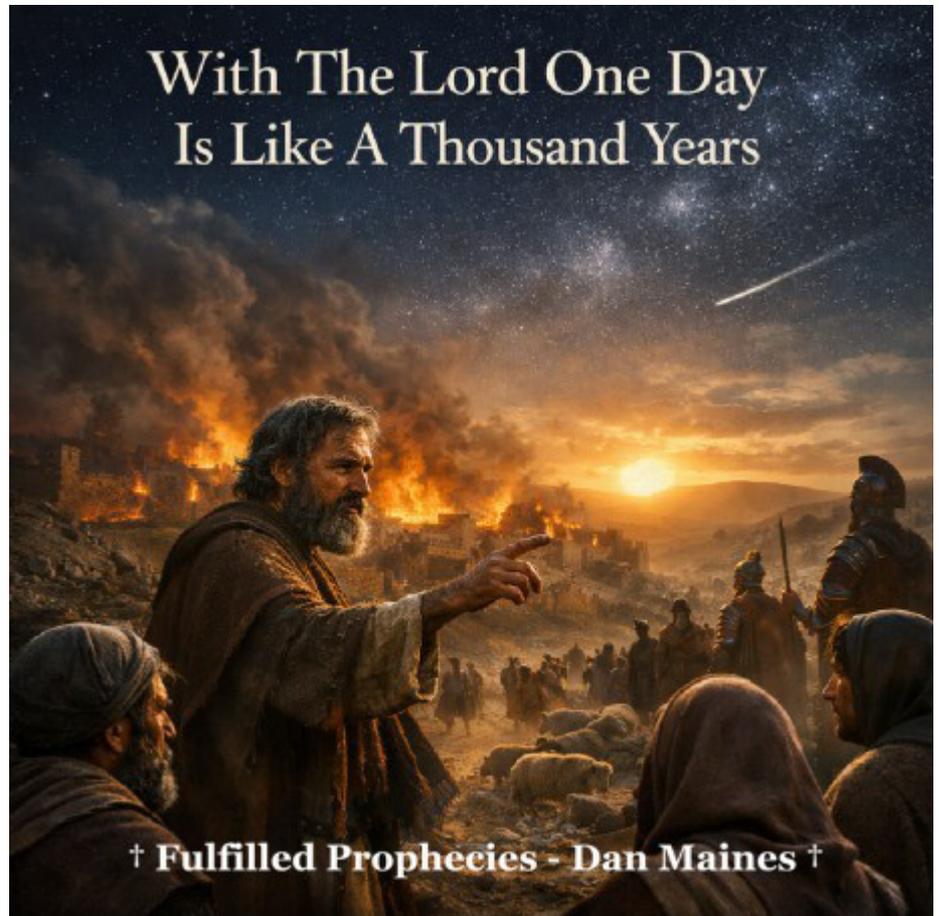


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**Thousand Years -
With The Lord One
Day Is Like A
Thousand Years**



By Dan Maines

With The Lord One Day Is Like A Thousand Years

Introduction

† Futurists constantly quote 2 Peter 3:8 as if it erases every time statement in the New Testament.

† They claim one day equals a thousand years, so soon does not mean soon.

† That interpretation ignores the context Peter himself gives.

† We're going to let the text speak and close this discussion

biblically.

2 Peter 3:3

Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts,

† Peter locates the entire discussion in the last days.

† The last days were already present in his lifetime, not thousands of years later.

† The mockers were contemporary to his audience.

2 Peter 3:8

But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.

† Peter is not giving a prophetic math formula, he is correcting scoffers who were mocking the promise of his coming, 2 Peter 3:3-4.

† The scoffers said nothing had changed since the fathers fell asleep, showing they expected fulfillment within their historical timeframe.

† Peter's point is that God is not bound by human impatience, not that he postpones fulfillment for thousands of years.

† The verse says one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day, that destroys the futurist equation immediately.

† If one day equals a thousand years, then a thousand years equals one day, their math collapses.

Psalms 90:4

For a thousand years in Your sight
Are like yesterday when it
passes by, Or as a watch in the night.

