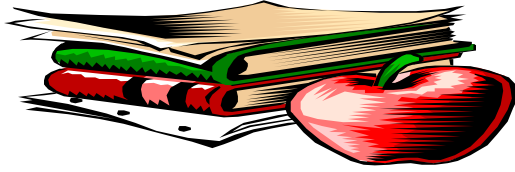


Hunger For Truth Newsletter



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March 2010

Proverbs 7:2 • Matthew 5:6 • John 8:32 • II Timothy 3:16-17 • Hebrews 4:12

Greetings

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the March 2010 issue of Hunger for Truth. This month's issue is packed with great information which includes a 3-part series on Dispensational Bible teaching by Bro. Sam Borso who is a good friend of mine. There will also be a new devotional, a great study for children (*See Page 8*) and much more.

The goal of this ministry and newsletter is to edify and encourage believers using the truth of God's precious Holy Word. As the Lord leads, the ministry will expand and grow.

Thank you all for taking the time to read this and for your prayers for me. I praise God for each and every one of you.

Sign Me Up...

The HFT editor encourages you to forward this newsletter to all your family, fellow church members and friends and encourage them to sign up for the newsletter. It is absolutely free. All they need to do to sign up is e-mail me and let

me know they want to receive the newsletter. Thank you kindly for your help with this. I greatly appreciate it. May God richly bless.

Meditate on the Word

(*Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:148*)

“Dispensations of the Bible”

By: Sam Borso

INTRODUCTION:

THE ENGLISH WORD "DISPENSATION" - means (1) the action of dealing out or distributing; to dispense; (2) the action of ordering or managing the system by which things are administered; (3) the action of dispensing accompanied with some requirement; (4) an administration, as in government.

THE GREEK WORD "OIKONOMIA" - (1) two parts: "Oikos" = household, "Nomos" = law. Their meaning together is to dispense, distribute, management of the affairs of a household. The English word "economy" is derived from this. (2) As used by the Lord in Luke 12:42, 16:1-13, for management of a household by a servant. (3) Steward or stewardship, as in 1 Cor.4:1-2, Eph.1:10, 3:2-3, Col.1:25-26. A steward is to be accountable to his master.

THEOLOGICAL DEFINITION - a period of time during which man is tested as to his obedience to God's will. A dispensation involves stewardship, a solemn responsibility, resting upon an individual or individuals to order their lives in keeping with the revealed will of God, which is applicable to them. There are seven dispensations in God's plan for the ages. Man fails in every one. With each dispensation, God reveals more of Himself to man. Throughout all dispensations, fellowship with God is

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restored through the shedding of innocent blood.

WHY STUDY THE BIBLE DISPENSATIONALLY ?

- (1) It is important for understanding the Scriptures (2 Tim.2:15). (2) The Bible is given by inspiration of God (2 Tim.3:15-16). (3) To be able to understand so that we can help others (Heb.4:12). The unsaved and unlearned can't understand many parts of Scripture, and "wrestle" with it (2 Peter 3:15-18). (4) The Bible tells us to (Eph.3:1-11). (5) For the testimony of the Law (Isaiah 8:20, Luke 16:29-31, 1 John 4:5-6), and the prophets (Acts 15:12-19). (6) God speaks to us in various ways (Heb.1:1-2). (7) God's word is not void (Isaiah 55:11).

PROBLEMS IN CHRISTIANITY - There are many sects and divisions in Christianity today, due to a large part from a failure to see Scripture in a dispensational way. There must be: (1) a literal interpretation of Scripture, not allegorical as supposed by many. (2) A contextual application of Scripture (e.g. Matthew 24:13, which actually means saved alive at the end of the Great Tribulation period, to enter into the Kingdom Age). (3) A "rightly dividing" of the Word (2 Tim.2:15). (4) Proper exegetic principles used at all times in Bible study, to find God's intended meaning, and not make it say what we want it to.

FEATURES OR CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISPENSATIONS -

- (1) **NAME** - Innocence, Conscience, Human Government, Promise, Law, Church, Kingdom.
- (2) **TIME PERIOD** - each has a definite start and end. There are also continuing principles that persist.
- (3) **TEST** - man's responsibility to be obedient to God, and accountability for his stewardship.
- (4) **FAILURE** - of man to his responsibility for that dispensation.
- (5) **JUDGMENT** - by God, against man for his failure.
- (6) **REMEDY** - The Grace of God, innocent blood, is the necessary element of the remedy for each dispensation.

