

Lesson 4

The Dispensation of Human Government

We are going to review a bit on the **Dispensation of Conscience**.

God no longer spoke directly to man (as in Eden) but spoke through their consciences. God also utilized the restraint of the Holy Spirit at this time too as He strove with men (Genesis 6.3).

Conscience is not always reliable. Here are some evidences why it isn't:

The Bible speaks of a:

- 1- A _____ conscience- I Tim. 4:2.
- 2- A _____ conscience- Titus 1:15
- 3- A conscience that is characterized by _____ works- Heb.9:14.
- 4- An _____ conscience (Heb.10:22).

BUT THE BIBLE ALSO SPEAKS ABOUT A GOOD CONSCIENCE. Hebrews 13:18 says: "Pray for us: for we trust we have a **good conscience**, in all things willing to live honestly."

Judgment: The flood- Genesis 7.

Revelation: God's revelation was that man could only approach to God by means of a blood sacrifice (Genesis 4.3-7). We see that clearly in Cain and his brother

Compare Romans 2:14-15 and 2 Thessalonians 2:7.

The Dispensation of Human Government---Genesis 8:20-11:32)

This the third dispensation is called "The dispensation of human government" because it is the age in which man was first privileged to _____ himself.

With the closing of each dispensation and the beginning of the new one, we should closely observe three things.

1- We should note the **one man** which God singles out to represent Him during the transition, between the passing dispensation and the incoming one.

2- We should observe _____ of the passing dispensation that are brought over into the new.

3- We should carefully list the new things introduced with the new dispensation.

See Genesis 8:1-17.

Noah went forth from the ark into a _____ earth. His wife, his three sons, and their wives, and every other living creature that was in the ark went out with him.

_____ was the "Key man" between the dispensations of Innocence and Conscience, so _____ was the "Key man" between the dispensations of Conscience and Human Government.

The dark shadows, brought about by the sins of humanity before the flood, were brushed away by the _____.

I. The New Program and the New World

At least **three things** were brought over from the dispensation of Conscience into the new age of Human Government.

1- The foundation of worship continued to be a blood sacrifice as a “Burnt-offering on the altar.”

This was instituted in Genesis 3:21 and 4:4.

The blood sacrifice was carried on not only through the dispensation of Innocence, but to the _____, where the supreme and “Once for all” sacrifice was made. The altar and the burnt-offering were established in the new dispensation _____ after the flood.

Genesis 8:21.

God was pleased to have communion with Noah and his family around the _____ in the new world.

See Genesis 8:22

The _____ nature of man was not changed with the new dispensation. Genesis 9:20-21 reveals the manifestation of the continuance of Adam’s sin. What two things did he do?

_____ and _____.

Genesis 9:20-21.

Romans 5:12.

At least five new things were introduced with this third generation.

1- Flesh was added to man’s diet. In addition to “*Every green herb*” and the fruit of the trees of the garden of Eden (Genesis 1:30 and 2:8-9). Finally, man was permitted to eat the flesh of “*Every moving thing that liveth*” (Genesis 9:3).

2- At the same time, God put the fear of man and the dread of man “*Upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea*” (Genesis 9:2).

3- Capital punishment was introduced in connection with Human Government. It was God who said, “*Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made He man*” (Genesis 9:6).

Note:

This does not mean that the individual citizen should take the law into his own hands and kill a man because that man has killed someone else.

The Mosaic law says, "*Thou shalt not kill.*" This command was given to the _____ of the citizenship, and not to those who were in authority as officers of the government and ministers of God.

See Matthew 5:21.

Who does the command of Ex.20:13 refer to? _____

Read Romans 13:1-7.

A triple prophecy found in Genesis 9:25-27:

1- What was given to Japeth? _____

2- What was given to Shem? _____

3- What was given to Canaan? _____

The Noahic covenant is recorded in Genesis 9:9-27. It was a covenant between God and "_____ flesh" that was upon the earth (Genesis 9:17); and secured the earth against another _____ judgment by water (Genesis 9:11).

What was put in the clouds as a token of God's promise to Noah? _____

Who did Nimrod foreshadow? _____

What city does Babel typify? _____

II. Man's Failure and God's Grace

Noah and his family had a good beginning; the covenant was all right and the opportunity of man was great. The problem was that man still possessed _____ nature that would often control him and move him to do the wrong things.

How does sin reappear in Noah's life after the flood?

_____ and _____

What were the people doing who built the Tower of Babel?

They left God out of their plan and program.

What did God do at Babel with their one world language?

What was the result of what God did?

This confusion of the one language is the origin of the different languages which are spoken today by the people of the different nations and tribes.

Our God is a God of love and peace and He wants to rule. We must remember, however, that if God cannot rule, He overrules. His plan cannot be overthrown by man.

What did God do at Pentecost in regard to many languages that were represented?

What was God doing in what he did at Babel?

How did this dispensation end?

1-

2-

A new dispensation opened with the calling of Abram, and from that time on God has been dealing with a called-out people.

Let's summarize the third dispensation of human government: Genesis 8:20 – 11:32

Background: Government is the organization of society. It has the ability to restrain people by punishing crimes (Romans 13:1-7).

The source of human corruption prior to the flood was the murder of Abel and the continued existence of Cain. As a result God determined that He would never again allow murderers to infect the rest of humanity—they were to be put to death.

Stewardship/Responsibility: The responsibilities Of man under this dispensation are indicated in Genesis 9:1-7. Mankind was to be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth. In addition, the principle of human government was introduced.

Genesis 9:6 says: “Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image Of God made he man.” God now holds men responsible for governing other men as well as being personally responsible to God under conscience.

Judgment: Mankind failed under conscience, the restraint Of the Holy Spirit and human government. For example, God's instruction to replenish and spread out in the earth (Genesis 11:4) was disobeyed.

The Tower of Babel was the result and God's judgment was to confound mankind's speech (Genesis 11:5-7) and scatter civilization (Genesis 11:8-9).

Revelation: Human government failed, but a future Ruler is coming who will reign and make all things right in a future day.