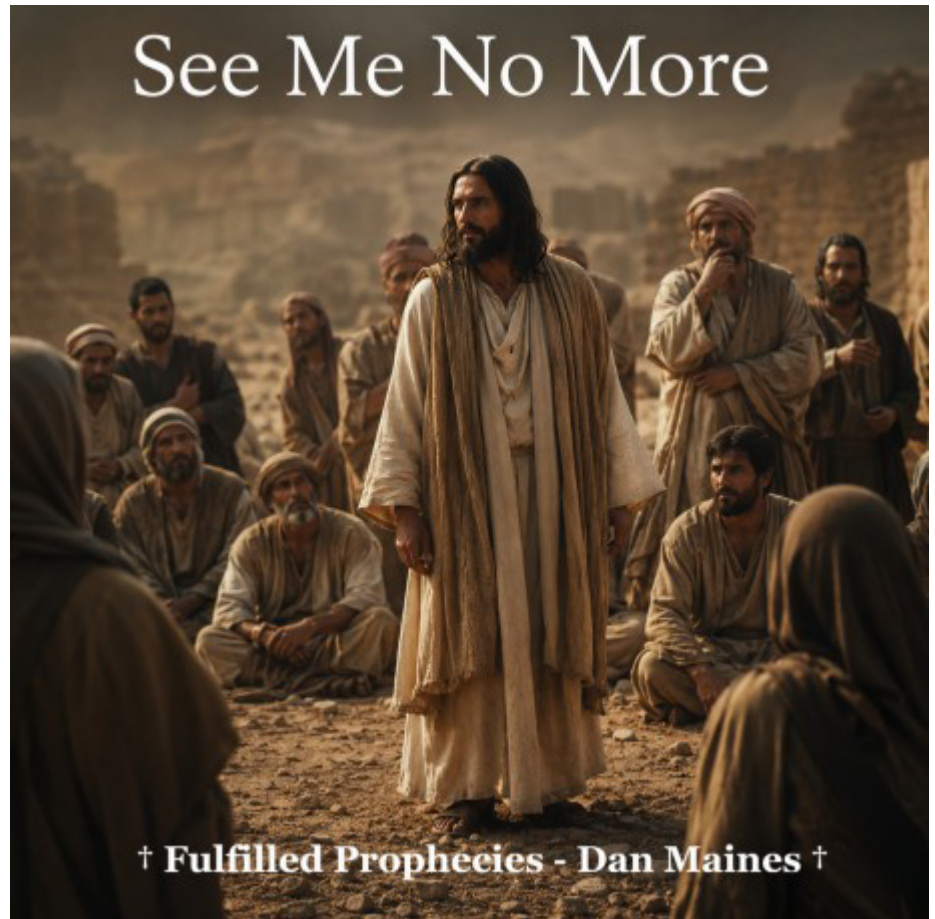


# Fulfilled Prophecies

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By Dan Maines

**See Me No More**

## Introduction

† Jesus spoke a profound truth to His disciples shortly before the cross. He told them there was coming a time when the world would no longer see Him, but His followers would continue seeing Him in a completely different way. Not by physical sight, but by spiritual revelation through the indwelling presence of Christ.

† Much of modern Christianity still waits for Jesus to physically appear to the world again, but Jesus Himself taught that His presence and kingdom would no longer be recognized through fleshly observation. The fulfilled perspective understands that Christ returned in covenant judgment and now dwells spiritually in His people. (John 14:23, Luke 17:20-21)

† The New Covenant relationship is not based on seeing with natural eyes. It's based on faith, revelation, and the Spirit of God dwelling within believers. (2 Corinthians 5:7, 1 Corinthians 2:10-14)

### **John 14:19-20**

19 After a little while, the world no longer is going to see Me, but you are going to see Me; because I live, you also will live.

20 On that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I in you.

† Jesus plainly said the world would no longer see Him. That destroys the idea of a future worldwide visible bodily appearance to all mankind. His followers would continue seeing Him spiritually through revelation and covenant union. (John 16:16, John 17:21-23)

† Christ was describing the transition from a physical earthly ministry into a spiritual kingdom presence dwelling within His people. This is why He said, you in me, and I in you. (Colossians 1:27, Galatians 2:20)

† The phrase in that day points to the arrival of the New Covenant reality fully revealed after His coming in judgment against Jerusalem and the ending of the Old Covenant age. (Hebrews 8:13, Matthew 24:34)

## **John 16:10**

10 and regarding righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you no longer are going to see Me;

† Jesus again confirmed that after His departure they would no longer physically see Him. This fits perfectly with John 14:19 and destroys the idea of a future bodily earthly ministry visible to the world.

