

# Trumpet Weekly

NOVEMBER 11, 2016



Donald Trump wins the 2016 presidential election.

## What the Trump Victory Means

Joel Hilliker | November 9

**I**N AN ELECTION UPSET THAT SHOCKED THE MEDIA AND MAINSTREAM analysts, Donald Trump garnered enough state victories to claim a convincing [win in America's presidential election](#).

If you know biblical prophecy, however, you know that the surprises in America are just getting started.

Consider the ramifications of the fact that, in several ways, this result represents the complete upending of American politics.

Mr. Trump snubbed the political establishment of both major parties and suffered no penalty. He rebuked and scorned the press and was rewarded for it. He repeatedly broke every rule that has applied to politicians for generations, and repeatedly defied forecasts, assumptions and expectations. Time after time he scoffed at those who wrote his epitaph.



JOEL HILLIKER

The prognostications were wrong; the analysts were wrong; the polls were wrong. Now everyone is trying to make sense of a reshaped political landscape.

It is easy to see how America's new president-elect would view this election as a sweet vindication of his "I did it my way" approach. With Republicans not only gaining control of the presidency but also securing control of both houses of Congress, and with the prospect of the Supreme Court also shifting conservative with one or more Trump appointees, many pundits today are talking about the strong mandate Mr. Trump received to do as he pleases.

But this view overlooks just how much this result represents a *rejection* of something rather than an *embrace* of something. A repudiation—a rebuke.

A great many Americans are *angry*. A great many votes for Mr. Trump were expressions of animosity and outrage at a corrupt political system, of which Hillary Clinton is an apt representative

and symbol. A great many were votes *against* a candidate they absolutely did not want to see in the White House. Many were expressions of exasperation over the declivitous decline of America in a variety of manifestations, domestically and globally. For many, their vote was a full-throated protest against current politics, against the Obama administration, against socialized medicine, against open borders, against government regulation and intrusion, against bowing and kowtowing to foreign governments.

For many, it was also a forcible stiff-arm to a mainstream press laden with bias, smugness and self-superiority. For many more, Mr. Trump's very candidacy reflected an outcry against the Republican establishment that proved itself so feckless at stopping the radical left's usurpation of power and disregard for the Constitution and the rule of law.

For these reasons, Mr. Trump won *in spite* of most Americans disliking him. Exit polling showed that six in 10 voters believed him to be unqualified to be president—that would necessarily include some who voted for him. Sixty-one percent of them held an unfavorable view of him, and 63 percent said he lacked a presidential temperament. Seven in 10 voters were bothered by his treatment of women.

Certainly Mr. Trump has his genuine believers. But those whose votes were a strong “*Yes!*” to Trump are strongly outnumbered by those saying “*No, no, no, no!*” to a mountain of provocations and aggravations and vexations. Like Britain's vote in June to leave the European Union, in large part this vote sprang from people's angst and panic over their loss of control and their sense that *any* change would be an improvement. In aggregate, Mr. Trump's victory represents a groundswell of desperation to try *anything* different from what we've been getting.

This assumption may well have been correct. But it raises a massive question: Just what will *replace* “what we've been getting”? To whatever degree Americans were reacting against things they don't like—don't want—they did vote *for* this man. In many minds he was less bad than the alternative—but what will he actually *do*?

Is this businessman who is accustomed to calling all the shots going to reverse the Obama administration's usurpation of power to the executive? Is the man who has repeatedly said America has been shouldering too much of the burden of maintaining the global order going to *reverse* the Obama administration's retreat on the world stage?

In many ways, Americans have no idea what Mr. Trump is

going to do. Where his pronouncements have been clear, they have been changeable; he says something definitive one day and backtracks the next. He successfully identified many of America's problems, but essentially offered *himself* as the solution to all of them. What does that mean? Who knows how he would go about it? It is truly a leap of unfounded faith to think that this man can restore America to greatness. He can only say, “It's going to be great—believe me” for so long before it becomes obvious that people's grandiose and diverse and contradictory expectations of his presidency are going unfulfilled.

In addition, the Trump victory highlights a misdiagnosis of the *cause* of America's problems. This nation isn't going down because of a bad president, or because of a handful of corrupt politicians, or special-interest lobbies. The cause is much deeper. It is spiritual in nature.

Peggy Noonan made an important observation in her *Wall Street Journal* column earlier this week. “A closing thought: God is in charge of history. He asks us to work, to try, to pour ourselves out to make things better. But He is an actor in history also. He chastises and rescues, He intervenes in ways seen and unseen. Or chooses not to. Twenty sixteen looks to me like a chastisement. He's trying to get our attention. We have candidates we can't be proud of. We must choose among the embarrassments. What might we be doing as a nation and a people that would have earned this moment?”

She is on to something there. But as to the question “what might we be doing” to have brought this chastisement upon ourselves, she apparently doesn't know, or is unwilling to say.

LOOK AT AMERICA TODAY! Try to look at it from the point of view of *the God who is in charge of history*—and ask yourself if you can think of ANYTHING we might be doing as a nation that would cause Him to be CHASTISING US and *trying to get our attention!*

God has been trying to get America's attention for DECADES—and we have ignored Him, defied Him, and openly blasphemed Him. We are suffering *curses* for doing so—curses that are destined to intensify, no matter who becomes president.

You need to know WHY. Let God get *your* attention. He has spelled out in biblical prophecy exactly what is going to happen to this nation because of the course we have chosen. You can read all about it in Herbert W. Armstrong's book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. Anyone who ignores that forewarning is about to experience a series of shocks far more devastating than an election upset. The surprises in America are just getting started.

 Follow Joel Hilliker

## MIDDLE EAST

# TrumpetDaily

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## Is Donald Trump Good for Israel?

