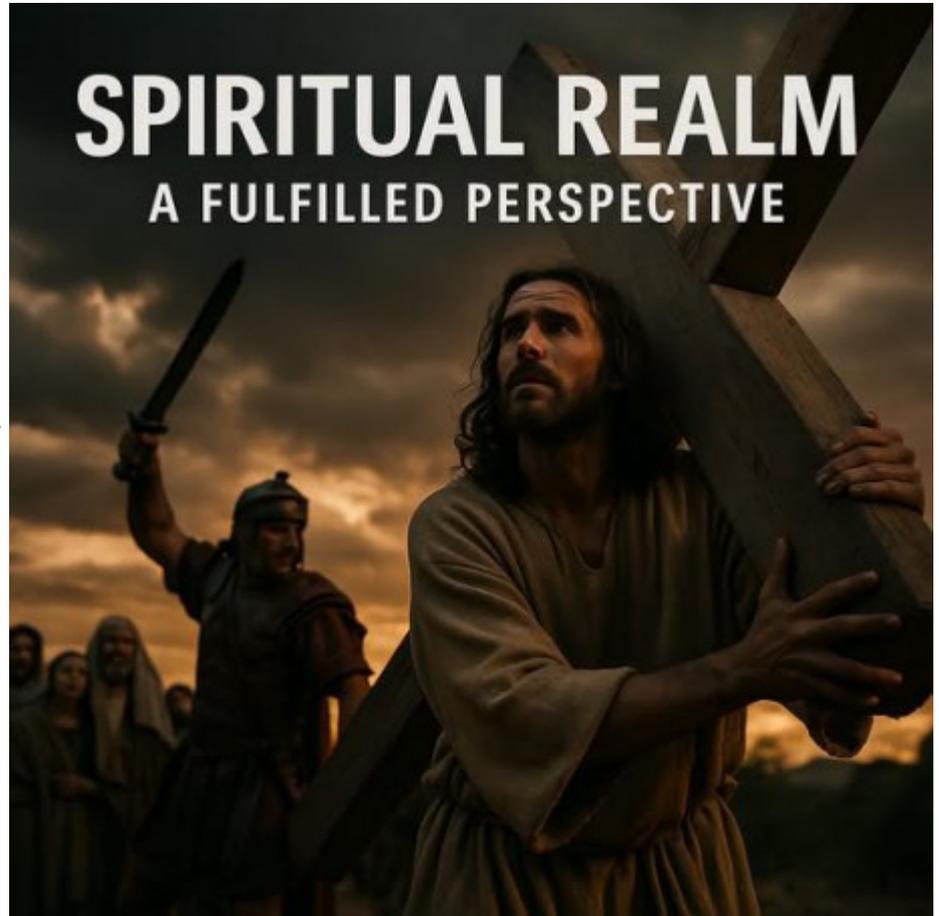


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Spiritual Realm – A Fulfilled Perspective



By Dan Maines

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Introduction

The Bible reveals that there is more to reality than what our eyes can see. We live in a physical world of matter and senses, yet Scripture declares the presence of an unseen, immaterial realm that is every bit as real. Some even question the reality of the material universe, but God's Word calls us to look beyond what is visible and recognize the spiritual dimension that surrounds and influences us.

† The unseen world is not a vague idea; it is as real and lasting

as God Himself.

† Physical evidence can fade, but spiritual truth endures forever.

† Our daily lives are shaped by this greater reality even when we fail to notice.

The Nature of the Spiritual Realm

God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth (John 4:24). The unseen is His dwelling place, eternal and unshakable (Hebrews 12:22-24).

Angels serve as "ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation" (Hebrews 1:14). Humanity was created in God's image, bearing a spiritual nature designed for fellowship with Him (Genesis 1:27). Every person is more than flesh and blood. Ecclesiastes 12:7 reminds us that when we die "the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it."

† We are more than physical beings; our spirits connect us to the unseen realm and are meant for eternal communion with our Creator.

† Angels remain active, carrying out God's will and ministering to those who belong to Him.

