

Newsbytes

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“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

After Erdogan’s Victory, What Should Israel Do?

Should Israel try to salvage what is salvageable in the relationship with Turkey or should it write Turkey off as a loss?

BY HERB KEINON JUNE 26, 2018 jpost.co.il

Gazans might have shot off fireworks in celebration, and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas may have put in a congratulatory call, but there was obviously no joy in Jerusalem on Tuesday at Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s victory – and that of his party – in Sunday’s election.

Erdogan, who supports Hamas and is vitriolic in his rhetoric against Israel, again plunged Israeli-Turkish ties to a low point just a month before the elections by “temporarily” expelling Israel’s ambassador to Turkey, and recalling his own ambassador, following Israel’s response to the riots along the security fence in Gaza.

Israel responded by “temporarily” expelling Turkey’s consul-general in Jerusalem, who has responsibility for Turkey’s relations with east Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza.

Turkey has poured massive amounts of money into Turkish-supported Islamic institutions and organizations in east Jerusalem, and has also used the consul general as the address to funnel aid into Gaza.

While there were some who attributed Erdogan’s expelling of the Israeli ambassador to the election campaign, few in Jerusalem believe now that the campaign is over – and Erdogan has often used his anti-Israeli positions to boost his electoral prospects – the relationship between the two countries will improve in any significant manner.

There is a debate, however, about what Israel should do now.

Should Israel try to salvage what is salvageable in the relationship with Turkey, believing that economic, business and cultural ties between the countries are still important and worth fostering, out of the belief that Erdogan will not last forever? Or should it write Turkey off as a loss, not worth the effort and not as strategically important as it once was to Israel?

An early sign of which direction Israel is heading on this matter may come as early as Tuesday, when the Knesset might debate a resolution recognizing the Armenian genocide. This motion was on the agenda previously, but as of Monday evening it was not clear whether it will be brought up as originally anticipated.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu acceded to a recommendation from the Foreign Ministry earlier this month to postpone discussion of the bill until after the elections in Turkey so as not to help Erdogan at the polls.

A decision to further postpone movement on the bill could mean that Israel wants to see whether – now that the elections are over – Erdogan wants to return relations to where they were before he kicked out Israel's ambassador.

Regarding how Israel should proceed now that Erdogan has won again, The Jerusalem Post spoke with two Israeli academics who follow Turkey closely, and who have opposing views of what Israel should do next regarding Turkey: Nimrod Goren, the head of Mitvim - the Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies and a lecturer in Middle Eastern Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Emmanuel Navon, a fellow at the Jerusalem Institute for Strategic Studies and a lecturer in international relations at Tel Aviv University and the Herzliya Interdisciplinary Center.

Goren said one thing Israel needs to internalize following the elections is that Jerusalem will have to deal with Erdogan for a number of more years – and the hope many harbored that the elections would bring about a change at the top in Turkey did not materialize.

As such, he said, “The goal should be to maintain a working relationship” with Erdogan and his government.

He said it is easy to “fortify oneself behind an aggressive position toward Erdogan – and he created the conditions for that – but the two countries have found a way to work together and advance economic interests in the past, and I think that is worth continuing to do.”

Goren said, at the end of the day, the relationship with Turkey is an important strategic relationship for Israel since it is a large Muslim country with which Israel has had relations since 1949. “There are not that many countries in the region with which Israel is able to work openly,” he said, adding that this is something worth keeping.

He said, however, Israel must be sober and realize that the obstacles in moving the ties forward with Turkey – Gaza, Jerusalem and the Palestinians – will not go away, and that every time there is a crisis with the Palestinians or an escalation in the violence, then Erdogan “will not act any differently than he has.”

At the same time, Goren said, Erdogan has been careful not to take the crisis in ties with Israel too far, and not supported a recent move in parliament to freeze economic ties with it. He also noted that even with the expulsion of the ambassador, there has been no formal Turkish declaration downgrading the relationship.

While the rhetoric is tough and has been so since 2008 and Operation Cast Lead in Gaza, there are significant economic ties between the countries that Goren said should be promoted.

The first thing we should do, Goren said, “is recognize that the ties with Turkey are worth preserving, and that with all the anger toward Erdogan, Turkey is still an important country with a government now that will be in power for years.” Israel, he said, should attempt to create other channels of communication with Turkey to restore the situation at last back to it was before the Gaza riots and the expulsion of the ambassador and the consul general.