THE FIRST DISPENSATION

NAME : INNOCENCE - man has no knowledge of sin (Heaven will be like this). It is important to note that man is a special creation by God, created in His image and likeness, and to have fellowship with God. Man has a free will, and is not a robot; man is therefore different from the animals which do things by instinct. Man can, and does,

make choices, and therefore has the ability to obey or disobey God. Adam and Eve were created as perfect, fully mature, and intelligent beings. (Gen. 2:15-25)

TIME PERIOD : From creation to the fall of Adam and Eve into sin. There is no way to know how long this period lasted, but it appears to have been a short period of time. (Gen. chapters 2,3)

TEST : To have dominion over creation and obey God, concerning the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2:15-17).

FAILURE : Adam & Eve eat of the fruit of the forbidden tree, and fall into sin (Gen. chapter 3). Also known as "The Curse", or "The Fall of Man" (Gen.3:7-19)

JUDGMENT : man is driven out of the Garden of Eden, and is now under the curse of death - both physical and spiritual. (Gen.2:17,3:17-24, Eph.2:1, Col.2:13)

REMEDY : blood of innocent animals which were killed by God to make coats of skins, and so sacrificed to cover the sin of Adam & Eve. (Gen.3:21-24)

Main Scripture Refs : Gen.1:26 - 3:24

Continuing Principles : We will again live in innocent perfection in Heaven. Marriage.

People : God (the Trinity), Adam & Eve, satan (not human, but a real person)

Events : (1) completion of creation (Gen.1). (2) God's will revealed to man (Gen.2:15-17), note that this is by God's spoken word, since there was no written Scripture at that time. (3) Adam named all the animals (Gen.2:18-20). Adam was created in God's image, his mind having been created with all wisdom and knowledge, and unaffected by sin; in complete fellowship with God. (4) God made Eve to be Adam's mate (Gen.2:20-24). (5) God establishes the institution of marriage between a man and a woman (Gen.2:24-25). (6) man falls into sin (Gen 3). (7) The Messianic promise (Gen.3:15).

Notes : creation occurred approx. 4004 BC, according to genealogies. Some cults teach that Jesus' death on the cross only forgave 'original sin', and it is up to us to take care of our sins. There was no written Scripture in this dispensation.

THE SECOND DISPENSATION

NAME : CONSCIENCE

TIME PERIOD : From the fall of man into sin, to the

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flood. Duration 1,656 years.

TEST : Man, now with the knowledge of good and evil, is governed by his conscience. (Gen. 3:22-24). Men are to bring a blood offering to answer one's conscience for sin.

FAILURE : Man corrupted himself. (Gen. 6:5,11-13, Matt.24:36-39), brings a wrong sacrifice. The conscience of the ungodly becomes corrupted and seared (Titus 1:15, 1 Tim.4:2).

JUDGMENT : God judges with a flood. (Gen.6:12)

REMEDY : blood offering on the altar by Abel (Gen.4:4)

Main Scripture Refs : Gen.3:7 - 8:22, Titus 1:5, 1 Tim.4:2

Continuing Principle : we still have a conscience (Rom. 2:11-16), but it can be resisted, and ultimately seared into accepting a sinful way of life, and then cannot to be trusted.

People : God, Adam & Eve, Abel, Cain, Seth, Enoch, Methuselah, Noah, Shem, Ham, Japeth, plus all others listed in Gen. chapters 3-7.

Events : (1) Cain slays Abel (Gen.4). Cain's conscience was not enough to keep him from the sin of murder. (2) Death rules (Gen 5). (3) Announcement of the coming flood (Gen.6). (4) Building of the ark, and the flood (Gen.6-7).

Notes : Methuselah - name means "when he dies, the end shall come". Noah - name means "rest". (Gen.5:21-29). Good testimonies (Gen.4:25-26). There was no written Scripture in this dispensation.

THE THIRD DISPENSATION

NAME : HUMAN GOVERNMENT

TIME PERIOD : From the flood to the time of Abram (later called Abraham by God). Duration 525 years (2344 BC - 1819 BC).

TEST : Man is commanded to replenish (repopulate) the earth, and given authority to govern himself. (Gen. 9:1-7). Moreover, men were to move throughout the earth (Gen.10:32)

FAILURE : Man rebelled against God, gathered instead of scattering throughout the earth (Gen.11:1-6). Men did not desire to be obedient to God, or follow God's ways.