† Christ's relationship with His people became spiritual and covenantal through the indwelling Spirit. (John 16:13-15, Romans 8:9-11)

† The world continues searching for physical manifestations while missing the spiritual reality Christ already established in His people. (Luke 17:20-21, Colossians 1:27)

## **Luke 17:20-21**

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

† Jesus directly denied that the kingdom would arrive through outward visible observation. The Pharisees expected physical signs, political power, and earthly dominance, but Christ revealed a spiritual kingdom. (John 18:36, Romans 14:17)

† The kingdom isn't located in earthly buildings, physical Jerusalem, or a visible throne on earth. Christ Himself is the

kingdom manifested within His people. (Ephesians 3:17, Colossians 1:13)

† This completely destroys modern expectations of a future earthly millennial kingdom centered in physical Jerusalem. Jesus already explained that His kingdom would not come with outward observation. (Luke 21:20-24, Revelation 21:1-3)

### **Matthew 24:26-27**

26 So if they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go out; or, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe them. 27 For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.

† Jesus warned believers not to chase after physical claims of His presence. He said do not go out there and do not believe them. That warning still applies today. (Luke 17:22-24)

† His coming was not about physically standing in one earthly location. It was covenant judgment power revealed across the known world against apostate Israel. (Matthew 24:30-34, Revelation 1:7)

† Lightning represents sudden visibility and unmistakable judgment language used throughout the Old Testament concerning divine visitations. (Isaiah 29:6, Psalm 97:2-4)

### **Acts 1:9-11**

9 And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were watching, and a cloud took Him up, out of their sight. 10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, then behold, two men in white clothing stood beside

them, 11 and they said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

† The angels did not say every human on earth would physically watch Jesus descend back onto the planet. The phrase in like manner points back to biblical cloud-coming judgment language used throughout the Old Testament. (Isaiah 19:1, Daniel 7:13)

† Jesus ascended into the cloud of God's presence and returned in covenant judgment exactly as He promised within that generation. (Matthew 24:30-34, Revelation 1:7)

† Throughout Scripture, clouds often symbolized divine presence and judgment rather than literal bodily appearances visible to all mankind. (Psalm 104:3, Isaiah 19:1)

## **2 Corinthians 5:16**

16 Therefore from now on we recognize no one by the flesh; even though we have known Christ by the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer.

† Paul explained that believers no longer relate to Christ through physical sight or fleshly understanding. The relationship changed under the New Covenant. (John 20:29, Romans 8:9)

† Christ is now known spiritually through the indwelling Holy Spirit. This is exactly what Jesus promised in John 14. (John 14:16-18, Ephesians 3:16-17)

† The church today doesn't walk with Jesus physically as the apostles once did. We know Him through faith, revelation, and spiritual union. (1 Peter 1:8, Hebrews 11:1)

## **Matthew 16:17**

17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

† True understanding of Christ has always come by revelation from the Father, not merely through physical sight or human reasoning. (1 Corinthians 2:14, Galatians 1:11-12)

† Many physically saw Jesus during His earthly ministry and still rejected Him because spiritual blindness cannot be healed by physical sight alone. (John 12:37-40, Matthew 13:13-15)

† The fulfilled perspective understands Christ through revealed covenant truth, not through future speculation based on physical expectations. (Luke 24:44-47, Revelation 22:6-7)

## **1 Corinthians 2:9-10**

9 but just as it is written:

"THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,  
AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HUMAN HEART,  
ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

10 For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

† The things of God are spiritually revealed, not physically observed. The world searches with natural eyes while believers

understand through the Spirit. (Romans 8:5-6, John 6:63)

† The New Covenant kingdom was hidden from worldly wisdom and only revealed to those born of the Spirit. (John 3:3-6, Colossians 2:2-3)

† Christ in us is the mystery once hidden but now revealed to His saints. (Colossians 1:26-27)

### **Colossians 3:3**

3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

† The believer's relationship with Christ is now hidden from worldly sight because it's spiritual, not physical. The world cannot see what has been spiritually revealed to those in Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:14, Romans 8:6-8)

† Our true life and kingdom identity are found in spiritual union with Christ rather than earthly visibility. (Ephesians 2:4-6, Philippians 3:20)

† This hidden relationship explains why unbelievers continue searching for outward signs while believers already experience His presence inwardly. (Luke 17:21, John 14:23)

### **John 14:23**

23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will follow My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling with him.

