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POPULAR MISCHARACTERIZATIONS OF DISPENSATIONALISM

- Dan Allis: "Dispensationalism: Junk theology for those with no knowledge of ancient history or terms and phrases of the day, and the willingness to simply ignore John's direct statements that these events were soon to come."
- Christopher Hill: "Utterly false and laughable. Dispensationalism is a novelty for the untutored. It has done horrible damage and that is why it is revised every few years. Shocking to find a young person gripped in it. You need better peers."
- Amy Marshall: "American churchianity, led by dispensationalism, is utterly oblivious to the fact that [Israel] is a nation guilty of war crimes and atrocities just like every other. Note a good look for the church. I don't believe a single good thing has ever come out of dispensationalism."
- Lori Lincer: "Dispensationalism is the [de] Jesus' creation to lead the gullible away from the Reformed emphasis on the pope being the antichrist... Dispensationalism appeared with the printing of the Scofield Bible in 1909 and Presbyterians were not the first converts. Then, as now, Presbyterians are well educated."

Are you ever ridiculed for being a dispensationalist?

Quotes taken from the Facebook thread, "Dispensationalism advances the Reformed Legacy" by Ian Alexander Hicks, 1/7/2020.

“recent invention,” “scandalous,” “anti-intellectual,” “antinomian,” “false gospel of prosperity,” “oppressive,” “dangerous,” “guilty of societal neglect,” “selfish non-concern for the world,” “a horror show,” a “theological mistake [that has] wrought more havoc in the evangelical world”

R.C. SPROUL
WHAT IS
REFORMED
THEOLOGY?
Rediscovering the Basics

WRONGLY
DIVIDING
THE WORD
OF TRUTH
A CRITIQUE OF
DISPENSATIONAL
THEOLOGY
BY
DAVID GORTON
AND
DAVID L. BARNETT

HOUSE
DIVIDED
Dispensationalism
and the Church
By
James H. Stenhouse

THE RAPTURE
EXPOSED
An Analysis of
Dispensationalism
and Rapture
Theology
by
Anthony J. Bonito

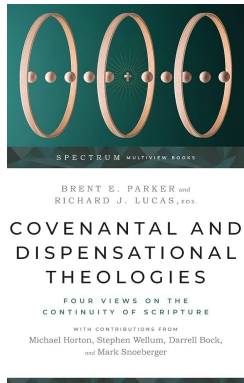
WHOSE LAND?
WHOSE PROMISES?
A Biblical and Historical Study of the Land Promise
to Israel
By
GARY M. BEYER

After
Dispensationalism
RECOVERING THE SPIRIT OF THE
EVANGELICAL TRADITION
BY
MARK A. SOLL

the Scandal
of the
Evangelical Mind
By
Mark A. Soll

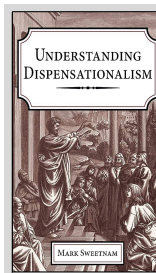
Dispensation of the Holy Spirit

Scholarly defamations of dispensationalism



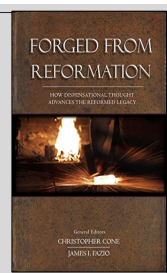
What dispensationalism does NOT teach about salvation

“Periods of time during which God dispenses or administers his *plan of redemption in ways different from other epochs or eras*”—Brent E. Parker and Richard J. Lucas (12).



What dispensationalism DOES teach about salvation

“God’s plan of salvation has not changed throughout the ages.... It is vital that we do not lose sight of the fact that salvation, in every dispensation, is possible only through the death of Christ.”
—Mark Sweetnam, *Understanding Dispensationalism* (72–73)



“As a tradition rooted in the Scriptures and in the Protestant Reformation, dispensationalists agree that salvation is God’s work on the believer’s behalf, by grace through faith and not by or through works.”—Glenn R. Kreider, “*Sola Fide*: Salvation is by Grace through Faith in Every Dispensation,” in *Forged From Reformation* (425)

Correcting Common Mischaracterizations What dispensationalism does *not* argue:

- ✓ A monopoly or complete ownership of ideas customary to dispensationalism.
- ✓ Dispensationalism as a *system* is as old as the New Testament or that early figures in church history considered themselves to be “dispensationalists” in the modern sense of the term.
- ✓ Hubris claims that suggest dispensationalism is the system of the Bible or that the pure gospel is found only in dispensationalism.



What dispensationalism does argue:

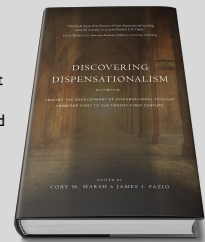
Historical veracity of dispensational thought.

- So-called “dispensational” ideas are not novel or cultic invented by one man or by a gentry class of western thinkers in the nineteenth century. The ideas that are most prominent within dispensational thought have existed throughout the history of the church. Dispensationalism did not invent them; it was *formed* by them.

The Method:

An honest historical appraisal of primary evidence.

- Theological ideas within a specific era in church history that reflect distinct dispensational beliefs. From primary documents, we trace historically where and when these ideas emerged and how they found a home within what would later be termed “dispensationalism.”



What can we say about Dispensationalism?

- Sum parts are historically demonstrable.
- A biblical theology (*inductive, historical, descriptive*).
- Provides a biblical philosophy of world history.
- Consistent pattern of beliefs *not* a distinct social group.
- Not a soteriological system.
- Not a hermeneutic.

