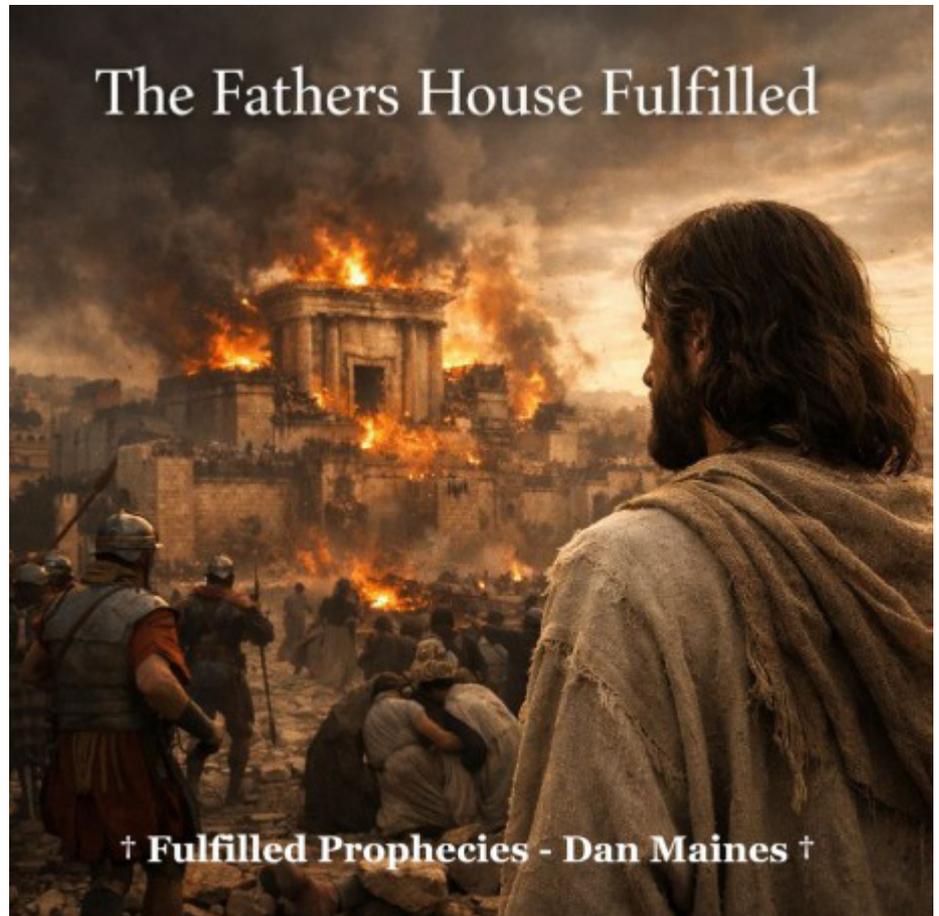


# Fulfilled Prophecies

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## The Fathers House Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

## The Fathers House Fulfilled

### Introduction

† Jesus was not comforting His disciples with the promise of real estate in the sky, He was unveiling the fulfillment of covenant access. (Hebrews 9:11-12)

† John 14 is spoken on the eve of the cross, in the shadow of the temple, using language every first century Jew would immediately recognize as covenantal and priestly. (Matthew 26:61)

† This teaching only makes sense when read through Scripture itself and through the completed work of Christ. (Luke 24:44)

† Jesus spoke these words before the cross, before the resurrection, and before the old covenant system was removed, which governs how His promise must be understood. (John 13:1; Hebrews 9:9)

### **John 14:1-3**

Do not let your heart be troubled, believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places, if it were not so, I would have told you, because I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

† The Father's house is not a location in the sky, it's God's covenant household. (Ephesians 2:19)

† Jesus is using temple language, not travel language, speaking to men who lived and worshiped under a system defined by access and restriction. (Hebrews 9:6-7)

† In Scripture, the house of God is where God dwells with His people, not a destination reached by death or flight. (Leviticus 26:11-12)

### **Psalms 23:6**

Certainly goodness and faithfulness will follow me all the days of my life, And my dwelling will be in the house of the Lord forever.

† David didn't expect to live inside a stone building forever, he spoke of covenant dwelling and fellowship. (Psalm 27:4)

† Dwelling in the house of the Lord meant living under His care, rule, and presence. (Psalm 91:1)

† This establishes the biblical meaning of God's house long before John 14. (Exodus 25:8)

## **John 2:19-21**

Jesus answered them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then the Jews said, It took forty-six years to build this temple, and yet You will raise it up in three days? But He was speaking about the temple of His body.

† Jesus identified Himself as the true temple, the true dwelling place of God. (Colossians 2:9)

† This makes it impossible to read John 14 as a promise of buildings in heaven. (Acts 17:24)

† The house of God is now centered in Christ Himself. (1 Timothy 3:15)

## **Ephesians 2:19-22**

So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of Gods household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, 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.