**I**SRAELI PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU QUICKLY SENT A congratulatory message to United States President-elect Donald Trump on Wednesday calling him “his friend.” Indeed, Donald Trump was preferred by many Israelis to win the United States election. This was especially in light of his promise to relocate the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, something each preceding U.S. administration has failed to do. However, in an opinion piece for Ynetnews, Itamar Eichner concluded that while Mr. Trump may be a good partner with Israel, he can change “[according to his own caprices](#).”

Israeli high-ranking officials agree on one thing: Bottom line, Trump is a mystery. On the one hand, Trump is indeed a big lover of Israel. On the other, there is no way to tell how he is going to act. ...

Many of his friends are Jewish, and he has unbridled warmth towards Prime Minister Netanyahu and Israel.

But not everything is rosy. These officials also describe Trump as impulsive and impossible to predict, and he has a tendency to quarrel with the people he works with.

As they say, “[A]longside the enormous affection Trump has towards Netanyahu and Israel, we can’t rule out a scenario whereby Trump uses Israel as a bargaining chip with other countries, with Russia for instance.”

In other words, he will put America’s interests first.

What is more, no one can be sure if Trump will keep the various promises he made to Israel, including moving the

U.S. Embassy to Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, canceling the Iranian nuclear agreement, increasing U.S. security aid, or recognizing the annexation of the settlements.

The officials say that Trump will not rush to try and make an Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement. His foreign-policy interests have more to do with trade deals between the U.S. and China and the U.S. and Latin America.

Nevertheless, when Trump finally decides to get himself involved in the peace process, it will likely be an all-or-nothing affair.

He will announce that he will be able to solve the conflict and get the two sides to come to an agreement. However, Trump’s aides have promised that the president-elect will not impose an agreement on Israel.

But how will Trump react to localized escalations of violence? That is still unclear; the possibility that Trump will rebuke Israel over its use of force in one instance or another can’t be denied.

Bottom line: Trump is a mystery, and Israelis don’t like mysteries or surprises.

In the past eight years, we have witnessed the Israeli-American relationship deteriorate at a faster pace than ever before. Now that a new president will be in power, hopes are high that the alliance can be rejuvenated. While that might be possible for a time, the Bible indicates that in the end time those bonds of brotherhood will be severed.

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## Saudi Arabia Backs Off Oil Deal With Egypt

**S**IX MONTHS AGO IT LOOKED AS IF THE SAUDI-EGYPTIAN ALLIANCE was as strong as could be. Egypt agreed to give Saudi Arabia two islands in the straits of Tiran, and the Saudi leader inked a multiyear aid deal worth \$23 billion whereby 700,000 tons of refined oil products would be sent to Egypt per month for five years. In April, the oil started to flow. However by October, the Saudis stopped the shipments. On Monday, the Egyptian Oil Ministry said that stoppage would continue indefinitely. According to the [Associated Press](#):

The move ratchets up pressure on Egypt as it implements austerity measures in the hope of securing billions of dollars in loans to stabilize its ailing economy. Cairo floated its currency last week and cut fuel subsidies, leading to across-the-board price hikes in the Arab world’s most populous country.

Egyptian Oil Ministry spokesman Hamdi Abdel-Aziz said that Saudi Arabia’s Aramco, the world’s largest oil company, stopped sending the fuel shipments to Egypt “without giving a specific timetable or reasons.” ...

The move appears to have been taken in response to

Egypt’s support of a UN Security Council resolution on Syria that was fiercely opposed by Riyadh. Saudi Arabia is a leading supporter of the rebels fighting to topple President Bashar Assad. Egypt, fearing the rise of Islamic militants, has pushed for a political solution that might keep him in power.

ZeroHedge called the Saudi Arabian-Egyptian breakup a “[Seismic Shift in the Middle East](#).” According to ZeroHedge, the cancellation of the oil deal is just the latest sign of the deepening rift between Egypt and its Gulf ally. According to ZeroHedge:

In mid-October, we reported that, for the first time ever, Russia and Egypt would conduct joint military drills. This followed news that Russia will sell attack helicopters to the North African nation and invest billions in Egyptian infrastructure. These items, along with the fact that Egypt is eager to be regranted Russian tourism rights for its citizens after recent bad blood between the countries, lead one to the logical conclusion that Egypt has every incentive to cooperate with Russia going forward. ...

So, with Saudi Arabia turning a cold shoulder to Egypt, what options are left? Well, one: “The enemy of my enemy is my friend,” and sure enough, Oil Minister [Tarek] El Molla’s delegation said late on Sunday evening that he would visit Iran, Saudi Arabia’s main political rival, to try to strike new oil deals, hinting that Egypt may be the latest to join a fledgling Mideast axis which includes Iran, Syria, Russia and, just perhaps, Turkey.

Egypt and Iran’s diplomatic relations have been strained since the 1970s, and is why, according to Reuters, “an Egyptian official visiting Iran would cement a break in its alliance with Saudi Arabia and mark a seismic shift in the regional political order.”

Both Iran and Egypt later dismissed the notion that there would be any meeting between Iran and Egypt. “However,” ZeroHedge continued, “that was just a front, and according to Reuters,

two security sources and the source in Molla’s delegation said the minister had been scheduled to go, and the low-key visit was now delayed after the news became public.”

*Trumpet* readers have long been watching for a sizable shift to take place in Egypt where Cairo would move away from its alliance with the Gulf states in favor of Iran—its longtime Persian enemy. It’s likely that Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi would rather continue his relationship with Saudi Arabia rather than moving closer to Iran; however, given the dire economic straits of his nation, relief might only come through a deal with Iran.

**“We have prophesied for over 13 years that Iran would head up the ‘king of the south.’ We have also prophesied that the Iranian power would ally with Egypt. How did we know that? Because God said so in His Bible—something you can prove.”**

Gerald Flurry, “Iran-Egypt Alliance Prophesied,” *Trumpet*, March 2008

## **T Iran Victorious in Lebanon’s Presidential Election**

**Callum Wood | November 10**

**WE TALKED ABOUT THIS**



**A** WEEK AFTER LEBANON’S ELECTION, IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER Javad Zarif met with Lebanon’s newly appointed Christian president, Michel Aoun. The November 7 meeting points to the close bond between the fledgling president and his Shiite allies. Zarif is the first foreign minister to meet with the new president.

