Teaching Outlines from *Things to Come* by J Dwight Pentecost

"God, the architect of the ages, has seen fit to take us into his confidence concerning his plan for the future and has revealed his purpose and program in detail in the Word. A greater body of Scripture is given to Prophecy than any other one subject, for approximately one fourth of the Bible was prophetic at the time it was written. That portion is devoted to the unfolding of God's program. Because of its prominence in Scripture it is only natural that much should have been written on the subject, and many excellent books have appeared dealing with prophetic subjects. However, the treatment of Prophecy has generally been either apologetic or expository, and the themes have been developed individually apart from the relation to the whole revealed program so that much of our knowledge has been fragmentary and unrelated. There is been little attempt to synthesize the whole field of Prophecy into a unified biblical doctrine and there is a great need for a synthetic study and presentation of biblical prophecy. In an effort to meet this need the author has attempted in this volume to synthesize the Prophetic Scriptures into a systematic and complete biblical eschatology." J. Dwight. Pentecost

Section One: The Interpretation of Prophecy

- I. The Methods of Interpretation
 - A. Introduction
 - 1. The Problem
 - 2. The Importance of the Study
 - B. The Allegorical Method
 - 1. The Definition of the Allegorical Method
 - 2. The Dangers of the Allegorical Method
 - 3. The New Testament Use of Allegory
 - C. The Literal Method
 - 1. The Definition of The Literal Method
 - 2. The Evidence for The Literal Method
 - 3. The Advantages of The Literal Method
 - 4. The Literal Method and Figurative Language
 - 5. Some Objections to The Literal Method
- II. The History of Interpretation
 - A. The Beginning of Interpretation

- B. Old Testament Jewish interpretation
- C. Literalism at the Time of Christ
 - 1. Literalism among the Jews
 - 2. Literalism among the Apostles
- D. The Rise of Allegorism
- E. The Dark Ages
- F. The Reformation Period
- G. The Post Reformation Period
- III. General Considerations in Interpretation
 - A. The Interpretation of Words
 - B. The Interpretation of the Context
 - C. The Historical Interpretation
 - D. The Grammatical Interpretation
 - E. The Interpretation of Figurative Language
 - 1. The Use of Figurative Language
 - 2. When Is Language Literal or Figurative?
 - 3. The Interpretation of Figurative Language
- IV. The Interpretation of Prophecy
 - A. General Observations concerning Prophecy
 - 1. The Characteristics of Prophecy
 - 2. The Time Element in Prophecy
 - 3. The Law of Double Reference
 - 4. Conditional Prophecies
 - B. Methods of Prophetic Revelation
 - 1. Prophetic Revelation through Types
 - 2. Prophetic Revelation through Symbols
 - 3. Prophetic Revelation through Parables
 - 4. Prophetic Revelation through Dreams and Ecstasies
 - C. Rules for the Interpretation of Prophecy
 - 1. Interpret Literally
 - 2. Interpret According to the Harmony of Prophecy
 - 3. Observe the Perspective of Prophecy
 - 4. Observe the Time Relationships
 - 5. Interpret Prophecy Christologically
 - 6. Interpret Historically
 - 7. Interpret Grammatically
 - 8. Interpret According to the Law of Double Reference

9. Interpret Consistently

Section Two: The Biblical Covenants and Eschatology

- V. The Abrahamic Covenant
 - A. Introduction
 - 1. The Scriptural Use of the Word Covenant
 - 2. The Definition of Covenant
 - 3. The Kinds of Covenants
 - 4. The Nature of the Covenants
 - B. The Importance of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - C. The Provisions of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - D. The Character of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - 1. The Conditional Element in the Covenant Program with Abraham
 - 2. Arguments to Support the Unconditional Character of the Covenant
 - 3. The Amillennial Argument Against the Unconditional Character of the Covenant
 - 4. The Partial Fulfillment of the Covenants Supports the Premillennial View
 - E. The Eschatological Implications of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - 1. Who is the Seed of Abraham?
 - 2. The Amillennial View of the Seed of Abraham
 - 3. The Kinds of Seed Mentioned in Scripture
 - 4. The Church is Not Israel
 - 5. The Relation of the Church to the Covenant
 - 6. Will the Seed Possess the Land?
 - 7. Has the Abrahamic Covenant Been Fulfilled?

