

# The Spirit of the Age

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 24:4-14.

B. Luke predicts the destruction of the temple. (Luke 21)

C. The present text looks to the intervening time between Jesus' two Comings--in the time that we are.

## II. Jesus' response about the time of the end was to take heed--He never answered them directly.

A. The dominant note of the age will be one of deceitfulness.

B. It will be a time of confusion.

C. The believer must evaluate the times because there will be a continual need for testing and evaluating.

## III. The end of the age lies immediately ahead.

## IV. The perils of this age.

A. The peril of the counterfeit--any attitude that is opposed to Christ.

1. This includes cults that persist to our day.

2. The occult is usually subtle--it often offers some false salvation.

B. The peril of conflict. This is the prediction of the general course of the age.

C. The peril of calamity.

D. The peril of human cruelty.

1. Moral relativism will spread.

2. Men's love will grow cold and cynicism will increase.

## V. Some will stand despite the pressure.

A. This is not the idea that some will hang on by their own will.

B. This is neither referring to the end of the age--it looks to the end of the person's life.

C. A person can only stand if there is a power enabling him to do so.

D. Those that have learned to walk day by day in the power of the Lord will stand.

E. It is Jesus' life in the believer that enables him.

**Application questions:**

1. How is the "end of the age" primarily characterized?

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2. How would you respond to a Christian who says that he does not worry about the "end of the age" because the end is not likely to happen in his lifetime? Explain.

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3. What power do we have to stand during this time, and how do we attain it?

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