

1. Universal Truths which continue through all dispensations.
2. Rules that changed or were modified because of man's failure in the former dispensation.
3. The New Rules which govern the new dispensation's operation.
4. The ordained institution of a Steward whose function is to **organize, manage, and execute** the prescribed orders and plans of God. In each new dispensation God ordains a new institution of stewards or rearranges the institution for the task.
5. The failure of man's obedience of the stewardship in carrying out God's commands and desires brings an end to God's longsuffering. The failure produces a permeation of sin in the human race.
6. Next is a transition to the new dispensation – this is seen in each dispensation moving from the old to the new dispensation after the failure. It starts at the final failure with the end of God's longsuffering and ends at some point in the new dispensation. In the transition there is an overlap of the old dispensation passing away or diminishing and the new dispensation increasing and taking precedence.
7. Finally the punitive judgment comes from God. After His longsuffering and the exercise of His attributes, God brings His punitive judgment which completes the old dispensation and brings the new dispensation for man's obedience, practice, and approach to God.

The definition of the Greek word translated dispensation or administration found in the Word of God is as follows: The household rules by which a house is governed and within the definition is the idea of the management of the house.

Today the word "dispensation" would be equivalent to the word administration which some of the new Bible versions have translated. The meaning includes one who carries it out as prescribed by an entity of Authority. There are three aspects of a dispensation; the household, the rules which govern and the stewards. The household is God's ownership of the world of mankind. He reveals ordained rules for mankind and all creation (heaven and earth), and governs the rest of mankind and His creation through the stewards. There exists a chain of command within the stewardship.

Therefore, the Biblical meaning of the word "dispensation" is a household and the rules administered by the steward in carrying out God's prescribed spiritual government according to His plan for the household. There are seven dispensations in Scripture and each has the seven unique keys or principles which show their existence and changes.

God has established a new dispensation to redeem mankind after His longsuffering caused by mankind's universal failure has run out. Instead of ending the work of redemption, He starts a new dispensation working His universal redemption plan. However, the sixth dispensation is the last of man's failures and the seventh dispensation is eternal, which will never end because redemption will be completed and all evil eternally punished.

To help understand the working of an administration, these principles are inherent in an administration today:

- 1st There is a government which establishes the administration.
- 2nd The rules that changed or were modified from the former administration.
- 3rd The new rules of the administration which govern the operation of the new administration.
- 4rd The administration almost always has laws and rules added as the administration progresses.
- 5th The government ruler appoints stewards to carry out the goals.
- 6th There are those who fail to carry out their stewardship and in an autocratic rule, as a result the ruler will bring punitive judgment for failing.
- 7th There is a transition from one administrator to the next whenever a time for change occurs.