Prophecy Today

Bible Study | The Church of God International | August 6, 2016



Introduction

The world today is in chaos and great despair. The news headlines are frightening.



We read of climate change and global warming – El Niño, La Niña, severe drought and super typhoons.



In addition to that, people of the world experience famines, food shortages, malnutrition and starvation.



Also widespread are pestilences and diseases such as Zika and Ebola virus – threatening maladies whose cure are still in experimental stage.



Finally, compounding all of these are, the Middle East crisis, the threat of Isis, global recession, financial crisis and lately Brexit.



Every enterprising news portal dishes out these events to us on a regular basis.



Today, we will try to make sense of some of these events.



Why is the understanding of current events and Bible prophecies important?



It is important because prophecy fulfills two very important roles:

(1)strengthens the faith of believers, and(2) calls for repentance of sinners.



Paul said in Hebrews 11:1 that "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."



Therefore, faith is not blind. There must be some kind of evidence for you to put your faith on.



Even Jesus said to the Jews in John 10:37-38; "But if I do them, though you believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father." The miracles Jesus did are proofs of His messiah-ship.



Similarly, understanding prophecies and seeing them fulfilled before our eyes confirms that we are in the right church and God is sovereign. It builds our faith in Him who is true.



Isaiah 46:8-11

- (8) "Remember this, keep it in mind, take it to heart, you rebels.
- (9) Remember the former things, those of long ago;

I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.



Isaiah 46:8-11

- (10) I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come.
 - I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'
- (11) From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose.
 - What I have said, that I will bring about; what I have planned, that I will do.



Further, God said in Amos 3:7 that He will not do anything unless He reveals them to His prophets.



Therefore, prophecies are signs and evidences that we can see as witnesses of the existence of God – evidences that build faith.



At the same time, it is a message of repentance for the world.



In the interest of time, we will only discuss prophecy on three fronts; namely:

- 1. Climate change
- 2. The Middle East Crisis
- 3. The Brexit



#1 Climate Change

We are experiencing severe changes in weather patterns brought about by climate change. More frequent and intense drought, storms, heat waves, rising sea levels, melting glaciers and warming oceans can directly harm animals, destroy their habitat, and wreak havoc on people's livelihoods and communities.



People in cities and towns around the world are facing the consequences, from heat waves to super typhoons and floods.



As climate change worsens, dangerous weather events are becoming more frequent and severe.



Humans and wild animals face new challenges for survival because of climate change.



With a rise of 2 degrees in global temperature, scientists predict 1/3 of the sea life and 1/3 of the land vegetation will be destroyed



This scenario is what is prophesied in the scripture as a sign of the end of the age that leads to the second advent of Christ



This scenario is prophesied in the Book of Revelation



Revelation 8:1-2

1 When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.



Revelation 8

- 6 Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.
 - 7 The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.



Revelation 8

8 The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood,

9 a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.



Revelation 8:6

10 The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water — 11 the name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.



Climate change will plunge the world in famine and starvation, diseases and pestilences and death of man and animals Nations will fight for survival by securing the limited, scarce and dwindling resources. This will lead to global wars and conflicts.



These events will come true as prophesied. They are today's headline news and we are experiencing them right now. The prophesy is unfolding before our eyes. The climate change will lead to the destruction of the earth's ecology exactly as prophesied in the Scriptures 2,000 years ago as revealed by Christ to the Apostle John. Written your us today!



This agrees perfectly with Jesus' prophecy spoken at the Mount of Olives



Jesus prophesied a time when famines and plagues will kill a vast numbers of people.



Matthew 24:7

For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.



Luke 21:10-11

"Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be great earthquakes, and in divers places famines and pestilences; and there shall be terrors and great signs from heaven."



In the course of human history, there have been episodes of famines and pestilences on a regional basis at most, never at a magnitude that threatens a vast majority of people across continents.



The famines and pestilences spoken of by Jesus and written in Revelation is one that had not been from the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall be.



Agriculturists and virologists believe that a major worldwide disaster is pending and is right at our gates. With 1/3 of the sea life, 1/3 of the vegetation and 1/3 of the fresh water source destroyed this dire scenario is a surety



In no other time can this find fulfillment except now. When the global temperature rises 2 degrees, the world will enter a period of serious threat of food shortage and global pandemics.



This prophecy of a worldwide famine and pandemic can only happen in our time and age brought about by a massive climate change.



#2 Modern Day Israel

The Bible prophesied that at the end-time, Israel would be restored as a nation with people coming from the four corners of the world.



For bible students, the most notable, recognizable and constant running prophecy of the bible is the History of Israel.



Considering the cruel history of the Israel as a nation, one has to be amazed and awed by her resilience and survival.



Any other nation subjected to a similar fate would have been eradicated from the face of earth.