Iran’s hasty visit underscores the importance of the Iranian-Lebanese alliance. The smiles on Zarif’s face also show [the election victory was as much a win for Iran as it was for Aoun](#).

Iran is happy to have secured such a close friend at the top of Lebanon’s political structure. Aoun is a close ally of Iran’s terrorist group, Hezbollah. He is also a political ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad’s regime and an opponent of Saudi Arabia.

Hezbollah has an impressive military of around 45,000 fighters; 21,000 of whom are in active service. Despite this, its political efforts are curtailed by a power-sharing system dating back to 1943. These unwritten laws require the president to be a Christian, the prime minister to be a Sunni, and the speaker of the house to be a Shiite. Such guidelines hamper Shiite Hezbollah’s political rise.

But the election of Aoun promotes a close friend of Hezbollah to the helm and simultaneously extends Hezbollah extra influence in the nation’s political sphere.

Aoun shocked many analysts when he brokered an alliance with Hezbollah in 2006, laying aside old rivalries and opening up the possibility of a relationship with enemies who once threatened to assassinate him.

Aoun’s election broke a 2½-year gridlock but didn’t come without compromise. It came only after he was endorsed by Saad

Hariri, the leader of Lebanon’s main Sunni bloc in parliament. Hariri subsequently received a tap on the shoulder by Aoun to become prime minister and form the next parliament.

While Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah did not endorse Hariri, he said Hezbollah would not oppose the election.

Furthermore, Hezbollah is now the most powerful faction in parliament. A Hariri government will automatically be hamstrung by Hezbollah’s control of the cabinet. As the *New York Post* put it, “Lebanon, in other words, is now the fiefdom of Nasrallah and, by proxy, Iran.”

Strengthening both Hezbollah and Assad is key to Iran’s regional aspirations. Just as important is diminishing Saudi Arabia’s power and influence. The new Lebanese president looks set to aid Iran in both fields.

In 2008, there was another political reconciliation. Like today, Hezbollah was imbued with greater power: power of veto in the government. In the August 2008 *Trumpet* article “Iran Conquered Lebanon ... Now What?”, editor in chief **Gerald Flurry** and managing editor Joel Hilliker wrote:

What occurred in Lebanon was nothing less than a **bleak surrender** by Lebanon’s Western-backed governing coalition—and a major victory for the Hezbollah terrorist group and its primary sponsor, Iran.

That the United States, the United Nations and others pretended it was anything else is a measure of their own capitulation to Iran.

## Iran Violates Nuke Deal With Excess Heavy Water

A CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OBTAINED BY REUTERS THIS WEEK INDICATES that Iran has once again exceeded the allowed amount of heavy water in its possession, violating the nuclear deal struck by Iran and world earlier this year. According to [TheTower.org](http://TheTower.org):

This is the second time since the implementation of the nuclear deal in January that Iran exceeded the 130-ton threshold on heavy water. The United States already agreed to purchase 32 tons of heavy water from Iran in April in an effort to allow Tehran to come back into compliance with the agreement.

“On Nov. 2, 2016, the director general [of the International Atomic Energy Agency] expressed concerns related to Iran’s stock of heavy water to the vice president of Iran and president of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran,” the United Nations’ nuclear watchdog noted in a confidential report obtained by Reuters.

In response, Iran claimed that it planned to ship the heavy water out of the country in the coming days.

It is worth mentioning that in both instances where Iran has exceeded the amount of heavy water, Iran did not come forward voluntarily to remove its excess stockpile, but was rather

compelled by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). TheTower.org report continued,

After Iran was first found to have surpassed the cap on heavy water in February, Olli Heinonen, a former deputy director general of the IAEA, wrote that Iran was obliged to halt production of the material if it neared the 130-ton limit.

“The real concern is Iran’s excess production above the agreed-upon limits,” Heinonen wrote. “Iran should have simply halted heavy water production until it was able to comply with the agreement. After all, the JCPOA’s [Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action] nuclear inventory limits were set for a purpose. Iran is continuously enriching uranium and producing heavy water, and exceeding the JCPOA’s limits threatens to cut its nuclear breakout time—namely the time needed to produce material for a nuclear bomb.”

As noted in the Reuters report, president-elect Donald Trump has called the “nuclear deal the worst deal ever negotiated.” He also said that he would “police the contact so tough they don’t have a chance.” Given that Iran is now routinely violating the terms of the deal, the future U.S. president should have ample opportunities to follow up on his promise.

## EUROPE

# Trumpet Hour

THE TRUMP VICTORY’S EFFECT ON AMERICA, EUROPE AND ASIA, AND MUCH MORE | NOVEMBER 11

DISCUSSING THE EFFECTS OF A TRUMP VICTORY | NOVEMBER 9

## Europe’s Leaders Speak Out Against Trump

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



EUROPEAN LEADERS HATE DONALD TRUMP. SO MUCH SO THAT across the Continent, they broke with protocol and involved themselves in another nation’s election—in order to condemn him. Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton, on the other hand, they love. Her husband was awarded the Charlemagne Prize for his contribution to European unity. The two Clintons were both strong supporters in the breakup of Yugoslavia initiated by Germany and the Vatican.

Mr. Trump’s election was met with shock, and then muted congratulations. German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Europe’s de facto leader, [offered only conditional cooperation](#). She listed the values that she said bound America together: “democracy, freedom, respect for the law and for human dignity, regardless of ancestry,

skin color, religion, gender, sexual orientation or political leanings.”

