

HEAVEN AND EARTH

BASIC DISPENSATIONAL LESSONS - PART VI

“That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him”

~ Ephesians 1:10

1. Heaven and Earth

- a. We’ve studied perception, people, principle, perspective, priority, now place
- b. There is a difference between heaven and earth from the beginning – Gen 1:1, 26
- c. Why is this dispensational? The difference concerns what God is doing and why

2. The Distinction Between Heaven and Earth

- a. As a place – Geographically separate, not “heaven on earth” , Gen 1:6-8
 - i. “down from h.” Ps 14:2, fallen from heaven – Isa 14:12
 - ii. 1st = Jer 4:25; 2nd = Gen 1:17, Ps 8:3; 3rd = 2 Cor 12:2; (no 7th heaven)
 - iii. Earth is the circular planet we now live on – Gen 1:10-11, Rev 21:1
- b. As a sphere of authority (government) – dominion on the earth – Gen 1:26, Col 1:16
 - i. There is a kingdom beyond just earth - Matt 6:10, Eph 1:10
 - ii. We are given seats in heaven above all – Eph 1:20-23, 2:6, 3:10, 3:15
- c. As a people – nations, borders, tribes, land are all descriptions of people on the earth
 - i. We will bear the image of the heavenly – 1 Cor 15:47-49
 - ii. The new creature is a heavenly body - Gal 3:28, 2 Cor 5:17, Phil 3:20
- d. As a hope – Is our hope on the earth or in heaven?
 - i. Job’s was earthly - Job 19:25; Peter’s was earthly – Acts 1:6
 - ii. Our hope and life is in heaven – Col 1:5, Col 3:1-4, 1 Thess 4:17
- e. As a calling – Is your vocation earthly or heavenly? Is our home here or there?
 - i. Our calling is of heaven “ambassadors” – 2 Cor 5:20, “high calling” – Phil 3:14
 - ii. Israel had a city on a hill – to redeem the earth - Matt 5:14
 - iii. Sidenote: Redeem the culture vs. redeem the time (Eph 5:16)
- f. As a ministry – Jesus’ earthly ministry – Rom 15:8, his heavenly ministry – Rom 15:16
 - i. Jesus came from heaven to speak to an earthly people about earthly promises
 - ii. We walk with our affections set on heaven, speaking heavenly truth, on earth
 - iii. We are raising people to heaven (Col 3:1) – Israel is restoring the earth
- g. As a blessing – Are your expected blessings here or there?
 - i. Our blessings are spiritual and in heaven - Eph 1:3
 - ii. Israel’s blessings will be physical and will be on the earth – Luk 1:74-75

3. Respecting God’s Government

- a. When we do not see the distinction, then we will think heaven is here, or we are an earthly people, or our blessings are physical, and our hope is lower than what it is
- b. Israel was the means through which God will govern the earth
- c. Until then, we live in a present evil world (2 Cor 4:3), shining as lights from heaven