



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

News Articles for Episode 398

IDF says it's on alert for 'surprise scenarios,' as US mulls military strikes on Iran | Times of Israel.com

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #iran, #united states

Jan 13, 2026

Israel said to believe Trump will make good on threat to attack in support of anti-regime protesters; US president puts 25% tariff on countries doing business with TehranThe Israel Defense Forces said Monday that it remained on alert for possible “surprise scenarios” as anti-government unrest in Iran has prompted the United States to threaten intervention over the killing of protesters.

Tehran has [threatened](#) to retaliate against Israel and US military bases if it comes under American attack.

Human rights groups allege the death toll in the country has risen to 648, though it may be much higher amid an internet blackout enforced by the regime since Thursday, making it difficult to assess the reported bloodletting. Some Iranians still have access to the internet via Elon Musk's Starlink satellite service, three people inside the country said.

IDF spokesperson Brig. Gen. Effie Defrin urged the public not to “lend a hand to rumors” about the ongoing situation in Iran.

“The protests in Iran are an internal matter,” he said in a post on X.

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He said the IDF is “prepared defensively” and continues to hold regular situational assessments, and that it will provide updates if there are any changes.

In June, Israel waged a 12-day war with Iran that began with a sweeping assault on Iran's top military leaders, nuclear scientists, uranium enrichment sites, and ballistic missile program. It said the attack was necessary to prevent the Islamic Republic from realizing its avowed plan to build nuclear weapons and destroy the Jewish state.

According to the Kan public broadcaster, Israel believes US President Donald Trump will make good on his threat to attack, and that this will lead to another war between Israel and Iran.

Former strategic affairs minister Ron Dermer was summoned by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to join a meeting on Sunday with senior ministers and security officials as the US weighed action, according to Channel 12 news.

The network reported that Dermer was consulted due to the potentially fateful decisions that the Trump administration may take vis-à-vis Iran. Dermer, a longtime Netanyahu confidant who resigned from his post in November, had been in charge of overseeing ties with the Trump administration.

The network also quoted an unnamed Israeli source warning that Iran's offer a few days ago to hold talks with the US is "a trap" meant to delay potential American strikes on the Islamic Republic.

In his latest attempt to pressure Tehran, Trump announced on Monday that "effective immediately, any country doing business with the Islamic Republic of Iran will pay a tariff of 25 percent on any and all business being done with the United States of America."

"This order is final and conclusive," he wrote on Truth Social.

Brazil, China, Russia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates are among economies that do business with Tehran.

The White House declined to offer further comment about the president's tariff announcement.

Iran had no direct reaction to Trump's comments, which came after the foreign minister of Oman — long an interlocutor between Washington and Tehran — traveled to Iran this weekend. It also remains unclear just what Iran could promise, particularly as Trump has set strict demands over its nuclear program and its ballistic missile arsenal, which Tehran insists is crucial for its national defense.

While Trump has avoided explicit talk of regime change, he has threatened military action against Iran if it kills protesters.

Trump said Sunday that Iran's leadership reached out to the US over the weekend, expressing interest in holding nuclear negotiations. The president said he may take up the offer but indicated he may strike Iran first.

Trump is slated to hold a security consultation on Tuesday, during which he will be briefed on potential actions to take against Iran. He is [said to lean in favor of a military strike](#), while also remaining open to a diplomatic solution.

The president has expressed support for the protesters and has pledged that "help" is on the way, without elaborating.

The Pentagon has briefed Trump on possible military strikes, cyberattacks, and psychological measures that can be taken to support the protesters, CBS News

reported, citing two American officials, who said that a final decision has not yet been made.

The US Department of State Consular Affairs has highlighted the escalating protests and said US citizens in Iran should consider leaving by land to Armenia or Turkey.

“US nationals are at significant risk of questioning, arrest, and detention in Iran,” the department said on its TravelGov account on X.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, speaking to foreign diplomats in Tehran earlier on Monday, insisted “the situation has come under total control,” in remarks that blamed Israel and the US for the violence, without offering evidence.

“That’s why the demonstrations turned violent and bloody to give an excuse to the American president to intervene,” Araghchi said, in comments carried by Al Jazeera. The Qatar-funded network has been allowed to report live from inside Iran, despite the internet being shut off.