† Paul explicitly defines the household of God as a people, not a place. (Romans 8:15)

† The dwelling is corporate, covenantal, and present. (1 Corinthians 3:16)

† This is the fulfillment of what Jesus promised in John 14. (Hebrews 12:22-23)

† Jesus wasn't promising relocation, He was promising access. (Hebrews 10:19)

## **Galatians 3:28**

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

† The many homes are not separate physical dwellings scattered through heaven. (Romans 12:5)

† The word means abiding places, dwelling places, room within the household. (John 15:4)

† Under the old covenant, access was restricted, under the new covenant, there is room for many. (Isaiah 56:7)

### **Ephesians 3:6**

The Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

† Inclusion is the heart of this promise. (Genesis 12:3)

† Jews and Gentiles together now share equal standing before the Father. (Romans 10:12)

† This is the many dwelling places Jesus spoke of. (Hebrews 2:11)

### **John 17:21-23**

That they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. The glory which You have given Me I also have given to them, so that they may be one, just as We are one, I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and that You loved them just as You loved Me.

† This has nothing to do with omnipresence. (1 Kings 8:27)

† Believers aren't omnipresent like God. (Psalm 139:7-10)

† Unity here is covenantal unity, shared life, shared standing, shared access, not shared deity. (1 Corinthians 1:30)

† Being where Christ is means sharing His relationship with the Father, not occupying His divine nature. (Romans 8:17)

### **Hebrews 9:8**

The Holy Spirit is signifying this, that the way into the holy

places has not yet been disclosed while the first tabernacle is still standing.

† As long as the old covenant system stood, access remained limited. (Galatians 4:1-3)

† This directly explains why a place still needed to be prepared. (Hebrews 8:13)

† Preparation required the removal of the old system. (Colossians 2:14)

### **Hebrews 10:19-22**

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

† When Jesus said He was going to prepare a place, He spoke of His death, resurrection, and ascension. (Luke 9:31)

† When He said He would come again and receive them to Himself, that promise was fulfilled when the barrier was removed. (Matthew 16:27-28)

† The destruction of the temple confirmed the end of that system and the fullness of access. (Luke 21:6)

† The letter to the Hebrews was written during the final years of the temple system, addressing an imminent transition that history confirms ended in AD 70. (Hebrews 8:13)

† So the Fathers house is fulfilled. (Revelation 21:3)

† The place was prepared. (John 19:30)

† The dwelling is corporate, not geographic. (1 Peter 2:5)

† Believers don't become God, they become members of Gods household, exactly what Jesus promised. (Romans 8:16-17)

## Historical References

† Josephus records the destruction of the temple as the definitive end of the old covenant system. (Antiquities of the Jews, Book 20)

† Irenaeus spoke of the church as the dwelling place of God through Christ. (Against Heresies, Book 3)

† Eusebius identified the fall of Jerusalem as the confirmation of Christ's fulfilled promises. (Ecclesiastical History, Book 3)

## How It Applies To Us Today

† We don't wait for access, we've been given access. (Ephesians 3:12)

† We don't look for a future dwelling, we're already part of Gods household. (Hebrews 3:6)

† Our identity is covenantal, not geographic. (Philippians 3:20)

† Faith rests in what Christ finished, not in what people still expect. (Hebrews 4:3)

† This teaching gives assurance, not uncertainty, because access to the Father is grounded in what Christ finished, not in the moment of our death. (John 5:24)

† Every question about John 14 must be answered from fulfillment, not postponement, because Jesus spoke truthfully and history confirms its completion. (Matthew 24:34)

## Q & A Appendix

**Q** Does this deny heaven?

**A** No, it explains access to God through Christ, Hebrews 10:19-22.

**Q** Does this mean believers become God?

**A** No, believers become members of Gods household, Ephesians 2:19.

**Q** Was this promise fulfilled in the first century?

**A** Yes, the removal of the old covenant system confirmed it, Hebrews 9:8.

**Q** Did Jesus promise individual homes for believers in heaven?

**A** No, Jesus promised access within the Father's household, fulfilled through His work, not separate physical dwellings, Ephesians 2:19-22; Hebrews 10:19-22.

**Q** Does being where Christ is mean believers share His divine nature?

**A** No, believers share covenant relationship and inheritance, not deity, Romans 8:17; John 17:22-23.

**Q** Was the coming again of Christ a physical return to establish access?

**A** No, access was established through His completed work and confirmed with the removal of the old covenant system, Hebrews 9:8; Matthew 24:34.

**Q** Why was the destruction of the temple necessary for this promise to be fulfilled?

**A** Because the standing temple represented restricted access, which had to be removed for full covenant access to be realized, Hebrews 8:13; Luke 21:6.

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

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## **Source Index**

† John 14:1-3; Psalm 23:6; John 2:19-21; Ephesians 2:19-22; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 3:6; John 17:21-23; Hebrews 9:8; Hebrews 10:19-22

† Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews; Irenaeus, Against Heresies; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

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