

# Fulfilled Prophecies

[Home](#)

>

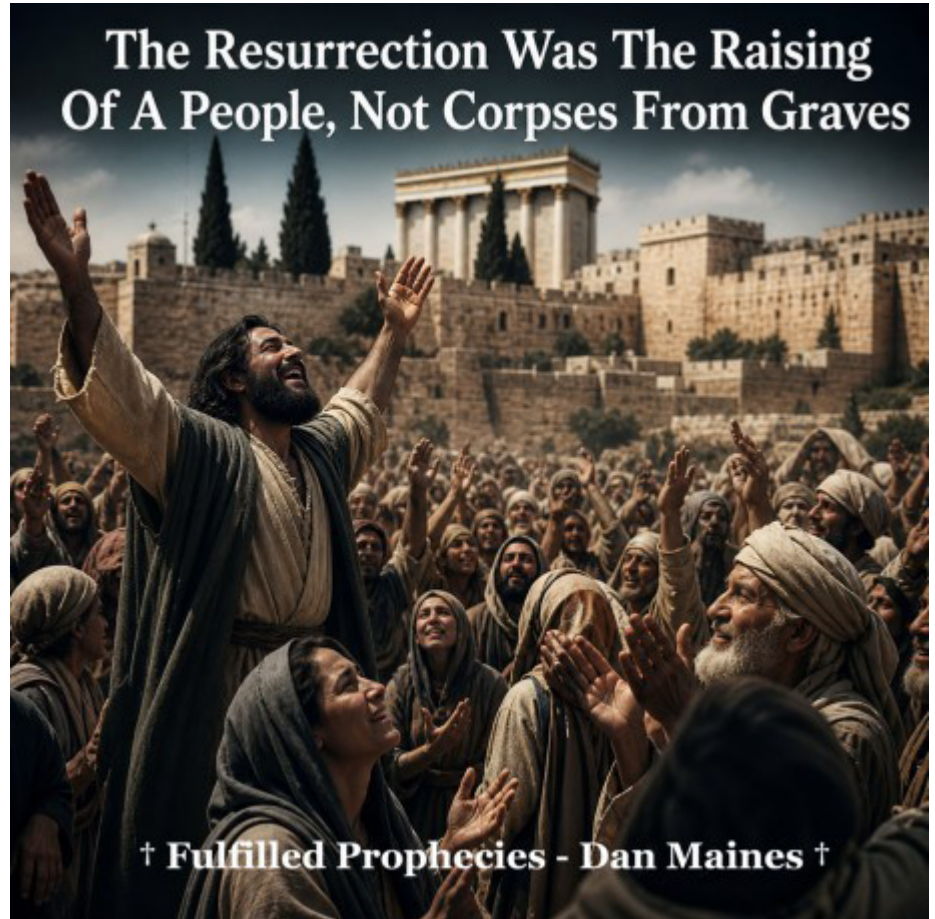
[R](#)

>

[Share on Facebook](#)

[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

**Resurrection - The Resurrection Was The Raising Of A People, Not Corpses From Graves**



By Dan Maines

**The Resurrection Was The Raising Of A People, Not Corpses From Graves**

## Introduction

† Most people have been taught that resurrection means dead bodies coming out of literal graves, but the Bible itself defines resurrection language long before the New Testament ever explains it (Ezekiel 37:11; Hosea 6:1-2).

† If we let scripture interpret scripture, we'll see resurrection wasn't about dirt and bones, it was about God raising a covenant people from death into life (Isaiah 26:19; Daniel 12:2).

† This isn't speculation, it's already established in the Old Testament, then fulfilled in the first century exactly as Jesus and the apostles said it would be (Matthew 24:34; John 5:24-25).

### **Ezekiel 37:1-5**

37 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. 2 He had me pass among them all around, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley; and behold, they were very dry. 3 Then He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "Lord GOD, You Yourself know." 4 Again He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones and say to them, 'You dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.' 5 This is what the Lord GOD says to these bones: 'Behold, I am going to make breath enter you so that you may come to life.

† God wasn't showing Ezekiel a graveyard, He was showing him the condition of Israel, completely cut off, scattered, and spiritually dead (Ezekiel 37:11).

† The bones represent the whole house of Israel, not individuals in coffins, this is covenant language, not biological resurrection (Ezekiel 37:11).

† The breath entering them is the Spirit of God restoring the nation, bringing them back into covenant life, not resurrecting physical corpses (Ezekiel 37:14).