Araghchi said Iran was “open to diplomacy,” and Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said that a channel to the US remained open, but talks needed to be “based on the acceptance of mutual interests and concerns, not a negotiation that is one-sided, unilateral and based on dictation.”

The demonstrations began on December 28 over the collapse of the Iranian rial currency, which trades at more than 1.4 million to \$1, as Iran’s economy is squeezed by international sanctions, in part levied over its nuclear program. The protests intensified and grew into calls calling for the overthrow of Iran’s theocracy.

Trump threatens Insurrection Act after ambushed ICE agent shoots illegal alien: 'Put an end to the travesty' | The Blaze.com

#bibleprophecy, #america, #lawlessness, #insurrection, #minneapolis

Jan 16, 2026

The DOJ has accused Mayor Frey and Gov. Walz of encouraging violence against federal law enforcement agents.

Despite their vilification by Democrat officials and an 8,000% increase in death threats, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents continue in Minneapolis and other [dangerous](#) sanctuary jurisdictions to make arrests — 70% of which are [reportedly](#) of criminal illegal aliens charged or convicted of a crime in the United States.

When attempting to make one such arrest on Wednesday evening, a federal law enforcement officer was savagely attacked not only by the illegal alien he was pursuing but by a pair of onlookers who apparently felt compelled to frustrate the administration of justice.

'Minnesota insurrection is a direct result of a FAILED governor and a TERRIBLE mayor encouraging violence.'

The incident resulted in an apparent defensive shooting, which radicals seized upon as yet another excuse to attack police, engage in wanton destruction, and altogether ramp up what the Department of Justice is now [referring](#) to as an "insurrection."

The shooting

The Department of Homeland Security [indicated](#) that around 6:50 p.m. local time, federal agents attempted to arrest an illegal alien from Venezuela. The suspect peeled away in his vehicle and fled the scene but ultimately crashed into a parked car.

While the suspect proceeded to take off running, an agent, who has been [identified](#) as an ICE officer by U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commander Gregory Bovino, caught up with the Venezuelan in the 600 block of 24th Avenue North.

When the ICE officer attempted once again to make the arrest, "the subject began to resist and violently assault the officer," said the DHS.

Seeing the two men struggling on the ground, two individuals exited a nearby apartment and allegedly began attacking the officer with a shovel and a broom handle, enabling the illegal alien to break free.

The Venezuelan allegedly proceeded to use one of the two improvised hitting implements to strike the outnumbered officer.

"Fearing for his life and safety as he was being ambushed by three individuals, the officer fired a defensive shot to defend his life," said the DHS.

The two alleged attackers and the Venezuelan — who sustained a non-life-threatening gunshot wound to the leg — reportedly barricaded themselves in the apartment but were ultimately flushed out. The illegal alien and the officer were taken to the hospital, and the two suspected attackers were placed in custody.

Minneapolis police were ultimately joined at the scene by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the FBI.

Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara [confirmed](#) that a broom and a snow shovel were found at the scene of the struggle and indicated "at least one person may have assaulted federal law enforcement."

The Minneapolis reflex

O'Hara indicated that in the wake of the struggle and shooting, a mob assembled and began "engaging in unlawful acts."

In addition to pelting law enforcement officers with incendiary devices, ice, rocks, and other projectiles, rioters [ransacked](#) and vandalized federal vehicles, [videos](#) showed.

Mayor Jacob Frey (D) wasted no time in fanning the flames, [referring](#) to ICE during a press conference on Wednesday night as an invading force that's supposedly rounding up American citizens.

"I've seen conduct from ICE that is disgusting and is intolerable," said Frey.

After demonizing ICE and championing anti-ICE protests, Frey suggested that radicals "taking the bait" weren't helping.

Gov. Tim Walz (D) also responded with mixed signals, characterizing federal agents as villains and recommending resistance but also suggesting that Minnesotans should remain peaceful.

"You're angry. I'm angry. Angry is not a strong enough word," Walz [said](#) in a video address on Wednesday night. "You are not powerless, you are not helpless, and you are certainly not alone. All across Minnesota people are learning about opportunities, not just to resist, but to help people who are in danger."