JUDGMENT : Confusion of the languages (Gen.11:7-9)

REMEDY : blood offerings on the altar: by Noah (Gen.8:20-21), and Job (Job 1:1-5)*

Main Scripture Refs : Gen.8:20 - 11:32 (note - the book of Job might be from this time period, but that can't be proven)*

Continuing Principles : Man's government, capital punishment (Gen. 9:5-6, Luke 20:20-26, Acts 25:11, Romans 13:1-7), conscience (1 Peter 2:13-17)

People : God, Noah, Shem, Ham, Japeth, Nimrod, Abram, plus all others listed in Gen. chapters 9-11. Job may have also been from this period of time.

Events : (1) Noah comes out of the ark, offers sacrifice on the altar. God gives man the authority to carry out capital punishment (Gen.9:1-7). (2) God establishes His covenant with Noah, his family, and even with the animals; with the rainbow as the token of His covenant (Gen.9:8-17). (3) Ham's disrespect for his father, and is cursed (Gen.9:21-25). Cush, Nimrod, Babel / roots of mystery Babylon (Gen.10). (4) Men attempt to build the city and tower of Babel, confusion of tongues (languages), scattering of nations (Gen.11). (5) Birth of Abram (Gen.11:26).

Notes : God gives man authority over the earth and animals (Gen.9:1-4). Animal flesh was now given to eat as food, in addition to plant life (vs.3-4). God puts the fear of man into animals (vs.2). There was no written Scripture in this dispensation (with one exception - possibly the book of Job)*.

THE FOURTH DISPENSATION

NAME : PROMISE

TIME PERIOD : From the call of Abraham, Egyptian bondage, up to the giving of the Law at Mt. Sinai. (Gen.15:13-14 , Ex.12:40-42 , Gal.3:16-18)

TEST : To stay in the land of promise (Palestinian Covenant). (Gen. 26:1-5 , Heb.11:8-28).

FAILURE : They went into Egypt. Continuous failure of Israel, read Steven's message in Acts 7. (1) Abraham went to Egypt when famine came (Gen.12:9-20). (2) Ishmael born of Hagar (Gen.16).

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(3) Isaac went down to Gerar (close to Egypt) when famine came (Gen.26). (4) Jacob steals the blessing from Esau (Gen.27) (5) Glimmers of hope in the midst of failure: Abraham; Joseph; the prophets try to get Israel to turn to God and be faithful; God's revelations to Israel; The Messiah - the ultimate hope.

JUDGMENT : Slavery in Egypt (Gen.15:13-16)

REMEDY : Passover (blood). (Gen.12:13, Ex. chapters 11-13, 1 Cor.5:7-10)

Main Scripture Refs : Gen.11:10 through Ex.19:4
Promise to Abraham Gen.12:1-3

Continuing Principles : (1) Blessing (Gen.12:3) (2) the land (Gen.13:14-18). (3) father of many nations (Gen.17:1-8). (4) Christians waiting for a better land (Heaven). (5) Christians should not marry unsaved mates (Gen.24:1-9). (6) the seed of Abraham (Gen.15:5): some fleshly (Gen.12:2), some spiritual - must be in the line through Abraham and Isaac (not Ishmael) (Rom.9:6-9), in the line of Jacob, not Esau (Rom.9:10-14). Have faith in God, as Abraham did - Gentiles are included here (Matt.3:7-9) John the Baptist warns the Pharisees that they have no heart for God, even though they were Jews (Rom.2:28-29, Rom.4, Rom.5:1, Gal.3:6-9, 15-19, 28-29).

People : God, Abraham, Lot, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Hagar, Ishmael, Jacob & Esau, Leah and Rachel, 12 sons of Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Miriam, Pharaoh(s)

Events : (1) the call of Abraham (Gen.12:1-5) (2) the blessing of Melchizedek (Gen.14:17-24, Ps.110:4, Heb.5:6, 6:20-7:22) (3) birth of Ishmael, the promise of Isaac (Gen.17:15-22) (4) Sodom & Gomorrah (Gen.18,19) (5) Abraham's willingness to sacrifice Isaac (Gen.22) (6) Jacob & Esau (Gen.27:30-34, Heb.12:15-17) (7) Jacob's ladder (Gen.28:10-22) (8) Joseph sold into slavery in Egypt (Gen.37) (9) Egyptian bondage (Ex.1:7-14) (10) Passover (Ex.12) (11) God parts the Red Sea (Ex.14:19-31, Heb.11:29)

Notes : God saved Israel out of Egypt to live in the land that He chose for them. Egypt would be a constant trouble spot for Abraham and his children. God saves us out of the world today, to live for Him.

