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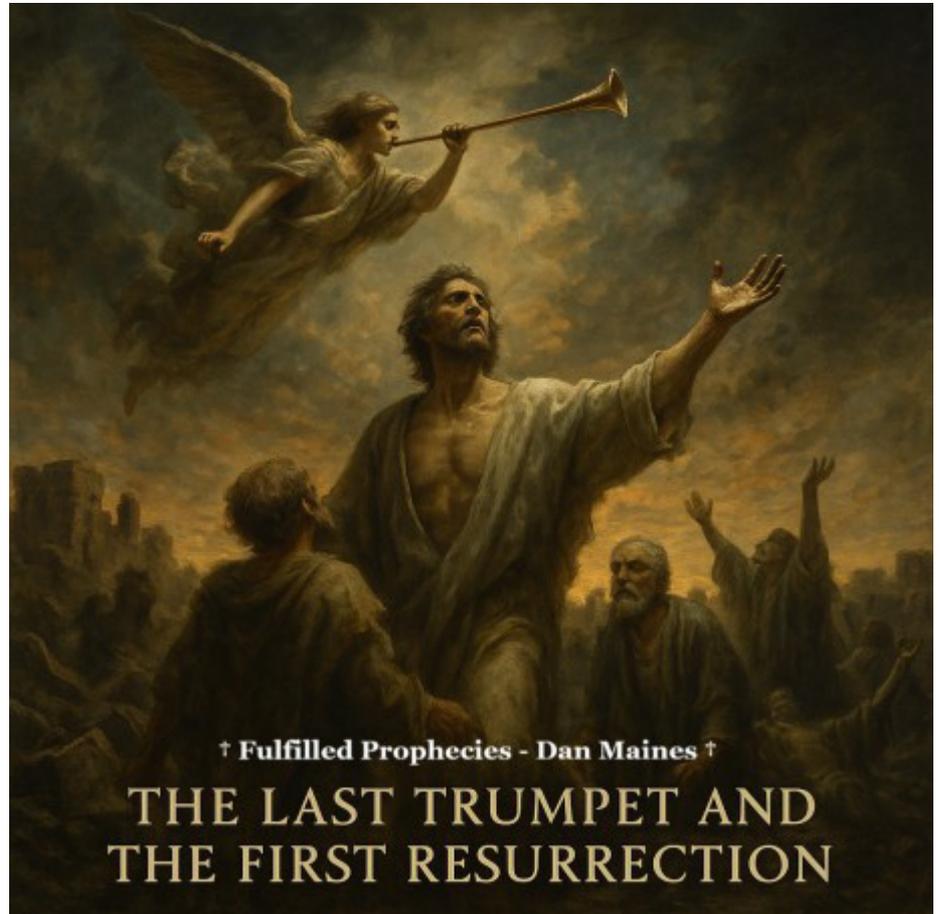
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## Resurrection - The Last Trumpet and the First Resurrection



By Dan Maines

### The Last Trumpet and the First Resurrection

#### 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, 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 reveals a mystery that was about to take place, not thousands of years in the future. The phrase "we will not all sleep" shows that some of his audience would remain alive to

witness this change.

† The "last trumpet" corresponds to the seventh trumpet of Revelation 11:15, signaling the completion of God's redemptive plan and the judgment of the old world.

† The dead being raised refers to those under the old covenant who were awaiting resurrection into the new kingdom.

† The living being changed refers to believers in the first century being transferred from the mortal body of the old covenant to the immortal life of the new.

### **1 Corinthians 15:53-54**

For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory."

† The change described is covenantal and spiritual, not biological. It is the exchange of the perishable old covenant body for the imperishable body of Christ.

† Death was swallowed up in victory when the power of the Law, the ministry of death, was destroyed.

† The old covenant world was mortal because it stood condemned under sin, but the new covenant is immortal, eternal in the heavens.

† This fulfillment took place when all things written were completed in AD 70, and death's dominion was ended.

### **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

† This passage mirrors the imagery of covenantal transition, not physical levitation. The "clouds" signify divine presence, just as in Exodus and Daniel 7.

† The Lord's descent symbolizes judgment and covenantal visitation, fulfilling the same "coming" described by Jesus in Matthew 24:30.

† The "dead in Christ" rising first represents those faithful saints who had died before Christ's victory, now raised into His completed kingdom.

† The "we who are alive" refers to first-century believers who remained when the Lord came in judgment on Jerusalem, entering the full presence of God.

### **Revelation 11:15**

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

† The seventh trumpet, the last trumpet, marks the point when all prophecy was fulfilled.

† The kingdom of the world becoming Christ's kingdom shows the transfer of authority from the old to the new covenant order.

† This is not a future political event but a spiritual reality inaugurated in Christ and revealed in full at Jerusalem's destruction.

† The reign of Christ continues forever, for His kingdom has no end.

### **Revelation 11:18**

And the nations were enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth.

† The timing of the resurrection is tied to the fall of the great city, the old covenant Jerusalem.

† The judgment of the dead and the rewarding of the saints occurred together, the complete fulfillment of Daniel 12:2.

† This judgment was not universal annihilation but covenantal transition, removing the corrupt system and rewarding the faithful.

† Those who destroyed the earth were those who defiled God's temple and rejected His Son.

### **Matthew 24:30-31**

And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

† This is the same trumpet Paul spoke of, the trumpet of gathering and resurrection.

† The elect gathered from the four winds are the true Israel of God, brought together into one body under Christ.

† The coming of the Son of Man in the clouds was a fulfillment of Daniel 7:13, representing authority and judgment, not a descent to earth.

† This trumpet gathering completed the first resurrection, the union of the redeemed with their King.

### **How it applies to us today**

† The last trumpet has already sounded, and the resurrection has been accomplished. We now live in the everlasting kingdom that will never pass away.

† There is no future resurrection to wait for; the dead were raised, and the living were changed when Christ's work was revealed in full.

† The curse of death has been conquered, and the life of the Spirit reigns eternally.

† Every believer today stands in the fullness of that victory, alive in the age where death no longer has dominion.

† The first resurrection opened the way for all who live by faith to walk in newness of life, seated with Christ in the heavenly places.

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

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## Source Index

† 1 Corinthians 15:51-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Revelation 11:15-18; Matthew 24:30-31

† Daniel 7:13; Daniel 12:2

† Clement of Rome, 1 Clement 24-26

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3

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