The Justice Department evidently saw the signal through the noise and accused the two Minnesota Democratic Party leaders of incitement.

"ICE operates in thousands of counties without incident. Men and women doing their jobs, protecting us from criminal aliens," [said](#) Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche. "Minnesota insurrection is a direct result of a FAILED governor and a TERRIBLE mayor encouraging violence against law enforcement. It's disgusting."

"Walz and Frey," continued Blanche. "I'm focused on stopping YOU from your terrorism by whatever means necessary. This is not a threat. It's a promise."

President Donald Trump [threatened](#) on Thursday morning to invoke the Insurrection Act "if the corrupt politicians of Minnesota don't obey the law and stop the professional agitators and insurrectionists from attacking the Patriots of I.C.E., who are only trying to do their job."

Trump noted that many presidents have utilized the Insurrection Act of 1807 and that it would "quickly put an end to the travesty that is taking place in that once great state."

[Pope Leo XIV Endorses Palestinian Statehood, Ignores Hamas Atrocities | Israel365news.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #pope leo, #hamas, #palestine, #israel

Jan 11, 2026

In his annual address to diplomats accredited to the Holy See on Friday, January 9, Pope Leo XIV declared that Palestinians have the right to live peacefully in their "own land"—language that directly endorses the creation of a Palestinian state on land that belongs to the Jewish people.

In his annual address to diplomats accredited to the Holy See on Friday, January 9, Pope Leo XIV declared that Palestinians have the right to live peacefully in their “own land”—language that directly endorses the creation of a Palestinian state on land that belongs to the Jewish people. The US-born pontiff, who assumed his position only months ago, used the diplomatic gathering to lament what he called rising violence against Palestinians in Judea and Samaria and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, while conspicuously failing to condemn Hamas terrorism or acknowledge the group’s use of civilians as human shields.

The Vatican has positioned itself as a moral arbiter in the conflict, but the pattern that has emerged since the war began reveals an institution that consistently whitewashes terrorist crimes while holding Israel to impossible standards.

Pope Leo XIV’s reference to Palestinians living in “their own land” in both Gaza and Judea and Samaria directly contradicts the biblical affirmation that the land of Israel was promised to the Jews as an eternal covenant. No amount of diplomatic language can transform what belongs to the Jewish people into “Palestinian land.” The Vatican’s endorsement of the two-state solution is not a call for peace—it is a theological rejection of Jewish sovereignty over the biblical heartland.

Pope Leo XIV’s January 9 address is not an isolated incident. It fits into a broader pattern of Vatican statements since October 7 that minimize Hamas atrocities while amplifying alleged Israeli misconduct. Consider the record:

In October 2024, when a temporary ceasefire was announced, the Vatican issued statements expressing concern for the “humanitarian crisis” in Gaza without once mentioning that Hamas started the war by massacring 1,200 Israelis, kidnapping hundreds, and firing thousands of rockets at Israeli civilians. The Vatican treated the conflict as though it materialized from nowhere, erasing the context of jihadist aggression.

Throughout the war, Vatican officials have condemned Israeli strikes on “hospitals, energy infrastructure, homes and places essential to daily life” while ignoring the fact that Hamas deliberately embeds its military operations in these locations precisely to generate civilian casualties. The Pope’s condemnation of “any form of involvement of civilians in military operations” sounds even-handed until one realizes it is only ever applied to Israel, never to the terrorists who use their own population as shields.

The language of Pope Leo XIV’s speech reveals the moral inversion at work. He spoke of defending “the principle of the inviolability of human dignity and the sanctity of life” while calling for a Palestinian state in land where Jewish children are murdered for being Jewish. He lamented the erosion of international norms against using force to violate borders, apparently forgetting that it was Hamas terrorists who breached Israel’s border on October 7 to commit mass rape and slaughter.

Pope Leo XIV stated that “the two-state solution remains the institutional perspective for meeting the legitimate aspirations of both peoples.” Based on the decades-long failed experiment with the “land for peace” formula, first enshrined in the [Oslo Accords](#) of the 1990s. Its left-wing, typically secular/anti-religious advocates presented Oslo as a historic breakthrough. The [Two-State Solution](#) would create an unprecedented militarized Arab state inside Israel’s borders, ethnically cleansed of Jews, with its capital in an exclusively Muslim Jerusalem. This would require a return to the ceasefire lines drawn up after the defensive 1967 Six-Day War that are considered to be indefensible against an Arab threat.

