

## **The Two-Age Model**

### **Biblical Texts Which Speak of “This Age”**

Matthew 12:32 - There is no forgiveness for blasphemy against the Holy Spirit

Matthew 24:3 - The end of the age will be preceded by signs

Matthew 28:20 - Christ will be with us until the end of the age

Luke 18:30 - There are material rewards given to us in this life

Luke 20:34 - The people of this age marry and are given in marriage

Mark 10:30 - The present age is an age of homes, fields, and families

Romans 12:2 - We are not to be conformed to the pattern of this world (age)

I Corinthians 1:20 - Philosophy is the wisdom of this age

I Corinthians 2:6-8 - Wisdom and rulers are of this age

II Corinthians 4:4 - Satan is the god of this age who has blinded the minds of men and women

Galatians 1:4 - The present age is evil

Ephesians 1:21 - Christ reigns in present age

Ephesians 2:2 - The ways of this world (age) are evil

I Timothy 6:17 - Those who are rich in this age, are not to hope in their wealth for the next

Titus 2:12 - We are to live Godly lives in the present age

In every instance the qualities associated with “this age” are temporal in nature. These texts describe the present course of history before the return of Christ and are things which pass away at his return.

### **Biblical Texts Which Speak of the “Age to Come”**

Matthew 12:32 - No forgiveness for blasphemy against the Holy Spirit

Matthew 13:40 - The weeds will be thrown into the fire

Mark 10:30 - Eternal life as a reward

Luke 18:30 - Eternal life as a reward

Luke 20:35 - No marriage or giving in marriage

I Corinthians 6:9-10 - Evil doers will not inherit the kingdom of God

I Corinthians 15:50 - Flesh and blood will not inherit the kingdom of God

Galatians 5:21 - Those who live evil lives will not inherit the kingdom

Ephesians 1:21 - Christ will reign in age to come

Ephesians 5:5 - Immoral people will not inherit kingdom of God

I Thessalonians 2:12 - We are encouraged to live lives worthy of the kingdom

II Thessalonians 1:5 - Faith will count you worthy of the kingdom of God

I Timothy 6:19 - The coming age has life that is truly life

II Timothy 4:18 - The Lord will bring us to kingdom of God

In marked contrast to “this age” the qualities assigned to the age to come are all eternal (or non-temporal) in nature. These references are clearly describing the future eschatological state of believers (and non-believers if you factor in the references to judgment).

### **The Line of “Demarcation” Between the Two Ages**

Matthew 13:39 - The harvest is the end of the age, and the angels are the harvesters

Matthew 13:40 - The weeds will be burned in the fire at the end of the age (judgment)

Matthew 13:49 - The angels will separate the wicked from the righteous

## The Last Day

John 6:40: *“For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”*

John 6:44: *“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.”*

John 6:54: *“Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”*

John 11:24: *“Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’”*

John 12:48: *“there is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day”*

### **References to the trumpet of God on the “last day” and to our Lord’s return occurring at the same time.**

Corinthians 15:52, Paul writes that the return of Christ will occur *“in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.”*

I Thessalonians 4:16, Paul declares: *“For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.”*

See also 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8, where the day of judgment is said to occur when Jesus returns

*“Since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.”*