† Peter is quoting Moses.

† Moses was emphasizing God's transcendence over time, not teaching a prophetic delay system.

† The language magnifies God's eternal perspective, it does not cancel his promises.

† Peter is saying God is not slow, he is patient toward that generation, 2 Peter 3:9.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.

† The patience was toward you, Peter's audience.

† The judgment concerned them, not people thousands of years later.

† This patience explains the short delay before Jerusalem's fall, not a delay of millennia.

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

† Peter had already declared the end was near.

† Near never means thousands of years later.

† This confirms the timeframe of 2 Peter 3.

2 Peter 3:10

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be exposed.

- † A thief comes unexpectedly, not thousands of years later.
- † Imminence is built into the warning.
- † The heavens passing and elements melting is covenant judgment language used in Isaiah 13:13.

Isaiah 13:13

Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, And the earth will be shaken from its place At the fury of the Lord of armies In the day of His burning anger.

- † That language described national judgment, not the end of the planet.
- † Peter uses the same prophetic imagery for the removal of the Old Covenant order.
- † The elements, stoicheia, refer to the elementary principles of the Old Covenant system, Galatians 4:3.

Galatians 4:3

So we too, when we were children, were held in bondage under the elementary principles of the world.

- † The melting elements describe the dissolving of that covenant structure.
- † Hebrews 12:27 explains the removal of those things which can be shaken so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.
- † The destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 completed that transition exactly as Jesus said in Matthew 24:34.

Historical References

- † Josephus records catastrophic imagery surrounding the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70.
- † Eusebius records that Christians fled Jerusalem in obedience to Christ's warnings.

† Early Christian writers understood these events within their own generation.

How It Applies To Us Today

† We don't reinterpret clear time statements to accommodate delay.

† When Scripture says near, shortly, at hand, it means what it says.

† God's faithfulness is proven in fulfilled judgment.

† We live in the established New Covenant kingdom that followed that shaking.

Q & A Appendix

Q Does 2 Peter 3:8 teach that prophetic days equal one thousand literal years?

A No. It teaches God's transcendence over time, not a conversion formula, Psalm 90:4.

Q Were the last days future to us?

A No. Peter said the last days were present in his time, 2 Peter 3:3, and that the end was at hand, 1 Peter 4:7.

Q Was Peter speaking about the end of the physical universe?

A No. The imagery matches Old Testament covenant judgment language, Isaiah 13:13, and refers to the removal of the Old Covenant order.

Q Was this fulfilled in the first century?

A Yes. Jesus said all these things would come upon that generation, Matthew 24:34, and Jerusalem fell in AD 70.

Q Does 2 Peter 3:8 teach that prophetic days equal one thousand literal years?

A No. It teaches God's transcendence over time, not a

conversion formula, Psalm 90:4.

Q Does a day equal a thousand years in Bible prophecy?

A No. 2 Peter 3:8 says one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day. It is a comparison, not a calculation. If taken as a formula, it contradicts itself immediately. Scripture never establishes a prophetic rule that one day equals one thousand years.

Q Were the last days future to us?

A No. Peter said the last days were present in his time, 2 Peter 3:3, and that the end was at hand, 1 Peter 4:7.

Q Does this verse cancel the time statements like near, shortly, and at hand?

A No. Peter himself used at hand, 1 Peter 4:7. If 2 Peter 3:8 erased time statements, Peter would be contradicting himself.

Q Was Peter speaking about the end of the physical universe?

A No. The imagery matches Old Testament covenant judgment language, Isaiah 13:13, and refers to the removal of the Old Covenant order.

Q Why did Peter mention a thousand years at all?

A He was answering scoffers who thought delay meant failure. He was explaining God's patience, not redefining prophetic timing, 2 Peter 3:9.

Q Was this fulfilled in the first century?

A Yes. Jesus said all these things would come upon that generation, Matthew 24:34, and Jerusalem fell in AD 70.

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

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Source Index

† 2 Peter 3:3, 8-10; 1 Peter 4:7; Psalm 90:4; Isaiah 13:13;
Galatians 4:3; Matthew 24:34

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

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