

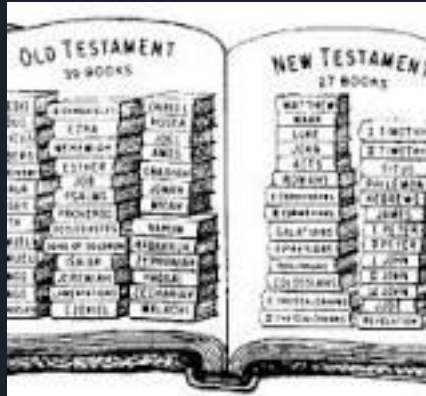


# Dispensationalism: Classic & Progressive

Covenant Theology Lesson 1

# Why Covenant Theology?

## Putting the Bible Together



- Israel and the Church
- The Law and the Christian
- The Sabbath and the Lord's Day
- Circumcision and Baptism

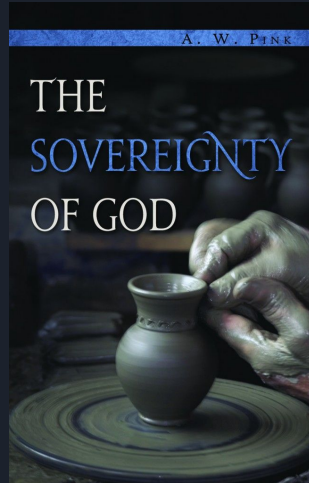
# Why Covenant Theology?

## What is “Reformed Theology?”

TULIP?



The Doctrine of God?



The Law of God?



The Lord's Day?



Infant Baptism?



# Spectrum of Views on the Covenants



**Classic  
Dispensationalism**


**Progressive  
Dispensationalism**

New Covenant  
Theology

Progressive  
Covenantalism

Baptist Covenant  
Theology  
("1689  
Federalism")

Paedobaptist  
Covenant  
Theology





# Dispensationalism

- Word of Life Bible Institute
- Dallas Theological Seminary
- Grace Theological Seminary (Indiana)
- Moody Bible Institute (Chicago)
- Master's Seminary & John MacArthur

Dispensation = economy (*oikonomia*)

Dispensationalism

- John Nelson Darby (late 1800s)
- C. I. Scofield (late 1800s)
- Charles Ryrie (1960s)

# Classic Dispensationalism

## 1. How to Interpret the Bible

- The “literal, plain” meaning using grammar and history
- Originalist reading



- No “spiritualizing” or “Christianizing” of the Old Testament
- Interpret the OT on its own, not in light of the NT (e.g. Joel 2:31)

# Classic Dispensationalism

## 2. Israel and the Church

- Genesis 17:7-8
- Jeremiah 31:31



# Progressive Dispensationalism



Classic  
Dispensationalism


**Progressive  
Dispensationalism**

New Covenant  
Theology

Progressive  
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Baptist Covenant  
Theology  
("1689  
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Paedobaptist  
Covenant  
Theology



A horizontal white bar with six vertical tick marks extending above and below it, representing a timeline. The labels are positioned above the bar, and the tick marks are positioned below it.

## 1. How to Interpret the Bible

- There *can be* fuller meanings, but they do not cancel the original meaning

## 2. Israel and the Church

- The Church is not "Plan B," but still a plan for national Israel ("both-and")





# A Response from Covenant Theology

## 1. How to Interpret the Bible

The NT tells us how to interpret the OT

- “Plain” to who?
- Divine Authorship
  
- 1 Corinthians 10:11
- Romans 15:4
- Galatians 4:24



# A Response from Covenant Theology

## 2. Israel and the Church

- Ephesians 2:15, “One new man in place of the two.”
- Galatians 6:16, “As for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.”



# A Response from Covenant Theology

## A Case Study— Amos 9:11–15; Acts 15:13–18

### Classic Dispensationalism:

1. God restores a “literal” throne to David.
2. Leads to Gentiles calling on God.
3. Leads to Israel rebuilding its cities and nation.
4. Israel dwells in nation forever.

James is only using Amos 9 as an analogy.

#1–#4 have not happened yet.

Jesus will sit on the throne in the future, leading to #2–#4.

### Progressive Dispensationalism:

1. God restores a “literal” throne to David.
2. Leads to Gentiles calling on God.
3. Leads to Israel rebuilding its cities and nation.
4. Israel dwells in nation forever.

#1 and #2 are beginning to take place in Acts 15.

A future complete fulfillment of #1–#4 will still take place.

### Covenantalism:

1. The tent of David has been rebuilt through Jesus Christ. “In that day” are James’ days (Acts 15:15a).
2. The Gentiles are seeking the Lord.

James says #1 and #2 have happened there.

The prophecies of Amos 9:14–15 (#3 and #4) are fulfilled spiritually, and we wait for nothing else to take place in the future.

# CONFESSIONAL BAPTIST COVENANT THEOLOGY

## 1689 FEDERALISM

## DISPENSATIONALISM

