

Stay & Study “How Do I Study My Bible” For Women
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The Bible and History – Part I

History from a Biblical Perspective

*Is the Bible historically accurate?
Can we trust the Bible when it speaks historically?*

The Bible and History
1st Year Class Syllabus
Prepared and Presented by
Donn Williams



Research the Scriptures – Proclaim the Scriptures
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Presuppositions

- A presupposition is a condition that you assume and accept as true.
- A presupposition is not necessarily logically proven.
- A presupposition requires FAITH.
- Your presuppositions will determine your worldview.
- Your worldview attempts to answer life’s basic questions:
 - 1) Who am I?
 - 2) Why am I here?
 - 3) Where did I come from?
 - 4) Where am I going?
- Only two possible basic worldviews:
 - 1) Everything is a result of an accident. (Chuck Missler’s sarcastic definition of the big bang: First there was nothing and then it exploded! – Unless you accept eternal matter/energy)
 - 2) Everything is a result of the deliberate design of an intelligent creator.
- My Basic Worldview Presuppositions:
 - 1) God is.
 - 2) God is Absolute Truth.
 - 3) God has Revealed Himself in His Written Word (Scripture) and His Living Word (God the Son, Jesus Christ).
 - 4) God is the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe.

Definition

- Webster defines history as “a chronological record of significant events {facts} often with an explanation of their causes {interpretation}.”
 - The fact that history is often revised indicates that this subject has become subjective rather than based on absolute truth.
 - If we accept as a fact that God has intervened in History, then history becomes a record of **HIS STORY**.
 - **History that is true** will never have to be revised because **truth never changes**.
 - What is Truth?
 - *John 14:6 (KJV) Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, **the truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*
 - *John 17:17 (KJV) Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word is truth**.*
 - So what is Truth? **Jesus Christ and Scripture**
 - What is Non-Truth?
 - *John 8:43-45 (KJV) Why do ye not understand my speech? Even because **ye cannot hear my word**. Ye are of **your father the devil**, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and **abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him**. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for **he is a liar, and the father of it**. And because **I tell you the truth, ye believe me not**.*
- So what is Non-Truth? **Lies - Originating from Satan**

Foundation

- A foundational truth regarding history is the fact that a war of cosmic dimensions is going on. It is the proverbial conflict between good and evil. It is the Battle of the Ages involving a war declared between two seeds.
- Lucifer (the shining one, the light bearer) is found in Eden, seducing God’s prized creation: Humans (male and female) created in the image of God. He succeeds and part of the curse God declares on him is this Battle of the Ages.

*Genesis 3:14-15 (KJV) And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between **thy seed** and **her seed**; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*
- What was the “woman’s seed”? (Women do not have seed!) The “woman’s seed” was the first prophetic implication of the virgin birth of Jesus Christ.
- What is the serpent’s seed? (This will be discussed later in this study when we consider Genesis 6.)
- Jesus described the conflict, so far as the people of the world are concerned, as they being on one of two roads: (Matthew 6:13-14)
 - Broad Way
 - Popular
 - Leads to destruction
 - Straight and Narrow Way
 - Few find it
 - Leads to life everlasting

Outline

For this study, we will use a dispensational approach to theology and consequently, human history. C.I. Scofield's dispensational outline is undoubtedly the most generally accepted, hence most familiar. Scofield defines a dispensation as a "period of time during which man is tested in respect of obedience to some specific revelation of the will of God. Seven such dispensations are distinguished in Scripture." His seven dispensations were: 1) Innocence 2) Conscience 3) Human Government 4) Promise 5) Law 6) Grace and 7) Kingdom. For our study, we have included two more, (tribulation and fullness of times) making a total of nine. This covers the whole spectrum of history and prophesy as we understand it.

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|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Innocence | From Creation (Genesis 1:26) to the Human Fall (Genesis 3:6) |
| 2) Conscience | From the Human Fall (Genesis 3:6) <i>NOTICE God's first promise of redemption!! (Genesis 3:15)</i> to God's Covenant with Noah (Genesis 8:20) |
| 3) Human Government | From God's Covenant with Noah (Genesis 8:20) to God's Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:1) |
| 4) Promise | From God's Covenant [one-sided] with Abraham (Genesis 12:1) to God's Covenant with Israel [two-sided] (Exodus 19:8) |
| 5) Law | From God's Covenant with Israel [two-sided] (Exodus 19:8) to the Death-Burial-Resurrection of Jesus Christ (Matthew 27:50; Mark 15:37; Luke 23:46; John 19:30) |
| 6) Church (Grace) | From the Death-Burial-Resurrection of Jesus Christ (Matthew 27:50; Mark 15:37; Luke 23:46; John 19:30) [See also Ephesians 3:2] to the rapture of the church (John 14:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:17) |
| 7) Tribulation | From the rapture of the church (John 14:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:17) to the second coming of Christ (Revelation 19:11-16) |
| 8) Kingdom | From second coming of Christ (Revelation 19:11-16) to Satan's final rebellion and the final judgement (Revelation 20:7-15) |
| 9) The "Fullness of Times" (Ephesians 1:10) | Follows the final judgement and leads into the new heaven an earth (Revelation 21, 22) |