“On the basis of these values, I offer the future president of the United States of America, Donald Trump, close cooperation,” she said.

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier was a little less diplomatic:

We hope that we are not facing greater instability in international politics. During his campaign, Trump was critical not just of Europe, but also of Germany. I believe we must prepare for American foreign policy becoming less predictable. We must prepare for a situation in which America will be tempted to make decisions on its own more often.

I don't want to sugarcoat it: Nothing will be easier and much will be more difficult.

Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel warned: "Trump is a warning to us as well. He is the harbinger of a new authoritarian and chauvinistic international movement."

Justice Minister Heiko Maas was even blunter: "The world won't end. It will only get crazier."

The chairman of Germany's parliamentary Committee on Foreign Policy Norbert Röttgen said Mr. Trump was "completely inadequate" to be president. "That Trump's election could lead to the worst estrangement between America and Europe since the Vietnam War would be the least of the damage," he said.

European officials also made their displeasure clear. "I'm not happy about it," European Parliament President Martin Schultz said. "But on the other hand, I also believe that the political system in the U.S. is strong enough to be able to deal with a president like Trump."

Europe's leaders fear that America's foreign policy could change radically under President Trump, leaving Europe in a precarious situation. "Americans didn't just choose a divisive new president-elect on Tuesday, they voted out the old world order," wrote Mark Mackinnon, reporting from London for the *Globe and Mail*. "The certainties that underpin our current global system—the one in place since the end of the Second World War—are no longer guaranteed after the electoral earthquake in the United States."

"He's totally unpredictable," said András Simonyi, former Hungarian ambassador to the U.S. and expert on transatlantic relations at John Hopkins University. "He has zero experience in foreign policy, and we don't know who he's listening to. I know several of his advisers, and I don't know who he really listens to."

The *Wall Street Journal* described the reason for the unease in an article titled "[Trump's Victory Shakes Europe's Geopolitical Order](#)":

For the second time in less than five months, European leaders have woken up to a vote that has shaken the Continent's geopolitical order.

If anything, the election of Donald Trump was more

shattering than Britain's decision to leave the European Union.

The votes in two of the world's most open and market-oriented economies both suggested dissatisfaction with globalization and economic integration. Mr. Trump's election has raised questions about whether the U.S. will continue to extend the unconditional security guarantee that has underpinned European prosperity since World War II. ...

But in his campaign speeches, Mr. Trump has provoked nervousness in Central and Eastern Europe by calling into question American support for the Western alliance and with his embrace of Russian leader Vladimir Putin. He has suggested he favors increasing trade barriers to protect American industries. ...

Another worry is that economic uncertainty generated by his election could threaten Europe's still-faltering recovery. ...

Mr. Trump's success, like the Brexit vote, has been widely interpreted in Europe as a victory for the politics of cultural identity. Ahead of elections next year in France, Germany and the Netherlands, European governments are looking over their shoulders at their own antiestablishment parties.

Among the first to congratulate Mr. Trump was presidential contender Marine Le Pen of France's National Front ....

... In seeking to navigate relations with the new administration, European leaders face another challenge: They don't know the president-elect or his entourage.

They have been suspicious of his rhetoric and have held Mr. Trump at arm's length during the campaign. Mr. Trump's sudden emergence into the political arena also means he doesn't have a team of well-known Republicans to whom they can reach out—though that may change as he builds a foreign-policy team.

Europe has relied on America for its protection since World War II. The foundation of its security and prosperity is called into question at the same time that the eurozone seems to be falling apart. No wonder Europe's leaders are panicking.

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## Europe to Beef Up Its Military After Trump

**“W**ITH THE U.S. ELECTION RESULTS, THE PRESSURE ON Germany has increased dramatically,” freelance expert on international affairs Olaf Boehnke told the *Local*.

“There is a need of leadership, and if the U.S. will not be the leader for the time being, then everybody looks to other leading nations or those with the potential,” he said. “It is up to Merkel and to Berlin to step up at least for the European crowd and take on much more responsibility than she already has.”

One of the biggest ways Europe now looks to Germany for leadership is the military.

German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen said that Mr. Trump's victory was a “deep shock.” “Europe has to prepare for the fact that it must provide for itself,” she said—noting that that

would mean spending more money on defense. [Germany-Foreign-Policy.com](#) noted that this split with the U.S. has been building for some time, writing:

Demands from within Berlin's foreign-policy establishment that Germany enhance its position within the framework of the transatlantic alliance have become louder over the past few days and weeks. For example, according to a recently published analysis of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, global policy intentions currently “have only little prospects of success, without the participation of the American hegemon.” Nevertheless, it is indispensable “to ponder the reaction, should U.S. behavior

become counterproductive from a German perspective.”

“Without the will to argue with the U.S. government, many options for gaining influence are excluded from the outset.” In the future, “Germany and Europe should not leave stability policy proposals up the U.S.A.,” continues the analysis. “The transatlantic relationship,” as well as “how to shape the future global order” must be independently evaluated.

The influential diplomat and chair of the Munich Security Conference, Wolfgang Ischinger, expressed similar views in the current issue of the foreign affairs journal *Internationale Politik*. Germany is “today ..., without question, an essential part of the West,” writes Ischinger in his detailed article. “To enumerate Germany’s important roles for the West” is “no expression of megalomania.” However, to keep abreast of its important position, “Europe,” must invest more heavily in its military. “We need ... more urgency in the establishment and development of effective European defense structures.” At the end of the 1980s, Germany was still spending “nearly half” of its budget “on foreign and security policy questions, in the broader sense of the terms.” “Today, it is in the range of about a 10th.” We can no longer afford this, “given our full treasury and an expanding crisis zone inside and outside Europe’s borders.” This morning, Germany’s minister of defense, von der Leyen, confirmed this, promising a massive increase in Germany’s military budget. This has already been explicitly announced on various occasions by Chancellor Merkel.

