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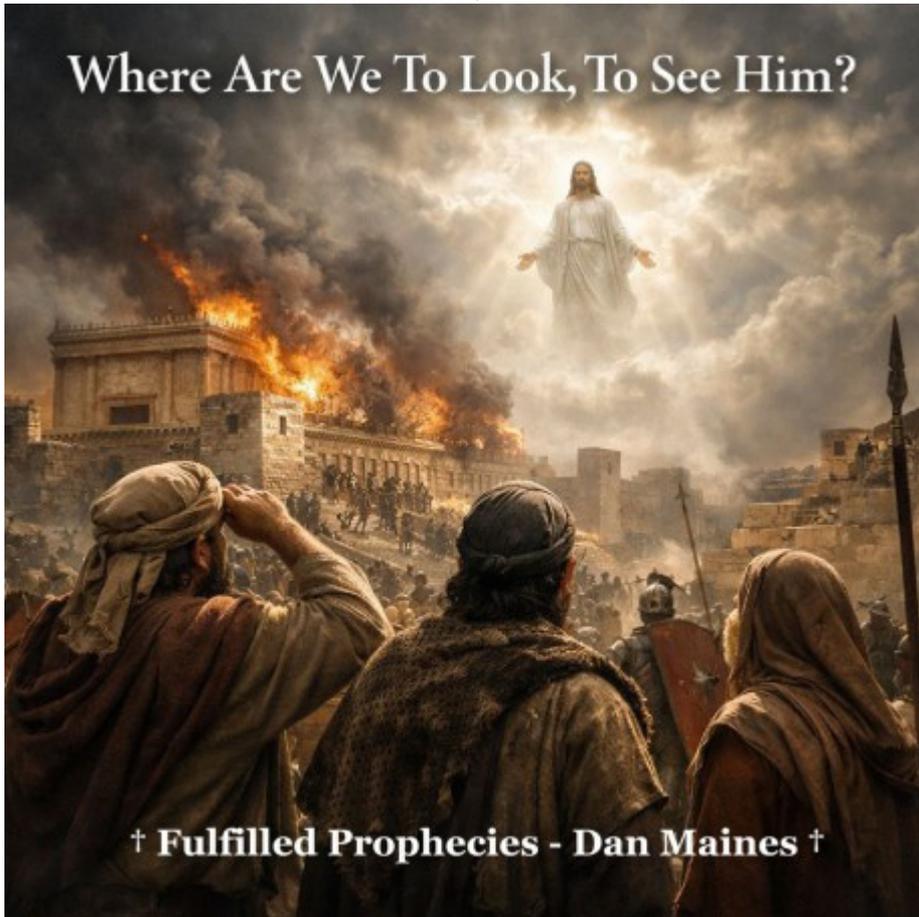
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Where Are We To Look, To See Him?



By Dan Maines

Where Are We To Look, To See Him?

Introduction

Where are we to look, to see Him?

Where He is?

For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," where?

In our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

† Scripture defines knowing God as something that comes by revelation, not by searching outwardly (2 Corinthians 4:6).

† The Bible consistently places understanding in what God reveals, not in what man observes (Matthew 11:27).

† The question of seeing Christ is answered by where God shines His light (Ephesians 1:17-18).

2 Corinthians 4:6

For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

† Paul explicitly says God shines in our hearts, identifying the location of revelation (2 Corinthians 4:6).

† The comparison to creation shows this knowledge is an act of God, not human discovery (Genesis 1:3; 2 Corinthians 4:6).

† Knowledge of God is tied to Christ Himself, not signs or phenomena (John 1:18).

† This verse defines how God reveals Himself, by illumination (Ephesians 1:18).

Galatians 1:15-16

But when He who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace was pleased to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood,

† Paul plainly states Christ was revealed in him, not externally to him (Galatians 1:16).

† He contrasts revelation with information received from men (Galatians 1:12).

† Flesh and blood are excluded as sources of understanding (Matthew 16:17).

† Apostolic authority rests on revelation, not tradition (1 Corinthians 2:12).

2 Thessalonians 1:10

when He comes to be glorified among His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed-because our testimony to you was believed.

† The verse defines where Christ is glorified, in His saints (2 Thessalonians 1:10).

† Belief is the condition given for admiration of His glory (John 11:40).

† Paul ties Christ's coming to glorification, not to visible movement (Colossians 1:27).

† Faith is the means by which His glory is known (Hebrews 11:6).

2 Peter 1:19

And so we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

† Peter directs believers to the prophetic word, not to signs or observation (2 Peter 1:19).

† Scripture is described as a lamp that gives guidance (Psalm 119:105).

† The verse explicitly says the Morning Star rises in your hearts (2 Peter 1:19).

† Peter emphasizes paying attention, not watching events (2 Peter 1:19).