### **Ezekiel 37:11-13**

11 Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the entire house of Israel; behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope has perished. We are completely cut off.' 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'This is what the Lord GOD says: "Behold, I am going to open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, My people; and I will bring you into the land of Israel. 13 Then you will know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves and caused you to come up out of your graves, My people.

† God interprets the vision for us, the graves are symbolic of Israel's condition, not literal burial sites (Ezekiel 37:11).

† Coming out of graves is covenant restoration language, Israel being brought out of death under judgment back into life with God (Isaiah 26:19).

† This proves resurrection language was already established as corporate, national, and covenantal long before the New Testament (Hosea 6:1-2).

### **Isaiah 26:19**

19 Your dead will live;  
Their corpses will rise.  
You who lie in the dust, awake and shout for joy,  
For your dew is as the dew of the dawn,  
And the earth will give birth to the departed spirits.

† Isaiah uses the same resurrection language, but it's in the middle of judgment and deliverance of Israel, not a global cemetery event (Isaiah 26:20-21).

† Dwelling in the dust is covenant death language, the same pattern seen in Ezekiel and Daniel (Daniel 12:2).

† This confirms resurrection language was prophetic and corporate long before the New Testament explains it (Hosea 6:1-2).

## **Daniel 12:2**

2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.

† Daniel uses the same language, sleeping in the dust isn't describing literal corpses waiting in the ground, it's describing a people in covenant death (Daniel 12:1).

† The awakening is tied to the time of tribulation for Israel, the same time Jesus said would happen in that generation (Matthew 24:21, 34).

† This is the same resurrection pattern, a corporate rising, not a global cemetery event (Isaiah 26:19).

## **Matthew 27:52-53**

52 Also the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; 53 and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection, they entered the holy city and appeared to many.

† This event is often forced into a physical framework, but it's using the exact same prophetic language already defined in

Ezekiel and Daniel (Ezekiel 37:12; Daniel 12:2).

† The holy city is Jerusalem, the center of the Old Covenant, showing a covenant transition taking place (Hebrews 12:22-23).

† This is a sign of the resurrection age beginning, not a preview of a future global resurrection, it fits the prophetic pattern already established (Daniel 12:2).

### **John 5:25-29**

25 Truly, truly, I say to you, a time is coming and even now has arrived, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. 26 For just as the Father has life in Himself, so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself; 27 and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man. 28 Do not be amazed at this; for a time is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, 29 and will come out: those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the bad deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

† Jesus said the hour now is, meaning the resurrection had already begun in His ministry, not something thousands of years later (John 5:25).

† Hearing His voice and living is present covenant life, the same pattern of being raised from death into life (John 5:24).

† This matches the prophetic language, showing fulfillment beginning in that generation (Matthew 24:34).

### **1 Corinthians 15:44-46**

44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 45 So also it is written: "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING PERSON." The last Adam was a life-giving spirit. 46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual.

† Paul isn't contrasting physical versus non-physical, he's contrasting two covenant bodies, Adamic Israel under Law and the new creation in Christ (1 Corinthians 15:22).

† The natural body is the old covenant order, earthly, perishing, and under death (Romans 7:5).

† The spiritual body is the new covenant people, raised into life through Christ, not individuals climbing out of graves (2 Corinthians 5:17).

† This matches Ezekiel perfectly, a people raised by the Spirit into a new covenant existence (Ezekiel 37:14).

## **1 Corinthians 15:51-52**

51 Behold, I am telling you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

† Paul said we, not they, placing the resurrection in his own generation (1 Corinthians 15:8).

† Not all would sleep, meaning some would still be alive when this transformation happened, proving it wasn't about graves

opening worldwide (1 Thessalonians 4:15).

† The change is covenantal, from the old to the new, from death in Adam to life in Christ (Romans 5:18).

## **1 Corinthians 15:54-55**

54 But when this perishable puts on the imperishable, and this mortal puts on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written: "DEATH HAS BEEN SWALLOWED UP in victory.

55 WHERE, O DEATH, IS YOUR VICTORY? WHERE, O DEATH, IS YOUR STING?"

† Paul is quoting Hosea, showing this resurrection language was already established in Israel's prophets (Hosea 13:14).

† Death being swallowed up isn't about biology, it's about the end of covenant death under the Law (1 Corinthians 15:56).

† This proves Paul is interpreting resurrection through the Old Testament framework, not creating something new (Isaiah 25:8).

