

The Biblical Pattern of Discipleship

Background: God's Kingdom and Discipleship.

I. GOD'S MISSION IS TO ESTABLISH A _____ - Isaiah 9:6-7

- A. God's Kingdom will _____.
- B. God's Kingdom will never _____.
- C. God's _____ will ensure this takes place.

Point ONE: God has a plan for this _____ and the _____.

Point TWO: God has a plan for your _____.

The biblical truth that can be _____ by comparing Scripture with Scripture.

- A. The "Son's of God."
OT: Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7 *Note the Connection between: stars, angels and "sons of God."*

Genesis 6:2; 6:4
Result? 2 Peter 2:4

- B. The _____.
Revelation 12:3-4 At least 1/3 of these angelic beings were involved in Satan's fall.

- C. The _____.
God never leaves a ruin. Gen 1; Gen 9, Rev 21-22, etc...
The greatest example to this truth is us! God has redeemed us from our sin and is now remodeling; restoring our lives. **2 Cor 5:17** – Sons of God are direct creations of God.

What does God call us?

NT: John 1:12; Romans 8:14; 8:19; Philippians 2:15; 1 John 3:1-2

What is 1/3 of an innumerable company of angels? (Heb 12:22)

What is God doing calling us the "Sons of God!?"

II. Discipleship is the _____ of God's Mandate

A. GOD'S MISSION IS _____ .

The mission is crystal clear in Matthew 28:18-20

1. "Matheteusate" – "teach", to disciple - *math-ayt-yoo'-o*
2. That means that evangelism no more completes the responsibility of the Great Commission than having a baby completes the responsibility of parenting.

KEY: Winning souls is not the _____ of the commission.

It is just the _____ !

B. GOD'S MISSION IS _____ THROUGHOUT THE _____ OF BIBLICAL HISTORY.

The word *dispensation* comes from the same Greek word which is also translated *steward* in 1 Corinthians 4:1-2.

Throughout history, God deals with humanity and gives various responsibilities to various individuals. There is a definite pattern established by God in his mission to establish His Kingdom, as well as a precise counter plan of attack on the part of Satan (2 Cor 2:11).

From Genesis to Revelation you Satan countering against everything God does.

Mankind is given a three-fold commission by God in Genesis 1:26-28. God's very first words to man were, "...be fruitful, multiply, and replenish..." the first three dispensations reflect this. (Genesis 1-11)

God has NEVER changed this plan! (See "The Dispensations of God" handout.)

KEY: The Dispensation of _____ - Be Fruitful, Multiply and Replenish.

God's original purpose has never changed. The mandate Adam and Noah received physically has been given to the New Testament believer spiritually.

- a. _____ is how the church today is fruitful.

Note: Satan attacks with deception. 2 Corinthians 4:1-6.

- b. _____ is how the church today multiplies.

- c. _____ is how the church is to replenish the earth.

C. GOD'S MISSION ALSO INVOLVES _____ THE LORD JESUS CHRIST - Titus 1:2

1. There were two _____ for the first coming of Jesus Christ.

- a. To restore in man the lost image of God - Col. 3:10. This was the purpose of his death, burial, and resurrection. Luke 19:10
- b. To train 12 men to take His message to the world - John 4:34. This was the purpose of His 3-1/2 year earthly ministry. John 17:4

2. His first coming was concluded by the commissioning of his disciples.

This "Great Commission" is exactly the same as Adam's commission (Gen 1:28)

Matt 28:18-20; John 15:16.

God's plan has never changed. (The consistency of God.)

- The physical kingdom will not be established until the physical King returns to this earth.
- Meanwhile, our mandate is to bear fruit through evangelism to multiply that fruit through discipleship and to reach every creature on earth with the message of the gospel.

D. GOD'S MISSION IS _____

1. What discipleship is NOT just a program or biblical course.

2. Discipleship is the _____ of the reality of spiritual _____ from one person to another.

It is the accomplishment of GOALS in the life of a young believer!

