



## **Prophecy Update: December 15, 2019**

***Pastor JD Farag***

All right. Let's get to our prophecy update. By the way, for the benefit of our online church next Sunday, the 22nd, we will not have a prophecy update. That's going to be our Christmas services. I'm looking forward to that. We will, on the 29th, resume with the prophecy update.

After seeking the Lord about what direction, I should go for today's update, I sensed from the Holy Spirit that I am to talk about the prophetic significance of the current and upcoming elections. Specifically, and most recently, in the UK, as I'm sure many of you have been following and what now looks like an unprecedented third election in Israel.

Also, in light of the efforts, here in the US to impeach President Trump, it seems as though we're in for a very interesting year. If we're still here, in 2020, which is only now days away. Let's begin with this stunning breaking news out of the UK about this landslide victory of Boris Johnson which has in effect brought Brexit back to the table. Al Arabiya published an article quoting Prime Minister Boris Johnson as saying, "We will get Brexit done on time by the 31st of January. No ifs; No buts; No maybes."

Now, for those who are unfamiliar with what Brexit is. It's the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union which Britain voted for by an overwhelming majority. Up to this election, the jury was out on whether Brexit would happen or not. Hang on to that as I want to come back to it.

While the UK election results are very important, its overshadowed by the paramount importance of what now looks to be a 3rd election in Israel. According to Haaretz, "Israelis are headed for a third election in one year [never happened before] after the Knesset dissolved itself on Wednesday following Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and rival Benny Gantz failure to form a governing coalition."

They've been trying. It's not happening and it doesn't look like it's going to happen, barring any kind of a surprise agreement at the 11th hour. They head back to the polls in March. On Thursday, The Times of Israel published an article about President Rivlin trying to reassure an Israeli citizenry that has just watched its political leaders fail for a second consecutive time to form a government. Now, it's sending the country to a third election in 11 months."

For the better part of one year, Israel has not had a functioning government. Rivlin was quoted as saying, "After two rounds of elections and as a third election campaign begins...". By the way,



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parenthetically, a side note. I was just on my news feed this morning. With three elections in Israel... First you have to understand, they're very costly. There was one report that with the money that is spent on, now what is going to be a third election, you could have built 7 hospitals in Israel. Just to kind of put it into perspective.

Rivlin was quoted as saying, "I believe this is also a critical moment for the Israeli public, which will choose its leaders." They already have - twice. "Israeli democracy was, and still is, a source of pride and we know that the democratic system comes at a cost." He added, "I pray that the depth of the current political crisis and the divisions it exposes among us will lead us, as a society and as a country, to fight not only for the right to disagree with each other. But also, to the duty to find what we can agree about."

Oh? That could be said of the current situation and political environment here in the United States, right? To me, this hits the proverbial "nail on the head" in the sense that a nation's democracy is at stake. Stay with me. When there's confidence lost in a democracy, what you'll see ensue is exactly what we're seeing today.

It's what we're seeing here in America. Back on November 1st, Breitbart quoted Donald Trump as saying that, "The impeachment vote by the Radical Democrats is an attack on democracy itself." That's the point. Quoting the President, "The Democrats voted to potentially nullify the votes of 63 million Americans, disgracing themselves and bringing shame upon the House of Representatives."

I don't know if you watched any of the impeachment hearings. I have to confess that I did a little bit. Okay, more than a little bit on a couple of occasions. At least until I just couldn't take it anymore. I just had to push "mute". I just thought to myself, "What in the world? What is this really about? Then again, just this morning, I hear about this Democrat that is going to become a Republican because he is so opposed to this farce of an impeachment in the House.

Well, anyway, don't get me started. I don't need any help getting started. I can do that by myself. Let's just move on how about that? I would argue that the same attempt to nullify the vote of the people concerning Brexit is alive and well today as evidenced by the election results in the UK. I don't know if you can overstate the importance of what just happened in the UK with these stunning election results.

Because of what's at stake. By the way, this deadline of January 31st? That was the deadline that was voted back in 2016. It was formalized



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and ratified in 2017. So here we are, now, it's going to be January 31st, 2020. Finally, the people have spoken and they have said, "We want out of the EU and we're going to vote for the guy that's saying, "I'm going to do that. No ifs, ands, or buts about it. I am going to do it. It's going to happen."

Kind of sounds like the President of the United States a little bit, doesn't it? Yes, it does. The Times of Israel reported that after congratulating Johnson on Friday, Trump said of the British results, "I think that might be a harbinger of what's to come in our country. It's the same scenario.

US President Donald Trump is eager to replicate in next year's American election and [listen] Democrats are desperate to avoid." Boy, I'll say. That's kind of an understatement, isn't it? "It seems that they're so desperate to avoid "said election results" that by their own admission they want to impeach Trump now and not run the risk of having him reelected."

