



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

News Articles for Episode 426

Charred wooden beams from First Temple destruction found in Jerusalem's City of David | All Israel News.com

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #first temple, #city of david, #jerusalem

Jul 20, 2026

Days before the Jewish holiday of Tisha B'av, which commemorates the destruction of the temples in Jerusalem, charred wooden beams testifying to this very event were revealed to have been found by the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA).

IAA announced on Monday that the beams, which were burnt during the destruction of the First Temple in 586 BC, were uncovered during excavations by the Israel Antiquities Authority and Tel Aviv University in Jerusalem.

The wooden beams were miraculously preserved for approximately 2,600 years by plaster that melted from the walls of the building, sealing the burnt wood beneath it. The building collapsed during the intense fire that destroyed the temple.

The remarkable finding was discovered at a dig in the Givati Parking Lot, the veritable treasure trove located between the City of David, the ancient site of Jerusalem, and the relatively newer "Old City" of today.

"The wooden beams burned in the destruction of the First Temple stand as a powerful reminder of the Jewish people's presence in Jerusalem some 2,600 years ago. On the eve of Tisha B'Av, this discovery underscores that our connection to Jerusalem is rooted not only in faith, but also in history, archaeology, and collective memory," said Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu.

The First Temple, also known as Solomon's Temple, was built by King Solomon, the son of King David, according to the Bible. The ancient Jewish historian Josephus relates that the temple was destroyed by the Babylonian Empire 470 years after it was built, putting a potential construction date at 958/9 BC.

Due to the Temple Mount's extreme political sensitivity and strong Muslim opposition, there have been no archaeological examinations of the area since British army officer Charles Warren's expedition of 1867–1870. However, the Muslim Waqf illegally conducted large-scale excavations as part of the construction of new prayer areas, dumping the excavated soil in a nearby valley.

In 1999, archaeologist Gabriel [Barkay](#) launched the [Temple Mount Sifting Project](#) to sift the rubble. Since then, the project has found fragments of tiles likely used to decorate the Second (Herodianic) Temple, but no findings pertaining to the First Temple.

Last year, IAA found a unique structure on the eastern slope of the City of David that dates back to the First Temple Period and was used for [ritual religious practices](#). It has eight rock-hewn rooms which contained various elements of ritual practice, including a standing stone (*matzeva*), an olive oil press and a winepress, both used to provide oil and wine for the rituals, and a carved installation with a drainage channel, which might have held an altar, along with several v-shaped marks carved in the floor, the purpose of which is not yet clear.

Another excavation found a [small pottery shard](#) from the same period, bearing a cuneiform inscription in the Akkadian language, showing historical evidence of communication between the Assyrian Empire and the king of Judah near the Western Wall.

Excavation Director Efrat Bocher said that the charred beams “appear to have served as the roof of an inner courtyard in a building from the First Temple period. During the destruction, they collapsed onto the floor. We believe that the plaster cladding of the building’s walls, melted by the fire, covered the charred wooden beams, and ultimately enabled their exceptional preservation.”

Dating the beams was made relatively easy due to the unusually large number of growth rings that could be identified, according to Dr. Johanna Regev of the Israel Antiquities Authority: “In the City of David, we found thick beams with many rings, offering significant research potential – with more growth rings enabling higher dating resolution. Until now we could date finds within a range of hundreds of years. Now we can attain much greater precision, narrowing the dating range down to as little as ten years.”

“We are just before Tisha B'Av,” Bocher added. “This discovery makes you feel that you are witnessing the very moment of destruction, the moment when it all happened. It's deeply moving.”

“It is our responsibility to continue uncovering, preserving, and passing this heritage on to future generations,” affirmed Eliyahu.

'We want land invasion': Iran mouthpiece touts new missile, boasts decades of war prep | Foxnews.com

#bibleprophecy, #iran, #war, #missiles, #invasion

Jul 19, 2026

Tehran has spent decades preparing for — and welcoming — a [U.S. ground invasion](#), a senior Iranian official has claimed, as fresh explosions rocked the region on the eighth day of renewed U.S.-Iran strikes.

Seyed Mohammad Marandi, an Iranian American academic identified as a regime "[mouthpiece](#)," also boasted that [Tehran](#) had just launched a "new missile" while decentralizing and burying its arsenal deep underground to withstand sustained American air campaigns.

"The Americans are planning an invasion. I'm not saying it will necessarily happen. I'm not saying it will necessarily happen in the next few days. But they have plans for an invasion," Marandi, who served as an advisor to Iran's nuclear negotiation team during recent talks with the U.S. in Pakistan, said in an interview with political analyst [Glenn Diesen](#).

"Whether they carry them out or not, we'll see. But the Iranians, as you pointed out, the focus of Iranian strikes is on Bahrain and Kuwait, and that's because that's where most American assets have been placed for a ground invasion," Diesen said.

Marandi's comments came as the conflict expanded across western and southern Iran in the run-up to Saturday.

Iran also launched missile and drone salvos targeting U.S.-linked facilities in [Jordan, Kuwait and Bahrain](#).

Jordanian officials confirmed they intercepted 10 missiles early Saturday, while authorities in Kuwait reported casualties and severe damage to a domestic power and desalination plant.

In response, U.S. airstrikes struck bridges, a key road tunnel, surveillance outposts and reinforced underground weapons storage facilities.

Multiple explosions also rocked the city of Khorramabad in Iran's Lorestan province. Iranian state media claimed the blasts were caused by U.S. missiles launched from regional bases in Kuwait, according to [reports](#).

Khorramabad houses the Imam Ali Missile Base, one of Tehran's primary underground silo facilities engineered to store and deploy liquid-fueled Shahab-3 [medium-range ballistic missiles](#), according to Washington's [Nuclear Threat Initiative](#).