Israel had been invaded, captured, destroyed and exiled numerous times in history. The people went through the horror of persecution and holocaust.



Yet, the empires that conquered Israel disintegrated into oblivion; i.e., the Hittites, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persian, Medes, Parthian, Chaldean, Hellenistic, Roman Empires, etc.



These great empires had either gone into extinction or fallen into pieces.



Yet, Israel, a tiny oppressed nation had survived them all and is standing as a modern day super power nation.



By 66 A.D. the Jews began to rebel against Rome. In AD 70, with overwhelming force of 80,000 Roman armies, Titus sealed off the city.



Hundreds of thousands of Israelites were killed in the war. Those few left alive were taken into slavery.



The Jewish threat demanded a measure unprecedented among the Roman rulers: forced migration—what we now call ethnic cleansing—on a scale unmatched in history.



Since then, the Israelite people had lost their land and the temple.



For almost 2,000 years, Israel did not exist as a nation after 70AD.



The people scattered abroad, were oppressed and persecuted. They were treated as slaves and second-class citizens in countries they lived in, if and whenever they were not expelled.



They lived in Jewish Ghettos and were confined to petty trade and money lending.



They were ostracized by Christians and refused assimilation into the society.



Anti-Semitism ran high. For 2,000 years, they were a persecuted people without a country.



In World War II a total of 6 million Jews were killed by the Nazi in Europe.



With the end of World War II, European Jews attracted widespread sympathy after the Holocaust.



Caught between Arab and Jewish demands, the British government referred the matter to the United Nations.



On November 29, 1947, the U.N. General Assembly passed Resolution 181 partitioning Palestine into two states, one Jewish and one Arab by a two-thirds vote (33 to 13 with Britain and nine others abstaining).



On May 15, 1948, Israel became an independent state. After 2000 years of harsh history, Israelites are back in the promised land.



It is 2,500 years of prophecy fulfilling in our time. The survival of the nation Israel today proves God's validity. It is to me an inspiration.



(1) But now, this is what the LORD says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel:"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.



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(2) When you pass through the waters,
    I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
    they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
    you will not be burned;
    the flames will not set you ablaze.
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(3) For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead.



(4) Since you are precious and honored in my sight,and because I love you,I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life.



- (5) Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.
- (6) I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring my sons from afar

and my daughters from the ends of the earth—



- (7) everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."
- (8) Lead out those who have eyes but are blind,

who have ears but are deaf.



(9) All the nations gather together and the peoples assemble.Which of their gods foretold this and proclaimed to us the former things?Let them bring in their witnesses to prove they were right, so that others may hear and say, "It is true."



Isaiah 43:1-13

(10) "You are my witnesses," declares the LORD,
"and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he.
Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.



Isaiah 43:1-13

- (11) I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior
- (12) I have revealed and saved and proclaimed I, and not some foreign god among you. You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "that I am God
- (13) Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it?"



Israel is God's continuous witness. Israel will continue to play a pivotal role in world history.



Let us all be cognizant of the fact that prophecies are unveiling before us. The signs of the end time events are evident and unfolding.



Israel still exists after 2,000 years of exile and intense persecution, and the Jews are back in their homeland – the land God promised to Abraham.



Any other nation would have been persecuted to extinction. Not God's people. Today, they are back in Israel.



Israel as a standing nation after 2000 years of exile is a true fulfillment of Bible Prophecy that our very eyes can see.



#3 Brexit Britain is in the news today. Britain is leaving the EU.



Britain joined the EU in 1973. After 43 years of being a member state, they chose to leave the EU.



You may ask: what has Brexit to do with Bible prophecy?



The Brexit is a crucial marker to the end of the age



The Bible does not in particular mention Brexit. But, through the Brexit you can identify the beast nation mentioned in Revelation.



The key to understanding the significance of the Brexit is to understand the identity of United Kingdom of Great Britain



God promised Abraham that nations will come from him with descendants as numerous as the stars in the heaven



Genesis 17:4-6

- 4 "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations.
- 5 No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations.
- 6 I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you.



Genesis 17:7-8

- 7 I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.
- 8 The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.



Genesis 22:17-18

- 17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies,
- 18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.



This covenant promise was passed on from Abraham to Isaac, from Isaac to Jacob and to the 12 sons of Jacob



To understand the fulfillment of this covenant promise you must understand who are the modern children of Jacob (the 12 sons of Israel) today after their exile by the Assyrians amost 2,500 years ago



Historians have traced the wandering and settlement of the house of Israel. You may find the historical migration when you go to our website www.cgiphils.org Look for the article: United States and Great Britain in Prophecy



You may wonder why the United States, Great Britain and Israel are always bundled together. The answer is because they are blood brothers – descendants of Jacob.