† Our identity as image bearers means our destiny is tied to the spiritual realm, not limited to earthly existence.

The Purity of Heaven

Revelation 12:10-11 declares that the accuser was cast down and the saints overcame "because of the blood of the Lamb." Hebrews 9:23-24 shows that Christ entered heaven itself "now to appear in the presence of God for us," after the true tabernacle was purified.

Revelation 21:27 promises that "nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life." Psalm 103:19 affirms, "The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules over all."

† Christ's sacrifice removed every trace of rebellion from the

heavenly sanctuary.

† Heaven now reflects the fullness of God's holiness, free from any defilement or enemy.

† The triumph of the cross guarantees that God's dwelling is forever secure for His people.

† The true Israel, the New Jerusalem, is the redeemed people of God already gathered in this spiritual realm where Christ reigns.

† Jesus declared, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth" (Matthew 28:18), confirming His present rule over the purified realm.

The Reality of the Unseen

Paul wrote, "We look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:18).

Faith itself is defined as "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

† What cannot be measured by human senses is often the most enduring.

† Faith allows us to live with confidence in realities beyond sight or touch.

† The invisible world of God's presence gives meaning to every visible moment.

Testimony that Cannot Be Ignored

Jesus declared, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world" (John 8:23).

On the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus spoke with Moses and Elijah, men long departed from earthly life (Matthew 17:1-3).

When Elisha prayed, "O Lord, open his eyes that he may see," the servant suddenly saw "the mountain full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha" (2 Kings 6:17).

† Generations of witnesses testify that God breaks into the natural realm to reveal His glory.

† These encounters point to a spiritual dimension interacting

with history.

† The consistency of these accounts across centuries confirms the reality of the unseen.

From Struggle to Victory

In the first century, Paul wrote that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12). Colossians 2:15 proclaims that Jesus "disarmed the rulers and authorities" and made a public spectacle of them at the cross. Hebrews 9:23-24 and Revelation 12:10-11 show that the heavenly sanctuary was purified and the accuser was cast down.

Revelation 21:27 confirms that in the New Jerusalem "nothing unclean" can enter.

† Paul's warning described the intense spiritual conflict of his generation before Christ's victory was fully revealed.

† The cross and the judgment of AD 70 brought the final removal of evil from the heavenly realm.

† Today we resist sin on earth, but heaven itself is free from any power of darkness.

† "Then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet" (1 Corinthians 15:24-25), showing His continuing reign until every enemy was fully subdued.

Living with Spiritual Awareness

We are urged to "walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). We set our minds "on the things above, not on the things that are on earth" (Colossians 3:2).

Hebrews 12:28 assures us that we "receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken," inviting us to serve God with gratitude and awe.

† Daily life takes on eternal value when we keep our focus on the unseen.

† Prayer, worship, and obedience link us to God's active kingdom.

† Confidence in Christ's finished work gives peace no earthly event can shake.

† The old covenant system was "becoming obsolete and growing old" and was "ready to disappear" (Hebrews 8:13), confirming the end of the former age.

Application for Today

The kingdom of God has come (Luke 17:20-21). Christ reigns and the heavens are clean. Our prayers matter, our obedience matters, and our fellowship with the Father continues without hindrance.

† We live securely in a purified spiritual reality where Christ is King.

† Every act of love and faith participates in His eternal reign.

† Our hope is not in what we see but in the unshakable kingdom already present.

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

Source Index

Genesis 1:27; Ecclesiastes 12:7; Psalm 103:19; 2 Kings 6:17; John 4:24; John 8:23; Matthew 17:1-3; 2 Corinthians 4:18; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Colossians 3:2; Colossians 2:15; Ephesians 6:12; Hebrews 1:14; Hebrews 8:13; Hebrews 9:23-24; Hebrews 11:1; Hebrews 12:22-24,28; Matthew 28:18; 1 Corinthians 15:24-25; Revelation 12:10-11; Revelation 21:27; Luke 17:20-21

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