The complex was damaged by [Israeli airstrikes](#) during the 2025 campaign targeting Tehran's military and nuclear infrastructure.

Marandi also detailed what he described as a resilient, subterranean network central to Tehran's military strategy.

"When Iran wants to fire missiles or drones, they don't put them inside buildings or in piles somewhere. They take out whatever they need," Marandi said. "They fire them, and then they go back to their bases, or they take out different missiles and drones, spread them out in different areas, put them apart from one another so that the Americans cannot bomb them in large numbers."

He added: "Everything has been spread out in Iran and placed underground."

The latest escalation between the U.S. and Iran ended a recently signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) to establish a [60-day ceasefire](#) and facilitate nuclear talks.

The key issue has centered on control of the [Strait of Hormuz](#), with the strategic waterway turning into the conflict's main battleground.

President Donald Trump ordered renewed airstrikes within weeks of the truce, or MOU, being implemented, and on July 14, he floated the possibility of [launching a ground campaign](#).

According to Marandi, Iran's military command is actively counting on [a ground scenario](#) and has since introduced a new weapon to the theater.

"Iran has that advantage, and of course, it has been accumulating missiles and drones for decades now, and it is doing so even now," Marandi claimed.

"They, I think, last night introduced a new missile to the war," he said of the [Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps](#) (IRCG).

"The Iranians are hitting very hard, and they are prepared for a land war. They've been preparing for decades."

Marandi concluded by claiming that Tehran views a U.S. ground operation as the most direct path to ending the conflict on its own terms.

"The Iranians — we discussed this during the 40-day war before on your show — when I said that the Iranians actually want the Americans to carry out a land invasion, and the same is true now, because they felt that if there was a land invasion, they would win," he told Diesen.

Reporter's Notebook: 103 House members join Massie to slash Israel aid in stunning split | Foxnews.com

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #american, #support, #aid

Jul 20, 2026

Things sometimes evolve slowly in politics. There's a perception, axiom or maxim which is agreed upon in politics. But over time, it changes.

Sometimes the change is subterranean. The tectonic political plates move. But no one is quite aware of what's happening until one event crystallizes the shift.

Such is the case with support in the Democratic Party for Israel.

HOUSE DEMOCRATS FRACTURE BADLY OVER MASSIE AMENDMENT TO CUT \$3.3B IN U.S. AID TO ISRAEL

The politics of supporting Israel have moved for several years now. Especially after Israel's response to the deadly attacks by Hamas and pro-Palestinian groups on October 7, 2023.

But then there's that one moment which seems to change everything.

That was certainly on display in the House of Representatives during a single roll call vote last week.

Rep. Thomas Massie, R-Ky., engineered an amendment to a State Department funding bill to cut off \$3 billion in aid to Israel. Some Democrats viewed this as a political effort to cleave the party.

Whether it was political or not remains to be seen. But [Massie's amendment](#) split Democrats nearly down the middle.

The House defeated Massie's effort, 314 to 104. Massie was the only Republican who voted in favor of slashing aid to Israel. But 103 Democrats joined Massie to also suspend the assistance. Ten Democrats voted "present," only 98 Democrats voted to reject Massie's effort.

The Democratic divide over Israel has widened for a while now. It used to be rare to have more than a few Democrats who wouldn't stand beside Israel. But that House roll call vote truly underscored where the party is now. It exposed deepening internal fissures.

"This is an important moment because nothing will be the same on this issue ever again," observed Rep. Greg Casar, D-Texas, chair of the House Progressive Caucus. "It used to be that just a small number of House Democrats would vote against sending taxpayer dollars and weapons for the Israeli military. Then, two years ago, 37 House Democrats voted to not send billions of dollars to the Israeli military."

Casar added that this was "not the end. This is a new beginning" for Democrats.

"Democrats here in the House have finally decided to do what the people, our voters, the constituents we represent, have been asking us to do," said [Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn.](#) "I am proud that they have finally decided to lead with their morals."

The left says the party is simply reflecting where its core voters stand.

"You're seeing a shift. The American people are growing weary of this war and what's happening," said Rep. Julie Johnson, D-Texas.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., argued the vote wasn't "a litmus test" for the party. But said the vote addressed another phenomena.

"Americans of all backgrounds are deeply frustrated that our needs are not being met at home. But our resources are being sent abroad in a way that is not representative of our values and not representative of who we are," said Ocasio-Cortez.

Former House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., is retiring from his seat early next year. Few lawmakers from either party have been as vocal as Hoyer in supporting Israel over the past four decades.

"This amendment would embolden the enemies of peace, those pursuing the complete elimination of Israel and those who seek the death of Jews," said Hoyer. "It's a vote against American security."

Hoyer stepped back from the House Democratic leadership in early 2023. But today's Democratic leaders concede the party currently views Israel through a different lens.

"It's not lost on me that the actions the (Israeli) Prime Minister has taken has not made it easier for us to be supporters of a [strong U.S.-Israel relationship](#)," said House Democratic Caucus Chairman Pete Aguilar, D-CA.

Even Democrats who voted in favor of the aid say there are shifts in Israel which prompted Democrats to recalibrate their views.

"I think a lot of people are concerned about Netanyahu and are concerned about some of the activities over the past couple of years," said Rep. Tom Suozzi, D-N.Y.

Rep. Wesley Bell, D-Mo., voted against cutting off money for Israel. Bell is a freshman who defeated progressive former Rep. Cori Bush, D-Mo., in the primary two years ago.

He then won the general election that fall. Bush is a skeptic of Israel. She is challenging Bell in next month's primary.

"It's important that we do stand with our allies because our sworn enemies are not going away," said Bell.

