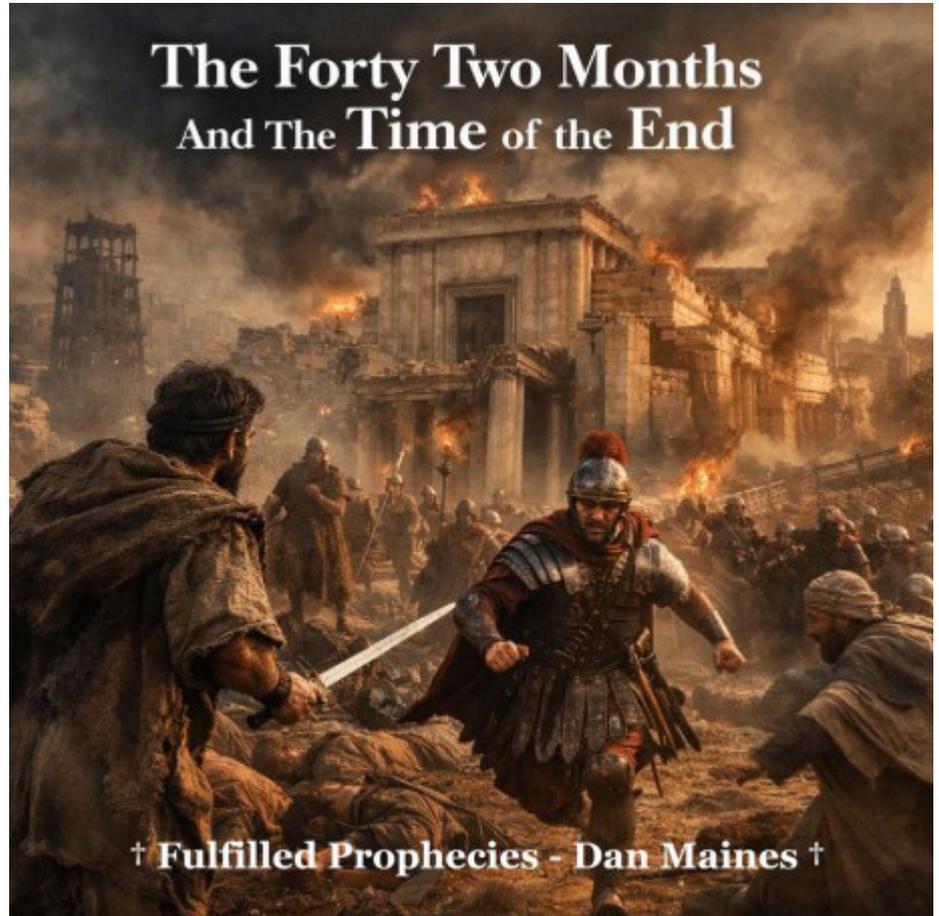


Fulfilled Prophecies

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The Forty Two Months And The Time Of The End



By Dan Maines

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Introduction

† Bible prophecy always defines its own time frame, audience, and fulfillment when Scripture is allowed to speak for itself (Isaiah 46:9-10).

† The forty two months are not symbolic of an undefined future, they are a measured period tied to covenant judgment (Luke 21:22).

† The fulfilled perspective recognizes these events as the close

of the Old Covenant age, not the end of the physical world (Hebrews 8:13).

† Scripture never leaves fulfillment open ended, God always attaches His promises and judgments to a defined generation (Deuteronomy 32:29).

† The forty two months serve as a chronological anchor, preventing speculative interpretation (Numbers 14:34).

Revelation 11:1

Then there was given to me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Get up and measure the temple of God and the altar, and those who worship in it.

† Measuring is covenant language used to mark what belongs to God and what is preserved (Ezekiel 40:3-5).

† God measures worshippers, not stones, showing this is a people centered temple (1 Corinthians 3:16).

† This separates the true covenant dwelling from what is about to be judged (Hebrews 12:22-23).

† Measuring also implies ownership, what God measures belongs to Him and is preserved through judgment (Zechariah 2:1-5).

† The focus on worshippers confirms a spiritual house, not a physical building (1 Peter 2:5).

Revelation 11:2

Leave out the courtyard which is outside the temple and do not measure it, because it has been given to the nations; and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months.

† The unmeasured court represents Old Covenant Jerusalem, now excluded from God's covenant protection (Matthew 23:38).

† Being given to the nations fulfills Jesus' warning of Gentile

trampling (Luke 21:24).

† The forty two months establishes a limited, defined judgment period (Daniel 7:25).

† Trampling language is consistently used in Scripture for covenant judgment upon Jerusalem (Isaiah 63:18).

† This trampling fulfills Jesus' prophecy that Jerusalem would fall by the sword and be led captive (Luke 19:43-44).

Daniel 12:6

And someone said to the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, "How long will it be until the end of these wonders?"