Navon, however, could not disagree more. He said that following the elections, Erdogan is going to continue to openly support Hamas and make “outrageous statements on Israel.”

“My take is that the relations with Israel will continue to deteriorate, and that Israel should really work on its relationship with Greece and Cyprus,” he said.

Asked what interest Erdogan had in a further deterioration of ties, Navon said: “He is an Islamist, his foreign policy is Islamist, he supports Iran, he supports Hamas, he has a deeply ingrained hatred for Israel and the Jews, and this works for him internationally because it turned him into the leader of the Muslim world.”

Navon recalled that soon after his election in 2002, Erdogan barred US troops from using bases in Turkey on the way to the invasion of Iraq, something that made him a hero in the Arab and Muslim world, and catapulted him to a leadership position. He has pursued similar policies ever since, Navon said.

“The more he is aggressive toward Israel, the more he is seen as the only leader in the Muslim world who speaks out and is willing to confront the US and Israel,” Navon said, something that adds to his stature in Arab and Muslim countries.

Rather than chasing Erdogan, Israel should make it clear that its natural gas will go through Cyprus and Greece, not via a pipeline through Turkey, Navon said. He also said Israel should also use its influence in Washington to push for Congress to recognize the Armenian genocide.

“One of the reasons Turkey got close to Israel in the 1990s was because they wanted to use the Israel lobby in the US to stop Congress from recognizing the Armenian genocide,” he said.

“Now we should use that card, and tell him that if he is going to burn his bridges with us, we should make him pay a price for this policies.”

Navon disagrees with those who say Israel should salvage what it can with Turkey.

“Israel is a very powerful country, with a strong economy,” he said. “It is a strong geopolitical player with strong ties with the US and elsewhere. We’re not in the 1960s anymore, and it’s about time we realized that.”

Asked whether Israel did not need Turkey, Navon replied simply: “For what?”

Blockchain Will Be Adopted by Every Bank: ‘Catch Me If You Can’

Forger-Turned-FBI Consultant

ccn.com

Frank Abagnale, a master forger and the real-life character of the popular movie “Catch Me If You Can,” recently stated at the Blockchain Nation Miami Conference that he believes blockchain technology is the future of secure information processing and data settlement.

He said:

“I think you would have to be pretty ignorant not to realise that blockchain is the way for the future, it is the best way to secure information 100 percent, so I think you will see banks, especially accounting practices and accounting firms, all move to the blockchain, keeping records through blockchain. It will be the best way to do so because you cannot break the blockchain, you cannot hack into the

blockchain, you can't change anything in the blockchain.”



Noteworthy Coming From Abagnale
Although Abagnale has worked as a security consultant in the later stages of his career, between the ages 15 and 21 years old, he was acknowledged as a master forger, creating fake checks and stealing large sums of money.

In his speech, Abagnale revealed that he observed major airlines and car rental firms like United Airlines and Hertz leaving large sums of cash in zip-up bags into a drop box in a specific area within an airport. Abagnale purchased a security guard costume, placed a sign that read, “Out of Service, Place Deposits With Security

Guard on Duty” and collected millions of dollars.

Throughout his early career as a forger, Abagnale forged checks to cash out money from big banks and financial institutions, committing bank fraud. Eventually, Abagnale served his sentence in Miami and subsequent to his release; he started his career as a consultant.

Abagnale’s viewpoint on the blockchain and cryptocurrency is noteworthy because Abagnale generated millions of dollars in profit by breaking into the broken financial system and structure of banks, by forging checks, stealing cash, and redirecting funds.

With the blockchain, bank fraud which Abagnale had committed is not possible. Bitcoin, for instance, can be used to send money from one person or business to another, without the involvement of security boxes, armoured cars, and third-party service providers. It is also not possible to forge or create more bitcoin without running a 51 percent attack against the network, which is virtually impossible given its computing power.

“One would have to be incredibly foolish not to see that [blockchain] is an incredible technology and that will be eventually adopted by all types of governments, businesses, and corporations. A cyber currency [cryptocurrency], just like anything else, it will take time to get people to understand how it works and I tell people all the time, and they say “is it safe?” I say every financial transaction has a risk. The only financial transaction in the world that exists that has no risk is a credit card because federal law takes total liability away from you,” added Abagnale.

