelation.

C. Three Essentials of Dispensationalism

- 1. Dispensationalism preserves a distinction between _____ and the _____.
- 2. Dispensationalism involves _____ using a normal, grammatical, historical, and contextual method of interpretation.
 - a. Normal means _____ in contrast to secret or hidden meanings.
 - b. Grammatical means that each word has a definite _____ in its context and needs to be defined in a lexicon and interpreted in light of the context.
 - c. Historical means that the interpreter takes into account the _____ and _____ of when the text was written and when in history it was talking about.
 - d. Contextual means that a passage must be understood in light of its _____ that it is found.
 - e. Consistently means that _____ of these criteria are to be applied to interpreting Scripture at _____ times.
- 3. Dispensationalism reflects that the purpose of God in all His dealings with mankind as that of _____.