President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker also renewed calls for setting up a separate army for the European

Continent just hours after Donald Trump was elected. Juncker said that the EU could not rely on America in the long run as Washington would not be able to ensure security of Europeans. Even before Mr. Trump’s election, von der Leyen called for the EU to step up its defense. “We have seen an enormous modernization drive by NATO over the past three years because of the Kremlin’s behavior,” she told a Christian Democratic Union security conference.

If Europeans believe they cannot trust the U.S.-backed NATO, they will probably build up their own EU equivalent.

Warning about the cooling of relations between Europe and the U.S., *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in 2014 that this “is a significant development. It is about the dismantling of a relationship that has helped to preserve peace in Europe for nearly seven decades!” He wrote:

Bible prophecy warns that a German-led European empire is going to rise up. We have said for over 50 years that it will probably be more powerful than both America and Russia!

The age of American global leadership is drawing to a close. While the Germans might not come out and say so, they are reveling in that fact. The U.S. may try and repair relations with its former lover, but irreversible damage has already been done. The breakup, which started with the spying scandal, is going to continue to worsen until one of America’s greatest allies since World War II becomes, once again, its greatest enemy!

For more on that prophesied split, read [“The Significance of Germany’s Break From America.”](#)

## TW IN BRIEF

**Islamic State recruiters arrested in Germany:** German security authorities arrested five men on Tuesday on allegations that they aided the Islamic State in Germany by recruiting members and providing financial and logistical help. The arrests were made in a series of raids in the western state of North Rhine-Westphalia and the northern state of Lower Saxony. One of the raids was in the Lower Saxony city of Hildesheim, which is a known

center for ultraconservative Muslims and where a mosque was raided during the summer. The five men are suspected of recruiting young Muslims in Germany and raising funds to send them to Syria to join the Islamic State, prosecutors said. They are also accused of providing logistical support for the trips. The accused will be brought before a judge later on Tuesday and on Wednesday, the prosecutor’s office said.

## ASIA

## Russia and China Celebrate Trump’s Victory

### WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



**D**ONALD TRUMP’S VICTORY OVER HILLARY CLINTON STUNNED many, and it comes along with a Republican majority in both the House and the Senate. This means that, for at least the first two years of his presidency, Mr. Trump will face few constraints in enacting domestic and foreign policies. What will this mean for America’s posturing toward Russia and China?

After Trump’s victory was clear, the Russian parliament erupted into applause, and President Vladimir Putin sent him a congratulatory telegram, saying he hoped “for cooperation in ending a crisis in Russian-American relations.”

Trump’s win presented the chance to build “a constructive dialogue between Moscow and Washington on the principles of

equality, mutual respect and real consideration for each other's position," Putin said.

On November 10, *Foreign Brief* said Russia's cheer was largely because of "[Donald Trump's Suggestion That NATO Partners Must Pay Their 'Fair Share.'](#)" The statement "has caused consternation among many U.S. allies in Europe," the *Brief* said, but was "a welcome sign for Moscow, which has grown concerned about NATO's increased military footprint in Eastern Europe."

*Foreign Brief* continued:

While it is unlikely that President Trump will actually reduce America's commitment to the defense of its NATO allies, the fact that the next U.S. president has publicly questioned the alliance's relevance will raise doubts in the minds of European leaders.

It is also possible that Trump could work to scale down the economic sanctions the U.S. and Europe placed on Russia for its annexation of the Crimean Peninsula in 2014.

Trump's victory was also celebrated in China. *Time* wrote:

As the world digested the reality of U.S. President-elect Donald Trump, [the glee among China's political establishment was hard to contain](#). "China is feeling a little bit delighted," says Shen Dingli, deputy dean of the Institute of International Studies at Fudan University in Shanghai.

The giddiness comes in various forms. First, what better advertisement for the stable, technocratic authoritarianism of the Chinese Communist Party than an America so divided that half the electorate failed to recognize how disenfranchised the rest of the nation felt?

"Trump's election shows the problem of American democracy," says Yu Tiejun, a professor of international studies at Peking University in Beijing. ...

"There is a lot of Chinese schadenfreude about the lowly nature of the debate in the U.S. election campaign," says Paul Haenle, director of the Carnegie-Tsinghua Center for Global Policy in Beijing. "It's a total gift to Chinese propaganda."

Second, Trump has shown little interest in holding China accountable for its human-rights record, even as President Xi Jinping has tightened control on freethinkers

who speak out against the ruling Chinese Communist Party. During the campaign, Trump even lauded the steeliness of the Chinese leadership for ordering the 1989 massacre of Tiananmen democracy protesters.

"Trump doesn't care about whether China is an authoritarian state," says Qiao Mu, media-studies professor at Beijing Foreign Studies University, who is no longer allowed to teach because of his outspokenness on political issues. ...

Third, while Barack Obama talked about pivoting toward Asia—a foreign-policy maneuver that the Chinese saw as little more than containment—Trump campaigned on isolationism. He has scorned the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the 12-nation trading bloc that was supposed to add economic ballast to Obama's Asia pivot. Trump has also threatened to tear up defense treaties with America's Asian allies, such as Japan and South Korea.

"The Chinese like that Trump talks about America growing inward, that the U.S. is overreached in the Middle East, that he's ripping up TPP, that he's not paying much attention in Asia," says Haenle. "Trump says we need to pull back. All that sounds great to the Chinese."

An increasingly assertive Chinese government has turned disputed islets in the South China Sea into de facto military bases. At the same time, Beijing has unleashed a charm offensive on Asian leaders whose countries are embroiled in territorial disputes in the vast waterway, such as the Philippines' Rodrigo Duterte and Malaysia's Najib Razak. After decades in which the U.S. Navy prided itself on keeping the peace in the Pacific, could China capitalize on American inattention in the region?

"In terms of the South China Sea, Trump's conservatism and isolationism mean he will intervene less," says Zhang. "There will be less trouble for the Chinese government."

