

The College Standard Dictionary(Funk and Wagnalls Co.,1927):...the period during which a particular revelation of God's mind and will has been directly operative upon mankind, as during the Church dispensation.

C. McKay Smock: A dispensation is a certain period during which God tests man's obedience to a definite, but partial revelation of his will.

DTS(Art.V of Doctrinal Statement) Dispensations are stewardships by which God administers His purpose on the earth through man under varying responsibilities . . . We believe that three of these dispensations or rules of life are the subject of extended revelations in the Scripture, viz, the dispensation of Mosaic law, the present dispensation of grace, and the future dispensation of the millennial kingdom.

Oxford English Dictionary: A religious order or system, conceived as divinely instituted, or as a stage in the progressive revelation expressly adapted to the needs of a particular nation or period of time, as the patriarchal, Mosaic(or Jewish) dispensation, the Christian dispensation; also the age or period during which such systems have prevailed."

Roy Aldrick: A Dispensation is a stewardship or economy that God imposes for a certain period of age.

Merrill Unger(Unger's Bible Dictionary) A dispensation is an era of time during which man is tested in respect to obedience to some definite revelation of God's will. Seven such dispensations are recognized by many Premillennialists. Other premillennialists speak of only three or four. Still others prefer not to be classed as dispensationalists at all.

Funk and Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary: The period during which a particular revelation of God's mind and will has been operative on mankind; as during the Christian dispensation; during the patriarchal dispensation.

John Graber: Dispensationalism is that system of Biblical interpretation which interprets the Bible from the viewpoint of designated periods of time during which a particular revelation of God's will and mind is operative, and during which man is tested in relation to that particular revelation.