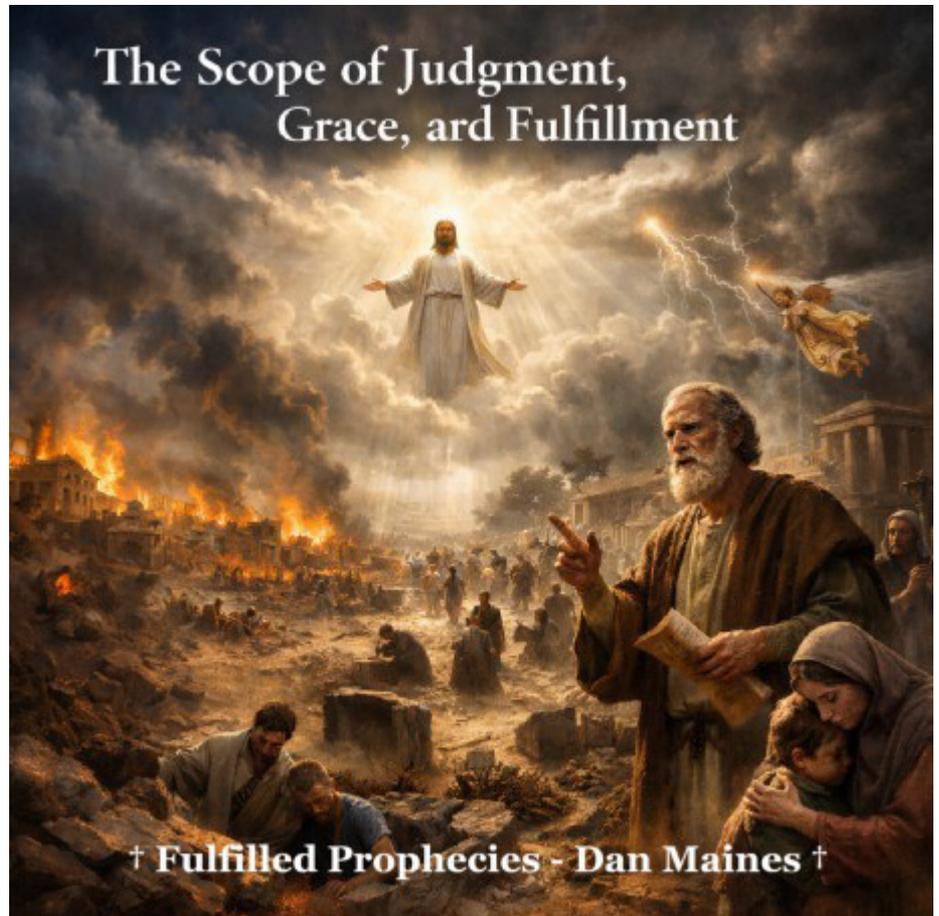


# Fulfilled Prophecies

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## Judgment - The Scope of Judgment, Grace, and Fulfillment



By Dan Maines

## The Scope of Judgment, Grace, and Fulfillment

### Introduction

This post is a response to questions raised from a futurist.

† Much confusion exists today because people blend fulfilled judgment language with ongoing gospel realities, mixing covenantal judgment with everyday life in the world. (1 Corinthians 14:33)

† Scripture must be allowed to define its own categories, especially when it speaks of resurrection, judgment, wrath,

grace, and restoration within a redemptive framework. (Isaiah 28:10)

† From the fulfilled perspective, Revelation and related passages describe covenantal judgment and transition, not the annihilation of humanity, society, or daily life. (Matthew 24:34)

† The controlling question in every judgment text is not modern speculation, but who Jesus said these things were coming upon and when. (Matthew 24:34)

## **John 5:28-29**

Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

† Jesus speaks of an hour, not a timeless process, pointing to a defined period of judgment. (Daniel 12:1-2)

† Resurrection language here is judicial and covenantal, consistent with Daniel 12:2, addressing Israel under the Law. (Ezekiel 37:12-14)

† The graves aren't physically emptied worldwide, showing the passage concerns authority, vindication, and judgment rather than biological reversal. (Hosea 6:1-2)

## **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

† Paul addresses first century believers grieving fellow saints, not distant generations. (1 Thessalonians 4:13)

† The imagery draws from Old Testament theophanic language

where God comes in judgment, not literal atmospheric travel.  
(Isaiah 19:1)

† The continued presence of physical death proves this wasn't a global bodily evacuation. (Hebrews 9:27)

### **1 Peter 5:8**

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

† Peter writes after the cross, proving Satan wasn't eliminated in the sense futurists claim. (Acts 5:3)

† Satan's activity is restrained, not eradicated, consistent with Revelation 20:1-3. (Luke 10:18)

† The cross defeated Satan's authority over the Law and death, not his influence in the world. (Colossians 2:14-15)

### **Hebrews 4:16**

Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

† The throne of grace remains open, directly contradicting claims of total closure. (Romans 5:2)

† Believers are invited continually, showing access didn't end with covenant judgment. (Ephesians 2:18)

† Judgment on Jerusalem didn't cancel grace toward the faithful. (Romans 11:22)

### **Revelation 15:8**

And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no one was able to enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were finished.