† Understanding is the result of Scripture being opened (Luke 24:45).

† Peter names the Morning Star without defining it here, so Scripture must interpret Scripture (2 Peter 1:19).

† Jesus explicitly identifies Himself as the Morning Star, removing all ambiguity about the identity (Revelation 22:16).

† The title Morning Star was already associated with the Messiah in prophetic expectation (Numbers 24:17).

† Christ promised to give the Morning Star to believers, showing shared participation in His life and victory (Revelation 2:28).

† Peter's statement that the Morning Star rises in your hearts aligns with Christ being revealed within believers, not observed externally (Colossians 1:27; 2 Corinthians 4:6).

Revelation 1:12

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And after turning I saw seven golden lampstands;

† John turned to see a voice, not a physical descent (Revelation 1:12).

† Christ is seen in the midst of the lampstands, identified as churches (Revelation 1:20).

† The vision places Christ among His people (Matthew 18:20).

† The imagery is symbolic, not photographic (Revelation 1:1).

Zechariah 2:10

Shout for joy and rejoice, daughter of Zion; for behold I am coming and I will dwell in your midst," declares the LORD.

- † The promise focuses on God dwelling with His people (Zechariah 2:10).
- † Scripture defines God's coming by covenant presence (Exodus 29:45).
- † Dwelling language points to relational nearness (Leviticus 26:11-12).
- † This promise aligns with later teaching of indwelling (John 14:23).

John 14:19-20

After a little while, the world no longer is going to see Me, but you are going to see Me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I in you.

- † Jesus contrasts the world's inability to see with the disciples' ability (John 14:19).
- † The knowing described is relational knowledge (John 17:3).
- † Mutual indwelling is stated explicitly (John 14:20).
- † Life is given as the reason for this knowing (John 14:19).

Luke 17:22

And He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it.

- † Jesus directly denies observation as the means of recognizing the Kingdom (Luke 17:20).
- † Visibility is contrasted with understanding (Luke 17:21).
- † The Kingdom is defined spiritually (Romans 14:17).
- † Christ rules by truth, not spectacle (John 18:36).

Matthew 16:17

And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

† Revelation is attributed to God alone (Matthew 16:17).

† Human ability is excluded (1 Corinthians 2:14).

† The statement explains how Peter knew, not what he saw (John 6:44).

† This revelation becomes the foundation of the church (Matthew 16:18).

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

but just as it is written:

"THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,
AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HUMAN HEART,
ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

† Paul contrasts human senses with divine revelation (1 Corinthians 2:9-10).

† The text says these things have been revealed (1 Corinthians 2:10).

† Revelation is the Spirit's work (John 16:13).

† Knowledge is received, not imagined (Ephesians 3:3-5).

Revelation 1:7

BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will

mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.

† Cloud language is consistently associated with divine judgment (Isaiah 19:1).

† The reference to those who pierced Him places the event within that generation (Matthew 23:35-36).

† The tribes of the land mourning matches covenant judgment language (Zechariah 12:10-14).

† John presents this as imminent fulfillment (Revelation 1:1).

† Seeing Him does not require physical sight, Scripture often uses seeing to mean recognizing the reality and effects of God's action, especially since Jesus said the world would see Him no more (John 14:19; Luke 21:20).

Hosea 8:1

Put the trumpet to your lips!

Like an eagle the enemy comes against the house of the LORD,

Because they have violated My covenant

And rebelled against My Law.

† Hosea ties judgment directly to covenant violation (Hosea 8:1).

† The eagle imagery is used for invading armies (Deuteronomy 28:49).

† The house of the Lord is identified as the covenant center under judgment (Jeremiah 7:14).

† This judgment is covenantal, not random or global (Leviticus 26:14-16).

† Scripture itself identifies the Jerusalem temple as the focal point of covenant judgment, which is why prophecy centers on its destruction.

† Jeremiah identifies the house of the Lord as the temple in Jerusalem, the place where God caused His name to dwell (Jeremiah 7:2, 7:14).

† God explicitly says He will do to that house what He did to Shiloh, which was historically destroyed, showing this is a physical, covenantal judgment on a sanctuary (Jeremiah 7:12-14).

† Jesus directly applies Jeremiah's temple judgment language to His own generation when condemning the Jerusalem temple (Matthew 21:13; Matthew 23:38).

† Jesus then foretells the temple's destruction within that generation, confirming both the target and the timing of the judgment (Matthew 24:1-2, 34).

† The Roman destruction of the temple in AD 70 matches Jeremiah's warning and Jesus' prophecy, showing Hosea's house of the Lord judgment culminated there (Luke 21:20-22).

Deuteronomy 28:37

And you will become an object of horror, a song of mockery, and an object of taunting among all the peoples where the LORD drives you.

