

13. Obviously, the appeal was granted and proceeds over the course of human history. Within this appeal, Church Age believers are challenged to be witnesses for the Prosecution.
14. In each generation of the Church Age, each believer may pursue the advance to maturity, or not. The ultimate challenge is only presented to believers who have advanced to the sophisticated spiritual life.
15. In spiritual maturity, this challenge is defined by the term, evidence testing. The details about what this entails is the subject of our next category:

Evidence Testing

1. First of all, the elect angels are watching believers. They see them fail and they see them flop; they grow in grace or they regress into reversionism; they witness for the Prosecution or do so for the defense.
2. This situation is consistently ongoing in the scrum of the Angelic Conflict.

1 Timothy 4:1 But the Holy Spirit explicitly says that in the later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.
3. Paul later commented on the elect angels' response to believers involved in the advance:

1 Timothy 5:21 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles, without bias, doing nothing in the spirit of partiality.
4. During the Church Age, Lucifer has observed that believers have a difficult time adjusting to undeserved suffering. Because they are saved, some assume that God would never allow them to suffer without cause.
5. This is not rational. We function in the hostile environment of the devil's world and the Dark Side is on a mission "seeking someone to devour."



1 Peter 5:8 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

v. 9 But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

6. It is in the Incarnation when a prototype divine power system was established and in which our Lord functioned during the 33 years His true humanity functioned in the devil's world.
7. This very same environment is available to the Church-Age believer who is filled with the Holy Spirit. It is described as the "divine dynasphere," "divine power system," or "inside the bubble" in which the believer is privileged to function.
8. Whereas our Lord was sinless and therefore resided permanently in the prototype system, believers do commit sin therefore their dynasphere may be described as an evanescent[†] bubble, easily popped by commission of personal sin.
9. Believers who grow in grace and reach spiritual maturity have become veteran's having done considerable combat in the Invisible War.
10. They are elite warriors in the Invisible War. Their integrity is challenged by evidence testing by Lucifer and his demons. The devil's ongoing strategy is to dilute the gospel of salvation in order to keep as many people as possible out of the Lord's army.
11. If, however, a person gets saved, then he must be neutralized. This is accomplished by indoctrination by legions of fallen angels whose propaganda is referred to above by Paul in 1 Timothy 4:1 as "doctrines of demons."
12. Those who overcome these assaults make it to the level of cognitive invincibility and are riveted on occupation with Christ.

[†] "Soon passing out of sight, memory, or existence; quickly fading or disappearing: *a shimmering evanescent bubble*" (*The New Oxford American Dictionary*, eds. Elizabeth J. Jewell and Frank Abate [(2001), s.v. "evanescent").



13. Certain believers are tested to undergo a period of suffering that challenges their ability to orient to their inventory of doctrinal resources. The power of evidence testing is that its application occurs without any apparent cause.
14. It is from the intensity of this level of testing that the believer can orient and adjust to the reality of the situation. Recognizing that the Dark Side desperately needs to discredit your doctrinal advance to cognitive invincibility, you focus your concentration upon occupation with Christ and ride out the storm.
15. When a believer acquires within his soul this level of sophisticated biblical rationales, it advances him to the summum bonum of sophisticated application under pressure. He demonstrates the immense power of the Word of God available in the soul of a believer who pulls it off while possessing a sin nature.

Attainment of the Unique Spiritual Life

1. The victory of Evidence Testing glorifies Christ and ensures that the believer will be honored exceedingly abundantly during the Royal Award Ceremonies at the Evaluation Tribunal of Christ.
2. Loser believers were saved by grace when they expressed personal faith in Jesus Christ, but never made any meaningful advance in the plan of God.
3. Although without any Nike Awards, they will be among all the assembled saints at the Tribunal in resurrection bodies.
4. At the Second Advent, all believers in resurrection bodies will return to earth and will observe the baptisms of fire for the Tribulation's believers, both Jews and Gentiles, will enter into the millennial kingdom with Christ.
5. Without reception of any Nike Awards, loser believers will be happy to enter the Millennium, not warehoused in the Torments compartment of Hades with unbelievers.
6. Saved, but with no meaningful spiritual inventory, their duties will be relegated to menial tasks during the one-thousand-year reign of Christ.
7. There will be no equality in the millennial kingdom. Those who advanced in time will have duties of importance during the Millennium.