This position is not only historically ignorant—it is spiritually bankrupt. There is no such thing as a “Palestinian people” with historical claims to the Land of Israel that supersede Jewish claims. The concept itself is a 20th-century political invention designed to delegitimize Jewish sovereignty.

The so-called two-state solution has failed because it is based on a lie: that dividing the land will bring peace. Every time Israel has ceded territory—from Gaza to parts of Judea and Samaria—the result has been not peace but increased terrorism. The Vatican’s continued advocacy for this failed paradigm shows either willful blindness or active hostility to Jewish security.

Pope Leo XIV claimed his moral framework prioritizes “the protection of the principle of the inviolability of human dignity” over “any mere national interest.” Yet when Hamas terrorists invaded Israel on October 7, they violated every principle of human dignity imaginable. They burned families alive, decapitated babies, raped women to death, and paraded naked corpses through the streets of Gaza to cheering crowds. The Vatican’s failure to call this what it is—genocidal jihadist barbarism—represents a moral failure of historic proportions.

What is most revealing about Pope Leo XIV’s address is not what he said but what he refused to say. In over 3,000 words covering conflicts around the world, the Pope did not mention Hamas by name. He did not call for the release of hostages still held in

Gaza tunnels. He did not acknowledge that Hamas is a terrorist organization committed to Israel's destruction. He did not condemn the October 7 massacre.

This omission is not an oversight. It is a choice. The Vatican under Pope Leo XIV has decided that condemning Israel for defending itself is more important than condemning the jihadists who started the war. This moral calculus is not only unjust—it is obscene.

The pope also failed to mention the ongoing popular demonstrations by the people of Iran against the Islamist regime, which have continued into a third week. The protests have been met by mass arrests, live gunfire, and a sweeping internet blackout.

‘Victory For Individual Liberty’: Labour Govt Admits Defeat on Blair-Style Mandatory ID | Breitbart.com

#bibleprophecy, #britain, #digital id, #government

Jan 14, 2026

Left-wing govt performs another about-face, this time on mandatory digital ID, but Farage makes clear there is still more work to be done.

Britain’s left-wing government has performed yet another about-face, this time on scrapping a mandate for all people wanting to live and work in the UK to have a digital ID, but Nigel Farage made clear there is still more work to be done.

National digital identity ‘Brit Card’ documents being introduced by Westminster will no longer be mandatory, the British government has said. The news was met with celebration as an important victory by pro-liberty campaigners, with the U-turn having come after months of pressure and even a public petition garnering nearly three million signatures, an impressive achievement for British politics.

Reform UK leader and Brexit pioneer Nigel Farage noted “This is a victory for individual liberty against a ghastly, authoritarian government”, but importantly recognised the battle on the Blairite digital identity has far to go. Noting the digital ID cards weren’t going away yet, he added, “Reform UK would scrap it altogether.”

Indeed, Downing Street explained away their ditching the compulsory element as removing a distraction from the wider work of the identity card scheme, and said they were still pressing ahead with rolling them out. That the digital identity system is to be created, and in order to get a job or rent a property in future, a check against that system will still have to be made — even if it’s done with alternative forms of ID — Britain’s Labour government is still creating a papers-please system where refuseniks are to be burdened with inconvenience.

The Times [says](#) a government spokesman told them of the change: “Stepping back from mandatory-use cases will deflate one of the main points of contention. We do not want to risk there being cases of some 65-year-old in a rural area being barred from working because he hasn’t installed the ID.”

They continued: “We are committed to mandatory digital right-to-work checks. We have always been clear that details on the digital ID scheme will be set out following a full public consultation which will launch shortly. Digital ID will make everyday life easier for people, ensuring public services are more personal, joined-up, and effective, while also remaining inclusive.”

Independent Member of Parliament Rupert Lowe, who organised a cross-party parliamentary letter-writing campaign against the measure, hailed the development, thanked the members who backed his initiative, and said he'd be celebrating with a drink.

