

FAMILY CONVOCATION SEMINAR

09-03-2025

Overcoming the Spirit of this Age

2 Timothy 3:1-7,14; 1 Timothy 4:1-2, 12-16

INTRODUCTION

The Scriptures refer to this age (the period preceding the 2nd coming of Christ) as *“the end of the world”* (Mat 24:3), *“the latter times”* (1 Tim 4:1), *“the last days”* (2 Tim 3:1), and *“the last time”* (1 John 2:18). They will be perilous times for believers, characterized by increased activities of Satan and his demons, which will make it difficult to walk in holiness and be steadfast in sound doctrine. The influence of the demonic activities will make many to depart from the faith. This seminar is to inform us of the activities of the spirit of this age and provide biblical counsel on how to overcome.

QUESTION 1

How can you describe “this age” based on the Scriptures?

1 Tim 4:1; 2 Tim 3:1; 1 John 2:18

MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT OF THIS AGE

*2Tim 3:1-9; 4:3,4;
Matt 24:12; 1John
2:18; Rev 2:4; 3:15-
17*

The spirit of this age is preparing the way for the revelation of the “man of sin” (2 Thes 2:3-4). The activities of the spirit of this age are against Christ and His church. They are manifested through promotion of sin and unrighteousness, adulteration of the biblical teaching, infiltration of the church with worldliness, insubordination through rebellion and disregard for leadership, intoxication with wine of self and pride, corruption of the gospel message, and multiplication of sin. Hypocrisy, lukewarmness, compromise, false doctrine, loss of first love, backsliding and love of the world will become common in this age. Are these vices in your life?

QUESTION 2

What are the activities of the spirit of this age in manifestation today?

Matt 24:12; 2 Tim 3:1-5; 2 Pet 2:1

THE MENACE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SPIRIT OF THIS AGE

*Matt 24:12; 1Tim
4:1; 2Tim 3:1,5;
4:3,4; 2:17-18; Rev
3:1,14-17*

The impact of the spirit of this age on the church includes sin (Matt 24:12), departure from the faith (1 Tim 4:1), apostasy (2 Pet 2:19-21), instability in the faith, giving attention to seducing spirits (1 Tim 4:1), loss of appetite for sound doctrine (2 Tim 4:3), hardness of heart (2 Tim 3:4), self-justification (Pro 14:14), self-conceit (2 Tim 3:4), spiritual dullness (2 Tim 3:7), hypocrisy (2Tim 3:5), lukewarmness (Rev 3:14), nonchalant attitude to God's service, multiplied activities without corresponding spirituality, loss of vision for heaven, pleasure-seeking (2 Tim 3:4), and loss of zeal for God. Are you under the influence of the spirit of this age?

QUESTION 3

Mention some of the effects of the activities of the spirit of this age on believers today?

1 Tim 4:1; 2 Tim 3:4,5; Rev 3:14-17

MEANS OF OVERCOMING THE SPIRIT OF THIS AGE

*1Tim 4:12-16; Matt
24:12-13; Luke
21:34; Rev 2:4,5;
3:11; 2Tim 4:5*

The grace of God is sufficient for us to overcome the spirit of this age (2Cor 12:9; Phi 4:13). How can you overcome? (i) Recognize the activities of the spirit of this age (2 Tim 3:1; 2Tim 2:15). (ii) Give attention to reading, exhortation and doctrine (1 Tim 4:13). (iii) Commit yourself wholly to sound doctrine (1 Tim 4:15). (iv) Take heed unto thyself (1 Tim 4:16). Watch over your own soul, your motives and actions. (v) Continue in sound doctrine and in grace (1 Tim 4:16). Continue with zeal, constancy, diligence, and perseverance. (vi) Be an edifying example (1 Tim 4:12). (vii) Separate from false teachers and false prophets (2 John 1:10,11)

QUESTION 4

How can you overcome the influence of the spirit of this age?

***Luke 21:34; 1 Tim 4:12-16;
Rev 3:11***

CONCLUSION

The period immediately preceding the second coming of Christ will be characterized by increased activities of antichrists, preparing the way for the Antichrist. These will lead to departure of some believers from the faith. Hypocrisy, lukewarmness, compromise, false doctrine, loss of first love, spiritual dullness and love of the world will become common among believers. We can overcome the influence of the spirit of this age by God's grace, steadfastness in sound doctrine and watchfulness.