

Prophets

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dispensationalists. I think a word on that matter of dispensationalism would be worth while at this time. Have I spoken of it in this class at any time? I think it is a rather important matter. The word "dispensation" is a word which simply means a period of time differing in some way from another period. That is all that the word means. The question is, "In what way does it differ?" When you say you believe in dispensation, you haven't said anything, because certainly anybody knows that periods are not all absolutely equivalent. Certainly we have a very different period in American history now than we had prior to the last war, and certainly the differences are very slight compared to the great difference between conditions before the coming of Christ and conditions after and we have the dispensation in which the true believer was to go to the temple and offer their sacrifices and look forward to the coming of Christ as a means of salvation or one who was represented by the sacrifice, and the present period when we look backward for knowledge of what Christ has done. This is a difference of dispensation. If there is anybody who doesn't believe in two dispensations, I doubt if such a person is a Christian at all. At least, I doubt if he has ever read the Bible because it certainly is perfectly clear that there is a great difference in many ways between the condition before the coming of Christ and the condition afterward. Now there are those who try to insist that people are saved by the blood of Christ in this dispensation and were not so saved at another period, either before this time or at a later time. Now any such teaching as that would be definitely unbiblical and anti-Christian, because it is the clear teaching of Scripture that no human being ever has been saved or ever will be saved on any other basis than the basis of the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Certainly, if Adam was saved, he was saved through Christ's death on Calvary just as much as you or I. Certainly, Moses was saved in that way, certainly Elijah was saved in that way, certainly everyone who has ever been saved or ever will be saved is saved in that way, through the death of Christ on Calvary. Now, there are certain individuals who stress so greatly the difference between different dispensations that they express terminology