Blockchain Adoption Curve

As Abagnale emphasized, cryptocurrencies like bitcoin and Ethereum are still at their infancy. Ethereum was created less than three years ago and for disruptive technologies to be adopted, it could take well over a decade, as seen in the case of the internet.

I Never Thought I Would See the Day (Part 2)

By Jan Markell June 20, 2018 www.olivetreeviews.org

Last November I wrote an article listing a number of things I didn't think I would see in my lifetime. Prophecy Update even turned it into a short video that almost 200,000 people have viewed. Now six months later, I've come up with another list of unbelievable happenings that I never thought I would live to see. Sure, we live in crazy times. A lot of things the Bible predicted are now happening at break-neck speed but it still leaves me speechless.

Here's my updated list I never thought I'd live to see:

Churches would not just recognize the Islamic holiday known as Ramadan, they would join in on the "celebration" while hundreds of innocents were being killed at the very same time.

Women's sporting activities would be curtailed because transgenders can now participate as women even though they are males.

The WWII anti-Nazi term "the resistance" would be applied to those opposed to a U.S. President -- Donald Trump.

Lucifer would get his own TV show, first on the Fox Network and now on Netflix. In fact, he is glorified as a good guy -- handsome, charming, and funny. Some day Christ-rejecters won't be laughing.

Netflix will also have an animated drag queen series for children. (But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea: Matthew 18:6).

I would turn on any form of media and the only story being talked about would be President Trump -- and always in a negative light! Can't the Left give him an ounce of credit? And what about all the other significant stories the media is just ignoring?

My tax dollars would be spent to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars to better understand why lesbians are obese.

Seven out of nine Supreme Court Justices would all agree on a religious liberty case -- Colorado baker Jack Phillips. There is hope for our Republic!

Public libraries in my neck of the woods -- the Twin Cities -- would have "drag story hours" with cross-dressers -- for little children. Talk about the return of the Days of Noah.

The Department of Homeland Security would announce that it intends to compile a comprehensive list of hundreds of thousands of journalists, editors, bloggers, and folks like me. They will collect any "information that could be relevant about them."

The residents of Gaza would take Japan's gift of kites for the children of Gaza and use them as incendiary devices to burn down southern Israel. (And Israel is to make peace with such barbarians?)

Wiccans and pagans had a scheduled gathering in Maryland. God had other ideas. He caused a flood to cancel the event.

Christianity would literally be expelled from public schools but Islam would be taught and praised.

The Left has gone apoplectic about the separation of kids from parents at the border but defends and even celebrates the permanent separation: Abortion.

Private conversation would be at risk thanks to Alexa, Google Plus, our iPhones, and more, literally spying on us. Today's world has no secrets.

I have left so much off of this "I never thought I'd see the day" list that it grieves me. You have a saturation point. I don't want to push you that far. But I suspect even George Orwell would be shocked at the tide of our times!

The Bible says there would be a day when good would be called evil and evil good (Isaiah 5:20). We are there. These happenings remind us that we're not in Kansas anymore and things are all falling into place!

God is using the negative as a megaphone to say that "I am coming soon!"

Look up. Our redemption draws nigh.

The Devil Walks The Aisles

By Grant Phillips June 19, 2018 raptureready.com

In Matthew 16:18 Jesus makes it clear that the Church is His and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. If that be so, then why does it seem that the Church is failing today? Obviously, many who are called Christians have no resemblance to Jesus. Most of the churches have followed the way of the world and not only condone but endorse everything Satan upholds. Has Jesus lost His grip and Satan seized the Church? What is going on?

Read the previous paragraph carefully, because I have been very careful in my wording. Satan may have taken over many "churches," but he does not have the "Church." A steeple does not make a Church. Neither does the fence one straddles make a Christian.

So let me say right up front that Jesus' Church is made up of many people who are in many different churches, but those churches do not necessarily belong to Jesus. Many of the churches are dead, but the real Church lives. When Christ calls His Church out of the world at the Rapture, the cream will rise to the top. All those remaining, and there will be many, are not the Church.

There are millions of people who are "church" members today, but how many of those are "Church" members? Only the bridegroom really knows, and He will call them to Him one day soon.