VI. The Palestinian Covenant

- A. The Importance of the Palestinian Covenant
- B. The Provisions of the Palestinian Covenant
- C. The Character of the Palestinian Covenant
- D. The Eschatological Implications of the Palestinian Covenant

VII. The Davidic Covenant

- A. The Importance of the Davidic Covenant
- B. The Provisions of the Davidic Covenant
- C. The Character of the Davidic Covenant
 - 1. The Davidic Covenant is Unconditional in Its Character
 - 2. The Davidic Covenant is to be Interpreted Literally
 - 3. The Problems of Literal Fulfillment
 - 4. Has This Covenant Been Fulfilled Historically?
- D. The Eschatological Implications of the Davidic Covenant

VIII. The New Covenant

- A. The Importance of the New Covenant
- B. The Provisions of the New Covenant
- C. The Character of the New Covenant
- D. The Fulfillment of the New Covenant
 - The Nation with Whom the Covenant is Made
 - 2. The Time of the Fulfillment of the New Covenant
 - 3. The Relation of the Church to the New Covenant
- E. The Eschatological Implications of the New Covenant
- F. Conclusion

Section Three: Prophecies of the Present Age

- IX. The Course of the Present Age
 - A. The Divine Program of the Ages
 - 1. The Relation of Christ to the Ages
 - 2. The Use of Age in the New Testament
 - 3. The Distinction between This Present Age and the Preceding Ages
 - B. The Divine Purpose in the Present Age
 - C. The Character of this Present Age
 - D. The Course of this Present Age
 - 1. Matthew Thirteen
 - a. The Use of the Parabolic Method
 - b. The Setting of the Chapter in the Gospel
 - c. The Use of the Kingdom of Heaven
 - d. The Time Element in Matthew Thirteen
 - e. The Interpretation of the Chapter
 - f. The Interpretation of the Parables
 - 2. The Letters to the Seven Churches in Revelation Two and Three
 - a. The Time Period of Revelation Two and Three
 - b. The Purpose of the Seven Letters
 - c. The Parallelism Between Matthew Thirteen and Revelation Two and Three
 - 3. The Close of the Present Age
- X. The Partial Rapture Position
 - A. Definition of Terms
 - B. The Partial Rapture Theory

- 1. The Doctrinal Difficulties of the Partial Rapture Theory
- 2. Problem Passages
- XI. The Post-tribulational Rapture Theory
 - A. The Essential Bases of Post-tribulation Rapturism
 - B. The Essential Arguments of the Post-Tribulational Rapturist
 - 1. The Historical Argument
 - 2. The Argument Against Imminency
 - 3. The Promise of Tribulation
 - 4. The Historical Fulfillment of Daniel 9:24-27
 - 5. The Argument from Resurrection
 - 6. The Argument from the Wheat and Tares
- XII. The Mid-Tribulational Rapture Position
 - A. The Essential Bases of Mid-Tribulation Rapturism
 - B. The Essential Arguments of the Mid-Tribulation Rapturist
 - 1. The Denial of Imminence
 - 2. The Promise of Tribulation
 - 3. The Denial of the Church as a Mystery
 - 4. The Nature of the Seals and Trumpets
 - 5. The Duration of the Tribulation
 - 6. The Argument from Revelation 11
 - 7, The Chronology of the Book of Revelation
 - 8. The Identity of the Last Trump
- XIII. The Pre-Tribulational Rapture Theory
 - A. The Essential Basis of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture
 - B. The Essential Arguments of the Pre-Tribulation Rapturist

