

An Endtime Prophetic **ALTERNATIVE** *to* **DISPENSATIONALISM**

END-TIME INTEREST & ESCHATOLOGY

In theological circles **eschatology** means "teaching concerning the last things". There is much interest today in the **last things** of prophetic endtime events spoken of in the scriptures, ...the Christian Bible. Much concern in.. who, when, where, and how these events foretold in scripture will likely affect us who are living in this 21st century.

Interest in **Endtime** events has given rise to books, newsletters, commentaries, websites, documentaries, TV programs and etc. A simple viewing of your local Christian bookstore shelves and religious cable TV programming choices show clearly how interested we are. Because of this, the popular multi-volume futuristic *Left Behind* Series has brought millions of dollars to the authors from movie, video, and book sales.

We are interested in such Endtime Events as:

- **Israel's Return to Christ**
 - the Antichrist;
 - the Battle of Armageddon;
 - the 666, (Mark of the Beast);
 - the Great Tribulation;
 - the Rapture;
 - the destruction of Babylon the Great;
 - the rise of the Beast and the False Prophet;
 - the Second Coming of Christ;
 - the Rapture of the Saints;
 - the 7-year Holy Covenant;
 - the construction of the Jewish temple;
 - the renewal of the Daily Sacrifice;
 - the Abomination of Desolation;

- the rise of the two Sackcloth Witnesses;
- the coming Millenniumto name a few.

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MULTIPLE VIEWS & INTERPRETATIONS

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As one begins to study end-time events it is evident that a majority of the prophecy teachers tend to teach compatible views and interpretations. There are several basic interpretational slants which affect each teacher's views.

Pre-Millennial view : Christ's Bodily Return **before** the establishment of an Earthly 1000 year Kingdom of God. This view increased in popularity after the Civil War among the fundamentalists. ... Cotton Mather.

Post-Millennial view : Christ's Bodily Return **after** the establishment of an Earthly 1000 year Kingdom of God. Typical of 17th century Scottish Presbyterians who brought it to America. ...Jonathan Edwards

A-Millennial view : The 1000 year Kingdom of God is **mainly spiritual** without literal time. This was popularized by Augustine's *City of God*. 16th Century Protestant Reformers... Martin Luther & Catholics.

Preterists view :

Preterists tend to believe that the end-time prophecies in the Bible have happened already and have found their fulfillment in the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. In their view, the book of Revelation is basically a pastoral letter written by John to the churches in Asia minor in his time (chapters 1 to 3). Thus, it's prophecies deal exclusively with the fall and destruction of Jerusalem. Thus, everything has been fulfilled, with "the bad Israel" having been done away with and now the Church is "the good Israel" which is always basically good and automatically becomes the creating agent of a better world.

Dominion Theology view :

A new version of it has emerged as a peculiar "*Kingdom Now*" teaching which is in the process of becoming the most preponderant eschatology among charismatics today. It denies a *bodily* return of Christ to earth, first in the heavenlies to rapture the true saints and secondly to earth to judge and govern it. Christ is bodily present on earth through his Church and there is no *supernatural* rapture, no *supernatural* millenium in the future.

THE POPULAR DISPENSATIONAL VIEW

Darby & Scofield's Contributions

Protestant fundamentalists who were Dispensational popularized it in the latter 1800's. J. N. Darby and C. I. Scofield were most instrumental with Darby's Translation and Scofield's Bible Notes. It appeared formally in the Bible footnotes of the Oxford University Press's popular *Scofield Reference Bible* of 1909. It has sold over 5 million copies and for over 90 years has defined protestant dispensational fundamentalism.

Dispensationalists view :Dispensationalism is the most popular endtime interpretational framework today. Scofield's notes in his "*Scofield Reference Bible*" and the futuristic ***Left Behind Series*** are good examples of dispensational endtime interpretations of Bible Prophecy. The majority of us whose background rises from Fundamental, Evangelical, and Pentecostal ministries are well acquainted with endtime dispensational eschatology, ...doctrine of last things. It's been the most popular, preaching and teaching platform over the last century.

