

Fueling Station 1: Key to the Ages and Stages

Key Introduced

How does the race play out in the process and pattern of the ages?

“And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, **either in this age or in the age to come.**”

Matthew 12:32 ESV

Key Unlocked

Dispensations

Ephesians 1:9-10 “Having made known to us the mystery of His will according to the good pleasure which He purposed in Himself that in the **dispensation** of the **fullness of the times** He may gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.”

Chuck Missler: “The OT is in the NT concealed and the NT is the OT revealed.”

This race to the kingdom has been going on since Adam and Eve were kicked out of the garden. We have been trying to get back there for 6,000 yrs! Jesus Christ has finally come and finished the race set before Him. He is now considered our forerunner in whom we are racing. The Old Testament stories and characters were a type and shadow of the one to come. Jesus is the fulfillment of all promises and when He returns, He will have His recompense with Him to give inheritance to all those who ran faithfully!!

OT Shadow of the NT:

Colossians 2:16,17 “so let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new Moon or Sabbaths, which are a **shadow** of things to come, but **the substance** is of Christ”

Hebrews 8:5,6

“5 They serve a **copy** and **shadow** of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.” 6 But as it is, Christ[b] has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the **covenant he mediates** is better, since it is enacted on better promises.”

Hebrews 10:1 “for the law, having a **shadow** of the good things to come, and not **the very image** of the things, can never with the same sacrifices, which they offered continually year by year, make those who approach **perfect**.”

*Strong’s Concordance: the word “perfect”

Cognate: 5048 teleiōō – to consummate, **reaching the end-stage**, i.e. working **through the entire process** (stages) to reach the final phase (conclusion).

Ephesians 1:21 “Far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only **in this age** but **also** in that which **is to come**”

Ephesians 2:7 “That **in the ages** to come He may show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.”

Identification of Ages of Old Testament - The Shadow of things to Come

Age 1 - Garden- age of Innocence

Age 2 - Noah and the Ark

Age 3 - Abraham / The Patriarchs(Abraham, Isaac, Jacob)

Age 4 - Moses and the Law

Age 6 - The Judges (Eli, Sampson, Samuel along with Gideon and Debrah)

Age 7 - The Kings (Saul, David, Solomon etc.) Reign of the Kings lasted exactly 1000 YEARS.

Age 8 - Age of Silence (400 Years)

How is Jesus fulfilling the Old Testament?

Age 1-Adam: Christ is the last Adam and He is in the Garden with His Disciples.

Age 2- Noah: Jesus preaching of His kingdom to the Jews and scattered tribes. Preaching and teaching righteousness like Noah and was rejected but a remnant were saved! Saved through Him because He is the only Ark of safety!

Age 3- Sons of Israel: only begotten Son inherits all things! We are now in the process of racing for this inheritance by grace through faith.

Age 4-Moses: Jesus is now our High Priest moderating a new covenant. We have forgiveness of sin and grace to enter now through His blood into the Holy of holies to the Father.

Age 5 - Joshua: the promised kingdom is what Jesus promised to lead us into! He would return the same way He left and set it up!

Age 6- Judges: Jesus is given all authority and the right to judge!

Age 7 - David: Thousand Year Millennial Reign. Jesus will rule and reign on the throne of David!

Age 8 - New Heaven/New Earth/New Jerusalem= Age of Silence in Old Testament (400 Years)=no turmoil.

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him **to reconcile to himself all things**, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”
Colossians 1:15-20 ESV

Seeing these patterns repeat themselves throughout the ages is important. Remember what King Solomon wrote:

“That which has been is that which will be [again],
And that which has been done is that which will be done again.
So there is nothing new under the sun.
Is there anything of which it can be said,
“See this, it is new”?
It has already existed for [the vast] ages [of time recorded or unrecorded]
Which were before us.”

Questions to ponder:

1. Read Genesis chapter three and see where the very first prophecy that put all this in motion occurred. What does this say about the Bible?
2. Looking at the timeline of the Ages, where does that put us? Does that cause you anxiety or rejoicing?why?
3. Talk about all the stories man has chosen to write in all their forms. How do they reflect God larger story? What are your favorite movies and how do they have an image of Gods story?
4. Do you have a part to play in this larger story? What is it?

*Remember be a good Berean and be diligent in studying the scriptures to show yourself approved and encourage others to do the same!