8. Those who are present, but without a dossier of their accomplishments in time, will be given menial jobs during the Millennium.
9. While advanced believers have their clothing adorned with several Nike Awards, those who lived the unsophisticated spiritual life will be dressed in minimal attire. Below is how one may envision a loser believer in the Millennium.
10. Take for example Mr. Golden Gingers and Mr. Poor Man in James's commentary in James: Chapter Two. If Mr. Fingers never grew in grace, then at the Evaluation Tribunal he'd windup dressed in a tunic. If the Poor Man grows in grace and reaches spiritual maturity his wardrobe will be transformed from Goodwill to Neiman Marcus.
11. In the first century, the lower class could only afford a tunic:

Clothing that Jews wore in Palestine in New Testament times was essentially the same as that worn by other peoples of the Mediterranean world. The tunic served as the basic garment (generally of wool, but linen in the Jordan Valley and other warmer places). Wearers made it by sewing two pieces of cloth together, leaving a hole for the head and neck. It had sleeves, normally extending at least to the elbow, and it was belted and bloused a bit above the belt. We are not sure about the length of the tunic, but it apparently extended to just below the knees. In Palestine and elsewhere in the Mediterranean world men had a vertical stripe on the tunics, over each shoulder and running its full length. Commonly the width of the stripe indicated age or prestige.²

12. The loser believer is a loser because His escrow account was deposited in the temple of the New Jerusalem before the creation of the world (see Ephesians 1:3–4).
13. When he failed to grow in grace during his physical life on earth, those blessings were retained on account and not imputed to him.
14. He will enjoy the perfect environment of the millennial climate and the absence of sin-nature function in himself and others in resurrection bodies.

² Howard F. Vos, "Dress," in *Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Manners and Customs: How the People of the Bible Really Lived* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999), 447.



15. But his participation will be limited by comparison to those whose credentials qualified them to have significant assignments in the Lord's millennial government and society
16. Mr. Fingers would be dressed in a linen tunic, **χιτών (chitōn)**, with no vertical stripes, while chopping cotton on the back forty of the estate of a man who was economically poor in the Church Age.

Maximum Glorification of God

1. Evidence Testing is the final hurdle the mature believer will confront. It involves mature believers being presented by God as witnesses for Lucifer to cross examine in his appeal.
2. These believers will function as witnesses for the Prosecution against Satan. His completion of Stage 3 of the Sophisticated Spiritual Life qualified him as a candidate for the cross-examination.
3. Passing evidence testing is the most advanced form of suffering that, if passed, results in the doubling of Nike Awards at the Evaluation Tribunal of Christ.
4. To qualify as a witness for the Prosecution, the believer must engage and execute the following:
 1. Advance to spiritual autonomy: a level of spiritual growth where the believer has an advanced inventory of doctrine and thus functions from the soul's status of spiritual autonomy.
 2. From spiritual autonomy, the believer lives in the realm of spiritual maturity and functions from that inventory of ideas.
 3. This high inventory of divine viewpoint enables him to glorify God to the maximum during his testimony before the Divine Court of Appeals.
 4. The strategy involved in this process stresses God's confidence in the witness presented before the court and Lucifer's attempt to discredit him.
 5. Job is a sterling example of evidence testing and serves as a resource for determining the restrictions imposed by God regarding Lucifer's cross examination.



6. This category of evidence testing relates to the witness's "relationship to life" illustrated by Job.
7. Job was blessed by God in several phenomenal ways indicated by the categories of blessings he enjoyed: (1) prosperity, Job 1, (2) health, social life, and attractiveness, Job 2:1–10, and (3) friends and their criticisms, Job 2:11.
8. The Relationship to Life Test removed all three of these categories of blessings. To pass them, Job must evaluate each category as being a blessing from God to be enjoyed but not essential to his spiritual life.
9. Job passed the first two challenges, but the third one caused him to fail, after which he reoriented to grace and then passed it.
10. The development of this testing is introduced in Job 1:6 where Lucifer and his fallen angels sought audience with God the Father in the Third Heaven:

Job 1:6 There was a day when the sons of God [**demons, fallen angels, evil spirits**] came to present themselves before God the Father, and Satan [**Adversary: Lucifer, devil**] came also among them.
(EXT)

5. The proper noun, Satan, is descriptive of the leader of the fallen angels, שָׂטָן (*Satan*) in the Hebrew and Σατανᾶς (*Satanás*) in the Greek, meaning "adversary."
6. Adversary clearly describes Satan's involvement as lead counsel for the defence before the Divine Court of Appeals.

Job 1:7 God said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it." (NASB)

7. Satan's response indicates that the Divine Court of Appeals is presently in session. This exchange occurs at some point following the fall of Adam.
8. The Lord has prospered Job in association with his advance to spiritual maturity which has resulted in tremendous blessings coming to him.



9. To demonstrate the primacy of Bible doctrine in his soul by comparison with the blessings accrued from that advance, God offers Job as a winner believer for Satan to challenge:

Job 1:8 And the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth. He is mature with great integrity who has total respect for Me and turns away from evil. (EXT)

10. The word translated “respect” is the verb יָרֵא (*yare’*). The King James translates this word with “fear,” but the mature believer transforms his attitude toward God from an emotional fear based on legalism over to respect based on reverence from spiritual self-esteem.
11. Satan’s response has an entirely different analysis:

Job 1:9 Satan answered the Lord, “Does Job respect God for nothing?”

