The Dispensation of Human Government is the Third of the Dispensations of God

Named Human Government because for the first time God gave the right to judge evil and use punitive judgment, Genesis 9:5,6.

1. Universal Truths: Genesis 8:18-20

- Noah and his sons' female companions are identified as their wives. Since the very beginning, God created the one male and one female relationship for life.
- 2. Family relationships were created universally for man to keep.
- 3. Animals which were created after their kind remain universal, Genesis 8:18,19.
- 4. Man was to continue to exercise fellowship with God, Genesis 8:4.
- 5. God has the right, ability and discretion to control the environment of man on earth, Genesis 9:11.
- 6. God continues to establish a relationship with His creation, Genesis 9:8-17.
- 7. Life exists because blood flows through the living, and without blood, the body dies, Genesis 9:11.

2. Rules which changed and New Rules Unique to the new dispensation:

- God will never destroy all living creatures with a worldwide flood as long as this earth exists. God made a covenant or a promise never again to have a punitive judgment with a worldwide flood. God created a rainbow for Himself and man to observe as a reminder of this covenant, Genesis 9:13-16. God calls this covenant an everlasting covenant; man calls it the Noahic covenant, God establishing it with mankind in the new dispensation and for the dispensations which follow, Genesis 9:16, Genesis 9:8-17.
- 2. The Lord said He would not curse the ground again as He did with the punitive judgment of a worldwide flood, Genesis 8:21, 22.
- 3. Governmental rule by man was added for judicial judgment over evil and the affairs of men and animals. Genesis 9:2, 4-6. This is why it is called the Dispensation of Human Government.
- 4. Capital punishment was placed in the hands of man. If a man or an animal killed a man, then the penalty was a life for a life, Genesis 9:2, 4-6. Man now had the right to govern in the affairs of his life. Genesis 9:18 28; and Genesis chapters 10 & 11.
- 5. The animals became fearful of and subject to man, Genesis 9:2.
- 6. All animals were added to man's food diet along with plant life, Genesis 9:3.
- 7. Man was not to eat the animals with the blood in them, so man had to drain their lifeblood before he could eat the animals; the process is not revealed here, but God probably explained to man how to do it, Genesis 9:4.
- 8. By the end of the Dispensation of Human Government, man was establishing communities, priesthoods and prophets of God; (Building the Tower of Babel involved a universal cooperation.) The Biblical account in the transition period, (between this dispensation and the next dispensation), records that the priests and prophets of God, as well as the remnant of these positions, were functioning some good and some corrupt. Melchizedek a good king and priest, Moses' father-in-law the priest of Midian, and Balaam a corrupt prophet.
- 3. Laws that were carried over from the previous dispensation: Genesis 8:18 20
 - 1. The family heads offered the sacrifices for fellowship and union with God as the time moved into the next dispensation.
 - 2. An altar was the meeting place between God and man.
 - Noah knew the difference between clean and unclean animals, and offered a clean sacrificial animal after emerging from the ark, Genesis 7:1-11, 8:20,21.
 - 4. Noah offered the sacrifice on the altar as a burnt offering, consumed by fire, Genesis 8:18-20.
 - 5. Man was to continue to repopulate the earth, Genesis 9:1, 7.
- 4. The ordained Institution of Stewardship The families heads were the stewards for being God's representatives to the whole earth, they were to pass the truth of God down to the next generation. The Bible reveals direct communication between God and the family heads, Genesis 9-11.
- 5. The Sin of the dispensation The sin was a universal endeavor of the people to become independent from God. They desired to build an edifice which would ascend to the third heaven, going beyond the will of God, doing whatever they pleased; therefore God saw the need to restrict their creativity to prevent them from completely corrupting the human race. In doing so God limited man's creativity to rule over the earth by installing a check and balance system, Genesis 11:5-8 cf. Genesis 1:26-31. The dispensations to follow we read of the interactions of man with each other as groups of people.
 Many believe that it was during this time the color of skin became as it is today due to locality, isolation and inbreeding.
- 6. The Transition The transition from this dispensation runs from the sin (the creation and building of the Tower of Babel) through the call of Abram into an unidentified point. The residue of the Dispensation of Human Government extends all the way through the life of Moses, but a change occurred because God chose a family, Abraham and Sarah, to work out the future for the human race, by giving them a promise which would be passed on through their descendants and by making them His chosen nation. The revealed recording in God's Word shows His dealing with the world through this promise given to this family, Genesis 14:18, chapter 17:15, 16, Genesis 18:18, Exodus 18:1, Numbers 22.
- 7. The Punitive Judgment The punitive judgment was the confusing and the scattering of mankind all over the face of the earth, putting into effect the check and balance system, Genesis 11:5-9.