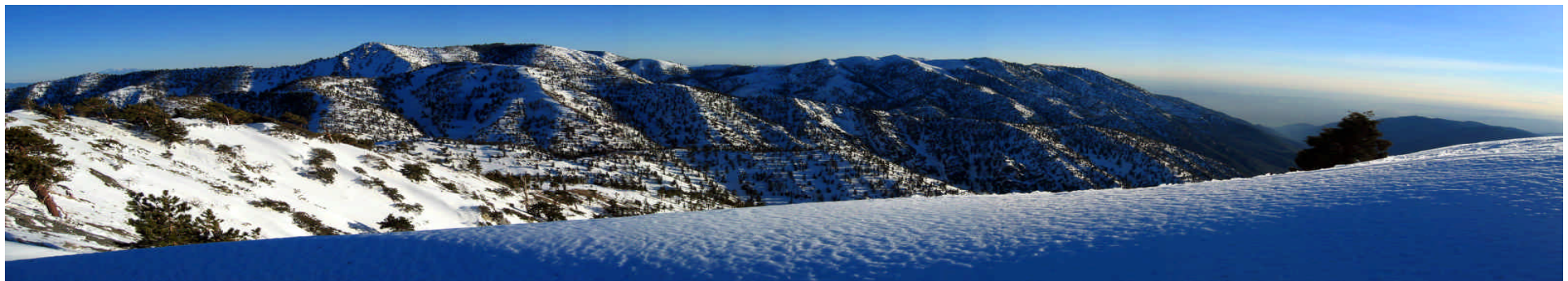


# Session 12: A Dispensational Panorama

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Bible Basics Conference  
Catford, 08-09 November 2008

Note: An audio file (mp3) of this presentation is available on [www.audioteaching.org](http://www.audioteaching.org)



An aerial photograph of a vast, snow-covered mountain range. The peaks are rugged and densely packed, creating a complex pattern of white and dark shadows. In the upper left corner, the wing and tail section of a large commercial airplane are visible, flying over the terrain. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall scene is a wide, panoramic view of a high-altitude, alpine environment.

# **A Dispensational Panorama**

# A Dispensational Panorama

- **‘Dispensations’ are not a doctrine but a tool to better understand the Scripture**
- **Once we understand dispensational distinctions things start ‘falling into place’**
- **Dispensational interpretation is the only way of explaining the whole Bible consistently!**
- **Dispensational interpretation opens our eyes to the deeper meaning of OT and NT Bible books**
  - **Here are some examples...**

# Panorama 1: Genesis 22 - 24



Genesis 22: Abraham offers Isaac

→ God offers up His Son

Genesis 23: Sarah dies

→ Relationship with Israel discontinued

Genesis 24: Isaac and Rebecca

→ A bride is found for the Son

# Panorama 2: Genesis 37 – 50

## *Historical*

- loved more than his other sons
- hated by his brothers
- sent to his brothers
- rejected by his brothers
- sold to the nations
- in a far country for many years, as rejected
- exalted
- His brothers are in need
- His brothers turn to Joseph
- He reveals himself to them
- His brothers repent
- as supreme ruler – subjects all to Pharaoh

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## *Dispensational*

- Son of the Father's love
- Christ rejected by Israel
- Christ sent to Israel
- Christ delivered to the Gentiles
- Christ in a 'far land'
- Christ crowned with glory and honour
- Israel's tribulation
- Israel's repentance (remnant)
- Christ known by Israel
- Christ rules supreme in the Millennium

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# Panorama 3: Leviticus 23

## *Historical*

- Passover
- Feast of first-fruits
- Feast of weeks
- Feast of trumpets
- Day of atonement
- Feast of tabernacles

## *Dispensational*

- Work of Redemption
- Resurrection
- Pentecost
- Gathering of Israel
- Repentance of Israel
- Millennium

# Panorama 4: Kings



Saul

→ The Man of Sin (Antichrist)

David

→ Christ: first rejected, then subjecting enemies

Solomon

→ The King of Peace → Millennium



# Panorama 5: Daniel's 70 weeks

## Daniel 9

Weeks 1 - 69

→  $69 \times 7 = 483$  years leading up to the cross

Gap

→ time of the church (parenthesis)

Week 70

→ 7 years tribulation period (see Rev.6-19)

# Panorama 6: Matthew 1 – 17

## *Historical*

- Ch. 1
- Ch. 2
- Ch. 3.4
- Ch. 5-7
- Ch. 8-10
- Ch. 11-12
- Ch. 13
- Ch. 16
- Ch. 17

## *Dispensational*

- King's genealogy
- Israel's reaction
- The king prepared
- The king's constitution
- Messiah's miracles
- Messiah's rejection
- The kingdom of heaven
- The church
- The Millennium

# Panorama 7: Revelation 2-3



- 7 letters
- Addressed to 7 churches
- In Asia Minor (today: Turkey)

→ Prophetic panorama – giving an overview of the whole time of the church!  
→ 2000 years church history!



# Panorama 8: Revelation 1-22

Rev. 1

→ Christ will return – this time as Judge

Rev. 2 – 3

→ The time of church testimony

Rev. 4 – 5

→ The church in heaven

Rev. 6 – 18

→ Tribulation period

Rev. 19

→ Christ's appearing in might and power

Rev. 20

→ 1000 year reign of Christ (Millennium)

Rev. 21/22

→ The eternal state (and retrospect on the church during the Millennium)



# More dispensational panoramas

- Many more 'dispensational panoramas can be found in the Bible
  - Just think of the life of Jacob → a fitting picture of Israel in the school and under the discipline of God, but found worshipping in the end!
  - Or think of the five books of the Psalms – giving us the history of the godly remnant (after the time of the church)
- This begs the question: why are there so many such panoramas in the Bible????
- PTO



# Why are there dispensational panoramas?

- The Bible is not just a ‘how to live as a Christian’ guide book
- The Bible is God’s revelation
  - God wants to share his thoughts and his heart with us
  - Central to God’s thoughts there is His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ
  - What matters most to God is the role of His Son
    - In relation to creation (think of Adam)
    - In relation to His people (think of Joseph rejected)
    - In redemption (think of Isaac, or the feasts (Passover) or sacrifices)
    - In prophecy (think of His reign, and David and Solomon)
    - In glory (think of the book of Revelation)
- This is the key to understanding God’s word
- An understanding of the dispensations will help us to focus and better understand the central role and position of Christ in all of God’s word!

***“Psa 119:18 Open mine eyes, and I shall behold  
wondrous things out of thy law.”***



# Conclusion

In the course of the 12 sessions of the Bible Basics Conference 2008 we have seen:

1. **God tested man in successive dispensations**
2. **This test ended at the cross...**
3. **God formed and blessed the church, taking her out of the world and uniting her to Christ**
4. **God does not give up Israel, nor this earth, nor His promises:**
  - **Israel (a remnant) will receive Christ**
  - **This earth will finally know peace and justice – in Christ's reign!**



**Thank you!**

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08-09 November 2008