However, Trump also spoke during his campaign about taking a far tougher stance on U.S. trade with China, including naming the country as a currency manipulator and imposing tariffs of up to 45 percent on Chinese imports. This protectionist sentiment could translate into steep losses to China's already fragile economy that has profited so substantially from free markets.

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## Taiwan Will Legalize Same-Sex 'Marriage'—An Asian First

REPORTS ON NOVEMBER 10 SAID LAWMAKERS IN TAIWAN ARE developing three separate bills supporting same-sex "marriage." One of the three is slated for review and could be green-lighted in a matter of months, particularly as it has the support of Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen. Passing the bill would mark the first time an Asian nation legalized same-sex unions.

The Associated Press wrote on November 10:

About 80 percent of Taiwanese between ages 20 and 29 support same-sex "marriage," said Tseng Yen-jung, spokeswoman for the group Taiwan LGBT Family Rights Advocacy, citing local university studies. Taiwan's United Daily News found in a survey taken four years ago that 55 percent of

the public supported same-sex "marriage," with 37 percent opposed.

That's seen as a reflection of Taiwan's ready acceptance of multiparty democracy and other inclusive attitudes, as well as the fact that Taiwan's 23 million people largely follow Buddhism and traditional Chinese religions that take [no strong positions on sexual orientation or gay "marriage."](#)

Gay and lesbian relationships began to find wide acceptance in the 1990s, aided by the already well-established feminist movement, said Jens Damm, associate professor in the Graduate Institute of Taiwan Studies at Chang Jung University in Taiwan. "The elite became in favor of a kind of

gender equality,” Damm said.

Still, same-sex “marriage” still had to overcome traditional perceptions of gender roles and the strong pressure on children to marry and have kids. The self-ruled island also lacks many openly gay and lesbian celebrities to lead the way; the writer and television talk show host Kevin Tsai is among the few exceptions.

Taiwan would join Canada, Colombia, Ireland, the United States and 16 other countries that have legalized same-sex “marriage” over the past 15 years, according to the Washington, D.C.-based LGBT rights advocacy group Human Rights Campaign. But it would be a notable exception among Asian and Middle Eastern countries, at least 20

of which continue to ban same-sex intercourse.

“It’s a big step forward for the history of human rights,” said Yu Mei-nu, a ruling Democratic Progressive Party lawmaker who is sponsoring the same-sex “marriage” bill now in line for parliamentary debate. “If Taiwan can get this passed ... it will give other Asian countries a model.” ...

An annual Gay Pride march in Taipei last month drew tens of thousands of people, many pushing for gay “marriage.”

Opponents of the proposed bills say passing it could leave many people dependent on government support if their same-sex spouse dies and there are no children to care for them in old age.

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## China Squeezes Hong Kong

**A**LMOST 20 YEARS HAVE GONE BY SINCE BRITISH COLONIALISM ended for Hong Kong and China promised to allow the city to remain autonomous for a period of at least 50 years. But signs are emerging that have many analysts wondering if the Chinese will make good on its promise. The strain building on the “one country, two systems” idea is rapidly building.

On November 10, Stratfor wrote:

[T]he relationship between the autonomous territory and mainland China is more contentious than ever. And things may soon get even worse. In an unprecedented move, the Chinese legislature on November 7 upheld a provision of Hong Kong’s Basic Law declaring that any official who does not swear allegiance to Beijing cannot assume office. The ruling, made in part to demonstrate China’s authority over the city, effectively bars pro-independence lawmakers Sixtus Leung and Yau Wai-ching from taking their seats on Hong Kong’s Legislative Council. It may also unseat several of the council’s elected incumbents. Beijing issued a series of statements following the decision promising to punish pro-independence activities “according to law,” and Hong Kong’s chief executive vowed to implement the ruling to its fullest extent.

China’s decision is hardly surprising. After all, it is merely the latest episode in a decadelong saga of Beijing’s attempts to steadily increase its power over Hong Kong’s economic, social and political affairs. Nevertheless, the move reflects a departure from China’s tradition of keeping a low profile in the city: Until recently, Beijing refrained from openly intervening in Hong Kong’s politics to preserve the city’s ostensible autonomy under the “one country, two system” model of governance. (The constitutional

principle, formed by Deng Xiaoping, described one China whose distinct regions—including Hong Kong—were permitted to keep their own economic and political systems.) But a rising tide of independence and nativism in Hong Kong appears to have changed Beijing’s calculations. By issuing its latest ruling, China seems to have drawn its clearest red line yet: No challenge to Beijing’s sovereignty in Hong Kong will be tolerated.

Ironically, though, it is the fear of China’s tightening grip that has fueled antagonism toward its rule. According to a recent poll, nearly 40 percent of Hong Kong’s youth support the notion of independence, a figure that is bound to keep rising.

Protests are spreading through Hong Kong, with some chanting “Colonial Hong Kong” or “Political autonomy.” China is well aware of the growing backlash against it, but is unlikely to back down from its November 7 ruling.

**“Without a struggle, the British gave Hong Kong over to Chinese rule in 1997. In receiving Hong Kong, nicknamed the ‘Pearl of the Orient,’ China not only inherited one of the world’s wealthiest trade centers, but it also took over a \$380 million naval base built there by the British. ‘Never before has so much, used by so many, gone for so little,’ declared a member of Britain’s Ministry of Defense. ‘With the end of British rule in Hong Kong,’ the *Trumpet* wrote, ‘we see the final act performed in the closure of an empire—a God-given empire—and the hastening of the fulfillment of the prophesied curses upon a spoiled and ungrateful nation, the British people’ (June 1997).”**

*He Was Right*

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## TW IN BRIEF

**I**ndia currency in turmoil: Banks around India reopened on Thursday after a day of closure following Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s announcement that the bulk of Indian currency notes no longer held any value. People queued up to exchange

the now defunct 500 and 1,000 rupee notes—worth about \$7.50 and \$15—for smaller denomination bills that are still valid. Only those holding huge stashes of untaxed “black money” need worry, Modi had said in his televised announcement on Tuesday evening.

