

THE TWO AGES

080920S

INTRODUCTION

1. Personal quest - from my youth thru seminary & years in ministry.
2. 2001 [Rev 1-5]. 2003 - SS Sam Waldron's *End Times Made Simple*.
 - i. I do not want to turn this into a research paper.
 - ii. Will lay some foundations in SS and apply them as we progress thru the book in PM sermons [DV].
3. Acknowledge unpublished work of Max Doner. He built the house I want to build with the same materials that I intend to use. I will rely on his example of making Revelation accessible thru preaching.
 - i. Hb 5:12-14 preliminary series in AM & PM
 - ii. Doner: "A Manual of Spiritual Warfare"
 - iii. The Story of the Enmity - Gn 3:15 - Rv 12:17 - Rv 17:14

1st: The Structure of Eschatology: Two Ages

1. The Bible structures time into two *ages* - aion = epoch of time in history & its dominant way of thinking [zeitgeist]
2. Scripture contrasts this age w/ the age to come.
 - i. a] original creation // new creation; b] created life // res life; c] temporal // eternal
 - ii. 1C 15:44b-49 2 Adams [2 kinds of life; 2 orders of creation] *first* [protos] & *last* [eschatos]. Res'd Jesus = eschatological Adam
 - a. natural // spiritual
 - b. living soul // life-giving spirit
 - c. earthy // heavenly
 - iii. Both ages are presented in terms of time & space: Eden.
3. Texts expressing the 2 ages
 - i. Mat 12:32 [Mrk 3:29]
 - ix. 1C 3:18

- ii. Mrk 10:30 x. 2C 4:4
 - iii. Lk 16:8 xi. Gal 1:4
 - iv. Lk 18:29-30 xii. Eph 1:21
 - v. Lk 20:34-36 xiii. Eph 2:2
 - vi. Rm 12:2 xiv. 1T 6:17-19
 - vii. 1C 1:20 xv. Tit 2:12
 - viii. 1C 2: 6-8 xvi. Heb 6:5
4. Other terms used in Scripture as synonyms of "age".
 - i. Jn uses *cosmos* - *world* is a synonym for *this age* but not age to come - fallen disordered world.
 - ii. *this time* is a synonym - Mk 10:30 [kairo,j: moment]; R 8:18
 - iii. *world to come* - Hb 2:5
 5. Bible uses plural - "ages" as well.
 - i. this age is composed of sub-ages (1C 10:11; Hb 9:26 - epochs; periods of different cov'al arrangements w/ people of God)
 - ii. the next age also has ages - Eph 2:7
 6. Two realms: earth & heaven - immanence [empirical] & transcendence [supra-empirical]; men & angels; saeculum // eschatological.
 7. Principle of hermeneutics: interp the unclear by the clear.
 8. Two Ages = basement on wh/ house of eschatology is built: simple.