Joseph, the youngest son of Jacob had 2 sons – Manasseh and Ephraim.



Manasseh the 1st born is the United States of America, and Ephraim the 2nd born is the United Kingdom Great Britain. The are the inheritors of the blessings of Jacob



Genesis 48:11-14

- 11 Israel said to Joseph, "I never expected to see your face again, and now God has allowed me to see your children too."
- 12 Then Joseph removed them from Israel's knees and bowed down with his face to the ground.
- 13 And Joseph took both of them, Ephraim on his right toward Israel's left hand and Manasseh on his left toward Israel's right hand, and brought them close to him.
- 14 But Israel reached out his right hand and put it on Ephraim's head, though he was the younger, and crossing his arms, he put his left hand on Manasseh's head, even though Manasseh was the firstborn.



Genesis 48:15-16

- 15 Then he blessed Joseph and said, "May the God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked faithfully, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day,
- 16 the Angel who has delivered me from all harm —may he bless these boys. May they be called by my name and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac, and may they increase greatly on the earth."



Genesis 48:17-20

- 17 When Joseph saw his father placing his right hand on Ephraim's head he was displeased; so he took hold of his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.
- 18 Joseph said to him, "No, my father, this one is the firstborn; put your right hand on his head."
- 19 But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He too will become a people, and he too will become great. Nevertheless, his younger brother will be greater than he, and his descendants will become a group of nations."
- 20 He blessed them that day and said, In your name will Israel pronounce this blessing: 'May God make you like Ephraim and Manasseh.'"So he put Ephraim ahead of Manasseh.



UK is Ephraim, the inheritor of the Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Their enemy is the Beast nation who goes after God's people



The next key to understanding is who is the beast nation



The vision of Daniel said it is the last kingdom before coming of Christ



Daniel vision identified it as the revival of the Holy Roman Empire



This is in the form of a unified European empire headed by a military power with support of the church



It is the rise of the super power UNITED STATES OF EUROPE



Therefore, understanding prophecy allows us to understand why the inheritor of the birthright of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (UK) cannot be a member of the beast nation in the end state – hence the BREXIT has to happen



This is the reason why all these 43 years, Britain has always been a euro skeptic. They are in the EU but never fit into the EU.



Now, they have made the decision to leave the European Union in line with prophecy



We know that this Brexit event will happen. The church has been preaching about this for decades.



Since, the joining of Britain into the European Union in 1973 the church has been saying that Britain will one day exit from the Union.



That day has come. The prediction is fulfilled and we are witnesses of the fact.



It is one thing to preach about the prophecy and another to actually experience it! It feels surreal that it is actually happening before our eyes. Prophecy is moving on and we are now witnesses of the fact



Understanding prophecy is a hallmark of the true church



1 Corinthians 4:1

(1) This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed.



Colossians 1:26

(26) the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people.



Romans 16:25-27

- (25) Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past,
- (26) but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith —
- (27) to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen



As a church, we know and understand this prophetic message through the revelation of the Holy Spirit.



2 Peter 1:20-21

- (20) Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things.
- (21)For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.



The church has accurately predicted historic events with accuracy because of the understanding of Biblical prophecy:



1. The church has been watching the EU even during the cold war era. Through prophetic understanding we know the Beast power will not come from the old USSR but will come from the EU. Since then we have been on EU watch.



2. The church correctly foresaw the rise of the European Economic Common Market into the EU of today. From a trading community 60 years ago, it has become a political, economic and military super state today. A fulfilled prophecy! Full economic integration to become a political block



 Borderless Europe means geographic integration. Free movement of people and goods. No cross border taxation and income taxes.



 One currency moves towards fiscal and financial union. An EU Central Bank that regulates and supervises the Euro. When Euro currency was introduced in 1999 with an exchange rate of 0.9 Euro to one USD. Prior to the global recession the exchange rate hit a high of One (1) Euro to \$1.55 dollars. This is evidence of the growing economic strength of the EU.



3. The church predicted the unification of Germany and it happened in November 9,1989 with the fall of the Berlin Wall. Today, East and West Germany has become the most powerful economic country in the EU zone. The unification of Germany paved the way for the integration of the Eastern Bloc and the full integration of Europe. Another fulfilled prophecy!



4. Now the Brexit! We understood that Ephraim (inheritor of the birthright of Jacob) cannot be a member of the Beast nation. Thus, the church foretold the event of the Brexit that we are seeing today!



Summation

Make no mistake, Bible prophecies are true and they are fulfilling right before our eyes.



There is great assurance and empowerment in realizing these things happening as God said they would. And we have this opportunity to understand and see them being fulfilled.



Now, when you read the newspaper, look at events with new eyes – with an eye on bible prophecy.



Then, the Bible will come alive.



This is how you know that God is true and your faith in Him is true, as well!