Confusion and frustration marked the mood as many people found themselves in a sudden shortage of cash when most of the currency notes they had were made invalid overnight. Except for hospitals, petrol stations and some other essential services, most places stopped accepting the defunct bills.

**Russia-China relations reach a new level:** Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Russian President Vladimir Putin met in Moscow on Tuesday. They exchanged views on boosting bilateral cooperation and further promoting China-Russia ties. China and Russia have seen their relations and cooperation move steadily forward and bear new fruits, Li said. China-Russia cooperation is

beneficial not only to the two sides but also to regional and world peace, stability, development and prosperity, said Li. He added that the two countries should lift China-Russia relations to a new level.

**North Korea warns Trump it will never give up nukes:** North Korea warned President-elect Donald Trump on Thursday that Pyongyang will never give up its nuclear weapons. A North Korean newspaper didn't name Mr. Trump by name, but said the incoming administration would have to deal with a nuclear-armed North Korea. The paper said: "Washington's hope for North Korea's denuclearization is an outdated illusion."

## ANGLO-AMERICA



### The Mysterious Old Testament Conclusion

Gerald Flurry,

The Key of David | November 13

Man is master of the art of war, but the Bible foretells a time when war will be abolished. Learn about a future free of violence and bloodshed.



## Tens of Thousands Protest Election of Donald Trump

### WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



**T**ENS OF THOUSANDS OF DEMONSTRATORS TOOK TO THE STREETS Wednesday in at least 10 cities across America to protest President-elect Donald Trump.

Melanie Eversley, Aamer Madhani and Natalie DiBlasio wrote in [USA Today](#):

Protests were underway in Chicago; New York; Los Angeles; Philadelphia; Boston; Washington, D.C.; Portland, Ore.; St. Paul, Minn.; and several other cities. An estimated 2,000 protesters shouted angrily in downtown Seattle, expressing their frustration at the Trump victory over Democrat and former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, who won 228 electoral votes to Trump's 279.

Police in riot gear struggled to hold back scores of protesters in some of the cities as protesters chanted, "Not my president" and, "No racist U.S.A." The protests were mostly peaceful. Seattle police said they were investigating a report of a shooting near the site of the protest in that city, but it may not have involved protesters.

In Los Angeles, protesters poured into the streets near City Hall and torched a giant Trump effigy, the [Los Angeles Times](#) reported. Later in the night, hundreds marched onto the busy 101 Freeway, which brought the highway to a complete standstill. The California Highway Patrol and the Los Angeles Police Department—who urged protesters

to remain lawful and peaceful—responded and were seen leading demonstrators away from the busy highway. At least 13 people were later arrested, LAPD Officer Tony Im told the *Los Angeles Times*.

In Washington, D.C., hundreds took to the streets carrying signs saying "Nasty Women Fight Back" and "White Males for Equality for All."

The unrest culminated when two separate anti-Trump demonstrations converged in front of the Trump International Hotel. They chanted and yelled, "Impeach Donald Trump," and toward the end yelled at police officers who stood guard at the hotel entrance.

For decades the peaceful transition of power has been a defining feature of American government. The protests and riots currently engulfing the United States are something most people associate with a third-world banana republic. Yet deep political division in America is transforming it into a new kind of nation—a nation that doesn't value the rule of law.

*Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote about this dangerous trend toward lawlessness in the January 2000 *Trumpet* in the aftermath of the Bush-Gore election crisis:

Our people are being led into more and more lawlessness. Human nature hates law. Events tend toward

catastrophe unless law keeps us in check.

Our forefathers understood human nature and law far better than we do today. But you can't convince our leaders of that vital truth.

Events like the election crisis and human reasoning lead

the people to trust our leaders less and less. Such things are *causing* our people to just look to themselves. "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25). This was the condition of our biblical forefathers—just before their nation collapsed and they went into slavery!



## November 9 and the Onslaught Against Israel

Callum Wood | November 9

WHILE AMERICA VOTED, ISRAEL PREPARED TO FIGHT. NOVEMBER 8 marked a turning point for both nations. Many in Israel fear that with the election behind him, United States President Barack Obama will again turn his attention to Israel and finish what he started: [the creation of a Palestinian state](#).

Until now, President Obama has kept quiet on the issue for fear of shedding negative light on the Clinton campaign. Post-November 8, that no longer matters.

Many are beginning to postulate that President Obama will look to the United Nations Security Council as a means to enforce his will on Israel.

"Open season on Israel at the Security Council will commence November 9," wrote Israeli columnist Caroline Glick on October 27 in her article "Checkmating Obama."

"Obama has waited eight years to exact his revenge on Israel for not supporting his hostile, strategically irrational policies," she continued. "And he has no interest in letting bygones be bygones."

It appears that Israel must prepare to fight for its survival in the final days of the Obama administration.

As a foretaste of the impending attacks, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recently approved two shocking resolutions that condemn Israel. The resolutions called on Israel to cease "persistent excavations and works in East Jerusalem, particularly in and around the Old City." It branded Israel as the "occupying Power" and used only the Arabic name for the Temple Mount.

The affront to Jewish and Christian heritage in the Middle East is blatant, as is the attempt to prevent further discoveries that prove an ancient Jewish presence in Jerusalem.

Thankfully for Israel, these UNESCO resolutions are not binding. For all intents and purposes, Israel is not compelled to act. But it is a different matter when it comes to the UN Security Council. UN Security Council resolutions are law.

Israel has always had a bulwark of defense at the UN: America. The U.S. has used its veto power to trump the pro-Palestinian majority time after time. Without the veto, Israel would have been subject to a host of nation-crushing resolutions. But come

November 9, the tables could drastically turn.

