

**A STUDY IN
DISPENSATIONAL
THEOLOGY**

**THE DISPENSATION OF
CONSCIENCE**

Material for this study was taken from;

“Dispensational Theology” as taught by Rev
Reginald Showers. A study found on the Bible
Broadcasting Network Bible Institute. bbnradio.org

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DISPENSATION OF CONSCIENCE

Review

Text – Romans 2:14 - 15

I. Dispensationalism – an explanation

A. A dispensation is a particular way of God administrating His rule over the world as He progressively works out His purpose for world history.

II. The Dispensation of Conscience

(The time of the lost favorable disposition of man toward God.)

A. The time frame

1. From the Fall of man till the Flood
2. Genesis 4:1 – Genesis 8:19

B. God's ruling factor (there are two)

1. Human conscience

a) Man lost the favorable disposition toward God at the Fall. They hid from God after they disobeyed and were expelled from the Garden.

b) They needed a new ruling factor.

1) Man has a conscience (Rom. 2:14-15)

2) This causes pagans to obey the law

instinctively. Every culture understands:

- Murder, Adultery, Stealing to be wrong

Though they have never heard of the Law of God.

c) Conscience as a ruling factor teaches right from wrong; good and evil.

d) Man got his conscience by eating the fruit in the Garden

2) Second ruling factor - "rule" of the Holy Spirit

1) Genesis 6:3 – "strive" means to "rule"
"My spirit will not always "rule" man"

This does not mean that the Holy Spirit forces compliance but strives with man to gain obedience.

2) Because of sin this ruling factor is necessary. The Holy Spirit must restrain mankind. Before the Fall there was no sin and this restraint was not needed.

C. The special revelation of God to man in this Dispensation - Genesis 4:3-7

1) They must come to God and worship God God's way.

a) Abel's blood sacrifice.

The new revelation from God: "in order for man to approach God he must come through a blood sacrifice." Romans 10:17 "The Word of God" is the new Revelation. We receive this revelation as God communicates it to us through His Word (spoken or written). Compare Hebrews 11:4 "By faith . . . Abel. . ." Cain and Abel must have had a special revelation from God to begin this blood sacrifice. Abel obeyed. Cain wanted to approach God in his own way. Sinful man cannot do this.

D. Man's responsibility in this dispensation

Man was to obey God on the basis of human conscience and the restraint of the Holy Spirit.

E. The Test – Would man obey God on these bases? - No he would not.

F. Man's Failure

1) Cain refused to obey God's Ruling factors.

2) The result

a) The murder of Abel

b) Cain built a Godless civilization

c) God evaluation – Genesis 6:5

Mankind was thoroughly corrupt. Only one man who was righteous - Noah

G. God's divine judgment

1) A world wide flood

2) God destroyed the corrupt part of Mankind because of their rebellion against God's rule.

The 7 Dispensations

1. The dispensation of Innocence
2. The dispensation of Conscience
3. The dispensation of Human Government
4. The dispensation of Promise
5. The dispensation of the Law (Mosaic)
6. The dispensation of Grace
7. The dispensation of the Millennium.