It's unclear if Bell's vote – pitted against Bush's more progressive stance – could dictate who wins the primary. But it's worth watching.

Pro-Israel Republicans worry about the anti-Israel tide shift on the [Democratic side](#) of the aisle.

"I think they've been captured by crazies. You can see it in their elections by people who hate Jews." Said Rep. Randy Fine, R-Fla.

But the new positioning by the Democratic party [concerns Sen. John Fetterman](#), D-Penn., He's a staunch ally of Israel. Fetterman is threatening to desert Democrats if the party deserts Israel.

"That's my red line in the Democratic party," said Fetterman. "Look at the people that are winning these primaries right now. They're not just 'I'm just pro-Palestinian. I am deeply anti-anti-Israel.'"

[SEN JOHN FETTERMAN PLEDGES TO BE 'LAST MAN STANDING' IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL](#)

Notably Fetterman did not say that he would necessarily become a Republican. But Democrats need Fetterman in their fold.

Republicans hold a 53-45 advantage over the Democrats. Sens. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., and Angus King, I-Maine, caucus with the Democrats. That gets you to 47 senators who align with the Democrats. So Democrats need a net win of four seats to seize control of the Senate next year. Democrats hope to hold Michigan, Georgia and New Hampshire. But they are also looking to flip seats in Maine, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Iowa and Alaska. Any combination of four seats scores Democrats the majority.

But let's say Democrats do collect four seats and earn an effective 51-49 advantage. Fetterman could make the Senate 50-50 if he bolts from the Democrats. The Senate has historically worked out a power-sharing arrangement during other 50-50 breakdowns. But regardless, Republicans would have nominal control thanks to the tie-breaking vote of [Vice President JD Vance](#), who is President of the Senate.

The Democrats need Fetterman more than he needs them right now.

And as for Israel? Israel needs Democrats more than they need Israel.

Congressional Republicans still support Israel for now. But if Democrats win control of the House - and perhaps the Senate - support for Israel will look very different next year thanks to the Democrats' morphing politics.

That's all evolved for some time now. But you can point to last week's vote as the seminal moment when it all changed for the Democratic party.

And for Israel.

Trump claims Israel 'wouldn't survive' without US ahead of crunch meeting with Netanyahu | MSN.com

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #united states, #survival, #trump

Jul 27, 2026

Donald Trump claims Israel “wouldn’t survive” without the United States ahead of his meeting with Benjamin Netanyahu.

The [US President](#) is having his first meeting with the Israeli leader since the start of the conflict with [Iran](#) in February and there is friction with Netanyahu not wanting Turkey to have American made F-35 fighter jets.

Close attention will be on the meeting as US and Israeli interests appear to have diverged firstly with a deal made by the Americans for a ceasefire with Iran before Netanyahu appeared to achieve all his goals.

That ceasefire collapsed but after nearly two weeks of airstrikes by both sides there has been a fresh pause in attacks.

And Trump made a cutting comment to reporters about Israel's reliance on the US today.

“Frankly we’re being very nice to a lot of countries that would not survive without us. And you know who wouldn’t survive without us? Israel,” Trump said on board Air Force One. “Bibi’s coming, he’ll tell you.”

On a new ceasefire, Trump has insisted that new meetings were requested directly by Iranian officials, saying they reached out directly “because we’ve been hitting them very hard.”

Netanyahu arrives in US for Trump meeting

“We’re having good talks, so we’ll see what happens,” Trump told reporters Monday on Air Force One. “I think there’s a good chance that something could happen. And if it does, good. if it doesn’t, we go back to doing what we were doing two days ago.”

Trump rejected a suggestion that his patience with negotiations could be wearing thin. “I have plenty of time,” he said.

Meanwhile, Trump hasn’t ruled out selling F-35 fighter jets to Turkey, which is not a friend of Israel.

Netanyahu and Trump are meeting at the White House on Tuesday, and the prime minister has made clear he does not want Turkey to get the American-made jets.

Trump was asked about such a sale to Turkey as he flew to Michigan and said, in an apparent rebuff of Netanyahu, that “nobody tells me what we should be selling.”

“Turkey’s been a great ally for me,” he said of the country’s president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan. “I think he’s done a very good job, did a good job with Syria. He’s a friend of mine.”

Asked if he and Netanyahu are on the same page when it comes to the war against Iran, Trump replied, “We have a little difference but pretty close, yeah.”

When the United States and Israel attacked Iran on February 28, the allies appeared shoulder to shoulder.

Netanyahu said the goal was to degrade the Islamic Republic’s military, eradicate its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, and topple its government. Trump announced the death of Iran’s supreme leader in the opening barrage and urged Iranians to “take back” their country.

But it soon became clear that while Trump was seeking a quick win, Netanyahu wanted to vanquish Iran and its allies, even if it required an extended conflict.

The collision course runs through Lebanon, where fighting has continued between Israel and Hezbollah despite ceasefire announcements. Iran wants Lebanon included in any wider regional truce and so Israel’s actions are hampering Trump’s hopes of a deal.

The tensions spilled into the open last month, when Trump acknowledged holding a tense call with Netanyahu about Lebanon. He admitted to using expletives and calling the Israeli leader “crazy,” saying he’d grown frustrated that Israel’s war on Hezbollah threatened the Iran talks.

[NYC Mayor Mamdani raises possibility of arresting Netanyahu ahead of UN visit | All Israel News.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #united nations, #netanyahu, #new york city, #mamdani, #arrest

Jul 19, 2026

New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani has renewed his pledge to seek the arrest of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu if he visits New York for the United Nations General Assembly in September, saying his administration is consulting with the city's law department about what legal authority, if any, it has to act.

