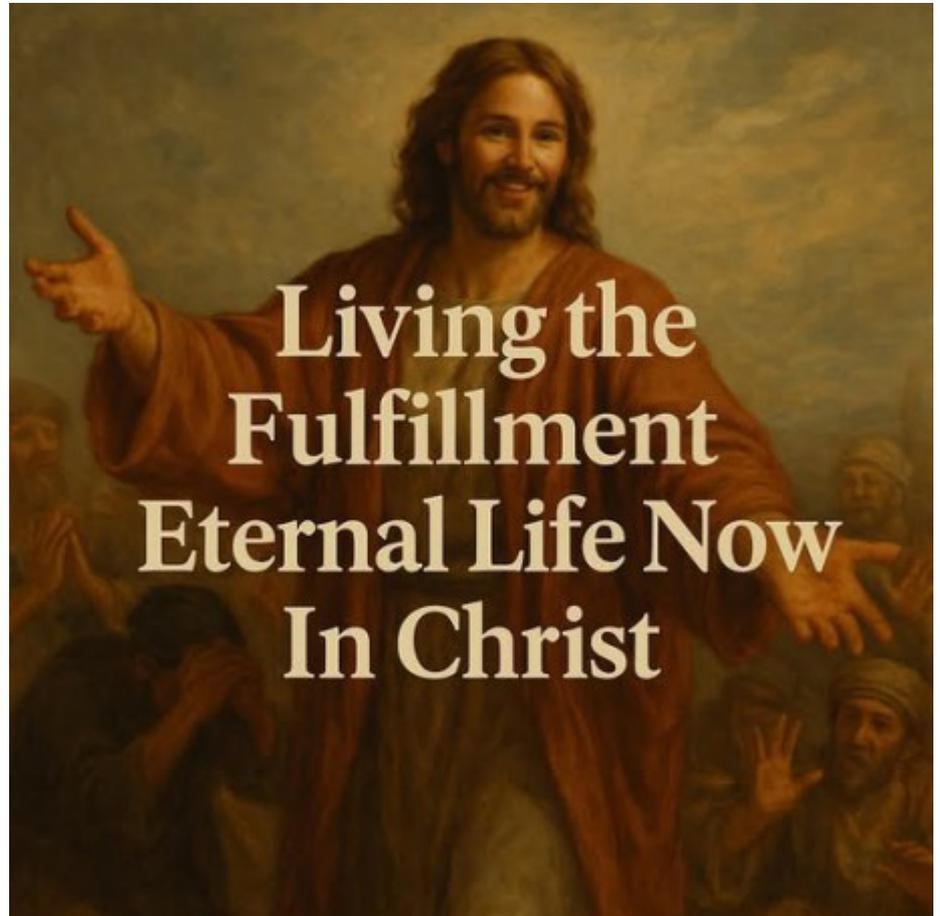


Fulfilled Prophecies

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**IN Christ - Living
the Fulfillment:
Eternal Life Now in
Christ**



By Dan Maines

Living the Fulfillment: Eternal Life Now in Christ

Many believers today recognize that the time statements in scripture are urgent and immediate. They see that Jesus and the apostles spoke as if the end of the age and the coming of the Kingdom were at hand in their generation. Yet they hesitate to embrace Full Preterism because what they were taught to expect does not seem to have happened. This message is not about debating them, but about showing what was truly promised, and how every bit of it has already been fulfilled in Christ. The goal is not to lower expectations, but to open our

eyes to what we already have: resurrection, immortality, and life in the eternal Kingdom now.

Introduction: The Kingdom Is Here, and It Is Enough

There is a longing in the human heart for justice, for peace, for visible change. People read the words of Jesus and assume that if the Kingdom has come, then injustice should vanish, economies should shift, and society itself should reflect the values of heaven. But the gospel's power was never about reshaping governments. It was about transforming hearts, liberating captives from sin and death, and bringing eternal life now.

We are not called to build an empire of heaven on earth, we are called to live in the spiritual Kingdom Christ already established.

What About Injustice? Does the Kingdom Fix That?

It is a fair question. Some ask:

"If Jesus' Kingdom has come, why does injustice remain?"

"Should it not correct corruption, reshape civilization, and produce physical change at the societal level?"

But Jesus answered this Himself:

Luke 17:20-21 "Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said, 'The kingdom of God is not coming with signs that can be observed, nor will they say, Look, here it is! or, There it is! For behold, the kingdom of God is in your midst.'"

His Kingdom was never about thrones, armies, or political revolutions. It was about presence, God dwelling with His

people in a new and living way.

Yes, Jesus rebuked the corrupt leaders of His day. He condemned their hypocrisy because they abused power, oppressed the poor, and perverted the Law. But His solution was not to overthrow the Roman system or rebuild a better economy. His answer was to change the human heart.

Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

The poor are not promised political revolution. They are promised the Kingdom of heaven. That is what makes the gospel good news, it frees from spiritual slavery, it opens eternal doors, and it gives meaning and hope no matter the circumstance.

The Kingdom Works Differently Than the World

It is tempting to think a true Kingdom must be physical and civilizational, changing economies, art, politics, and literature. But that is how worldly kingdoms operate. Jesus made clear that His is not of this world.

John 18:36 "Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews. But as it is, My kingdom is not from here.'"

If we expect a Kingdom that looks like Caesar's, we will miss the power of the one Christ brought. His Kingdom works like leaven, quiet, internal, transformative.

Matthew 13:33 "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three sata of flour until it was all leavened."

It starts small. It works invisibly. And it changes everything, not by law or sword, but by Spirit and truth.

Life Beyond the Law: No More Death

The Law brought condemnation and exposed sin, but in Christ, everything changed.

2 Corinthians 3:6 "For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."

The Spirit has been poured out. The old way of death and fear has been replaced by life and peace.

John 11:26 "Everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

This is not a metaphor. This is reality.

There is no separation between this life and the next for those in Christ.

We live in the power of the resurrection now.

Physical death remains, but it is no longer a wall of fear or separation, it is a doorway into His presence.

What Happens After Death?

Philippians 1:23 "But I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better."

Paul did not expect soul sleep or limbo. He expected to depart and be with Christ, and he calls that very much better. That presence is not delayed. It is immediate.

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 "Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight, but we are of good courage and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord."

Absent from the body is not unconsciousness.

It is being at home with the Lord.

That is not poetic, that is location. That is heaven.

Hebrews 12:22-23 "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect."

Heaven is the city of the living God, already accessed by the church. Those who are in Christ are already enrolled in heaven, and the spirits of the righteous are already there, made perfect.

Revelation 14:13 "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on! Yes, says the Spirit, so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

After AD 70, those who die in the Lord are called blessed. Why?

Because they rest.

Their deeds follow.

Not into Sheol or delay, but into His presence.

Eternal Life Is Not Future, It Is Now

John 5:24 "Truly, truly, I say to you, the one who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life."

We have it, not partially or theoretically, but fully.

This life is not a shadow, it is the substance.

Eternal life is union with Christ, who is life.

Colossians 2:10 "And in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over every ruler and authority."

The Kingdom Is Present, The Resurrection Is Reality

We are not waiting for the kingdom to arrive. We are living in it. We are not hoping for resurrection. We are walking in it.

Ephesians 2:6 "And raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

That is not symbolic, that is covenantal reality.

We are where He is because we are what He is, alive forever.

Letting Go of the Delay

To walk in the fullness of Christ is to stop looking forward to what already surrounds us. Peace with God is now.

Righteousness is now. Immortality is now.

2 Timothy 1:10 "But now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel."

He abolished death.

That does not need to be redone.

The work was not partial, it was perfect.

They Cannot See What They Never Lacked

It is like the rich kid who has never been poor. They do not know what they are missing. Many modern Christians simply cannot grasp what it meant to live under the Law, where the hope of resurrection was only a shadow and a mystery.

Hebrews 2:14-15 "Through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives."

Those under the Law lived in fear of death.

That fear was spiritual death, separation from God.

Christ came to free them from that fear.

The resurrection was not about avoiding biological death.

It was about conquering the death Adam introduced.

We Do See Tangible Results, But Not in the Way You Expect

The effects of the Kingdom are real, but they begin at the level of the individual.

Lives change.

Hearts are freed.

Communities of grace and justice emerge through love.

2 Corinthians 3:3 "You are a letter of Christ, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts."

Civilizations rise and fall.

But the Kingdom is not shaken.

Every life in Christ is proof of its power.

Final Word: What We Have Now Is the Mission

We are not waiting for heaven to invade earth with armies and blueprints. We are the evidence that it already has. Christ's work was not incomplete. He said:

John 19:30 "It is finished."

Eternal life is not a future dream. It is a present reality. The justice and peace He promised were never about human governments. They were about His reign in us.

Romans 14:17 "The kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

Step Into the Fulfillment

We are not waiting to become more alive. We are not striving for future access to what Christ has already delivered. The life we live now, in Him, is the promised life.

The veil is gone.

The temple is open.

The tree of life is ours.

Revelation 22:14 "Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life, and may enter the city by the gates."

That is not about some distant age. That is the covenantal picture of what we now possess.

We have been clothed.

We have entered.

We belong.

This is not the waiting room. This is the reward.

All fulfilled. All in Jesus.

Amen.

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