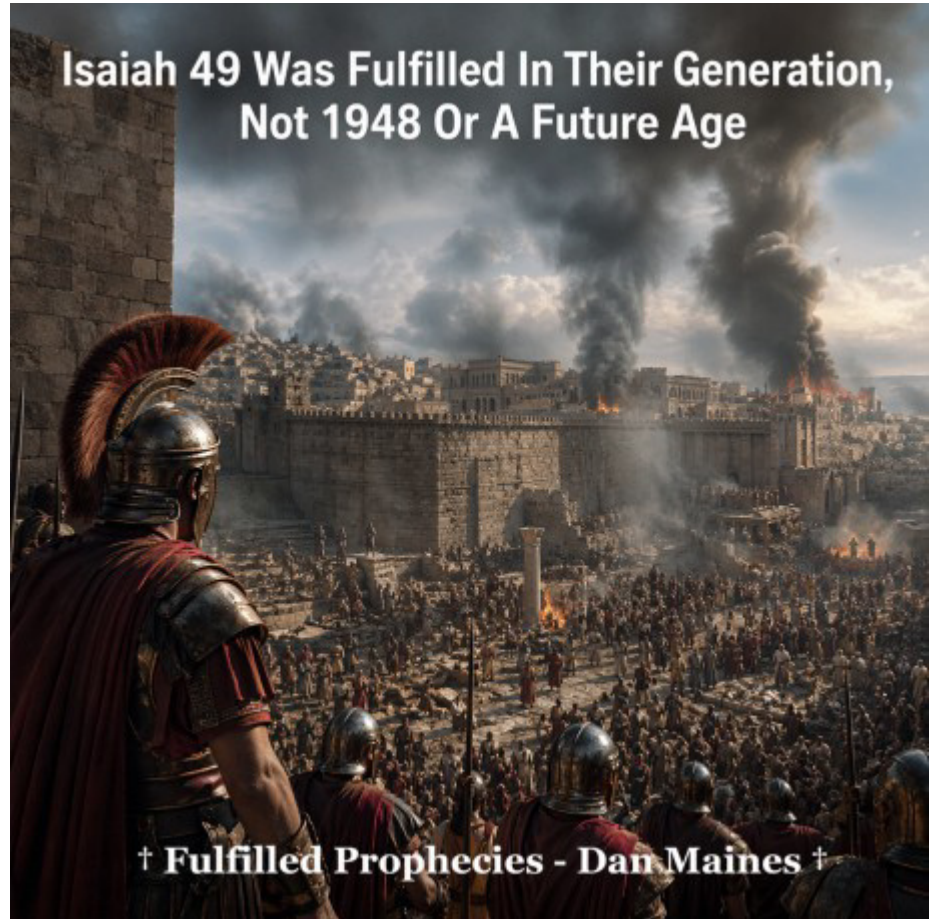


# Fulfilled Prophecies

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**Isaiah 49 Was Fulfilled In Their Generation, Not 1948 Or A Future Age**



By Dan Maines

**Isaiah 49 Was Fulfilled In Their Generation, Not 1948 Or A Future Age**

## Introduction

† The claim being made today is that Isaiah 49 is still unfolding, tied to modern Israel, 1948, and ongoing wars, but the text itself places its fulfillment in the first century through Christ and the judgment that came upon Jerusalem (Luke 21:22, 32)

† Isaiah 49 is about the Servant, Christ, restoring Israel and bringing salvation to the nations, and that work was completed in His ministry and in the judgment that ended the old covenant system (Acts 13:47)

† The idea that nations today must physically bow and lick the dust misses the prophetic language used throughout scripture, where such imagery describes covenant judgment and submission, not literal modern geopolitics (Isaiah 2:11-17)

† Scripture never points to a modern political return to a physical land as the fulfillment, instead it points to Christ as the fulfillment of all promises made to Israel (2 Corinthians 1:20)

† The gathering of Israel is defined in the New Testament as being gathered into Christ, not into a geographic nation (John 11:51-52)

### **Isaiah 49:6**

He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the protected ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

† This was fulfilled in Christ bringing salvation to the nations in the first century, not beginning in 1948 (Luke 2:30-32)

† Paul directly applies this to his own ministry to the Gentiles, showing it was already in fulfillment in his day (Acts 13:47)

† The end of the earth refers to the spread of the gospel throughout the known world of that age, not a modern timeline marker (Romans 10:18)

† Simeon identified Jesus as the fulfillment of this promise, showing it was already present in His first coming, not delayed

thousands of years (Luke 2:30-32)

### **Isaiah 49:23**

"Kings will be your guardians, And their princesses your nurses. They will bow down to you with their faces to the ground And lick the dust from your feet; And you will know that I am the Lord; Those who hopefully wait for Me will not be put to shame.

