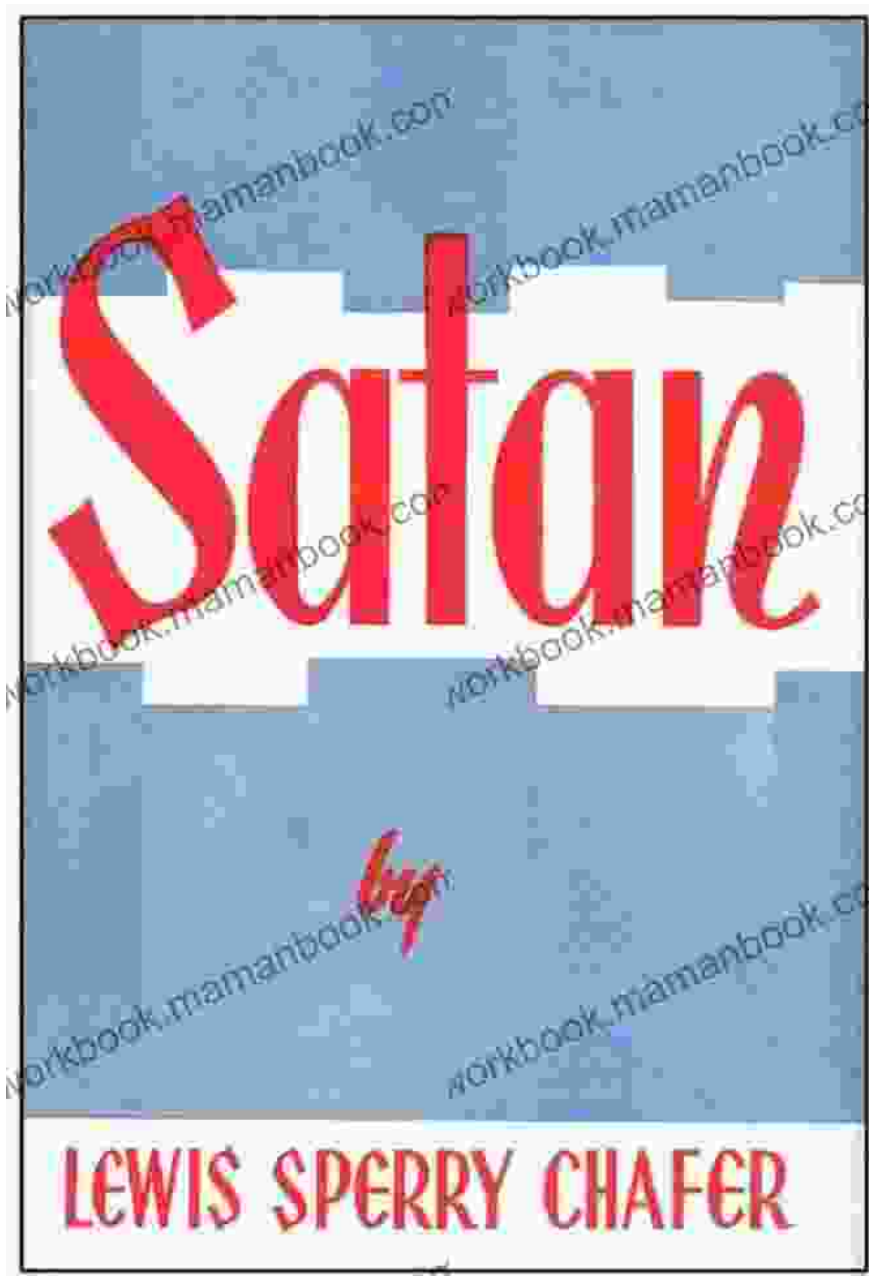


Satan Lewis Sperry Chafer: The Father of Dispensational Premillennialism



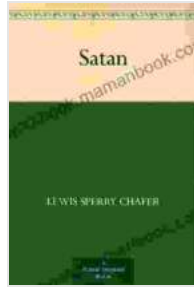
Satan by Lewis Sperry Chafer

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 126 pages
Lending : Enabled



Lewis Sperry Chafer (1846-1919) was an American theologian and founder of the evangelical movement known as dispensational premillennialism. He was a leading figure in the development of modern evangelical thought, and his writings continue to shape the beliefs of millions of Christians around the world.

Early Life and Education

Chafer was born in Rock Stream, New York, on January 27, 1846. He was the son of devout Christian parents, and he grew up in a strict religious environment. Chafer was educated at Union College and Princeton Theological Seminary. After graduating from Princeton, he served as a pastor for several years in New York and New Jersey.

Development of Dispensational Premillennialism

In the late 1870s, Chafer began to develop his own unique system of theology, which he called dispensational premillennialism.

Dispensationalism teaches that God's plan for history is divided into seven distinct periods, or dispensations. Each dispensation has its own unique set

of laws and regulations, and it culminates in a specific event. The seventh and final dispensation will be the millennial reign of Christ on earth.

Chafer's dispensationalism was based on a literal interpretation of the Bible. He believed that the Bible was the inerrant word of God, and that it should be interpreted in a straightforward manner. Chafer rejected the idea of evolution, and he believed that the world was created in six literal days.

Founding of Dallas Theological Seminary

In 1924, Chafer founded Dallas Theological Seminary in Dallas, Texas. Dallas Theological Seminary is a leading evangelical seminary, and it has trained thousands of pastors and missionaries over the years. Chafer served as the seminary's first president until his death in 1919.

Influence and Legacy

Chafer was a prolific writer, and he published several books and articles on dispensational premillennialism. His most famous work is the *Systematic Theology*, which is still used as a textbook in many evangelical seminaries.

Chafer's dispensationalism has had a profound influence on evangelical Christianity. It has shaped the beliefs of millions of Christians around the world, and it has helped to shape the evangelical movement into what it is today.

Chafer's Beliefs

Chafer was a conservative evangelical who held to the traditional Christian beliefs of the Trinity, the deity of Christ, and the resurrection of the dead.

He also believed in the imminent return of Christ and the establishment of the millennial kingdom.

Chafer's dispensationalism was based on the belief that God has dealt with mankind in different ways throughout history. He divided history into seven dispensations, each of which has its own unique set of laws and regulations. The dispensations are:

1. Innocence (Genesis 1:1-3:24)
2. Conscience (Genesis 3:25-8:22)
3. Human Government (Genesis 9:1-11:32)
4. Promise (Genesis 12:1-Exodus 19:25)
5. Law (Exodus 20:1-Acts 2:4)
6. Grace (Acts 2:4-Revelation 19:21)
7. Kingdom (Revelation 20:1-22:5)

Chafer believed that the church is in the sixth dispensation, the dispensation of grace. He taught that the church will be raptured before the tribulation and that Christ will return to establish the millennial kingdom on earth.

Criticism of Chafer

Chafer's dispensationalism has been criticized by some scholars for its literal interpretation of the Bible and its rejection of evolution. However, his dispensationalism continues to be a popular system of theology among evangelical Christians.

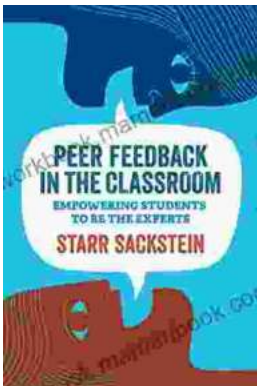
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