Big Brother Watch director Silkie Carlo wrote of the change: "We welcome Starmer's reported U-turn on making intrusive, expensive and unnecessary digital IDs mandatory... The proposal to make right to work checks digital could raise similar cybersecurity, fraud and privacy risks that digital IDs carry. The devil will be in the detail but this whole digital ID debacle smacks of incompetence."

While many European countries already have compulsory government identity cards, they have traditionally been seen as 'un-British' in the United Kingdom and a massive security risk given the government's track record of leaking sensitive personal data. To varying degrees, they have so far been successfully resisted. As [previously reported](#) on the now decades-long push by the left to subvert the longstanding British norms against ID cards by finding an excuse to implement them:

Britons last had mandatory identity cards in the Second World War, when they were thought necessary to catch out German spies. But while most European countries have national mandatory identity documents, the United Kingdom abolished them after the war, figuring them to be fundamentally un-British and unnecessary. Even the left-wing *Guardian* [stated in 1952](#) as identity cards were done away with: "In this country we do not like this sort of thing... The Labour party ought to know this characteristic of its countrymen by now, sad as it is for zealous planners to bear with".

But bringing the document back in a modernised form has long been a pet project of the left. Indeed, it was Britain's Labour Party that delayed abolishing the wartime identity cards after the conflict ended by years.

The last left-wing government (1997-2010) had just started rolling the cards out by the end of its time on office in 2010, when it was replaced at the ballot box by a Conservative-Liberal coalition government, which made repealing the card law one of its first acts in power.

[EU Commissioner Calls for 100-Thousand-Strong Unified Standing Defense Forces | The Gateway Pundit.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #united nations, #defense, #europe

Jan 12, 2026

Kubilius is actually calling for a United States of Europe – and that’s not gonna fly.

As Europe goes around in a militaristic trance, with its member countries all involved in enlarging and reequipping their military forces, an EU commissioner is making a plea that sounds rational, but it’s actually unfeasible.

European Union Defense Commissioner Andrius Kubilius has declared that the bloc ‘should consider’ forming a standing military force of 100,000 troops and – pay attention – ‘overhaul the political processes governing defense’.

Obsessed with their imagined ‘Russian aggression’ and with the US shifting its focus away from Europe, Kubilius wants to re-imagine Europe’s common defense.

[Politico](#) reported:

“Would the United States be militarily stronger if they would have 50 armies on the States level instead of a single federal army”, he said at a Swedish security conference on Sunday. ‘Fifty state defense policies and defense budgets on the states level, instead of a single federal defense policy and budget? If our answer is ‘no,’ [the] USA would not be stronger, then — what are we waiting for?’”

‘If Americans shift from Europe... Who will form our European standing backbone military force?’

A COLLECTION of 27 BONSAI ARMIES? Armies that look NICE?’

Andrius Kubilius, European Commissioner for Defense and Space pic.twitter.com/JWjKGwSPVC

— RT (@RT_com) [January 12, 2026](#)

Kubilius wants more investment in weapons production, organized institutions and the political will to deter and fight.

It’s all very fine, but this supposes the existence of the ‘United States of Europe’, which is not the case. Individual countries will NOT give away sovereignty in defense matters to the nutcases from Brussels.

“We need to start to invest our money in such a way, that we would be able to fight as Europe, not just as collection of 27 national ‘bonsai armies’,’ he said, borrowing a phrase from former EU High Representative Josep Borrell.

Europe could instead create — ‘as Jean-Claude Juncker, Emmanuel Macron, Angela Merkel already proposed 10 years ago’ a powerful, standing ‘European military force’ of 100,000 troops, he said.”

EU defence chief floats 100,000 troop joint force as doubts grow over US commitment

EU Defence Commissioner Andrius Kubilius has proposed exploring a 100,000 strong standing European force that could, over time, reduce or even replace the role played by roughly 100,000 US... pic.twitter.com/CtnrgEo7HF

— Gandalf (@Microinteracti1) [January 11, 2026](#)

[Mississippi synagogue burned in arson attack, suspect in custody | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #anti-semitism, #jews, #arson, #synagogue

Jan 11, 2026

Beth Israel Congregation Jackson suffers severe damage from apparent arson attack that destroyed multiple Torahs at Mississippi's largest synagogue.