The Obama administration needs do nothing at all—just sit back and allow the anti-Israel resolutions to surge in. With nobody to stop the resolutions, Israel would sit near indefensible in the Security Council's crosshairs.

Caroline Glick continued, "From reports to date, it appears that shortly after the U.S. elections on November 8, the Malaysians or Egyptians will submit a Palestinian-backed resolution that defines Israeli communities in united Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria as illegal. If the resolution is brought to a vote, the U.S. will fail to veto it."

This is coming as soon as next week. Such a move would be crippling for the little nation of Israel.

At the end of the day, Mr. Obama might choose to veto such a Security Council deal. But history suggests he may still try a last-ditch attempt at a two-state solution.

Israel has weathered similar last-minute attempts at a Palestinian state. On Dec. 23, 2000, less than a month before leaving office, President Bill Clinton took one last shot at a two-state solution. He presented his idea as "parameters" for future peace talks.

Among other things, Clinton's parameters included giving full sovereignty of the Temple Mount to the Palestinians—just like UNESCO is trying to do today. Furthermore, Israel was to agree that eastern, southern and northern neighborhoods of Jerusalem would be transferred to the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO). Of the West Bank, 94 to 96 percent would be transferred to the PLO, plus an additional 1 to 3 percent of sovereign Israeli land.

Thankfully for Israel, at the helm of the PLO was Yasser Arafat, who had no interest in seeing a cessation in hostilities with Israel. Arafat raised many objections, and agreement was impossible.

Just a month out from the end of Clinton's presidency, Israel had been on the verge of losing *everything*.

Today, the dangers are even greater. Mr. Obama doesn't need Israel and the PLO to agree to his terms—he just needs the UN Security Council. Where Clinton tried coercion and failed, President Obama could impose his will.

## Executive Actions and Presidential Pardons

AS THE COUNTDOWN TO UNITED STATES PRESIDENT BARACK Obama's last day in office begins, political analysts are expecting him to follow the lead of other presidents by issuing a slew of executive actions and presidential pardons.

Stephen Dinan wrote in the [Washington Times](#):

As President Obama runs out the clock on his eight-year tenure, analysts say, he still has plenty of business left

undone, and they expect him to follow the lead of other presidents and issue a series of rules, to add to his list of executive orders, to continue his record-setting pace of commutations, and perhaps add a controversial pardon or two into the mix.

"I do think a pardon for Huma and Weiner might happen," said Michael McKenna, a Republican lobbyist, referring to Huma Abedin and her estranged husband, Anthony D. Weiner, whose e-mails are being scoured by the FBI for wrongdoing.

Truly lame-duck presidents are freed from political concerns, don't have to worry about other elections, and can even help take political heat off their successor—or try to lock in their own policies that their successor might not fully support.

For Mr. Obama, who already has set records for the most expansive regulatory agenda in U.S. history, his final months offer a chance to pad his lead and plow new ground,

particularly on energy and environmental issues.

After Republicans won control of the Senate in 2014, President Obama articulated a philosophy that came to define his presidency: *I can't wait for Congress to do its job, so where it won't act, I will.*

By using executive actions to usurp lawmaking power from Congress, President Obama has done more than just enact some dangerous new policies: He has transformed the way American government works.

Former House Republican policy director Evan McMullin warned last September that executive power has grown so large now that "you cannot count on Congress to check a President Trump."

If Donald Trump follows Barack Obama's example of using executive power to bypass the legislature, then America will truly have become nothing more than an authoritarian monarchy where 51 percent of the people elect their king every four years.

## TW IN BRIEF

**White House considers Clinton pardon:** The White House has left the door open for a pardon of defeated presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. During a Wednesday briefing, press secretary Josh Earnest said: "The president has offered clemency to a substantial number of Americans who were previously serving time in federal prisons." Clinton has not yet been charged with a crime in relation to a lengthy FBI investigation into her use of a private e-mail server while secretary of state. The FBI is also reportedly investigating the Clinton Foundation. President-elect Donald Trump has vowed to appoint a special prosecutor for Clinton.

**London protests over Turkey arrests:** Hundreds of people marched in London on Sunday night to protest the arrests of nine lawmakers from Turkey's pro-Kurdish party. Lawmakers from the People's Democratic Party were arrested in Turkey on Friday on terrorism-related charges. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan lashed out at European countries that have condemned the arrests as undermining democracy. He blamed Europe for supporting and arming the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). Speaking in Istanbul on Sunday, Erdoğan accused Europe of "harboring terror" and supporting and arming the PKK.

**Scotland against Article 50:** The Scottish government announced Wednesday that it will fight against the British government's appeal to the Supreme Court over the invocation of Article 50. A British high court ruled last week that British members of Parliament must vote first before Prime Minister Theresa May can begin Britain's exit from the European Union by triggering Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union. The British government said it would appeal the high court's decision in the Supreme Court. The Scottish government said it would fight Britain's appeal.

**Obama-Trump meeting:** United States President Barack Obama and President-elect Donald Trump met for 90 minutes at the White House on Thursday. The two met alone, with no staff present, for what the Associated Press called "a cordial beginning to their transfer of power." In the past, Mr. Trump said President Obama is not a natural-born American and accused Mr. Obama of being the founder of the Islamic State. But during their meeting, Mr. Trump said the president was "a very good man." He said he would seek Mr. Obama's counsel in the future. President Obama said he would do all he could to ensure that the transition of power goes smoothly. He said he hopes Mr. Trump is successful so that the U.S. can also be successful. While Mr. Obama and Trump met, First Lady Michelle Obama spent time with Mr. Trump's wife, Melania.



### Christians Have Lost Their Power!

Stephen Flurry,

Trumpet Daily | November 4

The key to overcoming is to tap in to the power of God's Holy Spirit.

[Follow Stephen Flurry](#)