The remarks, made during a *New York Times* podcast interview, revive a campaign promise that has drawn sharp criticism from Israeli officials ahead of Netanyahu's expected appearance at the annual UN gathering.

"I believe that Prime Minister Netanyahu belongs in the Hague," Mamdani said in a *NYT* podcast interview with Lulu Garcia-Navarro.

"He's a war criminal who has been charged by the International Criminal Court [ICC]," Mamdani argued. "And what you will find is that it is an opinion that is held by many, purely because of what his actions have wrought over these last many years."

Mamdani, who assumed office in January as New York City's first Muslim mayor, said during his election campaign that he would arrest Netanyahu if the Israeli prime minister visited the city.

He has repeatedly [accused](#) Israel of committing genocide in Gaza, including shortly after Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel.

According to the *New York Times*, Mamdani is in "active conversation" with New York's law department regarding the issue. He also acknowledged that his authority may be limited.

"Whatever the law allows me to do in New York City, that's what we will do, but we won't be writing our own laws to that end," Mamdani told the *NYT* podcast.

Netanyahu dismissed the comments during an interview on the radio program *Sid & Friends in the Morning*, accusing Mamdani of aligning himself with Hamas, the terrorist organization that openly calls for Israel's destruction.

"Who does he champion? Hamas, that calls openly to massacre every Jew on Earth, that conducted that horrible massacre, the worst massacre on Jews since the Holocaust," Netanyahu stated.

"I think he should look at who he's condemning, who he's praising," the Israeli leader continued. "He's condemning Israel, the one democracy that stands shoulder to shoulder with American values."

Netanyahu also suggested that "secretly, [Mamdani] hates America."

The controversy has also drawn responses from other Israeli officials. Israel's Consul-General in New York, Ofir Akunis, dismissed Mamdani's comments, arguing that the mayor has "no authority" to seek the Israeli prime minister's arrest.

"Instead of dealing with matters over which he has no authority, it would be better for him to start running New York City and only New York City," Akunis argued.

Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Danny Danon, also rejected the mayor's remarks, saying Netanyahu's planned visit to New York would proceed as scheduled.

"It will not change a thing," Danon wrote in a post on X.

"Prime Minister Netanyahu will come to New York, address the United Nations General Assembly with pride, and stand before the world to state Israel's truth and its unwavering right to defend its citizens," the Israeli ambassador stated. "And if anyone should be arrested, it is Mamdani," he added.

Even Israeli opposition leaders who have criticized Netanyahu have rejected international efforts to accuse Israel of committing "genocide" during the war in Gaza.

In January, Mamdani [revoked](#) New York City's use of the HRA antisemitism definition, which explicitly defines the demonization and delegitimization of Israel as forms of antisemitism. The move drew criticism from several Jewish American organizations, which argued it weakened the city's response to antisemitism.

Carrying a Bible in a UK hospital could lead to criminal charges, advocacy group warns | Foxnews.com

#bibleprophecy, #ireland, #united kingdom, #bible, #law, #praying

Jul 19, 2026

Carrying a Bible or praying at a patient's bedside inside Northern Ireland hospitals could be treated as a crime if it violates [abortion buffer zone laws](#), according to newly issued police guidance in the U.K.

On July 2, the Police Service of Northern Ireland ("PSNI") issued [a written response](#) to the Northern Ireland Policing Board clarifying the scope of the Abortion Services (Safe Access Zones) Act (Northern Ireland) 2023 and its impact on hospital clergy and religious ministry.

[The law](#) prohibits "influencing," "preventing or impeding access," or "causing harassment, alarm or distress" to a protected person within 100 meters (about 328 feet) of facilities where abortions are performed.

US MONITORING 'CONCERNING' UK PROSECUTION OF RETIRED PASTOR WHO PREACHED JOHN 3:16 NEAR HOSPITAL

The PSNI clarified that the law does not affect "the vast majority" of hospital chaplains or pastors in their day-to-day work, unless their activities bring them into a protected safe access zone.

However, the law makes "no exemptions" for clergy or religious identity. Carrying Bibles, [reading Scripture](#), consensual pastoral ministry, and praying with a patient during end-of-life care could be considered unlawful if the activity takes place inside a protected zone and is recognized as potentially influencing or distressing a protected person nearby, the PSNI said. Visible or "passive" religious practice may also constitute an offense, "even where no direct approach or communication takes place," the PSNI added.

The PSNI emphasized that a religious person's intention behind the activity does not protect them from liability under the law.

"Describing conduct as pastoral, prayerful or religious in nature does not determine whether an offence has been committed," the PSNI stated in its guidance. "The test is not how the person describes their own behaviour – it is whether that behaviour, assessed objectively and in its full context, influenced, impeded, or caused distress to a protected person, or was reckless as to whether it did so."

The guidance comes after retired pastor Clive Johnston, 78, was [convicted and fined](#) about \$614 in May for preaching a sermon on John 3:16 near a hospital where abortions are performed.

Johnston may be the first person prosecuted under the law for preaching a sermon that did not mention abortion, according to the faith-based advocacy group The Christian Institute, which supported his legal case.

GOP LAWMAKERS URGE SUPREME COURT TO STRENGTHEN FIRST AMENDMENT PROTECTIONS FOR STREET PREACHERS

Pastor Jonathan Campbell of Newbuildings Independent Methodist Church in Londonderry told Fox News Digital that the recent ruling against Johnston and this new guidance has left U.K. Christians uncertain of how to practice religious ministry in a hospital setting without violating the law.

"It's unthinkable that [the Bible](#), or even just clerical dress, could be off-limits on hospital grounds in case someone might find it offensive," he stated. "The Christian message is one of hope and comfort to those who are ill, worried and grieving. It cannot be the case that in Northern Ireland, church representatives are unable to comfort those in need."