Dispensationalists "tend to believe":

- * In Pre-Millennial & Pre-Tribulational view of the endtime
- * In the succession of different dispensations throughout history
- * In the Authority of Bible scripture as the sole verbal revelation of God.
- * In interpreting Bible prophecy using "***literal interpretation***", explaining all passages of scripture in a plain, ordinary, physical, literal meaning.
- * See all Prophecies as fulfilled in **Natural Israel**, seeing a distinct future for national Israel.
- * See Christ's return as imminent, an any-moment possibility to secretly remove all current believers in a "invisible rapture".
- * Believe in a 1000 year millennium with Christ ruling the earth.
- * **The church is a distinct group apart from national Israel.**
Believing that the New Testament scriptures are divided into two sections; one to the Israelite believers and the other to Gentile believers. They say... Acts chapter 8 through Philemon are scriptures for Gentile believers. They also say... Matthew – Acts 8, James, 1&2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude, & Revelation are scriptures for natural Israel believers.
- * Pre-tribulationism : the church will be raptured to heaven just before a 7 year tribulation period upon the Jews.

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**EVERBODY WANTS TO KNOW...
WHO SUFFERS... in the Tribulation? Each View Differs**

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From this rises the debate over who will be persecuted in the Great Tribulation. The dominant **pre-millennial view** says that the born-again Christians will be gone, secretly taken away by Christ in a secret rapture event; thus the Jews and others will suffer the tribulation. This is the dispensationalist view.

The **A-Millennialists say no**. It is the Christians who will suffer the persecutions; ...not the Jews.

A passage in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 by Apostle Paul is used to defend this popular view. *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: 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.*

Throughout most of church history this passage was linked to the final judgment and resurrection of saints. It was not until sometime in the early 1800's that it became associated with a pre-millennial, pre-tribulationists Rapture (comes from the Catholic Jerome's Vulgate Latin Bible which is a translation (**be caught up**) of the greek N.T. word "harpazo – seize, pluck, or catch")

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WHICH ARE YOU? WHICH AM I?

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We all like labels. They help us organize and catalog information.

Pre- , Post – or A-Millennialist??
Pre- , Post-- or Mid-Tribulationist??
A Preterists ?? or A Dispensationalists??
A Literalists?? Or A Spiritualists??
Dominion Theology?? Kingdom Now??

What do you or I believe??

How can we tell whether God wrote it literally or spiritually (symbolically / allegorically)??
Is stammering lips and another tongue... Spiritual or Literal ??
Is Jesus Returning ... Bodily or Spiritually (in his people) ??

Is Jesus ... the Literal or Spiritual Lamb of God, Spiritual or Literal ??
Is the Seal of the Holy Ghost Spiritual?? Or Literal??
Is the Mark of the BeastLiteral?? Or Spiritual??

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A CHURCH BUILT ON THE ROCK OF REVELATION

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The Holy Spirit wrote the scriptures in such a manner that bible school mental frameworks may assist us when God has spoken in a literal manner, but they fail when Christ speaks spiritually. ***But, how can we know? You Can't!***

It simply comes by revelation. Not by theological Bible study. How can you get the revelation?? You Can't. If Christ doesn't tell me. I can't know. Degrees. Grammar Study. Interpretation Methods. Each of these have their place in this world. **But, they have no place in the Heavenly Realm.** Only the Holy Spirit knows what he said and what he meant! Did he mean it allegorically?? Literally?? Only He knows for sure. But, Upon the rock of revelation God builds His church.

Theologians want a logic system to follow. But the children of God walk by the Spirit and not by the Natural Mind. I don't see that any one system or method of interpretation works 100 %. Maybe, it is both natural and spiritual, at the same time? We must listen to what the Spirit has to say unto the church. The Holy Spirit does not tell any one person everything. No one knows it all, ...***but Him.*** ***"He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit says unto the church."***

The popular interpretations of endtime prophecies are built upon the framework which bible scholars developed prior to and out-side of the twentieth century out-pouring of the Holy Ghost Restoration. The majority of Pentecostal ministries retained their 18th & 19th century scholarly interpretations of endtime scriptures. The Holy Spirit has restored, not only a scriptural born-again experience, in these last centuries, but He also teaches us endtime understandings with more clarity than those of previous generations.

