

## THE LAW ON FAKE PROPHECIES

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen and the press, here comes another end to the year 2021 and, God has been faithful to us throughout all the miseries we have gone through as a country. Over the years, many pastors or prophets has caused many homes and families to break apart through their fake prophecies.

The country itself has not been spared. Most 31<sup>st</sup> December night comes with false prophecies which turn to cause fear and panic within our societies as the result of the nature of what is been said by these prophets. The inaccuracy and false prophecies usually aid in cause of tension among citizens especially during major elections where one candidate is been told or made public by these prophets to win election.

The constitution and the laws of this great nation has given everyone rights, freedom and responsibilities, but most often these rights are exercise without accounting for its outcome. It is good to note that where your freedom ends its where someone's right begins. False prophecies had caused most to take the laws into their own hands to take the lives of others, it has resulted in abusing ages people whereby sending them to places not good or ideal for human habitant, it also caused various uprising on elections results outcomes as noted earlier on.

Over the years there have been many prophecies which have turned out to be false by most pastors we believed to be powerful and respected, examples as follows.

Firstly, in 2017 Rev. O. B. gave these prophecies of which none came to pass

- Coup d'état in Ghana
- Americans will go to war
- Death of Nigerian President

- Death of great king
- Christian and Muslims clashes
- Many will be kidnapped
- Fire outbreaks in important offices in Ghana
- Important personalities in Parliament to die
- Terrorist attack in Ghana
- Death of former President/former First Lady
- Innocent blood will be shed in a particular party
- Death of several young men and women

Secondly, B. K. in 2020 made these prophecies which turned to be hoaxed

1. John Mahama winning the 2020 election
2. Nana Addo as one term president
3. Accra Heart of Oak winning the 2020 league but rather the league was abrogated due to the covid 19

While N.G. prophecy of John Mahama winning election of 52.1% which came out to be false.

Ladies and gentlemen, with all due respect these few prophets aforementioned and others unknown by the general public have also made false publications on the various media platforms and within their church premises to their church member which has urge certain people to take the law into their hands to cause havoc to other based on the trust by these prophets.

The Criminal Offences Act 1960, (ACT 29) SECTION 208 says that;

(1) A person who publishes or reproduces a statement, rumour or report which is likely to cause fear and alarm to the public or to disturb the public peace knowing or having reason to believe that the statement, rumour or report is false commits a misdemeanour.

(2) It is not a defence to a charge under subsection (1) that the person charged did not know or did not have reason to believe that the statement, rumour or report was false, unless it is proved that, prior to the publication, that person took reasonable measures to verify the accuracy of the statement, rumour or report.

From the above act it gives clear power to the authorities who are in charge of ensuring law and order to take clear actions against falsehood of these prophecies which undermines people's right, freedom and cause defamation on their reputation.

Permit me to quote an interview section held by lawyer says religious leaders who are engaged in the prophetic business must be wary of how they communicate prophecies that are likely to cause fear and panic to the public.

He stated that although there is no provision of the law that bans prophesy, engineers of prophecies that spell doom would be made to face the law should they fail to use the appropriate channels to communicate their revelation.

Speaking on **JoyNews** on Saturday, the lawyer advised that prophets engage with state authorities, preferably the security services for the appropriate steps to be taken to safe guard citizens from any harm that may occur in the future.

“You may receive your prophesy, or word of wisdom but how you communicate it is what the state is saying be careful about. It is not the prophesy but its communication.

“If you have a prophesy that there is going to be an earthquake and half of Ghana is going to be affected, take your time. You have received it, nobody doubts it. How are you going to communicate it?

Is it in your church on 31st night through microphone and loud speakers, or are you going to call the police and say, this is the revelation I have received? What will government do about it?

We at ..... We do not talk against prophecies; well, some prophets are doing good work but want the pastors to be circumspect about how they pronounce their prophecies which causes fear and mostly cause injury being emotional or physical to people.

Thank you

Signed

Lawyer Apostle Z. O. Hunter