Rightly Dividing the Word: Dispensationalism

Ephesians 1:10

I. What is Dispensationalism?

A. Dispensationalism comes from a literal interpretation of the Scripture.
   1. Literal interpretation
   2. Allegorical interpretation

B. The word dispense means to give out.

C. "God has interacted with man differently at different times in history in order to accomplish His will."

D. Dispensations in the Bible.
   1. Dispensation
   2. Ages
   3. Times
   4. Day

II. What are the Dispensations?

A. How many are there?

B. Dispensation of Innocence – Genesis 1-3

C. Dispensation of Conscience – Genesis 4-8

D. Dispensation of Human Government – Genesis 9-11

E. Dispensation of Promise – Genesis 12-Exodus 19

F. Dispensation of Law – Exodus 20-Matthew 27

G. Dispensation of the Church – Matthew 27-Revelation 3

H. Dispensation of Judgement – Revelation 3-18

I. Dispensation of the Kingdom – Revelation 19-20

J. Dispensation of Eternity – Revelation 21-22

K. There are several things that are common to each dispensation.

L. The dispensations can be illustrated in the life of a believer.

M. The dispensations show man's need of salvation.

III. Why should we study the Bible Dispensationally?

A. It is Biblical.

B. It aids in Bible understanding through dispensational context.

C. Dispensationalism makes a clear distinction between Israel and the Church.

IV. Warnings about Dispensationalism.

A. Do not make too sharp of a divide between dispensations.

B. Salvation does not change from one dispensation to the next.

C. Hyper Dispensationalism has many improper views of Scripture.

D. Dispensationalism is a framework that enables you to better study the Bible.