The Holy Spirit was poured out in the endtime to lead us in every facet of our lives. Let's not ridicule, nor minimize the experiences and truths of those who have gone before us in the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are closer to the dawn and the coming Day than they were, so maybe, in some areas, the light should be shining some-what brighter unto us than those of centuries before.

We owe it to ourselves to open our hearts to more fuller revelations of Christ and his work in the earth. We wish to provide you with an Endtime Prophetic Alternative to what the majority are saying. Each of us gets to decide which path

to follow.

The Spirit of Christ has been talking to members of His body who have ears to hear and who he chooses to give understanding. He has called and chosen them to walk with Him away and outside of the Camp. He has given revelations of His purposes, His will, and His life so that we may walk and give light unto this generation.

The Endtime is upon us. Jesus is literally coming soon. Jesus is presently working in the earth as John the Baptist went as a voice crying out in the wilderness....Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

When we listen for his voice. When will begin to hear Him talking to each of us. He desires for you to come away and walk with him. Millions are.

Many have been privileged to be given a different exposure and look into the mind of God's Spirit. A comprehensive look ?? No. Just a little look. Just a small piece of the pie. Just a small piece of the puzzle. Many are seeing. Follow on. Listening or not, he is speaking. Ready or not, Christ is coming.

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A Deeper Look into ... DISPENSATIONALISM

How It Has Affected Our Faith in Christ's 2nd Coming

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INTRODUCTION

As I have embarked upon this small study of Dispensationalism, it quickly became apparent to me of all the good things that have been absorbed into my life from the Dispensational fountain.

As it progressed, I thought of all the friends, brothers, sisters and ministers in the family of God who have a blessing to me over the years and have held this persuasion of Bible Interpretation. Fact is, I now realize that most everyone who preached me into this Born Again salvation and the gift of the Holy Ghost were Dispensationalists. I don't think most of them even knew where their influence was coming from.

As I grew and walked with God on my own; ... I found I was being brought another way, ... often in direct conflict with dispensationalist thought. At different intersections of thought and revelations of Christ, I found myself and my scriptural understanding slightly in conflict to other brethren and current popular trends.

I did not understand exactly why I disagreed so often with the many endtime writers whose works stand on my shelves. When I began to understand the roots and basic tenets of Dispensationalism;It became clear that I could see the Lord Jesus had taught me a different way.

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ENDTIME MEDIA MARKET-PLACE THEOLOGY

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A new genre has been created in recent years which has provoked me to more study. In the past we developed our prophetic understanding from inspirational preaching, teaching, and bible study. Now people are getting their doctrinal foundation from an entirely different source not from preaching, not from bible study, nor from anointed Bible teaching.

Believers are developing their concept of endtime prophetic events from the Market Place.... From the Media Market. ie ...A Media Market Theology.

The Left Behind Series has left in it's a wake multitudes of church folk who have developed their concepts of the 2nd coming of Christ based on the secular success of the Left Behind Fictional Novel Series.

The series was created by an independent Baptist minister from California named Tim LaHaye in association with an author / ghost-writer Jerry Jenkins. Together LaHaye & Jenkins collaborated to promote the Pre-Millennial Pre-This partnership of Jenkins and LaHaye has taken the secular and church public by storm. Endtime interpretation of scriptural events were fictionalized by author Jerry Jenkins, .. who has done all the writing , while LaHaye's co-authorship duties were to keep it all prophetically accurate within the boundaries of dispensationalist prophetic thought.