A suspect was in custody Saturday after an apparent arson attack set a [Mississippi synagogue](#) ablaze, destroying Torahs and prompting an investigation involving the FBI and the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

The blaze broke out shortly after 3 a.m. at Beth Israel Congregation in Jackson, the state's largest synagogue. No congregants were injured, officials said.

Photos from the scene showed severe damage to an administrative office and the synagogue's library, where several Torahs were destroyed or damaged.

Jackson Mayor John Horhn confirmed that a person was taken into custody following an investigation that also included the [FBI](#) and the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

"Acts of antisemitism, racism, and religious hatred are attacks on Jackson as a whole and will be treated as [acts of terror](#) against residents' safety and freedom to worship," Horhn said in a statement.

Officials did not immediately release the name of the suspect or what charges the person was facing.

Beth Israel Congregation was previously targeted in a [Ku Klux Klan bombing](#) in 1967, an attack linked to the synagogue's involvement in civil rights efforts, according to the Institute for Southern Jewish Life, which also operates from the building.

"As Jackson's only synagogue, Beth Israel is a beloved institution, and it is the fellowship of our neighbors and extended community that will see us through," the institute said in a statement.

The American Jewish Committee also released a statement saying it was "outraged" by the [alleged attack](#).

"This hateful act is only the most recent symptom of the dangerous rising antisemitism facing Jewish communities across the country and around the world," it said.

The Anti-Defamation League called the incident a "deliberate, targeted attack on the Jewish community."

"Beth Israel survived a KKK bombing in 1967," ADL CEO Jonathan Greenblatt said in a statement. "That it has been attacked again, amid a surge of antisemitic incidents across the US, is a stark reminder: antisemitic violence is escalating, and it demands total condemnation and swift action from everyone — including community leaders, law enforcement, and government officials."

The synagogue's president, Zach Shemper, said the congregation was still assessing the damage and had received outreach from other houses of worship, according to [Mississippi Today](#). Shemper added that services will be suspended indefinitely.

One [Torah that survived the Holocaust](#) was not damaged in the fire, the outlet reported.

Abortion is leading cause of death worldwide 7th consecutive year | Christian Post.com

#bibleprophecy, #death, #abortion, #disease

Jan 12, 2026

Abortion remains the leading cause of death worldwide for the seventh year in a row, according to statistics compiled by Worldometer.

- Abortion was the leading cause of death worldwide for the seventh consecutive year.
- Over 45.2 million abortions were performed globally in 2025.
- Deaths from abortion exceeded fatalities from communicable diseases by more than three times.

Abortion remains the leading cause of death worldwide for the seventh year in a row, according to statistics compiled by Worldometer.

Worldometer, which keeps track of information about health, the global population and other metrics in real time, revealed that abortion was the leading cause of death worldwide in 2025. The [last available screenshot](#) of the Worldometer taken in 2025, captured by the Internet Archive Wayback Machine on Dec. 30, shows that more than 45.2 million abortions were performed in 2025. The final number of abortions performed could be higher, as the statistic don't include pregnancies terminated on the last day of the year.

The number of deaths caused by abortion was more than triple the number of fatalities caused by the second-leading cause of death in 2025: communicable diseases. Nearly 13 million people died from communicable diseases last year. Other leading causes of death in 2025 included cancer, which led to over 8 million fatalities, and smoking, which led to nearly 5 million fatalities. More than 7.5 million children younger than 5 died due to unspecified illnesses.

Nearly 2.5 million people lost their lives due to alcohol in 2025, while over 1.6 million people died because of HIV/AIDS. More than 1.3 million people were killed in road traffic accidents, and over 1 million people died by suicide.

Water-related illnesses led to the deaths of over 800,000 people, while the seasonal flu caused just over 500,000 deaths. Malaria led to nearly 400,000 deaths, and just over 300,000 mothers died during childbirth last year.

The overall number of deaths in 2025 was over 62 million. This figure doesn't include the number of abortions, which is greater than the combined fatalities caused by all the other leading causes of death combined.

Abortion has consistently remained the leading cause of death worldwide, dating back to 2019.