† Jesus promised that He and the Father would dwell within believers. This is covenant presence language fulfilled through the Spirit. (2 Corinthians 6:16, Ephesians 2:19-22)

† The dwelling place of God is no longer a physical temple made with hands. God's temple is His people. (Acts 7:48-50, 1 Corinthians 3:16)

† Christ already returned to dwell among His covenant people through the completed New Covenant kingdom. (Revelation 21:2-3, Hebrews 12:22-24)

## **Luke 17:22**

22 And He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it.

† Jesus warned the disciples not to chase physical appearances or rumors concerning His presence. His kingdom would not operate through visible earthly manifestations. (Matthew 24:23-27)

† Believers today don't need to search the skies or travel the world looking for Christ because He already dwells within His people. (Romans 10:6-8, Colossians 1:27)

† The fulfilled kingdom is a present spiritual reality, not a postponed earthly system waiting to arrive. (Hebrews 12:28, Ephesians 1:19-23)

## **Historical References**

† Eusebius wrote that the destruction of Jerusalem fulfilled the words of Christ concerning judgment upon that generation.

Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3.

† Clement of Alexandria taught that believers know Christ spiritually through divine revelation and inward transformation. Clement of Alexandria, Stromata, Book 5.

† Justin Martyr described the church as the true people in whom God's promises and kingdom were fulfilled spiritually through Christ. Justin Martyr, Dialogue With Trypho.

† Irenaeus repeatedly connected the indwelling presence of Christ with the New Covenant people of God rather than an earthly kingdom system. Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book 5.

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

† We don't need to wait for Christ to become present because He already dwells within His people through the Spirit.

† We aren't called to chase signs, rumors, or physical appearances of Jesus. We're called to walk by faith and spiritual understanding. (2 Corinthians 5:7)

† The kingdom isn't future, distant, or earthly. It's the present reign of Christ within His people. (Luke 17:21)

† Believers today can live confidently knowing Christ is with us now and that we already dwell in His kingdom. (Colossians 1:13, Hebrews 12:28)

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q:** Why doesn't the world see Jesus today?

**A:** Jesus said the world would behold Him no more because His presence would no longer be revealed physically. Only believers see Him through faith and the Spirit. (John 14:19, 1

Peter 1:8)

**Q:** Is Jesus physically living somewhere on earth right now?

**A:** No. Christ reigns spiritually at the right hand of the Father and dwells within His people through the Spirit. (Ephesians 1:20-23, Colossians 1:27)

**Q:** What does it mean that Christ lives in us?

**A:** It means believers are spiritually united with Christ under the New Covenant and share in His life and kingdom now. (Galatians 2:20, John 14:23)

**Q:** Should Christians still look for a visible earthly kingdom?

**A:** No. Jesus said the kingdom does not come with outward observation because it's a spiritual kingdom already established in His people. (Luke 17:20-21)

**Q:** How do believers see Jesus today?

**A:** We see Him through faith, revelation, Scripture, and the indwelling Spirit, not through physical sight. (2 Corinthians 5:16, 1 Corinthians 2:10)

**Q:** Didn't Acts 1:11 say Jesus would return the same way He left?

**A:** Yes. The language refers to covenant cloud-coming judgment imagery consistent with the Old Testament prophets. God repeatedly came on clouds in judgment without physically appearing on earth. (Isaiah 19:1, Daniel 7:13, Matthew 24:30)

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

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## Source Index

† John 14:19-20, John 16:10, Luke 17:20-22, Matthew 24:26-27, Acts 1:9-11, 2 Corinthians 5:16, Matthew 16:17, 1 Corinthians 2:9-10, Colossians 3:3, John 14:23

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3; Clement of Alexandria, Stromata, Book 5; Justin Martyr, Dialogue With Trypho; Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book 5

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