

Clarence B. Bass - Backgrounds to Dispensationalism

- 18/5 Distinguishing features of dispensationalism
- a rigidly applied literalism in the interpretation of Scripture
  - a dichotomy between Israel and the church
  - a restricted view of the church
  - a Jewish concept of the Kingdom
  - a postponement of the kingdom
  - distinction between law and grace that creates a multiple basis for God's dealing with man
  - a compartmentalization of Scripture
  - a pre-trib rapture
  - its view of the purpose of the great tribulation
  - its view of the nature of the millennial reign of Christ
  - its view of the eternal state
  - its view of the apostate nature of Christendom
- 64-99 The distressing schism among the Brethren is treated rather fully
- 100-140 Darby's doctrine of the church and of eschatology
- 141 Dispensationalism grew out of the Brethren movement, or Darbyism
- 145/10 Bass concludes that the "divisive spirit is an inherent part of the system" of dispensational teaching.
- 150/1 Dispensationalism insists that all prophetic Scripture must be taken literally.
- 150/7 This involves the dispensationalist in some extreme interpretation. It separates him from historic premil faith
- 151/10 Bass asks how can you interpret Rom.9:6-8 literally?(see p.23/1-2)
- 152/1-3
- 154 "Any theological system which causes a part of the church to withdraw from the larger fellowship in Christ, and by isolationism and separatism, to default its role, is wrong."
- 155/1 The theses of this book are: 1) dispensationalism is not a part of the historic faith of the church 2) it is not the only premillennial view, since there was a historic premil interpretation for 18 centuries before dispensationalism was formulated 3) it is based on a faulty hermeneutical basis of interpretation.
- 155/9 Bass believes dispensationalism to be a departure from the historic faith and based on a faulty system of interpretation.