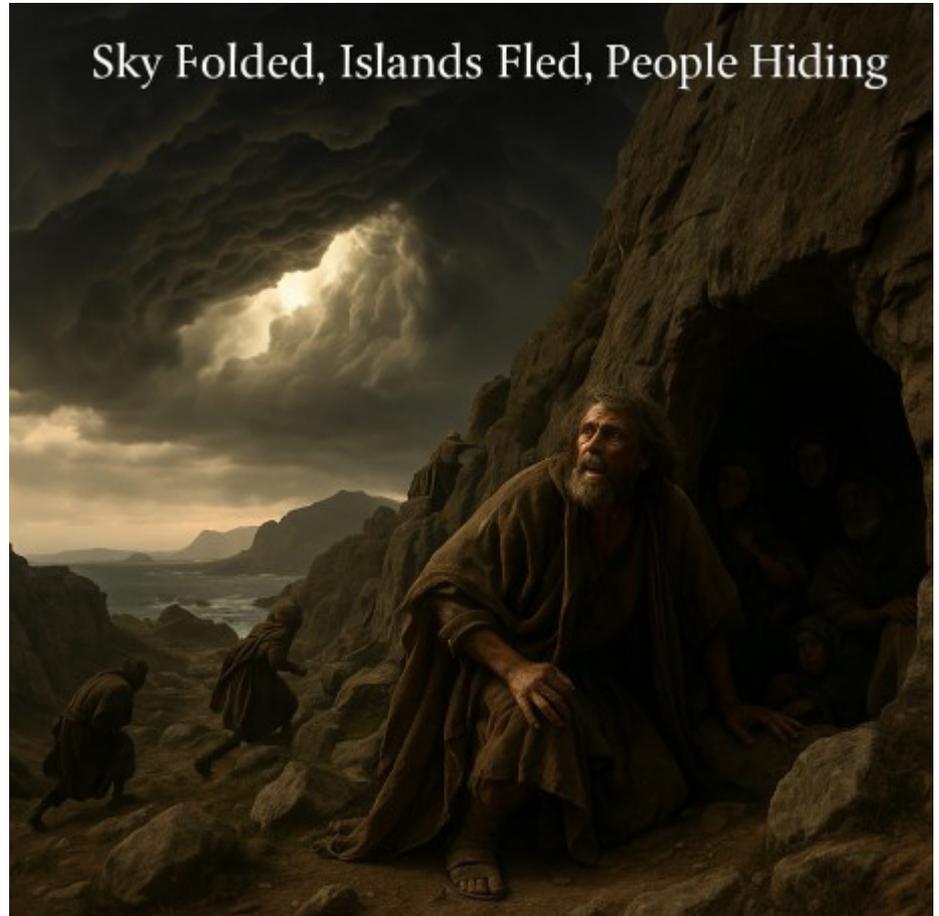


Fulfilled Prophecies

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**Judgment Series -
Sky Folded,
Islands Fled,
People Hiding**



By Dan Maines

Sky Folded, Islands Fled, People Hiding

† **Revelation 6:12-17** describes the great shaking when the Lamb opened the sixth seal. The sun became black, the moon turned blood red, the stars fell to earth, the sky rolled up like a scroll, and every mountain and island was moved. Kings, commanders, the rich and the strong hid in caves and rocks, crying for the mountains to fall on them to escape the wrath of the Lamb. This isn't the end of the physical universe, but covenantal judgment language.

† This sixth seal vision echoes Old Testament descriptions of

national collapse. The "sun, moon, and stars" often represented rulers and governing powers. Their falling portrays the overthrow of authorities in Jerusalem and the temple system.

† The people hiding show how even the most powerful couldn't stand against Christ's judgment. From Caesar down to the commoner, all were equally subject to the Lamb's wrath.

† Josephus records that during the siege of Jerusalem, terror and chaos drove many to hide in underground passages and tombs. This historical event matches the prophetic imagery of people seeking refuge in rocks and caves.

† **Isaiah 34:4** shows identical imagery. When Edom was judged the prophet said, "All the host of heaven will wear away, and the sky will be rolled up like a scroll." God used cosmic language to describe the fall of a nation. Revelation borrows this pattern to describe the shaking of the Old Covenant world.

† Isaiah's prophecy against Edom was fulfilled in history, not by the literal unraveling of the universe. This proves that similar cosmic signs in Revelation also point to real earthly judgment.