12. Satan’s attitude is that Job “fears” God and therefore kowtows to Him so he can get the blessings. In other words, Job is brown-nosing the Lord for stuff rather than willingly submitting to the Lord’s divine guidance.
13. Divine blessings in every dispensation are always the result of willing response to divine guidance from Scripture.
14. Satan’s assertions continue over the course of the next verse and then makes a proposal to test his theory in the verse following:

Job 1:10 “Have You not made a hedge [a reference to the wall of fire] about him, and about his house, and about all that he has in every direction [**divine protection from Satan and his fallen angels**]? You have blessed his production, and he has prospered financially, and his substance has increased in the land.

v. 11 “But extend Your hand and destroy all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face.” (EXT)



15. Satan accuses Job of being dishonest toward the Lord. He proposes that if the Lord took away all his blessings, Job would turn on him with a curse.
16. Knowing the personal integrity that Job possesses in his soul, the Lord allows Satan to take on the task of destroying every blessing that Job possesses:

Job 1:12 Then God said to Satan, “Everything that he has is now in your power. Although, you may not stretch out your hand against him personally.” So Satan departed from the Lord’s presence.
(EXT)

1. What follows is a sequence of events that occurs over the next 7 verses resulting in Job passing evidence testing. Satan begins his Operation Devastation with a four-fold attack on Job’s estate including his livestock, servants, and family.
2. The following verses document these events of accumulated pressure on Job that result in evidence testing:

Event #1: Raiders Rustled Livestock and Killed the Herdsmen:

Job 1:13 Now the day came when Job’s sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house,

v. 14 and a messenger came to Job, saying, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing beside them,

v. 15 and the Sabéans [possibly **Bedouin invaders from southern Arabia**] swooped down and carried them all away, and they killed the servants with the sword! And I—only I alone—escaped to tell you!”

Event # 2: A Lightning Strike Caused a Wildfire Killing the Flock of Sheep and the Shepherds:

Job 1:16 While this one was still speaking, another messenger arrived and said, “The fire of God has fallen from heaven and has burned up the sheep and the servants – it has consumed them! And I – only I alone – escaped to tell you!”



Event #3: Aramaean Horsemen Rustled A Train of Camels and Killed the Workers:

Job 1:17 While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “The Chaldeans formed three bands and made a raid on the camels and took them and slew the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you.”

Event #4: All Job’s Sons and Daughters Were Killed When a Strong Wind Blew Down their Oldest Brother’s House.

Job 1:18 While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house,

v. 19 and behold, a great wind [רַיַח גָּדוֹל (*gadol ruach*): stormy wind³] came from across the wilderness⁴ and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people and they died, and I alone have escaped to tell you.”

The impact of Evidence Testing

1. Evidence testing allows witnesses for the Prosecution to make the ultimate advance in the Angelic Conflict. The ability to orient and adjust to whatever the devil’s world presents, he is doctrinally prepared to endure the test. This is the ultimate disaster test.
2. There are three major doctrines that enable the advanced believer to adjust to this level of testing:
 - (1) Understanding of the **angelic conflict** and orientation and adjustment to his testimony before the Divine Court of Appeals. Principle: Know the enemy.

³ “This expression refers to the sirocco (she-rá-kō), which appears in the spring and fall, withering the spring vegetation and inflicting damage by its violence (Job 1:19)” (Heinz-Josef Fabry, “רַיַח,” in *Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*, eds. G. Johannes Botterweck, Helmer Ringgren, and Heinz-Josef Fabry, trans. David E. Green [Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2005], 13:380).

⁴ “Sirocco (she-rá-kō), warm, humid wind over the Mediterranean Sea. The sirocco is produced on the front sides of low-pressure centers that travel eastward over the southern Mediterranean. It originates over North Africa as a dry wind and picks up moisture as it crosses the Mediterranean” (*The New Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia* (2010), 10:845).



- (2) **Dispensations** present the orderly arrangement of the plan of God in one's testimony in the Divine Court of Appeals. The Church Age is the mystery dispensation that immediately followed the resurrection, ascension, and session of Christ. Principle: Know what time it is.
- (3) Orientation and adjustment to God's prehistoric programming of the ROM chip in the computer of the **divine decree**. Omniscience discerned every thought, decision, and action of human history in conjunction with the free will of man. Principle: The sovereignty of God and the free will of man coexist by divine decree.
3. It is from these three doctrines that the soul of the believer is able to efficiently interpret the circumstances he encounters and make the correct volitional adjustments to deal with it.
 4. The mature believer has already fought the good fight of faith. When called upon to take the witness stand, he possesses the doctrinal inventory necessary to provide an honorable testimony before the court.
 5. The mature believer is able to give testimony from his stream of consciousness that the power of the Word of God is superior to cosmic propaganda from the dark side.
 6. God honors His Word wherever it is found. Job possessed a huge inventory of doctrine. The mature believer recognizes he is a combatant in the Invisible War and in that fray there are casualties.
 7. During the appeal, God calls upon mature believers to testify before the court. Their spiritual status enables them to demonstrate and maintain the copacetic spiritual life in the face of overwhelming circumstances.
 8. His orientation is to grace. The Word of God is alive and powerful. God honors His Word wherever it is found and will deliver the believer who applies advanced doctrines to life and circumstances.
 9. From these invisible resources, Job was able to take the witness stand and deliver a testimony empowered by grace orientation and adjustment to the will of God.

(End JAS3-10. See JAS3-11 for continuation of study at p. 101.)