As we continue our study, we will follow the outline described above. For each period of history, we will pause to consider some very important events that happened in that time frame. Obviously, the historic details are very extensive and it would be impossible to do a complete study of every historic incident. However, there are some key events that we do need to consider because they are determining factors of what follows in history.

First Period of History

Dispensation of Innocence *From Creation (Genesis 1:26) to the Human Fall (Genesis 3:6)*

- When were the angels created?
- When was the fall of Lucifer (Satan)?
- Lucifer (the shining one, the light bearer) is found in Eden, seducing God's prized creation

Second Period of History

Dispensation of Conscience *From the Human Fall (Genesis 3:6) NOTICE God's first promise of redemption!! (Genesis 3:15) to God's Covenant with Noah (Genesis 8:20)*

- Cain and Abel – Death of Abel (incited by Satan) was targeted at the threatening seed of the woman.
- It is interesting to notice how technological advances began. It is developed primarily by those who show signs of rebellion.

Genesis 4:16-26 And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden. And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: **and he builded a city**, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch. And unto Enoch was born Irad: and Irad begat Mehujael: and Mehujael begat Methusael: and Methusael begat Lamech. And Lamech took unto him two wives: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. And Adah bare Jabal: he was the **father of such as dwell in tents, and of such as have cattle**. And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the **father of all such as handle the harp and organ**. And Zillah, she also bare Tubalcain, an **instructor of every artificer in brass and iron**: and the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah.

- The Nephilim
 - What is the serpent's seed?

Genesis 6:1-9 (KJV) And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That the **sons of God** saw the **daughters of men** that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. . . There were **giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown**. . . But **Noah found grace** in the eyes of the LORD. These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and **perfect in his generations**, and Noah walked with God.
 - Wicked fallen angles intermingle with humans creating a hybrid race. (Jude 1:6)
 - This may account for many of the “myths and legends” we find all around the world inclusive in many different cultures.
 - This also may be an answer to the “close encounters” with UFO's. (Matthew 24:24)

Third Period of History

Dispensation of Human Government *From God's Covenant with Noah (Genesis 8:20) to God's Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12:1)*

- Table of Nations (Genesis 10)
- Ancient Babel
 - Founded by Nimrod (wife Semiramis and her son, Tammuz {Ezekiel 8:14}) who claim they descend from the “gods”.
 - Establishment of Paganism and Mystery Religion
 - After their death, they were given new names, each representing a different entity of their character. These different names would eventually appear as many different individuals, opening the door to polytheism.

Nimrod → Mardock → Enki → Apsu → Astalluhi → Nebo (Nabul) → Bel → Baal (Baal-Peor, Baal-Hermon, Baal-sebub”) -

Semiramis – Astarte –

- The Dispersion or Scattering
 - As they scatter and move to different locations, these gods/goddesses take on different names. For example: (In Greece: Aphrodite – Athena – Demeter); (In Egypt: Isis); (Canaan: Ishtar); (In Ephesus: Diana); (In Israel: Ashtoreth), (In Phrygia: Cybele); (In Phoenicia: Europa); (In Rome: Ceres – Venus); (In the school [or philosophy] of Thelema: Nuit – Tanuit – Anuit); (In India: Kali)
 - Consider these titles: queen of heaven, the great mother, mother goddess, Mother Nature
 - There is evidence of threads proceeding from ancient Babylon to Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Sikhism, New Age and consequently some forms of Christianity, including both Catholicism and Protestantism.
- It is also possible that some of the gods and goddesses were legends dating back to the Nephilim. This is very hard to conclusively track, but the general idea is well based in historical evidence. We must keep in mind that we are trying to trace truth rooted in the father of lies.
- Peleg – 1 Chronicles 1:19 speaks of the days of Peleg, describing them as the time the earth divided. Put this together with what we know geologically as “continental drift” and a possible ice age, we can make a guess that this is how, in part, that God scattered the human race around the globe.

