

## **STUDY IV**

### **EPOCHS AND DISPENSATIONS MARKED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DIVINE PLAN**

- (1) Why do many in their ignorance now misjudge the great Jehovah's character and work? Page 65, par. 1.
- (2) However mysterious or haphazard God's dealings may appear to men, what is the declaration of His Word respecting the definiteness of His purposes? Page 65, par. 2.
- (3) Inquiring of our Father's Word, what do we learn regarding the periods of time into which God's Plan is divided? Page 66, par. 1.
- (4) Briefly, what do these three great epochs represent, and how are they designated? Page 66, par. 2 to page 67, par. 2.
- (5) What were the distinctive features of the first and second periods respectively? And what is to be the character of the third? Page 67, par. 3.
- (6) Why is the present dispensation called an "evil world," and the third one a "world wherein dwelleth righteousness"? Page 67, par. 4.
- (7) What is the special reason why the future dispensation is to be so markedly different from the present one? Page 67, par. 5.
- (8) Why cannot Christ's Kingdom now control the earth? Quote Scriptures on this point. Page 68, par. 1, 2.
- (9) What is the Scriptural usage of the word "world"? Does the "end of the world" signify the destruction of the physical earth? How are the terms, "heavens" and "earth" used in Scripture? When and how did the first heavens and earth come to an end? When and under what conditions will the present heavens and earth pass away? Page 69.
- (10) What did St. Paul mean when he declared he was caught away to the "third heaven"? And what were doubtless the things which he saw but was not permitted to reveal? Page 70, par. 1.

### **AGES OR DISPENSATIONS**

- (11) What is the distinction between an age and a dispensation? Was the first world or dispensation subdivided into ages? And what did this "world" manifest? Page 70, par. 2, 3.

- (12) Into how many ages is this present dispensation subdivided? Page 71, par. 1.
- (13) What ages compose "the world to come"? Page 71, par. 2.
- (14) How is the first age in "the world that now is" designated? Why so called? And when did it end? Page 71, par. 3, first eight lines.
- (15) What was the next age? When did it begin, how long did it continue, and what were its characteristics? Page 71, eighth line to end of paragraph.
- (16) What age began at Jesus' death, and what are its characteristics? Page 72, par. 1.
- (17) When and how will the Gospel age end? Page 73, par. 1.
- (18) What does the word Millennium mean. and how is it Scripturally applied? Page 73, par. 2.
- (19) Where is the expression, "Plan of the Ages," found in Scripture? (See Eph. 3:11, Diaglott.)
- (20) What is the chief characteristic of the Divine Plan, and what is the object of the various "ages"? Page 73, par. 3.
- (21) Give an illustration showing why Jehovah's works appear to the uninstructed mind like confusion and failure. Page 74, par. 1.
- (22) What must be remembered with respect to these various ages, if we would "rightly divide the Word of truth"? Page 74, par. 2, 3.
- (23) What is a very common error with respect to God's Kingdom being established and now ruling in the earth? Page 75, par. 1.
- (24) How has the poet Cowper beautifully described "the stately steppings of our God" in ages past? Page 75, par. 2.