

A Partial Summary of the Presuppositions of Dispensationalism

1. God has two people, two plans for these people, and two destinies for each. One is called Israel and the other is called the Church. (Handout: *The Essential Unity Between Israel and the Church*)

Biblical Response

- *Galatians 3:7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.*
 - *Ephesians 2:10-17 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. 11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.*
2. Israel as a nation has a fantastic future among the nations of earth for God has made to Israel certain promises they have never realized. For example, God has promised them a land they have never totally possessed.

Biblical Response

- *Joshua 21:43 And the LORD gave unto Israel all the land which he swore to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein.*
- *Joshua 24:17 For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:*

3. The return of Christ is not just impending, it is imminent.

Biblical Response

- *Luke 19:12 He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.*
- *2 Peter 3:4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.*

4. Those living now at the end of the 20th century are living as the Terminal Generation.

Biblical Response

- *Matthew 24:36 But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.*

5. God has divided human history into seven dispensations. Each period begins with a blessing and ends with a curse. (Handout: *Doctrine of Last Days*)

6. The *Day of the Lord* is in the future and refers to a great tribulational period. (Handout: *The Day of the Lord*)

7. There will be a Revived Roman Empire ruled over by a resurrected dictator. The nations of the earth are even now moving towards establishing a one-world government.

Biblical Response

- *Acts 17:26 [God] hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;*

8. Elijah (and Moses?) shall return to earth during the tribulation period to be killed (Mat. 11:13-14 cf. Matt. 17:10-13).

Biblical Response

- *Matthew 11:13-14 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come.*
- *Matthew 17:10-13 And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? 11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. 12 But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. 13 Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.*

9. There are three comings of Christ.

Biblical Response

- *Hebrews 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.*

10. The Church age is a mystery age unknown to the people and prophets of the Old Testament era.

Biblical Response

- *Acts 3:24 Yea, and **all the prophets** from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise **foretold of these days**.*
- *1 Peter 1:1-12 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: 7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: 8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. 10 Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, **who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you**: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom **it was revealed**, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.*
- *Acts 26:22 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, **saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come**:*

11. There will be a secret and silent rapture of the Church.

Biblical Response

- *Acts 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.*

- *1 Thessalonians 4:14-17 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

12. The Church will apostatize.

Biblical Response

- *Ephesians 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*
- *2 Peter 3:14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.*

13. A great revival will break out after the Church is removed and the Holy Spirit is gone.

Biblical Response

- *John 3:6-8 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. 8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.*
- *Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*

14. God owes the Jewish nation seven years of human history (Dan. 9:24-27). In other words the 70th week of years did not follow the first 69 as predicted but was stopped. The prophetic clock will start again at the rapture of the church.

Biblical Response

- *Deut 18:20-22 But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. 21 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? 22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.*

15. The book of the Revelation is mostly future.

Biblical Response

- *Revelation 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which **must shortly come to pass**; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:*

16. The Church will not go through the tribulation. In fact, the church is not even found in Rev. 4-19. (Handout: *Doctrine of Tribulation*)

17. Legal obedience was the condition of salvation for the Old Testament saints.

18. Christ offered the Kingdom to the Jews but it was refused. Therefore, its full establishment was postponed until the Second Advent (John 6:15 cf. Eph. 1:15-21).

19. Israel, not the Church, is the focal point of redemptive history.

20. The kingdom of Christ has not been established on the earth but shall at His Second Advent. (Handout: *Doctrine of the Kingdom*)

21. There specific signs which will indicate that the coming of Christ is near for these signs will be multiplied and intensified prior to the Lord's return much like birth pangs anticipate the birth of a baby.

Biblical Response

- *Matthew 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but **the end is not yet**.*
- *Mark 13:7 And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be; but **the end shall not be yet**.*
- *Luke 21:9 But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by.*
- *Matthew 12:39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:*

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(Handout)**

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