The Left Behind Series has become a multi-million dollar media corporation with an entertaining fictionalized scenario of endtime events. The public has eaten it up;both books and movies. Thus, they have promoted through the media ***the dispensational endtime doctrine***; ... without preaching, ...without teaching and without bible study. **Best-Seller Theology. Market-Place Theology.**

The Left Behind Series revolves around the Pre-Tribulational Rapture concept which asserts the instantaneous, blink of an eye, transfer of all believers to heaven for a 7 year Marriage Supper, leaving all those who remain to experience a 7 year period of time called the Great Tribulation. Immediately following 7 year Tribulation on earth there will be a 1000 year reign of Christ in person on the earth in person. This is called the Millennium.

Those exposed to this market-place endtime description of Antichrist events do not realize that these fictionalized stories are not biblical and neither are they scriptural.

BACKGROUND OF DISPENSATIONALISM

note: read booklet : **The Secret? Rapture of the Church ...for the vision

These fictionalized media stories are the product and part of the Dispensational Method of interpreting prophetic scripture passages. This method of Systematic Theology interpretation of scriptures was developed by a Plymouth Brethern author and scholar of the 1800's; ... named John Nelson Darby of London, England. Darby's Dispensationalist System was later popularized in the early 1900's by Bible teacher and minister, C. I. Scofield, ... in his best selling Cambridge : **Scofield Reference Study Bible** of the early 1900's. You may have one. I do.

Darby's dispensationalism format of bible interpretation seems to have received a revitalizing shot in the arm in the past few years, from such popular writers as Hal Lindsey, Jack Van Impe, and now Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins.

You might be asking yourself ... what is dispensationalism??

If you are not a bible student or minister of the gospel the following may not make a lot of sense. But let's see.

Dispensationalists Theology and the Systematic Theology Method we see promoted today, has its roots in the Plymouth Brethern, ... Friends minister and bible scholar, John Nelson Darby (1800-1882) in Britain. Darby said his **dispensational theology** was fully formed by 1833.

If you have a computer bible, as I do, ...Darby's Bible Translation is usually offered as a source free. From Darby's writings (over 30 volumes) a foundation was laid from which others have made dispensationalism popular;especially C. I. Scofield and his **Scofield Reference Bible**.

The writings of Darby and other Brethern ministers seem to greatly influence U.S. ministers such as D.L. Moody and C.I. Scofield. Darby's Dispensational **Systematic Theology** was spread further during the latter 1800's by the "Bible Conference Movement", ... Prophetic Conferences, and ...Bible Institutes.

Scofield created a board of bible teachers in the early 1900's to produce a popular study bible which came to be known as the **Scofield Reference Bible**. Among Southern Baptists of the early 1900's, Scofield's Study Bible notes

became almost the standard for Bible interpretation. Not only did Scofield's bible become another greater influence in promoting dispensationalism, ...but on an academic level, ...such bible schools as the Moody Bible Institute and Dallas Theological Seminary greatly promoted dispensationalism's systematic approach to bible interpretation.

Moody Bible seems to be the largest publisher of dispensational materials. Lewis Sperry Chafer followed in Scofield's dispensational foot-steps by producing an 8 volume text on Systematic Theology.

Scofield's dispensational format has been popularized further in recent years by such bible teachers as Jack Van Impe, John Walvoord, John MacArthur, Jerry Falwell, Dwight Pentecost, Charles Ryrie, W. A. Criswell, J. Vernon McGee, and others.

Jack Van Impe, Hal Lindsey and Tim LaHaye are widely known for their endtime prophetic interpretations of scripture. All use Darby and Scofield's Dispensational format or template to interpret Bible Prophecy. It is all ...**Pre-Tribulational & Pre-Millennialism** ie ..all Dispensationalists.

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BELIEFS OF DISPENSATIONALISTS

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note : I did not realize that much of my fundamental views of the Bible were from or consistent with much of Dispensationalism.*

DISPENSATIONALISTS ...usually believe in:

Consistent Literal Interpretation of Scripture:

That means they tend to believe in... Verbal Inspiration of each word in Scripture. That means to always take it's plain ordinary meaning of prophetic portions of scripture. Dispensationalists say ...Use this rule : *If the plain sense makes good sense, seek no other sense.*

This may partly be a reaction of dispensational fundamentalists to:

A: The Catholic method of interpreting scripture ... which ...(1) is allegorical and which ...(2) denies that the common man has the ability to see the "true" meaning of scripture.