See, they know that come November 2020, which by the way is still "a ways away". We should always say, "Lord willing." James says be very careful when you say, "We're going to go into such and such a city, do business there, and make a profit there. You should always preface it with, "Lord willing". Lord willing, we'll have elections in November of 2020. Lord willing, Lord willing, Lord willing.

They don't want to take any chances. I mean, they're watching the same rallies that you and I are watching. That have literally thousands of people waiting to get in, still outside of this huge stadium, that is packed with people that have jobs now. That are doing well now. That are happy with the President of the United States and yet they want to impeach him.

Fox News published a report quoting Nadler, the panel's top Democrat, who by the way when I was watching him it looked like he was really tired. He fell asleep a couple of times. He had to be elbowed to get the gavel. I'm thinking man this guy needs to take a nap or something. What's he doing? Anyway, I'm sorry I got off on that. He said that it would be unsafe to wait until the 2020 election to remove Trump.

Oh really? Because he knows he's going to be reelected. So, you want to impeach him now! About two months ago, I saw a report where there was a survey done. The majority of Americans who thought that Trump might get impeached; Also believed that he would be reelected. In other words, go



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ahead and impeach him. Go ahead! Go ahead. We're going to reelect him anyway. How about that?

We kind of like the guy. The Stock Market is doing great. I have a job now. What was the job number? It was kind of ironic. I didn't want to go there but too late I already did. So, there you have it. But here we are in the throes of these impeachment hearings and then the jobs report comes out as it always does. What was it? Like a quarter of a million jobs were added? Impeach him! Why? Why?

What's going on here? What's really happening here? Because obviously, this doesn't jive. If you're anything like me, and I suspect that you are, you can't reconcile this. This doesn't work. This doesn't balance out. Something else must be going on here. Oh, it is. I mean, you go over to the UK and you see what they're saying there. You come back here to America and you see what we're saying here.

Then you try to jive it with everything that's taking place? Then how about Israel, too? Netanyahu arguably, one of the strongest leaders Israel has ever had. And boy! Doesn't he and Trump make a good team? They are a formidable threat to globalism. Globalism, that's the problem. Oh, by the way, is not what we're told in the Book of Revelation, is that there will be globalism? It will be global, a one-world government. Globally, a one-world religion. Globally, a one-world economy. Globally, a New World Order. Globally, forget nationalism. Its globalism.

That's what's happening here. Again, I think I would be grossly remiss if I didn't, once again... I hope you don't tire of me saying this: But we wrestle not against flesh and blood. It's not Democrats against Republicans. It's not right against left; conservative against liberal. Our battle is, as Paul describes it and delineates it, against 4 entities in Ephesians 6, "The powers of darkness, wickedness in high places." They have different rankings.

Boy, are they doing a good job! They're going to get some awards at their next award banquet. Because they have succeeded in getting the world to fight, their fight, against each other. I've heard some describe the "polarization" as it's called. As being the likes of which we have never seen in this country before.

And I went on Twitter. I probably shouldn't have done that. I think that I would have learned my lesson. You go onto Twitter and you see



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what's trending. Do you know what was really interesting during the impeachment? The impeachment wasn't trending. The UK elections were trending.

I actually had to search impeachment. So, there were two "#" that were trending: One was "Impeachment"; The other one was "Impeachment Hoax". So, being the glutton for punishment that I am, I decided to go to "#Impeachment" first. I just kind of scrolled down and looked at some of the tweets. Then I got grieved. I think I grieved the holy spirit, actually. So, I decided okay I'm going to go to "#Impeachment Hoax". That will make me feel better.

It didn't. In fact, in some ways it made me feel worse because I mean the venom, the vitriol. The attacks back and forth. Listen, you can't do that very much longer and not suffer the consequences of it. I'm reminded of what the Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians, "If you, guys, keep biting, and devouring, and backbiting, and attacking each other? You're going to devour each other and there won't be anything left."

Exactly, that's what's happening here. It's divide and conquer. It's the destruction from within because "United we stand; Divided we fall." Jesus said, "A house divided cannot stand." Don't you see? That's what's happening! The powers of darkness have succeeded in bringing this polarization, this division. It's tearing this country apart. It's tearing this world apart. It's right against left; It's black against white.

I was just thinking this last week and I didn't mean to go this far. But too late, again. So, here you go. I was just thinking about racism. I don't know if you know this or not? But my very first church that I planted was in Coeur d'Alene Idaho. It was the capital, the Mecca, for the white Aryan Nation. God's got a sense of humor. He calls an Arab pastor that's pro-Israel to plant a church in Hayden, Idaho that is a stone's throw away from a white supremacist camp and I lived to tell about it.