- 1. The Literal Method of Interpretation
- 2. The Nature of the Seventieth Week
- 3. The Scope of the Seventieth Week
- 4. The Purpose of the Seventieth Week
- 5. The Unity of the Seventieth Week
- 6. The Nature of the Church
- 7. The Concept of the Church as a Mystery
- 8. The Distinction between Israel and the Church
- 9. The Doctrine of Imminence
- 10. The Work of the Restrainer in 2 Thessalonians
- 11. The Necessity of an Interval
- 11. Distinctions between the Rapture and the Second Advent
- 12. The Twenty-Four Elders
- 13. The Problems behind I Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 14. The Announcement of Peace and Safety
- 15. The Relation of the Church to Governments
- 16. The Silence Concerning the Tribulation in the Epistles
- 17. The Message of the Two Witnesses
- 18. The Destiny of the Church
- 19. The Message to Laodicea
- 20. The Times of the Gentiles
- 21. The Waiting Remnant at the Second Advent
- 22. The Sealed 144,000 from Israel
- 23. The Chronology of the Book of Revelation
- 24. The Great Object of Satanic Attack

- 25. The Apostacy of the Period
- 26. The Promises of the True Church
- 27. The Agreement of Typology

XIV. The Events for the Church Following the Rapture

- A. The Judgment Seat of Christ
 - 1. The Meaning of "Judgment Seat"
 - 2. The Time of the Bema of Christ
 - 3. The Place of the Bema of Christ
 - 4. The Judge of the Bema of Christ
 - 5. The Subjects of the Bema of Christ
 - 6. The Basis of the Examination at the Bema of Christ
 - 7. The Result of the Examination of the Bema of Christ
- B. The Marriage of the Lamb
 - 1. The Time of the Marriage
 - 2. The Place of the Marriage
 - 3. The Participants in the Marriage

Section Four: Prophecies of the Tribulation Period

- XV. The Scriptural Doctrine of the Tribulation
 - A. The Day of the LORD
 - 1. The Time Areas Within the Day of the LORD
 - 2. The Events of the Day of the LORD
 - 3. The Day of Christ
 - B. The Tribulation Period in Scripture
 - 1. The Nature of the Tribulation
 - 2. The Source of the Tribulation

- 3. The Purpose of the Tribulation
- 4. The Time of the Tribulation
 - a. The Importance of Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks
 - b. The Important Factors in Daniel's Prophecy
 - c. The Meaning of "Weeks"
 - d. The Beginning of the Sixty-Nine Weeks
 - e. The Fulfillment of the Sixty-Nine Weeks
 - f. Is there a gap between the Sixty-Ninth and Seventieth Week?
 - g. The Beginning of the Seventieth Week
 - h. The Program of the Seventieth Week
- XVI. The Relation of the Church to the Tribulation
 - A. The Ministry of Elders
 - B. The Identity of the Twenty-Four Elders
 - 1. Angelic Beings
 - 2. Old Testament and New Testament Saints
 - 3. Saints of This Age
- XVII. The Relation of the Holy Spirit to the Tribulation
 - A. The Identity of the Restrainer
 - 1. Who is the Restrainer?
 - 2. The Work of the Holy Spirit to the Believers in the Tribulation
 - B. Salvation in the Tribulation
 - 1. The Nature of Salvation in the Old Testament
 - 2. Specific Old Testament Promises of Salvation
 - 3. The Fulfillment of the Promised Salvation

- 4. The Basis of Salvation in the Tribulation
- 5. The Relation of This Gospel to the Gospel of the Kingdom
- 6. The Results of Salvation