Fourth Period of History

Dispensation of Promise *From God’s Covenant [one-sided] with Abraham (Genesis 12:1) to God’s Covenant with Israel [two sided] (Exodus 19:8)*

- God makes a promise to Abraham, calling him out from the deeply pagan society near Babylon.
- God establishes His nation Israel, showing Abraham the land, seeing him through testing and strengthening his faith.
- This will climax on Mount Moriah as he is willing to offer his son Isaac.
- Isaac will have a son named Jacob, whose twelve sons will become the patriarchs of the twelve tribes of Israel.
- A famine will send them to Egypt, where eventually they will find favor with the Pharaoh. They will be given land and protection so that they can grow to a nation of over two million men and their families.
- God will reveal that he will send the promised seed of the woman through the tribe of Judah.
- As an Assyrian Pharaoh rises to power, they will fall out of favor and become slaves.
- God will call Moses to lead them out of Egypt to the land promised to Abraham.

Fifth Period of History

Dispensation of Law *From God’s Covenant with Israel [two-sided] (Exodus 19:8) to the Death-Burial-Resurrection of Jesus Christ (Matthew 27:50; Mark 15:37; Luke 23:46; John 19:30)*

- With the law given to Moses, God establishes his nation Israel. They are to obey and in turn, God will greatly bless their nation.
- However, Israel does not obey, causing God to send judgment from time to time so that he may protect his ultimate plan of using Israel to bring forth His son Jesus Christ.
- God will further reveal that He will send his promised seed through the family of David.

- The nation eventually divides in two parts. The North is referred to as Israel and the South is referred to as Judah. The North eventually falls to the Assyrian Empire. 100 years later Judah will be taken into captivity to Babylon for 70 years. It is here that the prophet Daniel will be given several very key prophesies.
 - The prophecy of the coming Gentile empires (Daniel 2, 7)
 - Babylon
 - Medes and Persians
 - Greece
 - Rome
 - The prophecy of the cross and the tribulation (Daniel 9:24-27)
 - These “weeks” are weeks of years (seven years per “week”)
 - There are 69 weeks of years between Cyrus command to build Jerusalem and the cross (Precisely!!)
 - The flow of events is interrupted by the birth of the Church, which is the body and bride of Jesus Christ. The birth happens after the death and resurrection, prophesied here as Messiah being cut off.
 - The 70th week (the seven year tribulation) begins after the church is taken out (raptured)
 - The events of the so-called 400 silent years between the Old and New Testaments are prophetically given to Daniel as well.
- Babylon is overthrown, and the Medes and Persians take over the kingdom of Babylon. Under the Persian reign of Cyrus, a remnant of Israel return to their homeland to rebuild the Temple and Jerusalem.
- The Persian Empire eventually falls under control of the Roman Empire. It is at this point seed of the woman, Jesus Christ, is born. He is rejected by Israel and is consequently crucified on the cross. Three days and three nights later He rises from the grave and a few days later ascends to heaven.

Sixth Period of History

Dispensation of Grace *From the Death-Burial-Resurrection of Jesus Christ (Matthew 27:50; Mark 15:37; Luke 23:46; John 19:30) [See also Ephesians 3:2] to the rapture of the church (John 14:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:17)*

- In Acts 2, the Holy Spirit is sent from Heaven to indwell the believing disciples and the church is born.
- Revelation chapters 2 and 3 reveals the condition and struggle of the church.

Seventh Period of History

Dispensation of The Tribulation *From the rapture of the church (John 14:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:17) to the second coming of Christ (Revelation 19:11-16)*

- The church is snatched away as the bride of Jesus Christ.
- A 3 ½ year period of tribulation followed by another 3 ½ year period of great tribulation will take place on the earth.
- At the end of the seven year period, Israel will recognize her Messiah and Savior Jesus Christ and will call upon Him for salvation.

Eighth Period of History

Dispensation of Kingdom *From second coming of Christ (Revelation 19:11-16) to Satan's final rebellion and the final judgement (Revelation 20:7-15)*

- Jesus will return to earth with His Bride and establish the throne of David for 1000 years.
- Satan is bound in the abyss (bottomless pit) during this millennial reign.
- At the end of the 1000 years, Satan will be released and given one last opportunity to test and try the human race.
- Satan will ultimately fail and be cast into the lake of fire.
- A new heaven and a new earth is ushered in and the redeemed will be restored to God's original plan with Jesus Christ as King forever.

Ninth Period of History

Dispensation of The "Fullness of Times" *(Ephesians 1:10) Follows the final judgement and leads into the new heaven and earth (Revelation 21, 22)*

- A new heaven and a new earth is ushered in.
- The redeemed will be restored to God's original plan with Jesus Christ as King forever.

Conclusion

God, not Satan, is in complete control of history, current events and prophesy. (Job 1,2) There is a plan and a purpose for the historic events that have happened as well as things that are happening politically in the world today. The future is completely in the hands of God. (Daniel 4:2, 3, 34-37)

If we are in Jesus Christ, there is a brighter future that will last forever. (Revelation 21, 22)