Discipleship is a method with certain inescapable consequences:

- a. To disciple all nations is nothing short of the same hard work of parenting.
- b. To disciple all nations is a Biblical goal and not a program or a methodology

3. Discipleship is the practical process that leads to _____ to the _____ of Christ.

Our commission has a single objective: to grow into the image of the Lord. It has to do with our standing vs. our state, and making our state on earth match our standing in Christ.

- a. **The mandate** is clear: to disciple all nations. But what is the meaning of this mandate? The answer is found in a study of the word, disciple.

b. The meaning:

- Mathetes: the **word for a** _____; to become a pupil or enroll as a student
- A disciple is someone coming to Jesus to learn from him.

c. Its significance:

- Some form of the word found over 230 times in the Gospels.
- Some form found over 25 times in Acts.
- The word is found NOT ONCE in the epistles – too glaring to be a mere coincidence.
- Instead, "disciple" is replaced by another word in the epistles – "saint," found 57 times.
- A disciple is one who learns, whereas a saint one who is set apart, holy or sanctified.

- d. **The lesson:** One is a disciple in order to learn how to live like the saint he has been made in Christ Jesus. So the objective of discipleship is to grow into the image of Christ.

CONCLUSION: One becomes a disciple to learn how to live like the “saint” that he is.

e. Its implications: Discipleship is a _____ that can be _____
by four key indicators

These four goals are what separate us from being a discipleship “program” and being curriculum-driven.

1. To establish the believer in the _____ of God.
2. To establish the believer in the _____ of God.
3. To establish the believer in the _____.
4. To establish the believer with us in _____.

Discipleship is a process that has both a _____ and an _____.

Do not expect saints if you do not disciple!

THE DISPENSATIONS OF GOD

The key to understanding dispensations in the Word of God.

Luke 16:1-2 And he said also unto his disciples, There was a certain rich man, which had a steward; and the same was accused unto him that he had wasted his goods. ² And he called him, and said unto him, How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward.

- “stewardship” = Greek word is “*oikonomia*” also translated “*dispensation*” in **1 Cor 9:17, Eph 1:10, 3:2, Col 1:25**

In each dispensation...

- There is one in authority=“a certain rich man” (God) to delegate the task of managing His affairs, and one in responsibility=“a steward” (God’s people) who are to manage the rich man’s goods.
- There is a failure in the steward’s dispensation.
- Because there is accountability in the task, there is eventual removal and judgment.
- A new steward is designated to the position of steward.

Classic View of SEVEN Dispensations

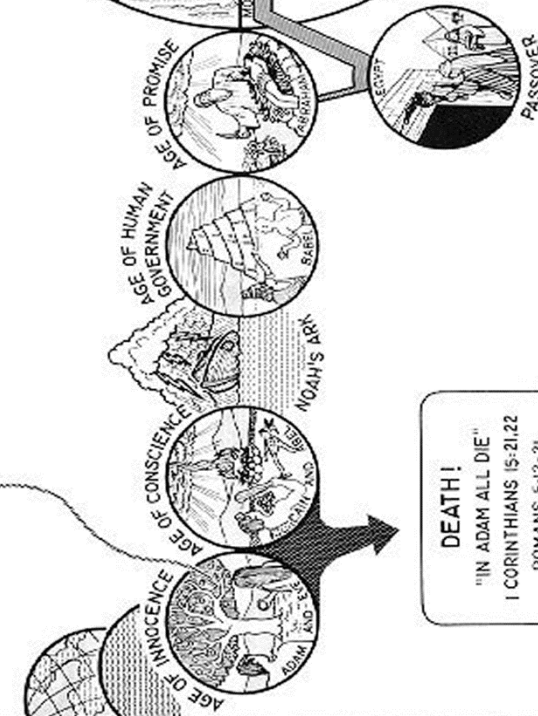
Dispensation	Edenic Innocence	Adamic Conscience	Noahic Human Govt.	Abrahamic Patriarchs	Mosaic Law	Grace	Millennial Kingdom
Steward	Adam	His Sons	Noah	Abraham	Moses	Paul	12 Apostles The Nations
Responsibility	Gen 2:15-17 Tend, keep the garden. Don't eat the wrong fruit. Be Fruitful (Ge 1-3)	Gen 1:28 Do good. Multiply (Ge4-8)	Ge 9:1-7 Obey Replenish (Ge 9-11)	Gen 12:1-3,7 Take the promised land, believe and obey God. Be Fruitful (Ge12-22)	Exo 20 Keep the law. Multiply	1 Cor 4:1-2 Believe on Jesus. Walk with God. Preach the Gospel. Make disciples. Be Fruitful, Multiply and Replenish	Dan 7:18 Believe and obey Christ and His government. Replenish
Failure	Gen 3:6	Gen 6:2-6	Gen 11:4	Gen 12:10	Exo 32	Rev 3:16	Rev 20:9
Judgment	Gen 3:13-24	Gen 6:7-8:24	Gen 11:7-9	Gen 15:13	2 Chr 36	2 Cor 5:10	Rev 20:11
Crisis	Expulsion from Eden	Destruction in the flood	Confusion of the language, nations scattered	Subjugation in Egypt. Wilderness wandering	Rejection of Israel, captivities	Rapture of the Church to the Judgment Seat of Christ. Lose reward.	Rebellion at the end of the Day of the Lord. Great White Throne Judgment.
Limits	Creation to the fall	Fall to the Flood	Flood to Babel	Abraham to Egypt	Moses to Jesus	Cross to the Crown	Day of the Lord
Test	Innocence in Perfection	Conscience in Permission	Government in Protection	Promise through the Patriarchs	Law in Precept	Mysteries in Patience	Kingdom in Power
Symbol	Garden of Eden	Mark of Cain	Rainbow in the Clouds	Altar of Sacrifice	Tables of Stone	Cross of Christ	Rod of Iron
Scripture	Gen 1:3-3:6	Gen 3:7-8:14	Gen 8:15-11:9	Ge 11:10-Ex 18:27	Exo19-John	Matt 27; Acts – Rev 4:1	Rev 20:1-15

