

ROUGH DRAFT

Dear X:

*Levings Rev*  
Our registrar, Mr. Faucette, <sup>showed</sup> me your letter of

and I am pleased to observe your desire to study for yourself exactly what the Scripture teaches and to make your life count to the utmost in the service of our wonderful Lord.

It is easy for phrases to reach the point where they generate more heat than light. I fear that in many circles this has come to be true of the terms "Dispensationalism" and "Covenant Theology." Many people consider one of these to be the ultimate test of truth, while others consider the same one to be the very depth of an Scriptural doctrine. Yet my observation has been that ~~if~~ <sup>if</sup> few people were asked to give a clear definition of either of these terms, at least seven different answers would be given. The fact is that certain elements of truth are stressed by able Bible teachers, and other elements, while believed by them, are given much less stress. ~~Untrained~~ <sup>Untrained</sup> listeners carry the points that are stressed to an extreme and deny the other points that were somewhat neglected.

Then the followers often make a caricature of something that is completely false and designate it by one of these two terms. I know people who would proudly hold one of these titles and would abominate the other, whose views are almost identical with those of other men who use the opposite title.

Great benefit has come to the Christian world through the ~~blessing~~ <sup>placating</sup> of reasonable emphasis on the fact that God's dealings with men are altered in certain regards as He manifests new aspects of truth, or as He performs great redemptive acts.

If we fail to distinguish the ages we often introduce confusion into the clear teaching of the Scripture. The preface to the Scofield Bible clearly states that the dispensations are not ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> be thought of as ever involving different methods of salvation, but rather various ways of showing man his failure and his great need of a Saviour.

Those who hate the name of Dispensationalism often speak of dispensationalists as