

# Fulfilled Prophecies

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## Futurists - Preterism over Futurism



By Dan Maines

### **Preterism over Futurism**

Preterism offers several advantages over Futurism when interpreting biblical prophecy. Here are some key benefits:

#### **1. Biblical Consistency**

Preterism takes Jesus' words at face value, especially time statements like *"this generation will not pass away"* (Matt. 24:34) and *"the time is near"* (Rev. 1:3). Futurists often reinterpret these statements to mean thousands of years later, creating inconsistency in how Scripture is understood.

#### **2. Historical Fulfillment**

Preterism aligns with real historical events, particularly the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70. Jesus and the apostles frequently warned of an impending judgment, which was fulfilled within the first century. This makes prophecy verifiable rather than speculative.

### **3. No Failed Expectations**

Futurist interpretations have repeatedly predicted the end of the world or Christ's return, leading to disappointment and skepticism. Preterism avoids this issue by showing that prophecy was fulfilled as promised in the first century.

### **4. Christ's Kingdom is a Present Reality**

Rather than expecting Christ to establish His reign in the future, Preterism emphasizes that He is already reigning (1 Cor. 15:25). This encourages Christians to actively live out the Gospel now rather than waiting for an earthly kingdom to come.

### **5. Encourages a Hopeful Worldview**

Futurism often fosters a pessimistic view of the world, expecting things to get worse before Jesus returns. Preterism, on the other hand, teaches that Christ's kingdom is growing and advancing, giving believers hope and motivation to be involved in transforming society for the better.

### **6. Avoids Speculation and Sensationalism**

Futurism is often tied to conspiracy theories, date-setting, and endless speculation about the Antichrist, the Mark of the Beast, and a one-world government. Preterism stays rooted in the historical and theological context of Scripture, avoiding these distractions.

### **7. Emphasizes the New Covenant Over the Old**

Futurism often looks for a rebuilt temple, renewed sacrifices, and a return to Old Testament systems. Preterism, however, recognizes that these things were fulfilled and abolished in Christ, emphasizing the superiority of the New Covenant (Hebrews 8:13).

## **8. Strengthens Christian Mission**

Since Christ's kingdom is already established, believers are encouraged to engage in spreading the Gospel and building up God's kingdom now, rather than waiting for an apocalyptic event to fix everything.

### **Conclusion:**

Preterism provides a consistent, historically grounded, and hopeful interpretation of prophecy. It keeps Jesus' words intact, prevents failed predictions, and inspires believers to actively live out their faith in the present rather than anxiously waiting for the future.

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