

13. Obviously the appeal was permitted and transpired 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 I the later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.
3. The Lord 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. This is the hostile environment of the devil's world and the Dark Side is on a mission seeking whom they might 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.

**1 Peter 5:9** 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 that a prototype power system was established 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<sup>†</sup> 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 of spiritual combat. 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 level of cognitive invincibility and are riveted on occupation with Christ.

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<sup>†</sup> "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 that empowered him to this summum bonum of sophisticated application under pressure, he demonstrates the immense power of the Word of God available in the soul a Homo sapiens who pulled it off while possessing a sin nature.

#### **Attainment of the Unique Spiritual Life**

1. The victory of Evidence Testing glorifies Christ and insures that the believer will be honored exceedingly abundantly at the Royal Award Ceremonies with the imputation of all thirteen Nike Awards 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 believers and unbelievers, after which all believers, Jew and Gentile, will enter into the millennial kingdom with Christ.
5. Without the accumulation 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.<sup>2</sup>**

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.

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

