

# FAQ 30

## All “Anger” Is Not Carnal

### Q #30 You seem almost angry at times. WHY is this the case?

When an influential **counselor** brings dangerous, potentially life-threatening advice to a client (or clients) in need, it’s maddening, is it not? It should be so IF we care enough to respond!

When a **guide** subtly leads its group down a potentially perilous path, is it wrong to bring passionate warning?

Counselor Harold Camping has brought counsel which has not only fostered further contempt toward prophetic voices—due to his recent false predictions—but has also promoted much devastation in the lives of those who took his counsel seriously. This makes me mad. Why? In addition to those who have been hurt, many others are now further motivated to embrace the “Wolf! Wolf!” perspective and turn a deaf ear to those who accurately counsel from the explicit Word of God.

This year (2011), Rose Publishing put out a guide to end-times prophecy. In it, in a very subtle way, it makes appeals—time and time again—to listen to *traditions of men* at the expense of emphasizing the clear teachings in the Word of God. The many eschatological options are incomplete. Here are four examples:

1. Three essential truths\* “that Christians have always believed” fail to include biblical material which clearly addresses crucial doctrines and events which have a bearing on one’s eternal state. My friends, eternally significant issues ARE major concerns. The Word of God does not relegate these issues as secondary nor as those concerns where each can decide for himself/herself as to the import of these biblical truths. These are not *minor*. When, for example, our Lord say to shun false teaching concerning Christ—one of the warnings included within the time of sorrows (“See that no one deceives you”)—we must obey, for to fail to do so is death in light of God’s teaching concerning the doctrine of Christ (see our article on Neo-Gnosticism and the New Age movement at [www.currentmatters.org](http://www.currentmatters.org) on our “gift page.” When the Word of God says ALL who receive the mark of the beast will be cast into the Lake of Fire, this is NOT to be belittled or reinterpreted in light of one biblical doctrine—the doctrine of eternal security. Both appeals are true.

\* Note the authoritative appeal here. The appeal is based on historical theology, a good source of knowing, IF true but one that does not match biblical authority.

2. When God’s truths unfold in **our** context, the four suggested approaches to interpreting apocalyptic literature—Futurist; Historicist; Idealist; and Preterist—become woefully insufficient. Let’s ADD the category “Presentists” to convey the urgency of OUR setting! WE have been called to be ready, watching, etc., so let’s do so!

3. When the textbook lists and develops the four main end-time views but then fails to encourage the reading audience to keep in mind there may exist other positions even more biblically endorsed (explicitly evidenced by the actual data graciously provided in the Word of God), then we have a problem, do we not? Let's keep ALL the God-honoring/Bible-affirming options on the table of consideration! Here's one specific example highlighting this concern:
4. When supposedly exegeting Matthew 24, the author lists Matthew 24:4-11, 23-26 as biblical reference supporting the time when natural disasters, lying prophets and false messiahs present themselves. And, as one view—only two views are developed in this section of the textbook—is presented (the Futurist-only view), we find this quotation: “All of these events describe the era immediately before the future seven-year tribulation or during the early part of this tribulation.” (pg. 204 of *Rose Guide to End-Time Prophecy*) But WAIT one moment!! Is this what the text actually teaches?

The text separates the early deceptive teachers (vv. 4,5) from another round of false prophets (vs. 11) AND then even goes on to list another group of false christs and false teachers (who, with lying signs and wonders, falsely declare the whereabouts—the physical location—of Christ). This last group appears AFTER the tribulation period! “Then” is included for a reason. Yet the exegesis of this text, according to the *Rose guide*, fails to offer this very explicit understanding of the passage. WOW! And please note: The deception during the time of these false christs and false prophets is so great even the elect, if possible, could potentially be deceived. Again, WOW!

It's these kinds of **counselors** and **guides** that potentially present MAJOR dangers to the Body of Christ. PLEASE, go back to the Word of God and allow it to say what it actually says concerning the end of days ... our eternal well-being is at stake—no exaggeration!