2165 BC - birth of Abram. 1875 BC - Jacob & sons went down to Egypt. 1445 BC - Israel's exodus from Egypt, and God giving the Law to Moses. God's promises to Israel will be fulfilled literally (Is.14:1-3, Hos.3:4-5). A wrong application of 2 Chron.7:14 - this is not for the USA

today, this is for Israel (the name Israel means "Prince with God").

THE FIFTH DISPENSATION

NAME : LAW Ex.19:5

TIME PERIOD : From Mt. Sinai (1445 B.C.) to Mt. Calvary (32 A.D.). (John 1:17, Rom.10:4)

TEST : For Israel, by faith, to obey the law, follow its provisions for breaking the Law - including temple sacrifices, and be blessed. (Mal.3:7-10, Deut.28, Lev.17) Israel was to bring proper sacrifice for sin. God wanted to teach other nations through Israel. (Ex.19:5-6, Rom.3:19-23). Blessings and curses (Deut.28:1-14, 15-68) **NOTE** - the passage in Ezekiel 18:20-32 deals with keeping the law, not salvation. Death mentioned here, is physical death.

FAILURE : Israel disobeyed the law (Ex.32:1-6, Is.1:10). The flesh is weak, not the law (Rom.7:7, 8:3, Gal.3:21, 2 Cor.3:7). Without faith, Israel disobeyed the law, and abhorred the temple sacrifices. They did not trust the Lord, but brought in idols. They refused to honor God's remedy for sin. (Mal.1:1) They fell into dead orthodoxy (Is.1:10-15) outward appearance was ok, but the heart was not right.

JUDGMENT : The Dispersion - scattering of Jews throughout the world. (Matt.23:37-39, Deut.4)

REMEDY : Sacrificial system culminating in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary. (Is.1:16-20) Jesus ends the Law, with Grace (John 1:17).

Main Scripture Refs : Exodus 19:5 through the Gospels. (Hebrews and James are mostly transitional books between the law and Church ages)

Continuing Principles : (1) Why did God give the law? To show us our sin. (Gal.3:17-29). (2) All of the ten commandments are repeated in the N.T. except for Sabbath keeping (Col.2:14-17). (3) In this Church age, the law convicts the lost of their need for salvation. The law also reveals the holiness of God, and the sinful condition of mankind (Gal.2:16,21, Gal.3:11, Rom.3:20, 8:3, Acts 13:39, Heb.7:19)

People : God, Moses, judges, prophets, John the Baptist, Jesus Christ

Events : announcement of a new covenant. (Is.8:20, Jer.31:27-40, Mark 16:15-16, 2 Cor.3:3)

Notes : (1) Is the N.T. believer under the law? - NO (Rom.7:5-6, 2 Cor.3, Gal.2:19-21, 1 Tim.1:8-9) (2) All the details of the temple, tabernacle, priests, priestly robes, all point to Jesus. (3) Can the Law save? NO- because men cannot keep it. (Rom 3:20, 7:12-13, 8:3, Gal.2:16,21, 3:11,

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Eph.2:8-9, Heb.7:19) (4) Covenant theology says that the N.T. Church takes the place of Israel, and tries to put the Church back under the Law. Matt.21:43 - "nation" refers to a revived nation of Israel in the Tribulation time. (5) Life & death of Christ are keys to understanding the 4 Gospels. The Law was still in effect for the rule of life while Christ was alive. We need to be careful in applying the teachings of the Gospels for N.T. Christian life. The rule of life for today is to be guided by the Holy Spirit. The Scribes and Pharisees were under the Law of Moses (Matt.23:23). Matt. 23:1-4 say to observe and keep the Law of Moses, but don't be hypocrites like the Scribes and Pharisees.