B: To obstruct liberals who deny the literal and historical sense of scripture.

DISPENSATIONALISTS ...usually believe : (what most of us believe..)

- Creation in 6 24 hour days

- The Earth is less than 10000 yrs old

- Bible authorship is just as it is stated

- Miracles are factual

- Old Testament stories are allegories of N. T. truth.

- Usually prefer the KJV.

- Stress that All Covenants with Israel must be fulfilled entirely with biological, national Israel (No N. T. revelation cancels out O.T. promises to national Israel)

- See national Israel having a distinct restoration and national future ... ie in a millennial kingdom

- See The Church is a distinctive organism apart from national Israel (The church does not replace Israel, nor continue Israel, is never referred to as Israel)

Evidences often used by dispensationalists to show that the church is distinct from Israel include: (a) Jesus viewed the church as future in Matthew 16:18; (b) an essential element of the church—Spirit baptism—did not begin until the Day of Pentecost (compare 1 Cor. 12:13 with Acts 2); (c) Christ became Head of the church as a result of His resurrection (compare Eph. 4:15; Col. 1:18 with Eph. 1:19-23); (d) the spiritual gifts associated with the church (cf. Eph. 4:7-12; 1 Cor. 12:11-13) were not given until the ascension of Christ; (e) the “new man” nature of the church (cf. Eph. 2:15) shows that the church is a NT organism and not something incorporated into Israel; (f) the foundation of the church is Jesus Christ and the *New Testament* apostles and prophets (cf. Eph. 2:20); (g) the author, Luke, keeps Israel and the church distinct. On this last point, Fruchtenbaum states, “In the book of Acts, both Israel and the church exist simultaneously. The term *Israel* is used twenty times and *ekklesia* (church) nineteen times, yet the two groups are always kept distinct.”⁶

-“Seed of Abraham” has several meanings (biological, political, & spiritual senses) ... physical seed and spiritual seed. The Physical seed of Abraham who are believers in Christ become the spiritual seed of Abraham ... thus the Israel of God Gal 6:16

-Authority of Scripture ... since the 1800’s Brethern Movement it is a trademark of the dispensationalists ... The Bible is the sole inerrant verbal revelation of God.

-See Dispensations in Scripture ... God has planned a succession of (usually seven) different dispensations throughout history whose understanding is crucial to comprehending the Bible. Most dispensations started with a covenant and ended with judgment. The dispensation of law began with Moses. Dispensation of Grace began with at Pentecost and

started the Church Age which will end with the rapture.

-Israel has been in a state of suspension ...the great parenthesis since AD. 70 After the rapture God will resume his dealings with Israel as a nation.

-In their dispensations ... those under subsequent dispensations are not responsible to obligations of the preceding dispensation. Thus, under the OT. It was "Repent" which only applies to Israel. But now under the NT. It is "Believe".

-The Sermon on the Mount is intended for the kingdom of heaven which is in the next dispensation not in the church age. The promises made to OT Israel do not fall on nor are they fulfilled in the church.

-Thus the new covenant prophecy of Jeremiah 31 is only for Israel Not the church.... Why ?? The church & Israel are under different dispensations.

-Emphasis on Bible Prophecy using literal interpretation methods

-Pre-Millennialists Christ will return literally and rule the earth literally for 1000 years

-Pre-Tribulationists ... The church will be raptured to heaven 7 years before the 2nd coming of Christ, escaping the 7 year Great Tribulation period.

-Christ's Imminent Return ... the rapture can happen at any moment, at any time, maybe right now.