## **Ephesians 2:1-6**

2 And you were dead in your offenses and sins, 2 in which you previously walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. 3 Among them we too all previously lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the rest. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our wrongdoings, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and

raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

† Paul clearly says we were dead and are now made alive, this is resurrection language in the present, not future (Ephesians 2:5).

† Raised us up is past tense, showing resurrection was already taking place in the first century (Colossians 3:1).

† This perfectly matches the corporate resurrection pattern seen in the prophets and fulfilled in Christ (John 5:24).

## **Historical References**

† Josephus describes Israel as completely cut off, the temple destroyed, the people slaughtered and scattered, language that mirrors covenant death and the imagery of dry bones (Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6).

† Eusebius records the destruction of Jerusalem as the fulfillment of Christ's prophecy, marking the end of the old covenant world and confirming the transition into the new (Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3).

† Irenaeus acknowledged prophetic resurrection language tied to Israel's restoration, showing early recognition of corporate fulfillment themes (Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book 5).

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

† We're not waiting for resurrection, we're living in it, raised with Christ as His people (Ephesians 2:5-6).

† Our identity isn't tied to a future event, it's rooted in a completed work, we've already been brought from death into life (Colossians 1:13).

† This removes fear and replaces it with confidence, because resurrection isn't ahead of us, it's who we are now in Christ (John 5:24).

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** If resurrection isn't about bodies coming out of graves, what about physical death?

**A** The Bible defines resurrection as covenant life from death, not reversing biological death, Jesus said whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die, John 11:26.

**Q** Why does Paul talk about the dead being raised?

**A** Because the dead were those under the old covenant who had not yet entered into the new covenant life, fulfilled at the end of the age, Hebrews 11:39-40.

**Q** Does this mean we're already in the resurrection age?

**A** Yes, scripture says we've already been raised with Christ, Colossians 3:1.

**Q** Then what changed in AD 70?

**A** The old covenant world fully passed away, and the resurrection of God's people into the new covenant was completed, Matthew 24:34.

**Q** If Ezekiel 37 is about Israel, why does it use graves and bones language?

**A** Because that's how God described covenant death and restoration, He defined the vision Himself by saying these bones are the whole house of Israel, Ezekiel 37:11.

**Q** Doesn't Daniel 12 clearly say people come out of the dust of the earth?

**A** Yes, but that same dust language was already used in Isaiah and Ezekiel to describe covenant death, not literal dirt, Isaiah 26:19; Ezekiel 37:12.

**Q** What about the phrase tombs were opened in Matthew 27?

**A** That language matches the prophetic pattern already established, showing a covenant shift taking place in Jerusalem, not a worldwide physical resurrection, Ezekiel 37:12; Daniel 12:2.

**Q** If resurrection already happened, why do people still physically die?

**A** Because the resurrection the Bible focuses on is deliverance from covenant death, not the end of biological death, John 11:25-26.

**Q** What does it mean that death was swallowed up in victory?

**A** It means the power of death under the Law was removed through Christ, not that physical death ceased, 1 Corinthians 15:56; Romans 7:9-11.

**Q** Why does Paul say flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom?

**A** Because he's talking about the old covenant condition, not physical flesh, the kingdom required transformation into the new

covenant life, 1 Corinthians 15:50; Galatians 4:29-31.

**Q** Is the resurrection connected to the end of the age?

**A** Yes, the resurrection is tied to the end of the old covenant age, which Jesus said would happen in that generation, Matthew 24:3, 34.

**Q** How do we know this wasn't pushed into our future?

**A** Because every time reference places it in the first century, including Paul saying we shall not all sleep, 1 Corinthians 15:51.

**Q** What does it mean that we are already seated with Christ?

**A** It means we've already been raised into covenant life and position with Him, this is present reality, not future hope, Ephesians 2:6.

**Q** Why is this teaching so hard for people to accept?

**A** Because tradition has trained people to think physically instead of letting the Bible define its own language, Mark 7:13.

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

© Fulfilled Prophecies - Dan Maines.

## **Source Index**

† Ezekiel 37:1-5, 11-13; Isaiah 26:19; Daniel 12:2; Matthew 27:52-53; John 5:25-29; 1 Corinthians 15:44-46, 51-52, 54-55; Ephesians 2:1-6

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3; Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book 5

Share on Facebook

## Links

Facebook Link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/2016047439283387/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

---

**You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.**