We had one guy in the church, he wasn't there very long. We had him removed, very quick. But he was promoting his material about the white supremacy. By the way, the census back then, this is 1999. A long time ago. Again, don't do the math. I was only 5 at the time when I planted the church. But at the time the census in that area was like 98% white, Anglo-Saxon white.



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Yeah, I was the only Arab in my church. Of course, I'm still the only Arab in this church too. ... Anyway, I digress. But I was just thinking about this. I think to myself, "Racism is still alive and well in the church today." Did you know that? In Hawaii, thankfully, and I think this might be one of the reasons why God called me here. Because it's a little more forgiving nationally, racially. We have all different kinds of races, people groups and nationalities and it's celebrated.

But racism is alive and well. Don't you see where that's coming from? The enemy is stirring it up. He's pitting one against the other. We're basically doing his job for him. He can take the rest of the day off and go to the beach. That's what's happening here and it's all part of the plan.

By the way, let me just encourage you by letting you know that everything is going perfectly, according to God's prophetic plan. Everything is right on time. Don't despair. I know sometimes I get up here and I yell. I spit on everybody.

But it's not that I'm upset like: How can this happen? No! I want this to happen. What? Yeah, I want this to happen. Why? Because Jesus says these things must happen. These things must come to pass that the end might come because this is exactly what we were told would happen and it's happening.

Stay with me. I'll try to bring this in for a landing. I want to explain why it is that I believe this has profound prophetic implications. First, and we talked about this the last couple of weeks. I would suggest that all of this seems to be creating this "perfect storm" as it were to usher in the Antichrist as the one that the whole world will be in awe of and worship as this charismatic leader. We've talked about that.

But here's another reason. You see it there on the screen. It has to do with this very specific prophecy in Ezekiel chapter 38 verse 13. Really, the entirety of the Ezekiel 38 prophecy is very detailed, very specific, but particularly, verse 13 especially, in light of Boris Johnson's landslide win. Again, I don't know if it's possible to overstate the importance of this. The significance of this.

Let me just, if you wouldn't mind, I want to read Ezekiel 38 verse 13, and then expound on it. Listen, "Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish and all their young lions will say to you, " Who are they saying this to? Russia, Iran, Turkey and an alliance of nations who



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today are at the ready in the north exactly as Ezekiel 38 said they would be when they invade Israel.

So, they, "Sheba, Dedan, Tarshish, the young merchants, the young lions will say to you, 'Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty? To carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?'" Now, stop right there. This presupposes that at the time of this invasion, Israel will have silver, gold, prosperity. Something to take; The spoil to take.

Does Israel have that today? You better believe it. You better believe it. In addition to the natural gas and the oil, you've got gold. They know it and they want it. It's going to be the hook, I believe, in the jaw that God says, "I'm going to put that hook in your jaw, Gog.

I'm going to bring you from the north, Syria, to invade my people. It will come at a time when they're secure, and strong, and prosperous. Israel today is secure, and strong, and very prosperous. Now, the detail in this verse is that there's going to be Sheba and Dedan, and whoever Tarshish is and the young lions of Tarshish, that are going to protest this.

Well, that's significant. Who are they? Well, we know for a certainty that Sheba and Dedan is Saudi Arabia, who today has a very good relationship with Israel. Who knew? Well, God knew. He told us about it some 2,500 plus years ago that they would, at this time.

So, who is Tarshish and the young lions thereof? This is where we get a little bit speculative but in light of what happened in the UK, I do think it is worthy of at least mentioning it. That is that it is none other than the UK and the US.

Here's how we get there. The symbol for the UK is the "lion" and the US is a "young nation" that came from the "lion", the UK. The speculation, the suggestion, the thought, is that this is: Saudi Arabia, the US and the UK who are not only a part of this invasion. But they protest this invasion.

But perhaps more importantly, the US... If this is indeed a reference to the US as some believe it is. I'm not dogmatic about it. It's possible. But then that would suggest that something has to happen to the US in order for them, us, not to do anything about this - except questioning. Well, what happened to this pro-Israel, the most pro-Israel president? We don't know. Does he get impeached? We don't know.



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What about the strong leader of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu? Where is he at in all of this? We don't know. The UK is pulled out of the EU after January 31st, So, maybe that explains. Do you see how this fits? I know this is a "what-if" scenario. But I think it is a plausible scenario. That we're seeing right before our very eyes, in real time, at breakneck speed.

Everything moving in the direction that we were told it would at the time of the end. I'll bring it to a close with a passage in the Book of Ecclesiastes that the Lord really reminded me of that I've been thinking about. Chapter 9 verse 11, Solomon writes, "I have seen something else under the sun. The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise, nor wealth to the brilliant, nor favor to the learned but time and chance happened to them all."

