Jeff Bezos added billions to his fortune last week

edition.cnn.com/2020/02/02/tech/jeff-bezos-amazon-wealth/index.html

It was a good week for Jeff Bezos: The world's richest person got even richer.

The Amazon (AMZN) founder and CEO added around \$8 billion to his fortune Friday, as the company's stock jumped up more than 7% to close above \$2,000, compared to the previous day's close at \$1,870.

On Thursday, Amazon <u>reported earnings</u> for the holiday quarter that blew Wall Street's expectations out of the water, and investors responded accordingly. The company was briefly among the <u>elite group of companies</u> with market capitalizations above \$1 trillion during Friday trading, a milestone it <u>first hit</u> in 2018.

Much of Bezos' wealth is tied to Amazon stock. He owns around 57.5 million shares, or about 12% of the company.

The stock's surge this week lifted his holding in Amazon to around \$115.6 billion. Bezos' total net worth now sits at \$124 billion, according to <u>Bloomberg's Billionaires Index</u>. 2020 is already looking up for Bezos, after his finances suffered slightly last year. Bezos and his wife, MacKenzie Bezos, announced their divorce last January. As part of their <u>divorce settlement</u>, MacKenzie Bezos received 25% of the couple's Amazon stock,

according to an April securities filing, giving her a 4% stake in the company.

The company'sstock also dipped toward the end of 2019, as the company's investments in one-day shipping <u>dragged down profits</u>.

But Wall Street analysts seemed encouraged when Amazon reported earnings this week. Revenue for the three months ending in December grew \$87.4 billion, up 21% from the same period in the prior year. And the company announced that during the quarter, more people had joined its Prime membership service than ever before — bringing total subscriptions to more than 150 million — a sign that its investments in one-day shipping and other perks such as original video content have begun to pay off.

There had been concerns about the continued costs of rolling out one-day shipping, but Synovus Trust Company senior portfolio manager Dan Morgan said Thursday's results indicate the company is "diligently managing" those expenses.