He called on the U.K. government to "urgently clarify that Christians remain free to express their faith on hospital grounds and everywhere else."

In a statement to Fox News Digital, a PSNI spokesperson said the police service "is not seeking to police religion or lawful pastoral care."

The spokesperson added that while individuals retain the rights to "freedom of thought, conscience and religion, and [freedom of expression](#)," those rights "are not absolute and must be balanced against the rights and protections contained in the legislation, and against the rights of others."

The abortion legislation requires police to assess whether conduct within a buffer zone constitutes behavior criminalized by the law, the spokesperson added.

"This is a fact-specific assessment. It is not determined solely by the presence of religious materials or the identity/role of the person involved," the statement continued. "The guidance was issued to assist officers to interpret and apply the Act consistently in an operational environment where complaints may arise. It does not create new offences. It reflects the law as enacted."

Ciarán Kelly, director of The Christian Institute, said the law is "being interpreted in ways that threaten ordinary Christian ministry inside hospitals."

"According to this guidance, a chaplain praying with parents mourning the loss of a child and then reading the famous words of Psalm 23 – The Lord is my shepherd –

could fall foul of the law," he said. "Indeed, it seems someone simply carrying a Bible through certain parts of a hospital could face a criminal investigation if someone thinks it could potentially influence a wholly unrelated abortion decision."

Kelly said that while he believes this was not the lawmakers' intention when drafting the law, its vague wording has created a "very damaging chilling effect."

"Patients do not lose the right to spiritual care because they happen to be in a hospital where abortions are also provided," he continued. "The very suggestion that consensual prayer or Bible reading could ever become a criminal matter should concern everyone who values basic freedom."

Johnston's case follows several other high-profile incidents involving Christians who have been prosecuted under buffer zone laws in the U.K., drawing scrutiny from the U.S. State Department.

"The United States is still monitoring many 'buffer zone' cases in the U.K., as well as other acts of censorship throughout Europe," a State Department spokesperson previously told Fox News Digital. "The U.K.'s persecution of silent prayer represents not only an egregious violation of the fundamental right to free speech and religious liberty, but also a concerning departure from the shared values that ought to underpin U.S.-U.K. relations."

Tim Walz gets TORCHED over dolls with 'swappable genitals' meant for kids as young as 4: Report | The Blaze.com

#bibleprophecy, #dolls, #tim walz, #kids, #transgender, #corruption

Jul 27, 2026

Many online expressed their outrage against the plan, as reported by the New York Post.

The [website](#) for the MyGender Dolls recommends that the "award-winning" and "culturally attuned" dolls with supposedly removable genitals be given to children between 4 and 10 years old.

According to the [New York Post](#), the transgender-identifying dolls will be provided to teachers for the next school year and were developed at the University of Minnesota Medical School, which receives taxpayer funding.

'It's time to put everyone involved where they belong ... behind bars.'

The dolls have already been used at the medical school's Institute for Sexual and Gender Health to encourage children to "talk about gender and bodies."

"We were able to explore and brainstorm not just what our bodies are able to do now but what we want our bodies to do and look like in the future," Adjunct Assistant Professor Elizabeth Panetta said.

The report of the dolls with "swappable genitals" led to an onslaught of vitriol against Democratic Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz.

"This is sick. It is a complete betrayal of Minnesota parents, students and taxpayers — and it shows just how extreme Tim Walz and [Democratic Sen.] Amy Klobuchar have become," Minnesota GOP Chairman Alex Plechash [responded](#).

"Four-year-olds should be learning their letters and numbers — not being encouraged to pull genitalia off dolls and 'explore' changing their bodies," he added.

"This is not education. It is taxpayer-funded indoctrination," he continued.

The GOP chided Walz by pointing out that fewer than half of students in Minnesota meet either math or reading standards while Democrats seek to indoctrinate them into the transgender agenda.

Others online were similarly incensed.

"It's time to put everyone involved where they belong ... behind bars," former Major League Baseball pitcher John Rocker [replied](#).

"These are the most disgraceful things I have ever seen. Anyone gives one of my kids one of those dolls they better have their prayers said and their plot picked. Hell hath no fury when someone messes with one of my kids, period!" one critic [responded](#).

"This is getting beyond dystopian ... you are going to end up with children who think their genitals are meant to detach and THAT is REALLY f**king dangerous!" another detractor [replied](#).

"Disgusting — I'd have my kids right out of there before an adult asked my 4yo to play with a dolls [sic] privates," another critic [said](#).

A spokesperson for the university denied that any public funds were used to develop the trans dolls, but when pressed about the funding, the spokesperson told the Post to file a Freedom of Information Act request.

Tim Walz's office also did not respond to a comment request from the Post.

Major quake hits southern Japan, workers missing after mall blast | Reuters.com

#bibleprophecy, #japan, #earthquake, #destruction, #fatalities

Jul 28, 2026

A 7.1-magnitude earthquake hit Japan's southern Kumamoto prefecture on Tuesday, knocking out power to thousands of homes, rupturing roads and leaving some trapped and others presumed dead inside a partially collapsed shopping mall.

- Around 20-30 mall workers unaccounted for, others trapped inside
- Hospitals report dozens of injuries
- Multiple people missing after chimney collapses at factory
- Thousands of homes without power, major roads ruptured
- Rail and air services suspended

TOKYO, July 28 (Reuters) - A 7.1-magnitude earthquake hit Japan's southern Kumamoto prefecture on Tuesday, knocking out power to thousands of homes, rupturing roads and leaving some trapped and others presumed dead inside a partially collapsed shopping mall.

