XVIII

2-12-79

Christians believe in dispensations. It would be nonsense if they didn't. I believe that what is considered most harmful by the attackers of dispensationalism is two things: 1) that many underrate the OT, and make it of little importance because it deals with a different period than ours, and 2) there are many who think the OT contains -- they claim that they say the OT teaches a different way of salvation than the NT. I think it really started when a great many ministers who would say they believed everything in the Bible were preaching the ten commandments and the golden rule. Then others got to stressing -- as Dr. Machen said, the gospel isn't -imagine somebody goes to the street and somebody says, Did you hear the good news? What's the good ne s? Obey the commandments! He said, the good news is that Christ died for our sins. When some people began to stress this, some began to quote vv. in the OT that sounded as if it is the person who does good, loves mercy, helps his neighbor, and protect such receive God's blessing. In the attempt to portect the that solid emphasis of the NT on salvation by Christ, people tried to find an out by saying, O that was for people in a different dispensation. Of course it is true it was people in a different dispensation in that they had different rites, different ceremonies. They were looking forward to Christ; we look back. But you can't read the OT without finding a great stress on the coming Messiah and on the need of salvation from sin and that no human way can save one except through Christ. It's definitely there. But there are many statements that taken out of context could give the other idea. When Dr. Scofiedd wrote the Scofield Bible, it was a tremendous job. It was a one-man job. His committee seems to have been largely just people he asked a few questions of. As far as we've been able to get any **rea** evidence,