† This closure is temporary and covenantal, not eternal. (Isaiah 6:4)

† The imagery mirrors Old Testament judgment scenes against nations and Israel. (Exodus 40:34-35)

† It refers to the Old Covenant temple system, not heaven itself. (Hebrews 9:24)

## **Revelation 22:11**

Let the one who does wrong still do wrong, and the one who is filthy still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous still practice righteousness, and the one who is holy still keep himself holy.

† This reflects fixed covenant standing at the close of the age. (Daniel 12:10)

† It doesn't indicate the Holy Spirit's withdrawal from the world. (John 14:16)

† Gospel transformation continues, proving the Spirit remains active. (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)

## **Revelation 22:12**

Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

## **Revelation 11:18-19**

And the nations were enraged, and Your wrath came, and the time came for the dead to be judged, and the time to reward Your bond-servants the prophets and the saints and those who fear Your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth. And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder and an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

† These passages describe covenant judgment against Jerusalem and the persecuting powers. (Matthew 23:36)

† The language is judicial and symbolic, rooted in Old Testament prophetic imagery. (Isaiah 13:9-10)

† Final judgment in this context is covenantal, not the end of human history. (Luke 21:22)

† Scripture defines this judgment as imminent to its original audience, not delayed thousands of years. (Revelation 1:1; Revelation 22:6)

## **Revelation 16**

† The seven plagues parallel the Exodus plagues, showing covenantal pattern judgment. (Exodus 7-12)

† They target a specific rebellious system, not the entire globe. (Revelation 1:1)

† History records the destruction of Jerusalem as the fulfillment of these warnings. (Luke 19:43-44)

## **Revelation 21:8**

But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

† The second death represents covenantal separation and judgment, not biological extinction. (Isaiah 66:24)

† It parallels Old Testament death language for exile and rejection. (Jeremiah 51:57)

† Life continues, but covenant standing is lost. (Matthew 8:12)

## **Genesis 3:16-19**

† Pain in childbirth and labor continue, proving the Genesis curse wasn't removed at the cross. (Romans 8:20-22)

† Redemption addresses sin and death, not the structure of

physical existence. (John 3:16)

† Scripture never teaches these conditions would cease in this age. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2)

## **John 1:18**

No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.

† God remains unseen in essence, though known through Christ. (Colossians 1:15)

† Seeing God in Revelation is covenantal language for access and relationship. (Matthew 5:8)

† Faith, not physical sight, defines the believer's walk. (2 Corinthians 5:7)

## **Historical References**

† Josephus describes the destruction of Jerusalem as covenantal judgment. (Wars of the Jews 6)

† Eusebius confirms fulfillment within that generation. (Ecclesiastical History 3)

† Clement of Alexandria taught realized judgment and mature faith. (Stromata)

† Tacitus records the catastrophic judgment upon Jerusalem recognized even by Rome. (Histories 5)

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

† We live under grace, not awaiting wrath. (Romans 8:1)

† Christ reigns now, not after a future catastrophe. (Ephesians 1:20-22)

† Believers walk in confidence, vigilance, and faithfulness. (Hebrews 12:28)

† Fulfillment shifts believers from fear-based expectation to faith-driven obedience and gratitude. (Colossians 2:6-7)

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** Are the graves empty of the dead to be judged at Jesus second coming?

**A** No. Judgment and resurrection language were fulfilled covenantally in their appointed hour, not by emptying physical graves worldwide. (John 5:28-29; Daniel 12:2; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

**Q** Are prison cells empty of criminals?

**A** No. Scripture never teaches covenant judgment removes civil order or human society. (Romans 13:1-4)

**Q** Were Satan and his 1/3 completely eliminated at the cross?

**A** No. Satan's authority was judged, but his activity continues in a restrained role. (1 Peter 5:8; Colossians 2:15)

**Q** Is the throne of grace now closed?

**A** No. Believers are still commanded to draw near with confidence. (Hebrews 4:16; Romans 5:2)

**Q** Has the Holy Spirit been withdrawn?

**A** No. The Spirit remains active in righteousness and transformation. (Revelation 22:11; John 14:16)

**Q** Has final judgment begun?

**A** Yes, covenantal judgment came upon that generation as promised. (Revelation 22:12; Revelation 11:18-19; Matthew 24:34)

**Q** How about the seven plagues in Revelation 16?

**A** They were covenant judgments patterned after Exodus, fulfilled in the fall of Jerusalem. (Revelation 16; Luke 21:20-22)

**Q** How about the second death in Revelation 21:8?

**A** It represents covenantal exclusion and loss of standing, not

physical annihilation. (Revelation 21:8; Isaiah 66:24)

**Q** Have the curses of childbirth pain and labor ceased?

**A** No. These conditions continue, proving redemption isn't the removal of physical reality. (Genesis 3:16-19; Romans 8:22)

**Q** Have you seen God?

**A** No. God is known through Christ, not physical sight. (John 1:18; 2 Corinthians 5:7)

**Q** Does fulfilled judgment mean God no longer judges sin today?

**A** No. God continues to judge righteously and discipline His people, but not through covenant-ending wrath. (Hebrews 12:6; Romans 2:5-6)

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

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## Source Index

† John 5:28-29; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 1 Peter 5:8; Hebrews 4:16; Revelation 15:8; Revelation 22:11-12; Revelation 11:18-19; Revelation 16; Revelation 21:8; Genesis 3:16-19; John 1:18

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews Book 6; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History Book 3; Clement of Alexandria, Stromata; Tacitus, Histories 5

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