Speaking to reporters from her office in Tokyo, Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi said authorities were still assessing the full extent of the damage in the area, which was devastated by a deadly quake a decade ago.

Stay up to date on the key companies, data, and decisions in the ESG world with the Reuters Sustainable Finance newsletter. Sign up [here](#).

"We have already been informed that people have been injured. Power outages and fires have occurred in some areas, and there has also been damage to roads and bridges and the collapse of buildings," Takaichi said.

"I ask everyone to take action to protect themselves, including evacuating to a safe location."

Around 300,000 people have been instructed to go to evacuation centres, and hundreds of soldiers have been deployed to help with rescue operations as aftershocks continued to rumble in the area, on Japan's southwestern island of Kyushu.

'LIKE VOLCANIC ASH WAS FALLING'

Around 20 to 30 workers at the prefecture's largest shopping mall were unaccounted for after it was rocked by an explosion in the aftermath of the quake, NHK said.

Fire services earlier said multiple people were trapped inside.

Local news outlets quoted police saying several had died or were presumed to have perished in the incident, although Reuters could not immediately confirm the reports.

One side of the mall, which houses around 200 stores, was torn away, exposing steel beams and strewn debris across a vast parking lot, footage showed. Several ambulances and fire engines were parked outside, as rescue teams searched for survivors.

A spokesperson for mall operator Aeon

said customers and employees were evacuated right after the initial quake and that the exact cause of the ensuing explosion was unclear. Authorities are investigating a possible gas explosion, broadcaster NTV reported.

Kazuya Tsurunaga told TBS he was stunned by the blast while cleaning up dishes broken by the earthquake inside a pub about 300 metres from the Aeon mall.

"It was a huge impact," he said. "A large cloud of smoke billowed up, and because the wind happened to be blowing and the wind direction was towards the shop, the area around us was in a state like volcanic ash was falling."

Multiple people were also unaccounted for after a chimney collapsed at a Nippon Paper Industries

factory, broadcaster NHK reported, while two hospitals were each reported to be treating more than 50 people, some in serious condition. Several passengers aboard high-speed trains at the time of the quake were also injured, operators said.

BUILDINGS ON FIRE

Authorities said they were responding to multiple incidents where buildings had partially collapsed or had caught fire. One person died in one such collapse in a town near the epicentre, TV Asahi reported.

Some roads were also badly damaged, with large cracks splintering major highways, snarling traffic. Rail services were suspended and flights grounded.

TSMC

the world's largest contract chipmaker, Sony and Fujifilm

evacuated workers from their plants following the quake. TSMC said in a statement late Tuesday that its site was unaffected and operations were gradually resuming.

However, Tokyo Electron, a semiconductor equipment maker, said it was suspending operations at its two factories in Kumamoto through Wednesday, while Honda said it would also temporarily idle its motorcycle factory there.

The quake's epicentre was about 20 kilometres (12 miles) south of Kumamoto city, central Kyushu's largest city with a population of around 700,000.

Residents in the areas that felt the biggest tremors must be on alert for further strong quakes for about a week, as well as for the risk of landslides, an official for the Japan Meteorological Agency said. About 100 small aftershocks have hit Kumamoto already since the initial jolt, JMA said.

TSUNAMI WARNING LIFTED

Located along the "Ring of Fire" of volcanoes and oceanic trenches partly encircling the Pacific Basin, Japan accounts for about 20% of the world's earthquakes of magnitude 6.0 or more.

A tsunami warning was issued immediately after Tuesday's quake, but was later lifted.

Kyushu Electric Power said 48,000 homes had lost power as a result of the latest quake, while railway company JR Kyushu said that it had suspended services, including its high-speed bullet trains. Kumamoto airport also shut its runway, as airlines diverted and cancelled flights.

Telecoms operators KDDI and Docomo said there was disruption to their mobile phone services due to power shortages and transmission-line failures.

There were no irregularities reported at the nuclear power stations in the area, Japan's nuclear regulation authority said.

A massive earthquake in Kumamoto 10 years ago killed 275 people and injured a further 2,739, according to an official count, and damaged thousands of buildings including the city's castle, a top tourist site.

Some portions of the stone walls at the castle also collapsed as a result of Tuesday's quake, an official at the castle's office said.

With thousands of homes still without power as night fell, authorities warned residents about the risk of heatstroke as temperatures were set to hit 34 degrees Celsius (93 degrees Fahrenheit) on Wednesday.

Scientists Just Figured Out How Much Time Is Left for Life on Earth | Popular Mechanics.com

#bibleprophecy, #earth, #sun, #longevity, #end of life

Jul 13, 2026

Here's what you'll learn when you read this story:

- Some scientists think that in five billion years, as the Sun ages and transforms into a Red Giant, Earth will be swallowed whole, effectively ending its 10-billion-year-long existence.
- However, due to the Sun's increasing luminosity, life on Earth will be gone long before that celestial cataclysm takes place.
- A new study predicts that plant life will possibly hold out on Earth more than 1.8 billion years from now—a much higher estimate than past studies have suggested.

All good things come to an end, including life on Earth. In roughly 5 billion years, the Sun will exhaust its stores of [hydrogen](#) and begin burning helium, transitioning into a Red Giant and swallowing Earth in the process ([maybe](#)). While a couple extra billion years sounds nice—that is, if humanity can even make it past a couple thousand—the planet will run into problems sustaining life long before the Sun's transition into gianthood.

As our host star (a G-type main-sequence yellow dwarf), continues to burn hydrogen, it's also increasing its luminosity by roughly [1 percent every 110 million years](#). Currently, the Sun produces roughly one-third more energy than it did at the birth of the [Solar System](#), and that increasing luminosity will be a big problem in about 1.8 billion years, according to a new study [in the journal JGR Atmospheres](#).