THE SIXTH DISPENSATION

NAME : CHURCH

TIME PERIOD : From day of Pentecost (32 A.D. - Acts 2) , to the Rapture of the Church. (*Editor's Note: The Lord Jesus Christ founded, initiated and organized the first church plant — Mt. 16:18, 18:17, Acts 2:47. Time period should be from Christ's ministry on earth to the Rapture of the Church.*)

TEST : Both Jew and Gentile called to trust Christ as Saviour, and make up the Body of Christ (the Church), indwelt and guided by the Holy Spirit. (Acts 10:34 - 11:4 , Eph.3:1-6,10) Believing the Gospel message, receiving Christ by faith (Eph.2:8-10), being saved without works or circumcision (Acts 15:1). Teaching the Apostle's doctrine (Acts 2:41-47). Rule of life for N.T. Christian is to respond to the indwelling Holy Spirit (John 16:7-16, Acts 1:8, 2 Cor.3:1-18).

FAILURE : Church apostasy – departure from the faith (1 Tim.4, 2 Tim.3, 2 Thes.2:3, Rev.3:14-22) Apostasy continues and worsens until a great apostasy closes out the Church age. Our response to this apostasy (2 Tim.2:24-26, 3:5). The rejection of Christ is worldwide (2 Thes.1:4-10). There will be a one-world apostate church (Rev.17:1-6, 15-16), it will be destroyed by the Antichrist (Rev.17:16-18, Rev.18)

See: ECT - Evangelicals and Catholics Together; ICW - the Interfaith Council of Washington; and other interfaith / interchurch organizations, which seek to bring peoples of all faiths together. While this may sound good to many people, and is widely accepted by those who accept compromise, the testimony of John 14:6, and Acts 4:12 stands against this error.

JUDGMENT : (1) The false church is judged in the Tribulation (Rev.6:15-17). The return of the Lord in judgment (Rev.16:12-21, 19:11-19). (2) Battle of

Armageddon (Rev.16:16, 19:11-21). (3) The judgment of nations (Matt.25:31-46).

REMEDY : The Gospel of Jesus Christ, His sacrifice on the Cross (Rev.1:5, 5:9).

Main Scripture Refs : Acts through Rev.4:1 , and portions of John, Hebrews, James. (Hebrews and James are basically transitional books between the law and Church ages)

Continuing Principle(s) : In the Kingdom age, there will still be a need to put one's faith and trust in the only Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

People : The Lord Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit, Apostles, Paul, Timothy, Stephen, the Prophets, the body of believers. (Eph.2:20-22, Col.1:24-29, Acts 1:20-26, 2:42, 1 Cor.13:9, 15:5-10, Rev.22:18-19) The "unholy trinity" dragon (father), antichrist (son), false prophet (holy spirit).

Events : (1) The Great Commission (Acts 1:4-8) (2) The Ascension of Jesus (Acts 1:9) (3) Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4) (4) Ananias & Saphira (Acts 5:1-11). (5) Persecution of the Church, brought by God to scatter the Church as He intended, for the preaching of the Gospel (Acts 8:1) (6) Paul's conversion (Acts 9:1-30) (7) Branching-out of the Church (Acts 11:22-30) (8) Missions began (Acts 13:1-5) (9) Gentiles saved (Acts 13:46 - this is a pivotal verse in Acts) (10) First Church council at Jerusalem, established that salvation is by faith, and not by works/Law keeping (Acts 15:11) (11) Rapture (John 14:3, 1 Cor.15:51-52, 1 Thes.1:10,4:13-18,5:9a, 2 Thes.2:1-3, 2 Pet.2:9, Rev.3:10) (12) Russia invades Israel (Ez.38,39). (13) The seven years of Tribulation (Daniel 9:27). 144,000 Jews preach the Gospel, Israel as a nation is saved. False church rules 3.5 years. Antichrist reigns 3.5 years. (Dan.9:27, Matt.24:14, 2 Thes.2:3-4). (14) Christ returns with His church. (15) The battle of Armageddon.

Notes : The rule of life for the Christian is to respond to the indwelling Holy Spirit (2 Cor.3:1-8), not the Law. In O.T. times, the Holy Spirit did not permanently indwell the believer. He would come for a specific time, and then depart. This could happen over and over again, and does NOT indicate gaining/losing one's salvation (Judges 14:19,16:20, Ez.2:2). God's wrath (Rev.6:15-16). True Church is raptured before the Tribulation (Rev.3:10). The true Church is in Heaven during the Tribulation time (Rev.4:4, 13:6, 19:7-8,14). The Marriage of the Lamb and His Bride, the true Church, is taking place in Heaven, while the Tribulation is taking place on Earth. (Ps.45.10-16, Eph.5:25-32, 1 Thes.5:9, Titus 2:13, Rev.19:7-9,21:2,9). The Tribulation period (Matt.24:3-31).

