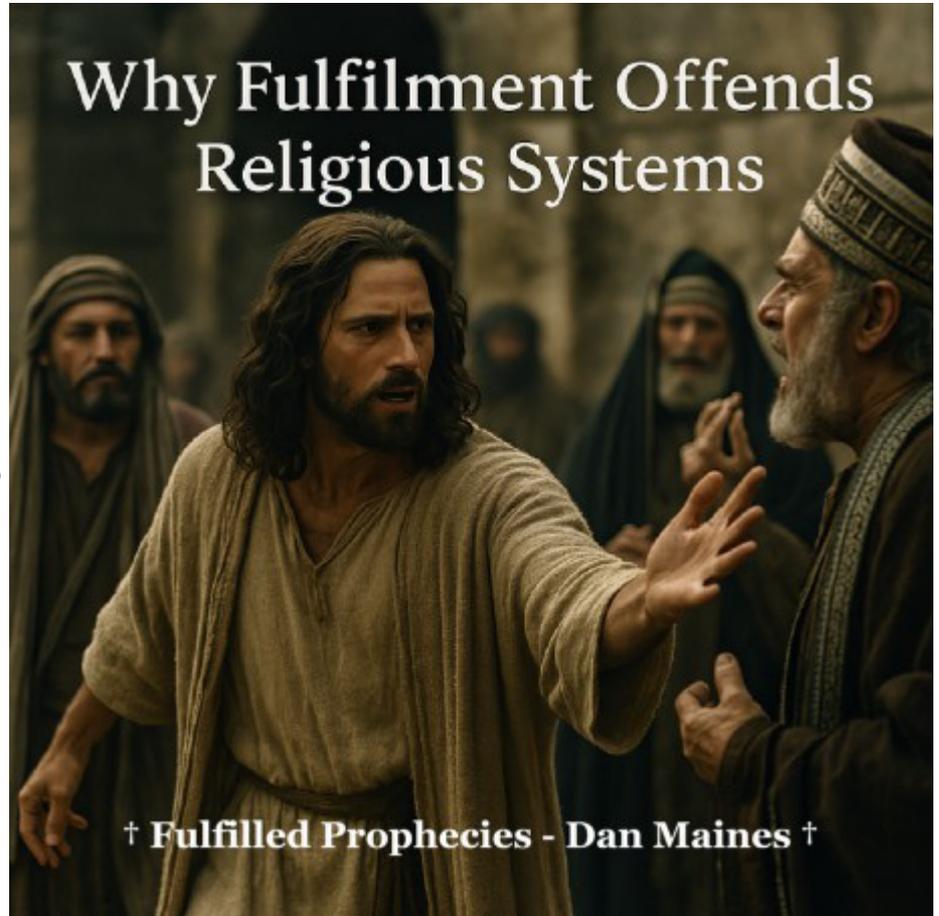


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[Fulfillment - Why Fulfillment Offends Religious Systems](#)



By Dan Maines

Why Fulfillment Offends Religious Systems

Introduction

† Fulfillment doesn't offend because it lacks Scripture. It offends because it removes leverage.

† From Genesis to Revelation, God's purpose was never to preserve religious systems. His purpose was to dwell with His people without intermediaries, fear, or delay. Fulfillment declares that what once stood between God and man has been

judged, removed, and replaced. That message threatens every system built on control, postponement, and fear.

† Jesus did not come to reform the system. He came to end it.

† God has never protected a system once it finished serving its purpose. Throughout Scripture, fulfillment always meant transition, never preservation of the old.

God Has Always Opposed Self Preserving Religious Power

† Throughout Scripture, religious leadership repeatedly resisted God's movements when authority was threatened.

John 11:47-48

Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs. If we let Him go on like this, all people will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.

† Their concern was not truth. It was survival. The temple, the priesthood, and their position depended on keeping the old system intact. Fulfillment threatened their power.

† This same reaction continues today. Futurists echo the same fear, If we let Him go on like this, all people will believe Him. And from the fulfilled perspective, that is exactly what we do.

Acts 5:38-39

So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them, or else you may even be found fighting against God.

† Religious resistance often claims to protect God while actually opposing Him.

Fulfillment Removes Future Control

† Religious systems rely on promises always being just out of reach. When fulfillment is always future, leaders retain authority by acting as gatekeepers.

Hebrews 1:1-2

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

† God is not still speaking through systems, offices, or temples. He has spoken fully in His Son. Fulfillment declares that revelation is complete, not ongoing through institutions.

† That removes leverage.

Fulfillment Eliminates Fear Based Obedience

† Many systems depend on fear of judgment, fear of missing out, fear of a coming catastrophe.

Hebrews 2:14-15

Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

† If fear of death has been destroyed, then fear can no longer be used to control obedience. Fulfillment announces freedom, not threat.

† Systems built on fear cannot survive that message.

Fulfillment Ends Sacred Buildings as God's Dwelling

† The temple was not eternal. It was temporary and prophetic.

Matthew 23:38

Behold, your house is being left to you desolate.

Matthew 24:2

Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.

† When the temple fell, the system tied to it fell with it. Fulfillment teaches that God no longer dwells in buildings made with hands.

Ephesians 2:21-22

In whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

† That truth removes the need for religious real estate as sacred ground.

Fulfillment Exposes the True Motive Behind Opposition

† When fulfillment is rejected, it's often framed as concern for doctrine, tradition, or orthodoxy. Scripture exposes the real reason.

Galatians 4:30

But what does the Scripture say? Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be an heir with the son of the free woman.

† The old must be cast out for the new to stand. Religious systems resist fulfillment because fulfillment declares the old

has no inheritance.

Fulfillment Shakes What Can Be Shaken

Hebrews 12:26-27

And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven. This expression, Yet once more, denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

† Fulfillment is the shaking. Systems built on temporary things cannot remain.

Why Fulfillment Still Offends Today

† Fulfillment offends because it declares the work is finished, the kingdom has come, the veil is gone, access is open, fear has been removed, and authority is no longer institutional.

† That message doesn't sell fear. It doesn't support hierarchy. It doesn't preserve religious monopolies.

† It sets people free.

Colossians 2:10

And in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority.

† Fulfillment doesn't leave believers empty handed, it leaves them complete.

Historical References

Justin Martyr recognized the end of the temple system as divine judgment.

Irenaeus spoke of the transition from shadow to substance in Christ.

Eusebius recorded the fall of Jerusalem as fulfillment of Jesus' words.

Josephus documented the destruction of the temple and priesthood.

Tacitus acknowledged the complete collapse of the Jewish system.

How It Applies To Us Today

† We're not called to defend systems. We're called to live as the dwelling place of God. Fulfillment doesn't produce passivity. It produces confidence, rest, and responsibility.

Hebrews 4:9-10

So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.

† We serve from rest, not fear. We live from completion, not anticipation.

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

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Source Index

† John 11:47-48; Acts 5:38-39; Hebrews 1:1-2; Hebrews 2:14-15

† Matthew 23:38; Matthew 24:2; Ephesians 2:21-22

† Galatians 4:30; Hebrews 12:26-27; Colossians 2:10; Hebrews 4:9-10

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3

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