† By reusing this language, John ties the destruction of Jerusalem to the same type of covenantal collapse that befell Edom. It's a warning that God judges covenant breakers the same way throughout history.

† The scroll imagery highlights the end of an era. Just as a scroll is rolled up and put away when its purpose is complete, so the Old Covenant was being closed to make way for the New.

† Isaiah 13:10 says the stars won't give their light and the sun will be dark when God judged Babylon, yet history shows Babylon fell without the literal sun or stars going dark.

† Joel 2:10 describes the earth quaking and the heavens trembling when God judged Jerusalem in earlier invasions, again showing covenantal imagery.

† Ezekiel 32:7-8 uses the same darkened-sky language for Egypt's downfall, reinforcing that this prophetic style signals national judgment, not cosmic destruction.

† **Nahum 1:5** declares that mountains quake and the earth heaves at the Lord's presence. The prophets consistently used earth-shaking symbols to portray God's judgments on nations. These descriptions pointed to real historical upheavals, not a literal tearing of the sky.

† Nahum's prophecy against Nineveh shows that when God rises to judge, creation language is used to display His power over all the earth.

† Mountains represented strongholds and kingdoms. Their quaking illustrates the collapse of human power before divine judgment.

† The consistency of this language across the prophets reinforces the truth that Revelation is describing the end of the Jewish world order, not the destruction of the planet.

† **Hebrews 12:26-28** explains the meaning. God promised to shake heaven and earth so that only the unshakable kingdom would remain. This was the transition from the Old Covenant to the everlasting New Covenant kingdom that can't be shaken.

† The writer of Hebrews quotes Haggai to show that this shaking was imminent for his first-century audience. It wasn't a distant future event.

† The "heaven and earth" to be shaken refers to the covenantal system of temple worship and priesthood, which would soon be removed.

† The unshakable kingdom is Christ's reign, established at His ascension and fully revealed when the old order fell in AD 70.

† Early church writers like Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria, and others mention that John wrote Revelation during Nero's reign or shortly after, which places it before AD 70.

† Revelation repeatedly refers to the temple as still standing (Revelation 11:1-2), which makes the most sense if the temple hadn't yet been destroyed.

† The repeated statements that these things would happen "soon" and that "the time is near" (Revelation 1:1, 3) support a first-century fulfillment rather than a prophecy thousands of

years in the future.

† Roman records tell of cities fleeing to caves during invasions, mirroring Revelation's picture of people hiding from God's wrath. History confirms that during the Jewish War and Rome's campaigns, the land shook with terror and multitudes hid in caves and fortresses.

† Tacitus describes how panic swept the region as Roman armies advanced, and how many sought refuge in mountains and underground places.

† Josephus details how rebels and citizens alike hid in tunnels and caves as Jerusalem burned, fulfilling the vision of people crying to the mountains and rocks.

† This historical evidence shows that the prophecy wasn't only symbolic but also witnessed in dramatic reality during the fall of Jerusalem.

† This passage points to the AD 70 judgment that ended the Old Covenant age. The "sky" represented the covenantal heavens, the ruling powers and priestly system that were folded away. The "islands" and "mountains" symbolized nations and authorities that fled before the coming kingdom of Christ.

† The destruction of the temple marked the end of the sacrificial system, proving that Christ's sacrifice alone stands.

† The flight of islands and mountains shows that no earthly power, near or far, could stand when God judged His covenant people.

† These events confirmed Jesus' own words in Matthew 24, where He promised that all these things would happen within that generation.

How it applies to us today

† We stand in the unshakable kingdom. No power of earth or heaven can remove what Christ has established. The same God who shook the old order secures our place in His everlasting reign. Our call is to live as citizens of this kingdom, steadfast and unafraid.

† Knowing that God keeps His promises strengthens our confidence. He judged when He said He would, proving His faithfulness and His control over history.

† We can face modern upheavals without fear, knowing that our hope rests in a kingdom that can't be moved.

† Our mission is to proclaim this fulfilled work, inviting others to the security and peace found only in Christ.

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

Source Index

† Revelation 6:12-17; Isaiah 34:4; Isaiah 13:10; Joel 2:10; Ezekiel 32:7-8; Nahum 1:5; Hebrews 12:26-28

† Revelation 11:1-2; Revelation 1:1, 3

† Josephus, Jewish War 6; Tacitus, Histories 5; Early testimonies of Irenaeus and Clement of Alexandria

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