The number of abortions performed worldwide has consistently hovered between 40 million and 50 million in the past seven years. About 42.4 million abortions were performed in [2019](#). That number rose slightly to over 42.6 million in [2020](#) and [2021](#), before increasing to more than 44 million in [2022](#), more than 44.6 million in [2023](#) and about 45.1 million in [2024](#). The approximate number of lives lost to abortion in the past seven years adds up to more than 300 million, equivalent to nearly the entire population of the United States.

While data from Worldometer show that more than 45 million abortions were performed in 2025, statistics shared by the World Health Organization have an even higher estimate. A [fact sheet](#) compiled by the supranational organization and updated on Dec. 8, 2025, estimates that around 73 million abortions occur annually. The World Health Organization is listed as one of several sources that Worldometer uses to estimate the number of abortions worldwide, along with the Guttmacher Institute and The Lancet.

Bible sales double in the US, UK since 2019 **| Christian Post.com**

#bibleprophecy, #bible sales, #united states, #united kingdom

Jan 12, 2026

Bible sales in the United Kingdom reached their highest-ever level in 2025, while in the United States they hit a 21-year high.

Bible sales in the United Kingdom reached their highest-ever level in 2025, while in the United States they hit a 21-year high, more than doubling in value since 2019, according to reports.

The number of physical Bibles sold in the U.K. increased by 106% between 2019 and 2025, according to recent research by the Christian publisher Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

The year-on-year growth from 2024 to 2025 was 27.7%, with the English Standard Version (ESV), published by Crossway, topping the list of most purchased translations.

In the U.K., sales rose from £2.69 million (\$3.6 million) in 2019 to £6.3 million (\$8.4 million) last year, an increase of £3.61 million (\$4.8 million) over five years. That growth figure contrasts with the £277,188 (\$372,774) rise seen over the entire period from 2008 to 2019.

SPCK, one of the U.K.'s oldest religious publishers, said the new numbers reflect a significant surge in interest in printed Bibles across age groups. The trend appears to coincide with growing engagement among younger Britons in religious and spiritual questions.

"The significant and sustained upward trend in Bible sales suggests that more and more people are investigating the Christian faith themselves and seeking to draw their own conclusions about its truth," SPCK CEO Sam Richardson told [Premier Christian News](#).

Richardson said 2025 was the first year the organization saw indications of what he referred to as a 'Quiet Revival.'

A YouGov poll published the same year found that 49% of U.K. residents aged 18 to 25 believed in a higher power.

Richardson said the figures suggest a cultural shift. "As we face worldwide political and social change, including the after-effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, global wars, the rise of AI, and a growing mental health crisis, individuals are re-engaging with questions of meaning and spirituality."

SPCK is the parent organization for several Christian imprints and is among the largest publishers of religious materials in the U.K.

The 2025 data represent the highest recorded sales since the group began tracking Bible distribution nationally.

In the United States, Bible sales also hit record highs, according to statistics drawn from Circana BookScan.

At 19 million units sold in the U.S., Brenna Connor, Circana's director and industry analyst for the U.S., told [Publishers Weekly](#) that "2025 marked a 21-year high for Bible sales in the U.S," a 12% increase compared to 2024 and double the figure from 2019.

The bestselling adult Bible in the U.S. in 2025 was *The Invitation New Testament* published by B&H.

"The greater interest in religious content in the U.S. reflects a bigger search for hope and community," Connor said, "[This] suggests that consumers are increasingly turning to faith-based resources as anchors of stability and sources of comfort during uncertain times."

American publishers cited growing interest among students and young adults in religious texts as one contributing factor to the increase. Anecdotal reports from college campuses and church groups indicated higher demand for printed Bibles over digital versions, particularly among new readers.

In 2024 in the United States, Bible [sales grew at a far faster rate](#) than the overall print book market. While total U.S. print book sales increased by less than 1% in the first 10 months that year, Bible sales rose by 22% during the same period, reaching 13.7 million copies sold, compared to 14.2 million in all of 2023, according to Circana BookScan.

[The Wall Street Journal](#) reported at the time that publishers attributed the surge to heightened anxiety, renewed spiritual interest and targeted marketing efforts.

"People are experiencing anxiety themselves, or they're worried for their children and grandchildren," Jeff Crosby, president of the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association, was quoted as saying. "It's related to artificial intelligence, election cycles ... and all of that feeds a desire for assurance that we're going to be OK."