-Focus on Salvation by Faith alone ... as the sole means of regeneration Classic dispensationalism stresses believing over repentance. Once the sinners prayer is prayed....eternal salvation is assured. Other dispensationalists believe that the above is unbiblical and that true faith produces repentance at the moment of salvation. Dispensationalists see that a lost persons makes their first step toward God by believing in God by faith and the Holy Spirit responds to this act of faith by indwelling the believer at that moment....thus... the believer is born again. Thus it must be salvation by grace apart from any works.

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DARBY's DISPENSATIONALISM created TWO DIVISIONS in SCRIPTURE

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Dispensationalists assert that we are now living in the "times of the gentiles"; thus creating two divisions in scripture. One division **applies to gentile believers** and the other division **applies to Jewish or Israelite believers**.

"Times of the gentiles" or gentile believer division ..continues until the BEGINNING of the great tribulation period or the end of the age.

Gentile believer scriptures are : Acts 8-28, Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Phillipians, Colossians, Thessalonians, Timothy, Titus & Philemon.

Scriptures which apply outside this "times of the gentiles" (Jewish?) are : (Matthew thru John, Acts 1-7, Hebrews, James, Peter, 1st-3rd John, Jude, and Revelation; ... thus these apply to Jewish believers and should not concern us (Gentile believers) so much.

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DISPENSATIONALISM created 2000 year GAP or PARENTHESIS

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Darby's Dispensationalism typically has 7 dispensations, of which the New Testament Apostles, knew nothing. Darbyism also threw in another period of time called **the Parenthesis**, of which the New Testament Apostles knew nothing. By the way, none of the O. T. Prophets saw **the Parenthesis** either. They were also blind to it.

This is where Dispensational Truth(?) and Positional Truth(?) say ...that those who are in the appropriate **Position** and **Dispensation** are able to see what others could not see. Thus, we can see the Parenthesis where others could not, ... ie all O.T. Prophets and N. T. 12 Apostles of the foundation of heavenly Jerusalem ...were blind to it.

This **Parenthesis** is a label for the period of time from somewhere in the Book of Acts to the 2nd Coming of Christ.

A good example of Darby & Scofield's Endtime Dispensationalism occurs when Jesus stood in his home town synagogue and read from Isaiah chapter 61 and sat down. He said "today this scripture is fulfilled in your ears." A **2000 yr. Gap** or **Parenthesis** is inserted after the phrase *"to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD "* by Dispensationalists. Darby & Scofield both taught this, as well as

other Dispensational Teachers & the Left Behind Series.

**Thus....“to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD is Christ’s 1st Coming
And Then.... a 2000+- year Gap or Parenthesis
And Then....“and the day of vengeance of our God is Christ’s 2nd Coming.**

This Dispensational interpretation is all because Jesus stopped reading in the middle of the sentence. Everything Christ read was true and fulfilled up to that day. But what if Christ had returned, 40 years later, in the middle of the siege by the Roman Legions of AD. 70 and had read again from the book of Isaiah? Would he have read further and included it as fulfilled in their ears, ... than the phrase “*the acceptable year of the LORD ...*”

Would Christ have included all of verse 2 and 3 “*and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.*”

Thus, Isaiah 61:1-3 in **the Dispensational Bible** should read “*v1: The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; v2: To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, (Christ’s 1st Coming) and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; v3: To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified. (Christ’s 2nd Coming)*”

Darbyism also does the same in Daniel chapter 9. Dispensationalism inserts a 2000+- year Gap or Parenthesis between the 69th and 70th week of Daniel’s Prophecy.

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DISPENSATIONALISM ESCHATOLOGY & MILLENNIALISM

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Eschatology is the doctrine of last things. The three main templates of understanding on last things are called... premillennialism, postmillennialism, amillennialism.

***Pre-Millennial** ... Christ’s bodily return prior to 1) Great Tribulation & 2) Setting up of an earthly kingdom of God

***Post-Millennial** ... Christ’s bodily return after 1) Great Tribulation & 2) Setting up and the ruling of God’s kingdom on a global scale.