An untold number of church members are depending on everything but their relationship with Jesus to "get to Heaven." But as the Devil walks the aisles, and leans over the pews he continues deceiving gullible people, and there are many of them.

That Devil whispers:

You're a member of the church. You're okay.
You signed a card. You're okay.
You walked the aisle. You're okay.

You work tirelessly for the church. You're okay.
You tithe. You're okay.
Your family are Christians. You're okay.
You're in the right church. You're okay.
You've received many awards for your work in the community. You're okay.

But the Holy Spirit tugs at the heart and says:
There is only one way. Trust Jesus and be saved.

As the Devil walks the aisles he has brought the world into the churches of today. It has seeped in through the front door, back door, side doors, and even the windows. The Gospel of Jesus Christ and His holy Bible has been thrown out and replaced with humanism (love of self), materialism (love of money) and hedonism (love of pleasure). Shockingly, even sins such as homosexuality are being accepted and promoted from the pulpits, while those in the pews either submit or leave.

For those who leave, the echo reverberates throughout the land from Christians saying they cannot find a church that actually teaches the Bible. Maybe it is because many churches no longer even believe what the Bible says. Therefore, the true Church within the churches are hungry for the sincere milk of the Word (1 Peter 2:2), but are being denied.

To be fair, there is another reason so many in the Church have not advanced very far in their Christian growth. They have become lazy. Think about this: Most of the restaurants in your area may be serving bad food, but one can always eat at home if you are really hungry, and many these days are doing just that. On the other hand, many more are not. They're doing without and starving spiritually.

Jesus said through the apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:13-18:

“Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth [a determination to live for Christ], having put on the breastplate of righteousness [holiness resulting from living for Him], and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace [confidence and inner peace from God's divine support]; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one [continual basic trust in God].

And take the helmet of salvation, [confident of being secure in Christ] and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God [total belief and reliance in God's Word]; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.” (Ephesians 6:13-18, bracketed comments are mine)

God wants His children to grow in Him. For example, He clearly says so in the following Scripture passage:

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15)

It is unfortunate that so many pastors are false prophets, and I do realize the problem is worse in some geographical areas than others. I'm sure it is probably not as bad in the area we live as it is in many of the large cities, but even here some of the churches have long ago compromised with the world.

One dear brother in Christ informed me that he has had some pastors who refused to teach the writings of Paul. That is an indication of either a pastor who is not saved or a flaming idiot. Jesus says,

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17. emphasis mine)

Jesus then had the apostle Peter confirm that Paul’s writings are Scripture.

“And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.” (2 Peter 3:15-16, emphasis mine)

I have heard of “silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth,” (2 Timothy 3:6-7) actually say they would not listen to Paul because he was chauvinistic.

I believe the apostle Paul has been attacked more than anyone except Jesus Himself. I believe it is so because Jesus appointed Paul as the apostle to the Gentiles (Romans 11:13) and Satan has tried for 2,000 years to discredit any and everything Paul as said; even Paul himself. However, the one critical point these fools are overlooking is this. The message is not Paul’s. The message comes from God that He gave Paul for us to heed.

These mealy-mouthed hypocritical blasphemers are leading thousands to hell with them. They are blind to the Truth. Don’t follow them, for Jesus said.

“Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.” (Matthew 15:14)

Paul’s epistles comprise about 1/3 of the New Testament, without including the book of Hebrews. Obviously, Satan desires to keep people from hearing all that Jesus says through the apostle Paul.

I would not want to be in the shoes of most pastors and teachers on judgment day. The Lord has made it very clear that we are held to very strict standards that He alone has set in stone. That standard is “Truth.” We are expected to provide the Truth and “accurately handle the Word of Truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

“Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.” (James 3:1)

See also Ezekiel 33:1-9. God has several men and women today who are being faithful watchmen on the wall, but there are many more who are failing miserably in this area. Many of these so-called watchmen have so compromised themselves with the false gospel of the world, the true Gospel of God has been extinguished in their area of responsibility. Because of these wolves in sheep’s clothing, millions are being led away from the Truth.

If your pastor or teacher is not being faithful to God’s Word, the Bible, don’t allow him to lead you down that dark alley of lies and hypocrisy. Get out into the sunlight of God’s holy Word and follow the Lord Jesus Christ. The air will be fresher and life so much more joyous.

Grant Phillips