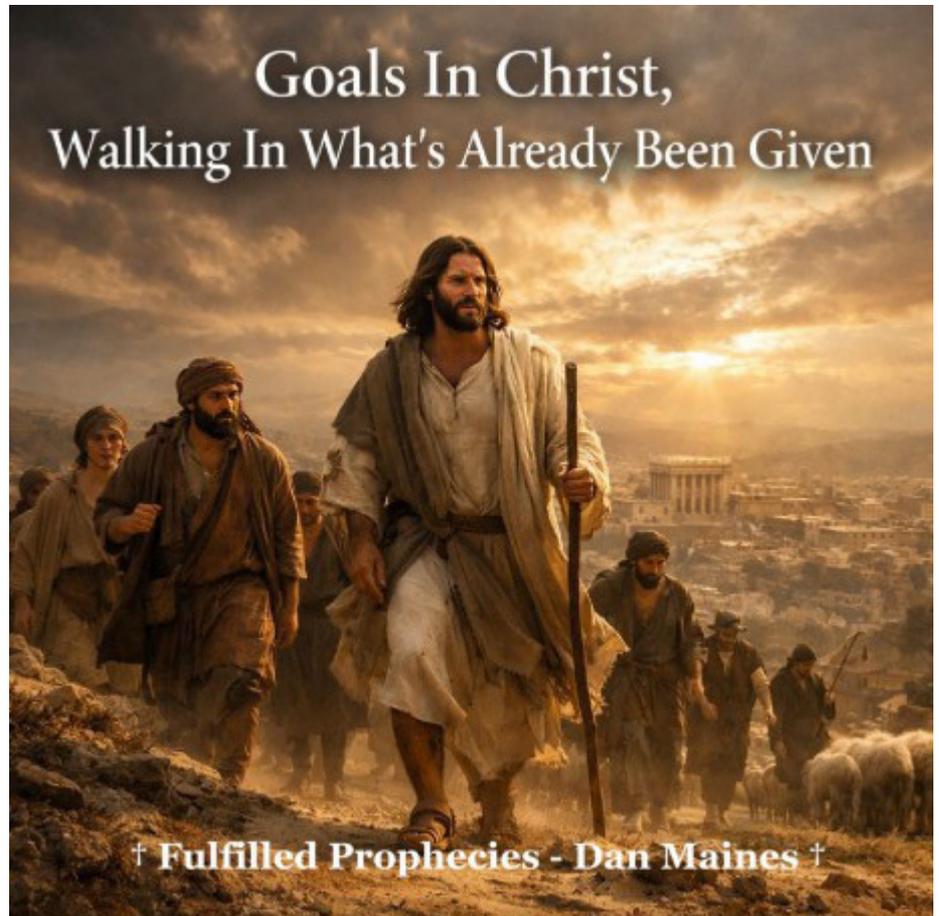


# Fulfilled Prophecies

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**In Christ - Goals In Christ, Walking In What's Already Been Given**



By Dan Maines

**Goals In Christ, Walking In What's Already Been Given**

## Introduction

† As another calendar year turns, many people talk about new beginnings, fresh starts, and setting goals, but Scripture doesn't ground our hope in dates, resolutions, or turning pages on a calendar.

† The Bible consistently points us to life in Christ as a present reality, not something waiting to begin later.

† From the fulfilled perspective, our focus for any new year isn't

becoming something new, it's walking more fully in what we've already been given in Christ.

### **Philippians 3:13-14**

Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet, but one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

† Paul isn't talking about a future heavenly relocation, he's describing faithful movement forward within the life already secured in Christ.

† Forgetting what lies behind isn't denial of the past, it's refusing to live under it.

† The goal is Christ Himself, not a better version of self or a future escape from the world.

### **Colossians 2:6-7**

Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

† Scripture doesn't say we're working toward receiving Christ, it says we've already received Him.

† Growth in Christ is described as walking, being rooted, and being built up, not starting over each year.

† Gratitude flows from understanding what's already been accomplished, not from chasing future milestones.

### **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature, the old things passed away, behold, new things have come.

† This passage doesn't point to an annual renewal, it declares a completed transformation.

† The new creation isn't tied to January first, it's tied to being in

Christ.

† Any goal we set must flow out of this identity, not try to replace it.

### **Ephesians 2:10**

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

† Good works aren't goals we invent to impress God, they're paths God already prepared.

† Our role isn't to create purpose, it's to walk in what's been prepared.

† This removes pressure and replaces it with faithfulness.

### **Lamentations 3:22-23**

The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning, great is Your faithfulness.

† God's mercies being new every morning doesn't mean history resets, it means His faithfulness never runs dry.

† This is about ongoing covenant care, not a yearly spiritual reset.

† Every day is lived in sustained mercy, not borrowed hope.

### **Hebrews 13:8**

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

† Christ doesn't change with seasons, calendars, or generations.

† Our confidence isn't found in a new year, it's found in an unchanging Lord.

† Stability in the Christian walk comes from consistency in Christ, not fresh resolutions.

## **Ecclesiastes 5:4-5**

When you make a vow to God, do not be late in paying it, for He takes no delight in fools. Pay what you vow. It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.

† Scripture places greater weight on faithful obedience than on spoken promises.

† This directly challenges the modern habit of making spiritual vows tied to dates.

† God values steady faithfulness over emotional commitments.

## **Historical References**

† Clement of Alexandria taught that the Christian life is a continual walk in divine instruction, not a cycle of spiritual restarts.

† Irenaeus emphasized that believers live out what Christ has already accomplished, rather than striving toward unfinished redemption.

† Augustine wrote that growth in Christ is the ordering of love, not the invention of new spiritual identities.

† Eusebius affirmed that Christ's redemptive work was completed and manifested in the apostolic age, calling believers to live in that realized victory.

## **How It Applies To Us Today**

† As we enter a new calendar year, our focus shouldn't be reinventing ourselves but aligning our lives with who we already are in Christ.

† Goals in Christ look like faithfulness, maturity, gratitude, and walking in prepared works, not pressure or fear of failure.

† Maturity in Christ is measured by consistency over time, not by yearly spiritual resets.

† We're not starting over, we're continuing forward in a finished work, learning to live consistently with what's already true.

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

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## Source Index

† Philippians 3:13-14; Colossians 2:6-7; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:10; Lamentations 3:22-23; Hebrews 13:8; Ecclesiastes 5:4-5

† Clement of Alexandria; Irenaeus; Augustine; Eusebius

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