XVIII. Israel in the Tribulation

- A. The Olivet Discourse
 - 1. The Setting of the Discourse
 - 2. The Questions of the Disciples
 - 3. The Interpretation of the Discourse
 - 4. The Tribulation Period
 - 5. The Second Advent of Messiah
 - 6. The Regathering of Israel
 - 7. The Illustrative Parables
 - 8. The Judgment of Israel
 - 9. The Judgment on the Gentile Nations
- B. The Identity of the "Woman" in Revelation 12
 - 1. A Great Red Dragon
 - 2. A Man Child
 - 3. A Woman Clothed with the Sun
- C. The Remnant of the Tribulation Period
 - 1. The Necessity of a Remnant
 - 2. The Remnant in Israel's History
 - 3. The Remnant in the Prophets
 - 4. The Remnant in the New Testament
 - 5. The Remnant in Revelation
- D. The Removal of Israel's Blindness

- E. The Two Witnesses
 - 1. The Symbolic Interpretation
 - 2. The Literal Interpretation
- F. Will Elijah Come Again?
 - 1. Elijah Will Not Come Again
 - 2. Elijah Will Come Personally and Minister Again
 - 3. One Will Come in the Spirit and Power of Elijah
- XIX. The Gentiles in the Tribulation
 - A. The Tribulation and the "Times of the Gentiles"
 - 1. The Program with the Gentiles
 - 2. The Duration of "the Times of the Gentiles"
 - 3. The Course of "the Times of the Gentiles"
 - B. The Final Form of Gentile World Power
 - 1. Daniel 2
 - 2. Daniel 7
 - 3. Revelation 13:1-3
 - 4. Revelation 17:8-14
 - C, The Boundaries of the Last Form of the Roman Empire
 - D. The Powers Aligned Against the Roman Empire in the Last Days
 - 1. The Northern Confederacy
 - 2. The Kings of the East
 - 3. The Kings of the South
 - E. The Person and Ministry of the Beast, the Head of the Empire
 - 1. Will the Beast Be a Resurrected Individual?
 - 2. The Doom of the Beast

- F. The Person and Ministry of the False Prophet, the Religious Leader
- G. The Relation of the Antichrist to the Two Beasts
- XX. The Campaign of Armageddon
 - A. The Location of the Campaign
 - B. The Participants in the Campaign
 - 1. The Invasion by the Northern Confederacy
 - a. The Identification of Time in General
 - b. The Time in Relation to Specific Events
 - 2. The Invasion by the Armies of the East
 - 3. The Invasion by the Lord and His Army
- XXI. The Judgments of the Tribulation
 - A. The Seals
 - B. The Trumpets
 - C. The Vials or Bowls
 - D. The Judgment on Babylon
 - 1. The Description of the Harlot
 - 2. The Identity of the Harlot
 - 3. The Judgment on the Harlot
 - E. The Judgment on the Beast and His Empire

Section Five: Prophecies Related to the Second Advent

- XXII. The History of the Doctrine of the Second Advent
 - A. Views of the Second Advent
 - 1. The Non-literal or Spiritualized View
 - 2. The Post-Millennial View
 - 3. The Amillennial View

- 4. The Pre-Millennial View
- B. The Doctrine of the Second Advent in the Early Church
 - 1. Exponents of Premillennialism
 - 2. Antagonists Against the Pre-millennial Position
- C. The Rise of Amillennialism
 - 1. The importance of Augustine
 - 2. Augustine's View on the Chiliastic Question
- D. The Eclipse of Pre-Millennialism
- E. Chiliasm Since the Reformation
 - 1. The Rise of Post-Millennialism
 - 2. The Recent Rise of Amillennialism
 - 3. The Resurgence of Premillennialism
- E. Resultant Observations
 - 1. The Second Advent Is Pre-Millennial
 - The Second Advent Is a Literal Advent
 - 3. The Second Advent Is Necessary
 - 4. The Second Advent Will Be Visible
 - 5. Practical Exhortations Arising from The Second Advent
- XXIII. The Resurrections Associated with the Second Advent
 - A. The Kinds of Resurrection
 - 1. The Resurrection to Life
 - 2. The Resurrection to Damnation
 - B. The Time of The Resurrections
 - C. The Program of Resurrection
 - D. The Resurrection of Israel