“The ultimate life span of Earth's biosphere is limited due to the steady brightening of the sun as it progresses in age,” the authors wrote. “Earth's long-term carbon cycle may respond by drawing [carbon dioxide](#) out of the atmosphere and into carbonate rocks, thereby reducing the greenhouse effect and offsetting the increased sunlight.”

As the authors note, previous studies have assumed that the lowering of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will essentially doom macro-sized organisms, including plants that rely on the gas for [photosynthesis](#). The first calculations based on this disruption of Earth's carbonate-silicate cycle initially put the end of plant life [at just 100 million](#)

[years from now](#). Future revisions raised that number up to as much as 1.5 billion by making distinctions between different types of photosynthesis processes used by different plants.

Some 95 percent of plant life on Earth relies on C3 photosynthesis, which requires CO₂ concentrations of roughly 150 parts per million. [C4 photosynthesis plants](#) on the other hand—like [corn](#), grasses, and many weeds—require only 15 parts per million. Even more drastic are [crassulacean acid metabolism \(CAM\) photosynthesis](#) plants like cacti and orchids, which require CO₂ levels as low as 1 part per million

For this new study, the team created 29 climate models, which ran various scenarios that could impact Earth's vegetative biosphere far into the future (the models' two key parameters being carbon dioxide levels and [temperature](#)). Two of the most extreme scenarios modeled an Earth that's too hot for life: one in which the CO₂ levels remain unchanged (a process known as "weak weathering"), and in the other in which there isn't enough CO₂ to support life but the temperature remains stable ("strong weathering").

In the weak-weathering scenario, plants that utilize CAM photosynthesis survive until roughly 1.87 billion years from now, while the strong-weathering model ends plant life at around 1.35 billion years in the future. However, using CAM photosynthesis as a threshold, even the strong-weathering scenario raises survivability up to 1.84 billion years from now. Regardless of which [timeline](#) plays out, this plant apocalypse will occur around the same time that [the Earth's oceans will be lost to space](#) (also due to the Sun's increased luminosity). The authors also note that one limitation of the study is that it only assesses how photosynthesis works today, and *not* as how it might one day evolve.

"Life on Earth is resilient, and limits posed by thermal stress or starvation may only reflect our observations of the [biosphere](#) today rather than hard limits on how the biosphere may evolve," the authors wrote. "We acknowledge that the results of this study should be examined with other 3-D models, and that a community effort that compares model results at high insolation and low would be the best way to constrain these timescales."

If nature has shown us anything in past four billion years, it'll find a way to [survive](#) until the very end.

[Churches continue to grow in the face of persecution across the globe: report | Christian Post.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #church, #growth, #persecution, #christianity, #global

Jul 20, 2026

Christian congregations are expanding in some of the world's most hostile countries even as an estimated 380 million believers face persecution each year for their faith, according to a report from the U.S.-based persecution watchdog International Christian Concern.

ICC's report, [Global Persecution Index 2026](#), found that the Church is adding members in places where worship can bring arrest, imprisonment or death, pointing to underground and digital networks that let believers gather outside the reach of the state.

"Despite mounting repression, Christianity continues to grow in unexpected places," ICC researchers wrote.

Iran is the most extreme case, according to the report, which calls the country's house church movement among the quickest to expand anywhere, sustained by hidden networks and online evangelism even as converts from Islam are arrested, jailed and, in some cases, executed under blasphemy and national-security statutes.

The report quotes anonymous experts who rank Iran's Christian population as "one of the fastest-growing Christian populations in the world."

"Though still a tiny part of the population, Iranian Christians are proving resilient to the government pressure that surrounds them every day," the report states.

In China, believers gather in private residences and through encrypted online meetings even under constant state monitoring.

However, such expansion is happening alongside a rise in religious nationalism, a leading force behind shrinking freedom of belief, ICC stresses.

In India, militant Hindu groups tied to the governing Bharatiya Janata Party have attacked Christian and Muslim minorities, and several state governments have passed laws restricting conversion.

Anti-conversion measures are now enforced in 13 of India's 28 states, the report notes, adding that courts haven't convicted a Christian of forcing anyone to convert but they are often "harassed and jailed on the mere suspicion of wrongdoing."

In the year ending in July 2025, the group counted more than 1,100 Christians in India driven from their homes and 276 recorded cases of physical or mental abuse.

"Yet amid repression, faith continues to grow," researchers wrote. "Reports from underground networks in India and Pakistan indicate steady increases in conversions and discipleship. Believers gather in private homes, remote villages, and online fellowships. Their quiet courage affirms that the flame of faith cannot be extinguished, even in the crucible of persecution."

In North Korea, small underground church networks operate "entirely in darkness," the report notes, but they continue to hold services, conduct radio broadcasts and smuggle in materials.

"North Korea remains among the hardest persecutors of Christians and religious life in the world," the report reads. "The Kim regime operates a zero-tolerance policy against any belief system outside state ideology, viewing Christianity not as a faith but as a dangerous external subversion."

"Nonetheless, the clandestine church persists."

Africa has emerged as the world's leading continent of terrorism. According to the Institute for Economics and Peace, close to half of all terror-related deaths now happen in Africa.

Armed movements such as Boko Haram, the Islamic State West Africa Province and al-Shabab operate through Nigeria, the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and Mozambique.

ICC counted more than 500 Christians killed and nearly 500 attacks on churches in Nigeria in the year ending in July 2025.

On Oct. 31, 2025, the U.S. government named Nigeria a Country of Particular Concern, a designation the State Department reserves for governments it finds responsible for severe violations of religious freedom.