***A-millennial** views the kingdom of God as a spiritual kingdom set up now and that's it.

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DISPENSATIONALISM'S POPULARITY

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It seems that in the latter 1600's the popularity of **pre-millennialism** increased so that by the end of the Civil War it had replaced **post-millennialism** among the more fundamental and conservative Christians.

Great debate began over whether the Jews will suffer the Great Tribulation. The dominant view is pre-millennialism which asserts that the Jews will suffer the Great Tribulation, while the born-again Christians, both living and dead, will have left the earth in a Secret Pre-Tribulation Rapture. They say this is based upon 1Thess. 4:16-17. This is Pre-Tribulation Pre-Millennialism; ... also known as Dispensationalism.

This Dispensationalists doctrine of Pre-Tribulation Escape Rapture (a 2 stage coming of Christ) can be traced to English revivals of the 1800's. (*See the booklet... The Secret ? Rapture of the Church*) Out of this out-pouring of Spirit & Revival manifestations, ...came the non-English, non-New Testament word "rapture", a Latin root from Jerome's Vulgate was coined to describe this event and to translate the Greek word : "harpazo"used for "caught up".

This prophetic outlook upon endtime events grew principally due to C. I. Scofield's early 1900's "**Scofield Reference Bible**" and it's **notes**. Dispensationalism is the most popular and most common prophetic interpretation template for fundamental Bible believing Americans.

By and large true dispensationalists exhibit a strong reverence for the Bible and it's scriptures. Often they are the ones who cry out first against scripture perversions, new Bible translations or versions and teachings which seem to clearly oppose sound doctrine.

Yet, they often read too much into different phrasing.... such as ...believing that the "**Kingdom of God**" and the "**Kingdom of Heaven**" phrases refer to ...two separate distinct kingdoms. It does not take much Bible study scripture comparisons to see both phrases are used inter-changably in the gospels.

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DISPENSATIONALISTS CREATED the “2-PART” COMING OF CHRIST

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“2nd COMING”Part ONE :

In the blink of an eye, they believe in a secret resurrection of only N.T. “buried” believers **and** the “disappearance” of living believers with all small children....to heaven for a 7 year sit down Marriage Supper dinner while the anti-christ reigns on the earth and persecutes all people left-behind and the Jews of Israel. *From this concept comes the art illustrations showing..... Car wrecks without drivers. Plane crashes without pilots. Mothers screaming for their missing babies ..etc.*

“2nd COMING” ...Part TWO :

After 7 years of Marriage celebration in heaven and 7 years of Antichrist persecution on earth; Christ returns visibly with the saints to literal earth, to make literal war with his enemies. National Israel repents and all factions of Israel are re-united. They believe a **1000 year millennium** begins at this point whose primary focus is upon the Jews who are given special treatment. They say the Euphrates River dries up at this time and animal sacrifice is re-instituted by the Jews. Children and violent beasts will then live in peace and harmony. There will be roads where no lions are allowed. One can see why **The Pre-Tribulation Rapture** is a most cherished belief.

My Final Comments

All that has been written above are simply my gleanings from other sources. Basically it is my notes on dispensationalism and helps me to understand how Christianity got to this point in its concept of the endtime.

Many dedicated believers and ministers have subscribed to this ideology and systematic method of scriptural interpretation and have passed on to meet the Lord Jesus.

Old Testament and New Testament scripture and prophecy make it clear that God does have a plan for the natural seed of Abraham to yet come to faith in their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

We should remind ourselves that for both Hebrew and the Gentile believers, ...there is only one plan of salvation of faith, repentance, water baptism; only one new birth, only one Holy Ghost-Spirit baptism.

For both the Hebrew and Gentile believer there is only one God, one Lord, one faith, one church, one body, and one Head.

Each Hebrew and Gentile that comes to Christ. Each comes unto the same Mt. Zion. Each comes to the same heavenly Jerusalem, to the same city of the living God, to the same general assembly, to the same church of the first-born, ...unto the same Jesus and to the same new covenant, and to the same cleansing blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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