- Most of the text of the Bible covers the last three dispensations.
- Other dispensational schemes combine or further divide (which is usually the case) the above dispensations.
Beware teaching that demands a hyper-dispensational view as a requirement for biblical fellowship.
- **Bible study rule of thumb:** if it takes me two days to explain a doctrinal position, then it isn't really that important!
- **Remember,** “If it’s new, it isn't true. If it’s true, it isn't new!”

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD

2 TIMOTHY 2:15

SATAN THE GOD OF THIS WORLD
2 CORINTHIANS 4:4



DEATH!
"IN ADAM ALL DIE"
1 CORINTHIANS 15:21,22
ROMANS 5:12-21

HELL

(SHEOL or HADES)
"OUT OF SIGHT"

SOULS OF RIGHTEOUS DEAD
A GREAT GULL FLOCK - LUKE 16:19-31

SOULS OF UNRIGHTEOUS DEAD

GREECE

ROME

10 KINGS

SOULS OF RIGHTEOUS
ASCEND WITH CHRIST
EPHESIANS 4:8-10

"THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES"

LUKE 21:24

483 YEARS

60 WEEKS

GAL. 4:24-27

GENTILES CAST AMONG THE NATIONS
ROMANS 11:11-23

THE TRIBULATION
MATTHEW 24

1 WEEK

7 YEARS

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST
MATTHEW 25:31-32

THE AGE OF GRACE
THE CHURCH WHICH IS CHRIST'S BODY
EPHESIANS 1:22,23; 4:11-16

A MYSTERY NOT KNOWN IN OTHER AGES
EPH. 3:1-12 COL. 1:21-27

ASCENSION OF CHRIST
LUKE 24:50

DISSENT OF THE CHURCH
OVER ALL THINGS TO THE CHURCH
MATTHEW 28:18-20

THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT
REVELATION 20:11-15

EVERLASTING DOOM OF THE WICKED
REVELATION 20:11-15

THE FORMER THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY
REVELATION 21:1-5

THE NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH
REVELATION 21:1-5

SOULS OF UNRIGHTEOUS
DELIVERED UP
REVELATION 20:13

SOULS OF RIGHTEOUS
ASCEND WITH CHRIST
EPHESIANS 4:8-10

SOULS OF RIGHTEOUS
ASCEND WITH CHRIST
EPHESIANS 4:8-10

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