Then he writes this, verse 12, "Moreover, no one knows when their hour will come. As fish are caught in a cruel net or birds are taken in a snare. So, people are trapped by evil times that fall unexpectedly upon them." Dare I say, the world at this time, not by chance, is trapped by evil times and it's unexpectedly upon us.

The battle does not necessarily go to the strong. Trump is strong. The race does not necessarily go to the swift. Under the sun, in this fallen world, it doesn't necessarily work that way. There's no certainty.

Maybe this would be as good of a time as any to also include Ecclesiastes 7 verse 14, a very important verse by the way. It basically says this, "During times of prosperity, enjoy."

Gods prospering you, things are going good. Enjoy it, while it lasts. It doesn't say that. It's almost like enjoy it because when adversity strikes. I wish it said, "If". When adversity strikes, stop and consider, and realize that God allows one, as well as the other.

So that no one will be certain about their future. God brings the one alongside the other. The race isn't to the swift. The battle is not necessarily to the strong. You have adversity; You have prosperity. The ultimate conclusion of the matter is that God is in control. We are not. There's no certainty. There's no guarantee. We don't know.

Here we are trapped by evil times that have unexpectedly come upon us. I believe that is where we're at today. I think about what Jesus said in Matthew 24, "Behold, I come at an hour you expect not." It's





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unexpected. Unexpected. This is why we do these weekly prophecy updates.

It's why we end with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It's why we end with the explanation of salvation, with the ABCs of Salvation because there's no guarantee. We don't know. Man can discover nothing about his future.

Again, going back to James, "Be very careful. Life is but a vapor." Here today; Gone tomorrow. Tomorrow is never guaranteed. You should always say, "Lord willing, tomorrow." because you don't know. This could be it. You're not expecting it. What's that saying? When you least expect it? Expect it. I hope I got that right.

What's the Gospel? The gospel means good news. Your debt has been paid. You're free to go. Jesus Christ came; He was crucified; He paid in full the debt of sin on that cross; was buried and rose again on the third day and it gets even better. He's coming back again one day soon and very soon. That's the good news.

Now, what's the response that we have to this good news, the gospel? Well, that's where the ABCs come in. First, the A is for: Admit or acknowledge I've sinned against God. I need the Savior for the forgiveness of sin.

Romans 3:10 says, "There is no one righteous, not even one." You might be a good person but you'll never be good enough. Romans 3:23 says why, "Because all have fallen short of the glory of God." We've all sinned, missed the mark, fallen short of the glory of God.

Now, there's a penalty and it's the death penalty. That's what Romans 6:23 says, "The wages of sin is death." But here's the good news: The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus, our Lord. That's the good news. It's a gift given to us, paid for by him.

You know that at Christmas time we receive gifts? Well, if you pay for that gift, it's not a gift anymore, right? A gift is given but somebody had to pay for it. The gift of eternal life was paid for in full by Jesus Christ and it's given to us.

The B is for: Believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is Lord and that God raised Him from the dead. That's Romans 10:9 and 10 which says, "If you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved." That's definite. That's finished. The jury is not



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deliberating anymore. The verdict is in. You will be saved. You were pronounced "guilty as charged". Sentenced to death because that's the wages of sin.

But the good news is that Jesus Christ paid that penalty for you in His death. The C, lastly, is for: Call upon the name of the Lord or as Romans 10:9 and 10 also says, "Confess with your mouth. If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Here's why. "For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified; and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

Lastly, Romans 10:13 seals the deal. "All who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved."

Why don't you all stand? We'll have the worship team come up. We'll close in prayer. They'll close us in song as we always do. I just want to say lastly, 2020 will mark the 14th year that we have been doing these prophecy updates. Every week for 14 years in 2020. Lord willing, I should say, right?

I share that because I truly believe that I won't be doing prophecy updates very much longer. No man knows the day or the hour. But I truly believe with all my heart that the Lord's return is sooner than any of us could ever possibly imagine.

Oh, pastor you say that virtually every week. I know. I know. But I say it again this week because if you're not right with the Lord and you're not ready for the Lord? I would implore you today to make the most important decision you will ever make in your life, for eternal life.

You might be watching online. It's no accident that you came upon this video on YouTube. Please, I implore you: Today is the Day of Salvation.

Let's pray. Thank you, Lord. Lord, I thank you for the specificity of prophecy. For the details that are recorded in the pages of Holy Writ for us, all of these generations later, to be reading, hearing and hopefully, taking to heart.

I think of what you had John write, Lord, in Revelation chapter 1 about how there would be a blessing for all that would: Read that book; Hear that book; And more importantly, take it to heart. The only book in all of the Bible that promises that blessing.



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Lord please: We've read it; We're hearing it; Now we want to be numbered amongst those of whom it can be said they took it to heart.

Lord, for anybody that needs to today open their heart to you. I pray that they would. In Jesus name. Amen