XXIV. The Judgments Associated with the Second Advent

- A. The Judgment on The Nation Israel
 - 1. The Time of the Judgment
 - 2. The Place of the Judgment
 - 3. The Subjects of the Judgment
 - 4. The Basis of the Judgment
 - 5. The Result of the Judgment
- B. The Judgment on The Gentiles
 - 1. The Time of the Judgment
 - 2. The Place of the Judgment
 - 3. The Subjects of the Judgment
 - 4. The Basis of the Judgment
 - 5. The Result of the Judgment
- C. The Judgment on Fallen Angels
 - 1. The Time of the Judgment
 - 2. The Place of the Judgment
 - 3. The Subjects of the Judgment
 - 4. The Basis of the Judgment
 - 5. The Result of the Judgment
- D. The Great White Throne Judgment
 - 1. The Time of the Judgment
 - 2. The Place of the Judgment
 - 3. The Subjects of the Judgment
 - 4. The Basis of the Judgment
 - 5. The Result of the Judgment

Section Six: Prophecies of the Millennium

XXV. The Kingdom Concept in the Old Testament

- A. The Eternal Kingdom
 - 1. The Timeless Aspect
 - 2. The Universal Aspect
 - 3. The Providential Aspect
 - 4. The Miraculous Aspect
 - 5. The Use of The Word Kingdom
 - 6. The Universal Kingdom Challenged
- B. The Theocratic Kingdom
 - 1. The Theocratic Kingdom in the Eden
 - 2. The Theocratic Kingdom Under Human Government
 - 3. The Theocratic Kingdom Under the Patriarchs
 - 4. The Theocratic Kingdom Under the Judges
 - 5. The Theocratic Kingdom Under the Kings
 - 6. The Theocratic Kingdom Under the Prophets

XXVI. The Kingdom Program in the New Testament

- A. The Theocratic Kingdom Offered at the First Advent of Christ
 - 1. The Old Testament Theocracy was Offered
 - 2. The Recognition of the Messiah
 - 3. The Messiah Announced by His Herald
 - 4. The Theocracy announced by Christ
 - 5. The Theocratic Message Limited to Israel
 - 6. The Theocratic Message Confirmed
 - 7. The Theocratic Offer in Relation to the Old Testament Prophecies

- 8. The relation of Christ to the Offer
- 9. The Contingency of the Offer
- 10. The Bona Fide Offer
- B. The Presentation and Rejection of The Theocratic Kingdom Recorded by Matthew
 - 1. The Presentation and Authentication of the King
 - 2. The Opposition and Rejection of the King
 - 3. The Final Rejection of the King
- C. The Theocratic Kingdom Offer Withdrawn and Postponed After the Rejection by Israel
- XXVII. The Kingdom Program in the Present Age
 - A. The Theocratic Kingdom Reoffered to Israel
 - B. The Theocratic Kingdom Instituted at the Second Advent
- XXVIII. The Scriptural Doctrine of the Millennium
 - A. The Millennium and Israel's Covenants
 - 1. The Abrahamic Covenant
 - 2. The Davidic Covenant
 - 3. The Palestinian Covenant
 - 4. The New Covenant
 - B. The Relation of Satan to the Millennium
 - C. The Relation of Christ to the Millennium
 - 1. The Names and Titles Applied to Christ in the Millennium
 - 2. The Manifestations of Christ in the Millennium
 - D. The Spiritual Character of the Millennium
 - 1. The Kingdom Characterized by Righteousness
 - 2. The Kingdom Characterized by Obedience

- 3. The Kingdom Characterized by Holiness
- 4. The Kingdom Characterized by Truth
- 5. The Kingdom Characterized by the Fullness of the Holy Spirit