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THE SEVENTH DISPENSATION

NAME : KINGDOM AGE (Zech.14:9, Rev.11:15)

TIME PERIOD : From 2nd coming of Christ to the Great White Throne judgment (1 Cor.15:23-28, Rev.20:1-6)
Duration will be 1,000 years. Kingdom age will begin after the battle of Armageddon (Is.2:1-4, Joel 3:9-11).

TEST : Submit to King Jesus and believe in Him (Is.60:1-22, Zech.14, Mic.4:1-7). Conditions of the Kingdom (Is.60, 66:20-24, Joel 3:9-21, Amos 9:11-15, 1 Cor.15:23-28).

FAILURE : A revolt against Jesus as King (rev.20:7-9), and a rallying to satan's cause (after he is loosed from the Bottomless Pit). Though the Kingdom Age begins with only saved people (Matt.25:31-46), children will be born who will rebel. (Jer.30:20, Ez.20:33-38, 47:22, Zech.10:8). This age reveals the ultimate inability of man to save himself, providing the final proof that there is salvation only through God.

JUDGMENT : The Battle of Gog and Magog (Rev.20:7-10), then the Great White Throne judgment (Rev.20:11-15). The unsaved have their names blotted out of the Book of Life. There will be death (Ez.44:25) and judgment during this age (Is.60:12, 65:17-25), but it appears to be a result of disobedience to the Lord, rather than a natural occurrence.

REMEDY : Grace - born-again, eternal glory. The remedy for Job and everyone else is the Redeemer, Jesus Christ (Job 19:25-27). John 3:1-5,16)

Main Scripture Refs : Rev.4:1 to Rev.20:15.
Deut.18:15-19, Ps.110, Daniel ch.7,9 "70th week", O.T. prophets - Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, and others, portions of the 4 Gospels, Heb.12:28, Gospel passages such as the Sermon on the Mount.

Continuing Principle(s) : living with Christ in the eternal state of sinless perfection.

People : The King Lord Jesus Christ, Israel, Gentile nations, the Church in the Holy City (Rev.20:6), O.T. Saints (Ez.34:23,37-34, Matt.8:11), Tribulation Saints that die in the Trib. (Rev.20:4, Matt.24:13, John 3:3,5), Tribulation Saints that live through the Trib. to enter into the Kingdom Age (Matt.25:31-46, John 3:3,5, Rev.20:1-3).

Events : (1) Setting up of the Kingdom in Israel, and

1,000-year reign of Christ (Rev.20). (2) Temple sacrifice reinstated, as a reminder to Israel, as well as the rest of the world, what Christ did for us (Ez.45). The Eastern Gate (Ez.43:1-5, 44:1-3). (3) Conditions during the K.Age: peace, joy, glory, holiness, comfort, justice prevails, full knowledge, perfect economic system with labor, instruction in the Scriptures, removal of curse, healing of those entering the K.Age from the Tribulation, increase of light, unified church, fullness of the Holy Spirit, common language (Is.60:1-22, 66:20-24, Amos 9:11-15). This age has no mysteries, and most prophecies will already have been fulfilled, Christ Himself is here on Earth (Joel 3:9-21), the resurrected Saints are here, the New Jerusalem is visible, some people have lived through the Great Tribulation to enter into this age and therefore are eyewitnesses to what happened then. The Earth is restored (Is.65:17-25). (4) satan is bound and kept in the Bottomless Pit for 1,000 years, then released for his final rebellion (Rev.20:1-3,7-9). (5) Lake of fire and eternal state (Rev.20:15 through Rev.21).

THE DISPENSATIONAL TEACHING OF THE KINGDOM AGE

PRE-MILLENNIAL - a belief that Jesus will return (with the saints) at the battle of Armageddon, before His 1,000-year reign. The N.T. Church is a separate entity from the nation of Israel, and God will set up the Earthly Kingdom with Israel as He promised.

