

Preterism – Vultures

“Preterist opinions differ as to whether Matthew 24:28 (“Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather”) envisions literal vultures feasting on human corpses¹¹³ or is a metaphor to illustrate the idea that Gentry puts forth: “Israel is judicially dead; the Roman armies will devour her carcass.”¹¹⁴ Gentry, following N. T. Wright and others, argues that the vultures, variously translated as eagles, refers to the Roman Eagles.¹¹⁵ This interpretation is unlikely because the corresponding prophecy in the Apocalypse depicts birds feasting upon the carcasses of those slain in battle. The apostle John wrote, “Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, ‘Come, gather for the great supper of God, to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great.’ . . . And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh” (Rev. 19:17-18, 21; cf. Ezek. 39:17-20). We have seen that preterists are unable to identify the abomination of desolation in history.”

—— Brock Hollett, *Debunking Preterism: How Over-Realized Eschatology Misses the Not Yet of Bible Prophecy*, Kindle, (Morris Publishing, 2018), Location 957.