† Daniel's question is about duration, not speculation (Habakkuk 2:3).

† The wonders concern covenant judgment, not cosmic destruction (Isaiah 10:22-23).

† Scripture demands a measurable fulfillment period (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

† Daniel's question establishes that the end would be recognizable, not vague or symbolic (Amos 3:7).

† God does not answer with mystery, but with a precise time period (Daniel 12:7).

Daniel 12:7

And I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be for a time, times, and half a time; and as soon as they finish smashing the power of the holy people, all these events will be completed.

† Time, times, and a half equals three and a half years, matching the forty two months (Revelation 13:5).

† The shattering of the holy people refers to covenant authority, not ethnic extinction (Matthew 21:43).

† All these things being finished defines covenant completion (Luke 21:32).

† The oath sworn by the heavenly figure emphasizes certainty, not conditional delay (Hebrews 6:17).

† Covenant power was shattered when the Temple, priesthood, and sacrifices ended permanently (Hebrews 10:11-18).

Daniel 12:9

And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for these words will be kept secret and sealed up until the end time.

† Sealing indicates delayed fulfillment, not mystery (Isaiah 29:11).

† Time of the end refers to the end of an age, not the end of time (Matthew 24:3).

† Revelation later removes this seal because fulfillment had drawn near (Revelation 22:10).

† Sealing preserves the prophecy until its appointed season (Isaiah 8:16).

† Revelation's unsealing proves Daniel's timeline had matured (Revelation 5:1-5).

Revelation 1:1

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John,

† Shortly always means soon in time, never distant (Romans 16:20).

† The original audience was expected to recognize the urgency (James 5:8).

† This language is incompatible with a distant future fulfillment (Hebrews 10:37).

† The phrase must shortly come to pass removes all possibility of delay (Philippians 4:5).

† Prophetic imminence was meant to prepare, not confuse, the original audience (1 Peter 4:7).

Revelation 1:3

Blessed is the one who reads, and those who hear the words of the prophecy and keep the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

† At hand means near enough to respond to (Mark 1:15).

† The blessing assumes immediate relevance (Luke 11:28).

† Delay theology empties the warning of meaning (Luke 12:40).

† A distant fulfillment would nullify both warning and blessing (Matthew 24:25).

Revelation 22:10

And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.

† John is told the opposite of Daniel because the fulfillment window has arrived (Daniel 8:26).

† This confirms continuity between Daniel and Revelation (Matthew 24:15).

† The forty two months were already unfolding in history.

† The command not to seal confirms the prophecy was actionable (Revelation 22:6).

† This mirrors Jesus' warnings given before Jerusalem's fall (Matthew 24:33).

Historical References

† Josephus records the Roman siege beginning in AD 67 and ending in AD 70 (Wars of the Jews, Book 5-6).

† Tacitus confirms Jerusalem's destruction under Roman authority (Histories 5.13).

† Eusebius states the church understood these prophecies as fulfilled in that generation (Ecclesiastical History 3.5).

† Josephus records famine, internal division, and Roman encirclement exactly as Jesus described (Luke 21:20).

† Early Christians fled Jerusalem before its fall, preserving the faithful remnant (Matthew 24:16).

How It Applies To Us Today

† God's word is reliable and fulfilled exactly as promised (Joshua 21:45).

† We live in the completed New Covenant reality (Hebrews 9:15).

† Fear based futurism is replaced with confidence in fulfilled truth (John 19:30).

† Fulfilled prophecy strengthens confidence in every promise God has made (2 Corinthians 1:20).

† The kingdom we've received cannot be shaken (Hebrews 12:28).

Q & A Appendix

Q What are the forty two months?

A The three and a half year period of Jerusalem's siege (Daniel 7:25).

Q Is this the end of the physical world?

A No, it is the end of the Old Covenant age (Hebrews 8:13).

Q Why does Revelation emphasize urgency?

A Because the events were imminent for the first century audience (Luke 21:32).

Q Why is the forty two months repeated in Scripture?

A To lock the prophecy into history and prevent reinterpretation (2 Corinthians 13:1).

Q Why does futurism persist?

A Because fulfilled prophecy removes fear based control structures (Jeremiah 23:16).

Q Does Daniel connect the forty two months to resurrection language?

A Yes. Daniel places resurrection imagery at the close of the time, times, and a half, showing covenant transition rather than physical graves opening (Daniel 12:1-2; Ezekiel 37:12-14).

Q Why did Jesus say all things would be fulfilled in that generation?

A Because Daniel's sealed prophecy was reaching completion in their lifetime, not a future age (Matthew 24:34; Luke 21:22).

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

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Source Index

† Matthew 21:43; Matthew 23:38; Luke 21:20-24; Hebrews 8:13

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 5-6; Tacitus, Histories 5.13; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.5

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