

Session Six Outline: A Christianly Response to Dispensationalism. A Christianly Response to Israel

Recall the Big Questions to Ponder:

- Is the OT for the Church?
- Does the full interpretation of the OT rest in itself, or is it found in the NT?
- More than one plan of salvation? (i.e. Is Jesus the only way to the Father?)
- Does the “Church” only contain Gentiles?
- Are all the promises of God a “yes” in Jesus?
- Did Christ’s blood apply to ALL persons from every tribe, language, people, and nation?
- Is Jesus heir of ALL things?
- Was Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross the final sacrifice for ALL people?
- Does the New Covenant made through Jesus make the previous covenants obsolete?
- When you’re talking about “Israel,” which Israel are you talking about?
- Is Christ the new Israel?
- Are there yet-unfulfilled promises to the Nation of Israel?

I. **Why is Dispensationalism Sometimes So Passionately Defended?**

1. Promotion.
2. Saturation of culture.
3. Grew up/trained that way. Nostalgia?
4. Fear of being theologically wrong.
5. Fear of being labeled as antisemitic or anti-Israel.
6. Fear of being left behind.
7. Emotional about the rapture?
8. American and political intermingling.

II. **What is Critical Theory?**

Critical Theory Attributes:

- It was born in more recent times out of intellectual/scientific methodology.
- Its followers practice their beliefs with religious zeal and passionate fervor.
- Some self-described experts have made enormous amounts of money promoting it.
- A zealous and passionate application of it in our culture can be divisive and confusing.
- Its followers sometimes seem to conflate or mix their beliefs with normative American beliefs, thereby reinterpreting history.
- It divides people into groups, particularly by race, and has racist undertones (Both by focusing on race as differentiating and by calling others racist who don’t agree with their view).
- It has splinters of truth.

- It sees life through one lens, and it says that all other interpretations are false.
- Its metanarrative, the overarching story it promotes, goes from tribulation to liberation.
- People who don't see things the way they do are said to be blind to the Truth.
- It relocates Truth away from agreed upon historic foundations and to people who are "woke"—who "get it," who truly see properly.
- Its followers sometimes go through all kinds of logical and grammatical gymnastics in order to make events match their worldview—and they go through life commenting on current events in order to prove their worldview.
- It reinterprets historic terms.
- It behaves like the ancient heresy of Gnosticism in at least three important ways: 1) The world is evil, 2) The present world order must be escaped from; 3) Only a few have the Truth and unique insight into the way things really are and should be.
- Many otherwise intelligent people have come under its sway, it consumes enormous time and huge amounts of resources, and it monopolizes worldviews.
- It can be used to stir up political activism.
- It is believed by too many without question, and it has become an accepted truth without much if any independent attempt at verification.

III. A Christianly Response to Dispensationalism (See tonight's supplement).

IV. A Christianly Response to the Modern-Day Nation State of Israel

V. Feedback from Your Reading of Hebrews/Big Questions.

VI. Open for Questions/Comments.

Scriptures Used/Mention in This Session (in order):

Eph 4:11-ff

1 Cor 16:14

Proverbs 15:1

Titus 3:2

Proverbs 11:9

1 Tim 3:15

Eph 4:15

2 Tim 2:23

Eph 4:13

1 Cor 16:13

1 Tim 3:13

Gal 5:22-23

James 1:19-20

Rom 12:3-8

Rom 8:19-23

1 Thess 5:16-18

Rom 12:2

Heb 5:13-14

Eph 6:18

Phil 1:3-6

2 Cor 4:3-4

1 Peter 5:9

1 John 4:7

Mark 12:30-31