† Moses warned Israel of this consequence (Deuteronomy 28:15, 37).

† The judgment is public and historical (Deuteronomy 29:24-25).

† The curse applies to covenant breakers (Leviticus 26:14-16).

† Jesus affirmed this same accountability (Luke 21:22).

Deuteronomy 29:24-25

All the nations will say, 'Why has the LORD done all this to this land? Why this great outburst of anger?' Then people will say, 'It is because they abandoned the covenant of the LORD, the God of their fathers, which He made with them when He brought them out of the land of Egypt.'

† Moses foretold future inquiry into Israel's destruction (Deuteronomy 29:24).

† The answer given is covenant abandonment (Deuteronomy 29:25).

† Scripture itself explains the judgment (Jeremiah 22:8-9).

† This framework governs later prophecy (Daniel 9:11).

Acts 1:11

and they said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

† The angels correct the disciples for standing and looking (Acts 1:11).

† The verse speaks of manner, not geography (Acts 1:11).

† Scripture interprets this coming through Danielic imagery (Daniel 7:13).

† Jesus had already taught fulfillment of Scripture was the key (Luke 24:44).

2 Corinthians 5:16

Therefore from now on we recognize no one by the flesh; even though we have known Christ by the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer.

† Paul states a change in how Christ is known (2 Corinthians 5:16).

† Knowing according to the flesh has ended (Romans 7:6).

† Faith defines present relationship (Galatians 2:20).

† Spiritual knowing replaces physical familiarity (John 20:29).

Hebrews 9:28

so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.

† The appearance is limited to those awaiting Him (Hebrews 9:28).

† The focus is salvation, not sacrifice (Hebrews 10:12).

† The contrast is between sin bearing and completion (Hebrews 7:27).

† The context is priestly fulfillment (Hebrews 9:24).

Colossians 1:26-27

that is, the mystery which had been hidden from the past ages and generations, but now has been revealed to His saints, to whom God willed to make known what the wealth of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles is, the mystery that is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

† Paul says the mystery has now been manifested (Colossians 1:26).

† The content of the mystery is Christ in you (Colossians 1:27).

† Glory is tied to indwelling (2 Corinthians 3:18).

† This fulfills covenant promises (Ezekiel 36:27).

Historical References

† Origen taught Christ comes continually through revelation to believers (Origen, Commentary on Matthew).

† He emphasized illumination by the Word (Origen, Homilies on Luke).

† Eusebius recorded early Christian understanding of fulfilled

judgment (Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History).

How It Applies To Us Today

† Believers live by revealed truth, not visible signs (2 Corinthians 5:7).

† Christ is known through relationship (John 17:3).

† Faith remains the means of knowing Christ (Hebrews 11:6).

† The church stands on revealed Christ (Matthew 16:18).

Q and A Appendix

Q Where are we told to look in order to understand Christ's coming.

A Scripture tells believers to pay attention to the prophetic word, which brings understanding as God opens it (2 Peter 1:19; Luke 24:45).

Q What does Scripture mean when it says every eye will see Him.

A Scripture often uses seeing to mean recognizing the reality and effects of God's actions, especially in judgment, not physical sight, and Jesus said the world would see Him no more (John 14:19; Revelation 1:7; Luke 21:20).

Q Who is the Morning Star in 2 Peter 1:19.

A Jesus identifies Himself plainly as the Morning Star, leaving no ambiguity about the identity (Revelation 22:16; Numbers 24:17).

Q Where does the Morning Star rise according to Peter.

A Peter says the Morning Star rises in your hearts, showing this is an inward revelation, not an outward event (2 Peter 1:19; 2 Corinthians 4:6).

Q How did Paul say Christ is revealed.

A Paul said God reveals His Son in us, not to us externally, and that this knowledge comes by revelation, not flesh and blood (Galatians 1:16; Matthew 16:17).

Q What did Jesus say about seeing Him after His departure.

A Jesus said the world would see Him no more, but believers would see Him through knowing and union with Him (John 14:19-20).

Q How does Scripture identify the target of covenant judgment.

A Scripture identifies the house of the Lord, the Jerusalem temple, as the covenant center under judgment (Jeremiah 7:2, 7:14; Matthew 23:38).

Q Why is prophecy centered on the destruction of the temple.

A Because the temple was the covenant center, and Scripture ties covenant judgment to that house within a defined generation (Jeremiah 7:12-14; Matthew 24:1-2, 34).

Q Did the apostles expect revelation or spectacle.

A The apostles taught that understanding comes through revelation by the Spirit, not through visible signs (1 Corinthians 2:10; Hebrews 11:6).

Q What is the foundation of the church according to Jesus.

A The church is built on revealed knowledge of who Christ is, not on observation or physical evidence (Matthew 16:17-18).

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

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