Even under these conditions, the report said, congregations rebuild burned churches and keep worshiping.

The report recorded comparable pressure in Latin America, where Nicaragua's government has imprisoned priests, exiled bishops and closed church-run universities, and where authorities in Cuba decide which congregations may operate legally.

The United Kingdom-based group Christian Solidarity Worldwide logged 1,898 government actions against religious groups in Cuba during 2024, the report notes.

Authorities in Eritrea hold Christians in shipping containers and secret prisons, according to the report, which said at least eight believers there have been detained for periods ranging from 18 to 21 years for practicing their faith.

ICC tracks 22 countries in the index, and 13 of them carry the Country of Particular Concern label.

The group's figures on killings come from a violent-incidents database it maintains with the International Institute for Religious Freedom, which recorded, for the year ending in July 2025, nearly 400 killings in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 167 in Russia, 38 in Myanmar, 14 in Pakistan, 13 in Indonesia, 12 in Somalia and three in Turkey. The group cautions that the totals capture only a fraction of the persecution it has documented.

Tens of thousands from 189 countries join Pray for Israel Live in just 10 weeks | All Israel News.com

#bibleprophecy, #church, #prayer, #christianity, #israel

Jul 22, 2026

When we [launched](#) Pray for Israel Live (PFI) in early May, we asked a simple question: What would it look like if Christians around the world could see, in real time, that they are not praying for Israel alone?

Ten weeks later, the response has gone far beyond what we imagined.

Tens of thousands of believers from 189 countries have visited [prayforisrael.live](#) and clicked “Pray,” lighting up their country on a live world map and joining a continuous global act of intercession for Israel.

With no need for registration, audio or video call, believers simply open the site, pray wherever they are, and watch their nation appear on a living prayer map.

We expected interest, but we did not expect this.

The prayer community has grown rapidly beyond our own outreach, as believers organically share the site with their churches, prayer groups, Bible studies, and friends. Roughly one-third of all prayer sessions now come from people who discovered Pray for Israel Live through a personal invitation rather than an advertisement – a strong sign that the initiative is meeting a real need.

Believers around the world have been looking for a way to express their support for Israel that is communal, visible and ongoing – not a one-time event or a social media post that quickly disappears.

Pray for Israel Live offers a continuous presence: a digital wall of fire showing Israel and the world that the global Body of Messiah is standing in intercession.

Why this matters now

The numbers matter, but the timing matters even more.

Since Oct. 7, 2023, Israel has faced war on several fronts: military, diplomatic and narrative. Anti-Israel resolutions are spreading on university campuses. Condemnations continue to mount in international institutions. Social media algorithms often amplify anti-Israel content, while Jewish students and pro-Israel believers increasingly feel isolated.

This is not merely a political or cultural conflict. It is a spiritual battle—and prayer is our response. Scripture does not call us to remain passive. Isaiah 62:6 speaks of watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem who “will never be silent day or night.” Psalm 122:6 commands us to “pray for the peace of Jerusalem.”

Prayer is not passive: it is a way of standing up. Every light on the map represents a person who chose, at that moment, to align with God’s purposes for Israel. When believers around the world can see one another praying, prayer becomes a visible movement.

Yet Pray for Israel Live is not a petition, a protest, or a political campaign. It is a prayer initiative with a unique dimension.

Through Pray for Israel Live, you can pray for those suffering in the Promised Land – for comfort for the grieving, wisdom for leaders, protection for civilians, and salvation for Jews and Arabs alike. The prayer points are rooted in current situations and developments reported by our Jerusalem-based team of evangelical journalists.

This creates something we believe is unique: a bridge between informed journalism and active intercession. News and prayer, together, in real time.

The vision ahead

These first ten weeks have shown that the concept works. Believers like it, use it and share it.

But the potential is much greater. At any given moment, several people are currently praying on the map. Our vision is to see that number grow to one hundred, then several hundred – a visible stream of global intercession that never stops.

We want to see the map glowing around the clock, across every time zone, showing Israel – and the watching world – that evangelical Christians are actively, visibly, and continually praying for the peace of Jerusalem and the region.

Imagine a young Christian on a secular university campus in the United States, surrounded by hostility toward Israel, opening the map and discovering that he is part of a global community of believers praying for Israel.

Imagine an Israeli opening the site and seeing that hundreds of believers around the world are praying for the peace of Jerusalem at that exact moment.

Imagine turning on the news one day and hearing the report that, even as anti-Israel voices grow louder around the world, millions of Christians from every nation are quietly lighting up a live global prayer map for Israel day after day, making visible a global community of prayer unlike anything the world has seen before.

That is what Pray for Israel Live can become.

Growing the movement

You can help this initiative grow. Visit prayforisrael.live, add your light to the map, and return each day to make Pray for Israel Live part of your daily routine. Let the world see one more believer standing steadfastly with Israel.

Then share it. Send the link to your pastor. Post it in your church group. Share it with friends and prayer partners. Every person you invite adds another light to the map.

And if you feel called to do more, [you can help us](#) introduce Pray for Israel Live to more of the hundreds of millions of pro-Israel evangelical believers around the world.

Reaching them requires digital campaigns, outreach and sustained effort. At current campaign rates, it costs about one cent to reach an evangelical believer online—meaning that every \$5 creates around 500 opportunities for someone to discover the prayer map and join this global movement of prayer. Every gift to the Pray for Israel Live [campaign](#) goes directly toward expanding its reach and inviting more believers to stand with Israel in prayer and solidarity.

But whether or not you are able to give, **the most important way you can stand with Israel is to pray.**

That is what this is all about. That is what Israel needs. And that is what believers in 189 countries are already doing—day and night, together.

“I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night” Isaiah 62:6.