E. Conditions Existing Within the Millennium

- 1. Peace
- 2. Joy
- 3. Holiness
- 4. Glory
- 5. Comfort
- 6. Justice
- 7. Full Knowledge
- 8. Instruction
- 9. The Removal of the Curse
- 10. Sickness Removed
- 11. Healing of the Deformed
- 12. Protection
- 13. Freedom from Oppression
- 14. No Immaturity
- 15. Reproduction by the Living Peoples
- 16. Labor
- 17. Economic Prosperity
- 18. Increase of Light
- 19. Unified Language
- 20. Unified Worship
- 21. The Manifest Presence of God

- 22. The Fulness of the Spirit
- 23. The Perpetuity of the Millennial State
- F. The Duration of the Millennium
- XXIX. The Government and the Governed in the Millennium
 - A. The Government in Millennium
 - 1. The Government Will be a Theocracy
 - 2. Messiah is the King in the Millennium
 - 3. David is the Regent in the Millennium
 - 4. Nobles and Governors Will Reign Under David
 - 5. Many Lesser Authorities Will Rule
 - 6. Judges Will be Raised Up
 - 7. The Nature of the Reign
 - B. The Subjects in the Millennium
 - 1. Israel in the Millennium
 - a. Israel's Restoration
 - b. Israel's Regeneration
 - c. Israel as Messiah's Subjects in the Millennium
 - 2. The Gentiles in the Millennium
 - C. Jerusalem and Palestine in the Millennium
 - 1. Jerusalem in the Millennium
 - 2. Palestine in the Millennium
- XXX. Worship in the Millennium
 - A. The Temple in the Millennium
 - 1. The Details of the Temple
 - 2. The Purpose of the Temple

- B. Will There be Literal Sacrifices in the Millennium?
 - 1. Is the Mosaic order reestablished?
 - 2. The Purpose of the Sacrifices
 - 3. Some Objections Considered

XXXI. The Relation Between the Living and Resurrected Saints in the Millennium

- A. The Nature of the Old Testament Hope
 - 1. National Promises
 - 2. Individual Promises
- B. The Nature of the Millennium
- C. The Occupants of the Heavenly Jerusalem
- D. A Consideration of Related Passages

Section Seven: Prophecies of the Eternal State

- XXXII. The Preparation for the Eternal Kingdom
 - A. The Purging for The Eternal Kingdom
 - 1. The Release of Satan and the Satanically Led Revolt
 - 2. The Purging of Creation
 - 3. The Judgment on Sinners
 - 4. The Destiny of the Lost
 - B. The Creation of the New Heaven and New Earth
- XXXIII. The Heavenly City New Jerusalem
 - A. Where Does Revelation 21:9 to 22:7 Fit into the Prophetic Picture?
 - 1. Revelation 21:9 to 22:7 Describes the Millennium
 - a. The Principle of Retrospection
 - b. The Ministry of the Vial Angel
 - c. The Use of Dispensational Names

- d. The Healing of the Nations
- e. The Existence of the Nations
- f. The Ministry of Angels
- 2. Revelation 21:9 to 22:7 Describes the Eternal State
 - a. The Adjective "New" in Revelation 21:1-2
 - b. The Position of the City in Revelation 21:10
 - c. The Characteristics of the City Are Eternal
 - d. The Length of the Reign
 - e. The Existence of the Nations in Eternity
- 3. Revelation 21:9 to 22:7 Describes the Eternal Habitation Of The Resurrected Saints During The Millennium
 - a. The City Is a Literal City
 - b. The Inhabitants of the City
 - c. Means of Entrance into the City
 - d. The Relation of This City to the Millennial Age
 - e. The Relation of This City to Eternity
- B. Life in the Eternal City
 - 1. A Life of Fellowship with Him
 - 2. A Life of Rest
 - 3. A Life of Full Knowledge
 - 4. A Life of Holiness
 - 5. A Life of Joy
 - 6. A Life of Service
 - 7. A Life of Abundance
 - 8. A Life of Glory
 - 9. A Life of Worship