† This is prophetic imagery of submission, not literal rulers crawling in the dirt in a modern nation-state (Psalm 72:9-11)

† This language is used throughout the Old Testament to describe defeated enemies being brought low under God's judgment (Micah 7:16-17)

† The fulfillment came when the old covenant persecutors were judged and the kingdom of Christ was established, causing the nations to submit to His authority through the gospel (Philippians 2:10-11)

† The phrase lick the dust connects back to the curse language given to the serpent, showing humiliation and defeat, not a literal future political submission (Genesis 3:14)

### **Isaiah 49:25-26**

Indeed, this is what the Lord says: "Even the captives of the mighty man will be taken away, And the prey of a tyrant will be rescued; For I will contend with the one who contends with you, And I will save your sons. "I will feed your oppressors with their own flesh, And they will become drunk with their own blood as with sweet wine; And humanity will know that I, the Lord, am your Savior And your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

† This is judgment language, the same kind used in describing the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the old covenant enemies (Luke 21:22)

† Jesus said all things written would be fulfilled in that generation, including these judgments (Luke 21:32)

† The imagery matches covenant curse language and what actually happened in the Roman siege, recorded historically (Deuteronomy 28:53-57)

† Jesus identified that generation as the one where all covenant judgment would come to its fullness, including what was written in the prophets (Matthew 23:36)

† The destruction of Jerusalem marked the end of the old covenant age, proving these promises and judgments were completed in that time (Hebrews 8:13)

## **Historical References**

† Josephus records the destruction of Jerusalem, showing the complete collapse of the old covenant system and the suffering that matched prophetic judgment language (Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 5-6)

† Josephus describes people driven to consume their own flesh during the siege, directly reflecting the covenant curse language found in the Law and the prophets (Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6)

† Eusebius writes that the church understood these events as the fulfillment of Christ's warnings and the prophets (Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3)

† Tacitus confirms the devastation brought by Rome, aligning with the judgment imagery of Isaiah and Jesus (Tacitus, Histories 5.13)

## **How It Applies To Us Today**

† We're not waiting for Isaiah 49 to be fulfilled, it's already done in Christ and the judgment of that generation (Luke 21:32)

† The kingdom is not tied to a physical land or modern nation, it's a spiritual kingdom established through Christ (John 18:36)

† The submission of the nations is through the gospel, not through political dominance or modern warfare (Colossians 1:13)

† We don't look to 1948 or modern conflicts to validate scripture, we look to Christ's finished work and the fulfilled promises (2 Corinthians 1:20)

† If we push these prophecies into our future, we deny that Christ finished what He was sent to accomplish in His generation (John 19:30)

† Understanding fulfillment keeps us grounded in what Christ has already done, instead of looking for signs in modern political events (Luke 17:20-21)

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** Is Isaiah 49 about modern Israel returning to the land?

**A** No, it's about Christ restoring Israel and bringing salvation to the nations, fulfilled in the first century (Acts 13:47)

**Q** What does it mean that kings lick the dust?

**A** It's prophetic language showing total defeat and submission, not a literal future event (Micah 7:16-17)

**Q** Didn't the nations begin a new era after AD 70?

**A** Yes, but that was the result of Christ's completed work, not an ongoing fulfillment still waiting to happen (Luke 21:22)

**Q** Is there any connection to 1948?

**A** No, scripture never points to that event, all prophecy was fulfilled in that generation as Jesus said (Luke 21:32)

**Q** Why do people connect Isaiah 49 to modern Israel?

**A** Because they ignore the New Testament interpretation and replace it with modern events, but the apostles already showed it was fulfilled in Christ and their generation (Acts 13:47)

**Q** Does all flesh shall know mean a future global event?

**A** No, it refers to the public manifestation of God's judgment and salvation in that time, just like other Old Testament judgments that were seen and known among the nations (Isaiah 52:10)

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**Q** If Isaiah 49 is fulfilled, why do nations still oppose God's people today?

**A** Because opposition has always existed, but prophecy was about covenant fulfillment, not eliminating all conflict in history (John 15:18-20)

**Q** Who are the oppressors in Isaiah 49?

**A** They were the enemies of God's covenant people in that age, especially those who rejected Christ and persecuted His followers (Matthew 23:29-36)

**Q** What does it mean that captives are set free?

**A** It refers to deliverance from sin and the old covenant bondage through Christ, not a political or military rescue (Luke 4:18)

**Q** Does all flesh shall know mean every single person on earth?

**A** No, it means a widespread recognition of God's judgment and salvation in that time, just like other prophetic judgments (Isaiah 40:5)

**Q** If the promises were fulfilled, what are we living in now?

**A** We are living in the established kingdom of Christ, where all promises have been fulfilled in Him (Colossians 1:13)

**Q** Did the apostles believe Isaiah 49 was future?

**A** No, they applied it directly to their own ministry and time, showing they understood it as being fulfilled (Acts 13:47)

**Q** Why is modern Israel not the fulfillment?

**A** Because the New Testament never redirects these promises

to a future nation, it consistently points to Christ and His body as the fulfillment (Ephesians 2:14-16)

**Q** What is the restoration of Israel in Isaiah 49?

**A** It is the restoration of God's people through Christ, bringing both Jew and Gentile into one body (John 11:51-52)

**Q** Why does the prophecy use such violent imagery?

**A** Because it is covenant judgment language, the same kind used throughout the Law and the prophets to describe God's judgment on a rebellious people (Deuteronomy 28:53-57)

**Q** Does this mean there are no future prophecies left?

**A** All things written concerning that age were fulfilled as Jesus said, leaving us living in the completed kingdom (Luke 21:32)

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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## Source Index

† Isaiah 49:6, 23, 25-26; Luke 2:30-32; Acts 13:47; Romans 10:18; Psalm 72:9-11; Micah 7:16-17; Philippians 2:10-11; Luke 21:22, 32; Deuteronomy 28:53-57; Matthew 23:36; Hebrews 8:13; John 18:36; Colossians 1:13; 2 Corinthians 1:20; John 11:51-52; John 19:30; Luke 17:20-21; Isaiah 52:10; Genesis 3:14

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 5-6; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3; Tacitus, Histories 5.13

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