Other positions, that do not agree with the dispensational teaching of the Kingdom Age :

POST-MILLENNIAL - many denominational churches (Protestant, Methodist, Reformed) believe that Christ will return after the church makes the earth a better place, for the Lord to return to. They will preach a 'social gospel' (i.e. be more concerned about physical needs, than spiritual, not much preaching for salvation or against sin), and believe that their church will usher in a "golden age". Most of them will not believe in a 7-year Tribulation time.

A-MILLENNIAL - no return of Christ, and therefore no millennial reign. They believe that the church takes the place of Christ on earth (e.g. Roman Catholic church). Also no belief in 7-year Tribulation time.

COVENANT THEOLOGY - makes no distinction between Israel and the N.T. Church, i.e. - CT teaches that the N.T. Church takes the place of Israel, and all of God's promises to Israel are somehow transferred to the Church. In other words, God is finished with Israel, because they rejected their Messiah.

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*“ Without Christ—only fleeting friends, with
Christ—fellowship from the first day of grace
until now!”*

A TIMELINE OF THE END TIMES

CHURCH AGE	7-YEAR TRIBULATION TIME		KINGDOM AGE
true and false churches	3-1/2 years	3-1/2 years	1,000 years
	----->(a) false church rules ----->	(b) Antichrist reigns----->	(c) Jesus Christ reigns----->
present time	144,000 Jews saved and witness for Christ	false 'trinity' : father = dragon(devil) son = antichrist(beast) spirit = false prophet Dan 9:27, Matt.24:14-51 2 Thes.2:3-4	promise to Israel fulfilled Christ returns w/the Church

(a) = Rapture of the true church, end of the Church age, beginning of the Tribulation time (imminent)

(b) = false church is destroyed by antichrist

(c) = Armageddon, satan in Bottomless Pit for 1,000 years, beast & false prophet are cast into Lake of Fire

Devotional

LIMITED SPACE — Psalm 148

By: Craig Glickman

As I work on this newsletter trying to keep from adding extra pages I realize how I have such limited space to put every thing. Then it came to mind how vast and wide the heavens and the earth are! Stop and think about that for a moment. Do we think to praise God for space. Psalm 148 our passage teaches how all creation praises the Lord. We praise Him from the heavens and in the heights (1). The sun, the moon and the stars praise Him (3). The heavens of heavens and the waters above praise Him (4). The sea and its creatures praise Him (7). We read on that fire, hail, snow, vapours, mountains, hills, trees, beasts, cattle, creeping things, flying fowl, kings of the earth and all people! All creation praises the creator! O' the vastness and wideness of God's grace and mercy! He is indeed worthy of all our praise for He is the God of our praise! Let's thank the Lord today that space is not limited to Him. He is the God of Gods, King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

away. When the spirit tried to tell me, I would not the truth receive; I endeavored to be happy and to make myself believe. (Refrain) [verse 2- When the truth came close and searching, all my joys would disappear for I did not have the witness of the spirit bright and clear. If at times the coming judgment would appear before my mind, O' it made me so uneasy, for God's smile I could not find. (Refrain) [verse 3- When the Lord sent faithful servants who would dare to preach the truth, how my heart did so condemn me as the Spirit gave reproof! Satan said at once, "Twill ruin you now to confess your state; keep on working and professing, and you'll enter Heaven's gate." (Refrain) [verse 4- But at last I tired of living such a life of fear and doubt, for I wanted God to give me something I would know about, so the truth would make me happy and the light would clearly shine, and the Spirit gave assurance that I'm His and He is mine. (Refrain) [verse 5- So I prayed to God in earnest, and not caring what folks said. I was hungry for the blessing; my poor soul—it must be fed. Then at last by faith I touched Him and, like sparks from smitten steel, just so quick salvation reached me. O' bless God, I know it's real! [refrain - But it's real, it's real! O' I know it's real. Praise God, the doubts are settled, for I know, I know it's real!]

“Let us praise our precious Savior in song all the day long.”

Church Planting

Sorry, due to lack of space, etc. there will be no “CHURCH PLANTING” column in this month's issue. But I would like to ask each and every reader to let me know via e-mail of any towns in the USA with no local church within 30 minutes. It will be a great help to the editor for future issues of HFT. Thank you for your help.

Song of the Month

“It's Real”

This great song speaks of the joy of knowing for sure that we are genuine believers possessing faith in Christ. It shows we now have no doubts that Jesus is ours and we have that blessed assurance in our hearts. The words go as follows: *O how well do I remember how I doubted day by day, for I did not no for certain that my sins were washed*

Children For Christ

☺☺ BIBLE RIGHT & WRONG ☺☺

PUT TRUE OR FALSE FOR HOW CHRISTIANS SHOULD LIVE. THEN READ THE BIBLE VERSE(S) FOR THAT SITUATION. ☺

1. We should be content no matter what the problem in our life is since Christ is in control. ___True ___False (I Tim. 6:6)
2. We must realize the presence of God in our lives all the time to live a Godly life for God sees all. ___True ___False (Prov. 15:3)
3. We need God's protection at all times of our lives. ___True ___False (Psalm 91, Phil. 4:19)
4. When I am tempted with sin, I have no way of dealing with it. ___True ___False (1 Cor. 10:12-14, Phil. 4:8)
5. I have no escape from my sorrows and troubles. Even God can not help me. ___True ___False (Psalm 51, II Cor. 1:3,4)
6. When I am worried, I must trust in the Lord, for He will help me through the problem(s). ___True ___False (1 Pet. 5:6,7)
7. I should hate my enemies and not care about their salvation. ___True ___False (Matt. 5:43-48)
8. I should not be putting the things of this world before the Lord. I need to keep God first place in my life. ___True ___False (1 John 2:15-17)
9. It is OK to use bad language every now and then. ___True ___False (Coll. 3:8)
10. We must be loving and forgiving to our family and friends when they hurt our feelings. ___True ___False (Mark 11:25,26; Eph. 4:31,32)
11. Honesty is very important. We should never tell a lie. Not even a white lie is good. ___True ___False (II Cor. 8:21)
12. We must honor our parents at all times, except when they want us to do something that does not honor or glorify God. ___True ___False (Matt. 15:4)
13. We don't need to pray daily and often. God won't mind. ___True ___False (Eph. 6:18)
14. I should read my Bible everyday and desire to learn and grow in understanding of it. ___True ___False (John 5:39, Psalm 1:2, Psalm 119:97)

Praises

- I praise God For the privilege and blessing of preparing and sending out this newsletter to people all across the land.
- I praise God and want to say thank you to each and every one of you who take the time to read this every month and to those who have sent e-mails about how the Lord has blessed you. Please keep themcoming. They are a blessing!

Prayer Requests

- Salvation of my sister Wendy & friend Ben
- Salvation of my nephew Jacob and Aunts' Sybil & Bernice
- Ben from PA (age 11) who has Neuroblastoma and mom Patty. Both need salvation
- The souls who were devastated in the Haiti earthquake
- Tract distribution and outreach to lost souls all over the world who were witnessed to last month for salvation
- Travel safety for the HFT editor & others to NC for a Bible conf. at Ambassador Baptist College in late March (NEW)
- Unspoken requests for the HFT editor
- Unspoken requests for several friends of the HFT editor
- Wisdom regarding FT Christian service for the Lord someday as the Lord leads
- God's blessing upon and growth of Bible believing, Bible preaching, Biblicist Baptist local churches all across the world and for more to be planted.

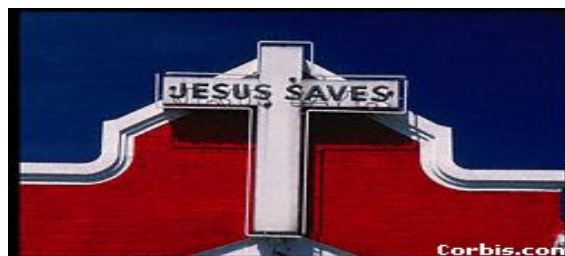
In Next Months Issue

You will see two new articles and devotionals as well as another fun activity in the "Children for Christ" column.

Thank you so much for reading this. I praise God for all my dear brothers and sisters in Christ and I greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

His Servant,
Craig G.
Prov. 3:5-6

P.S. If you have any ideas on any improvements to the newsletter, I'd like to hear from you. Please e-mail me and let me know. If you know somebody who would like to be added to the newsletter, please have them e-mail me and I will get it out to them as soon as possible. Also, just in case you do NOT wish to continue receiving this monthly newsletter, please e-mail me with "please remove" in the subject line.



"Hunger for Truth" is a monthly e-newsletter publication edited by Craig Glickman who is a member of Community Baptist Church of Quakertown, PA where the pastor is Dr. David Smith.

Formerly
Saved Today Ministries
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