



# **SIGNS OF THE TIMES**

**News Articles for Episode 409**

# [Israeli Police Meet Top Catholic Leader in Holy Land, Cut Deal to Allow Holy Week Observances | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #palm sunday, #israel, #christians, #holy sepulchre

Mar 30, 2026

The Israeli Police forces and Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the highest-ranking Catholic official in the Holy Land, announced jointly on Monday that they had agreed to an arrangement to allow for Catholic ceremonies at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre during Holy Week.

Israeli authorities banned Cardinal Pizzaballa from conducting Mass at the church on Sunday – Palm Sunday, the first day of Holy Week marking the arrival of Jesus to Jerusalem shortly before his crucifixion. The Israeli government had banned mass religious ceremonies at the holy sites of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity in the Old City of Jerusalem in response to continued missile fire from Iran, whose Islamist terror government has been at war with Israel and the United States since February. While mass observances are banned, Pizzaballa and another clergyman, Custos of the Holy Land Father Francesco Ielpo, were attempting to conduct a Mass that would be broadcast to the world without an audience, which should not have violated the restrictions. The Vatican – and Christians around the world – questioned the decision not to allow the ceremony.

By Sunday night, Israel’s top authorities announced that they would engage in meetings with Cardinal Pizzaballa and other officials to ensure that other Holy Week events could be conducted safely. On Monday, Israel police shared a photo of officers shaking hands with a smiling Pizzaballa and announced that Holy Week services would occur without interruption, though also without an audience.

“Following a productive meeting between the Israel Police and Latin Catholic Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, a mutual framework has been established for upcoming Easter ceremonies,” Israel police announced. “Due to the complex security reality of Operation ‘Roaring Lion,’ ceremonies including the ‘Holy Fire’ will be held in a symbolic, limited format.”

“This coordination ensures that freedom of worship is maintained alongside our shared, primary duty: the protection of human life,” the authorities explained. “In the past few weeks, Iranian missiles and debris have impacted within the Old City. These life-saving restrictions are a direct response to a real and present danger to all worshippers.”

The office of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, the Vatican's top office in the region, separately confirmed a successful agreement.

“Matters concerning the Holy Week and Easter celebrations at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre have been addressed and resolved in coordination with the relevant authorities,” the Patriarchate explained. “In agreement with the Israel Police, access for representatives of the Churches has been secured in order to conduct the liturgies and ceremonies and to preserve the ancient Easter traditions at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.”

“Especially in times of hardship and conflict, such as those presently endured, safeguarding the freedom of worship remains a fundamental and shared duty,” the statement concluded.

Israeli President Isaac Herzog celebrated the agreement on Monday and emphasized that his government respects freedom of religion.

“I reiterate the unwavering commitment of the State of Israel to the freedom of worship for people of all faiths and the importance of upholding the status quo at the holy sites in Jerusalem,” Herzog said in a statement. “On behalf of the State of Israel, I extend my warmest wishes for the upcoming Easter holiday to the Latin Patriarch, to our Christian sisters and brothers in the Holy Land, and to our Christian friends across the Middle East and around the world.”

The Latin Patriarchate [announced](#) on Sunday that Israeli police “compelled” them to turn back from their procession towards the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, making it impossible for them to hold their traditional Palm Sunday Mass at the holy site. It published an outraged statement lamenting the “grave precedent” set by their inability to access the church and called the move a “manifestly unreasonable and grossly disproportionate measure.” Multiple heads of state of Christian majority nations issued statements lamenting the situation, including Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, whose country completely encircles Vatican City.

“The Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem is a sacred place of Christianity,” Meloni [stated](#). “Preventing entry to the Patriarch of Jerusalem and the Custos of the Holy Land, moreover, on a central solemnity for the faith, such as Palm Sunday, constitutes an offence not only for believers, but for every community that recognizes religious freedom.”

U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee also lamented the situation, calling it an “unfortunate overreach” by the Israeli government as Cardinal Pizzaballa attempted to conduct his Mass with four people total, when Israeli authorities had only barred gatherings of 50 people or more.

Unable to lead a Mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Cardinal Pizzaballa [led](#) a service at the garden of Gethsemane, where Christians believe Jesus agonized before his crucifixion.

Pizzaballa said in his meditation:

Today Jesus weeps once more over Jerusalem. He weeps over this city, which remains a sign of both hope and sorrow, of grace and suffering. He weeps over this Holy Land, still unable to recognize the gift of peace. He weeps for all the victims of a war that seems without end: for divided families, for shattered hopes.

The cardinal emphasized that Jesus's "tears are never fruitless," expressing a hope for a rapid end to the war.

# [Passover under pressure: Iran tests Israel's breaking point | All Israel News.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #passover #israel, #iran, #missles

Mar 30, 2026

Although Israel often measures the impact of its war with Iran in the number of people killed and injured or the scale of physical destruction, another toll is becoming harder to ignore.

The psychological strain of Operation Roaring Lion is deepening, and it is being felt most acutely as the country prepares to celebrate the Passover holiday under the threat of rocket fire.

Passover tells the story of the Jewish people's journey from slavery to freedom. But it is also one of the most demanding holidays on the calendar, especially for those who observe its laws closely. Homes are meticulously cleaned and koshered, kitchens are reorganized, and families spend days preparing for the lengthy Seder night that brings generations together around the table.

This year, as Israelis rushed to prepare for the holiday, Iran launched repeated missile attacks from early Wednesday morning through Thursday. According to IDF officials, the timing was intentional, aimed at increasing psychological pressure, disrupting daily routines, and heightening a sense of unease among civilians.

The strikes came alongside a warning from IDF Spokesperson Brig.-Gen. Effie Defrin, who cautioned that Israel could face a coordinated attack over the course of the Passover holiday.

On Wednesday morning alone, sirens sounded across central Israel at 6:23, 7:43, 8:28, 8:58, and 9:44 a.m., continuing intermittently throughout the day. Some of the incoming fire caused significant damage, reinforcing the sense of insecurity.

In one particularly intense incident, Iran launched 10 ballistic missiles within minutes, a volume not seen in recent weeks. Magen David Adom (MDA) released images from impact sites just hours before the Seder, sending shockwaves across the country and shattering any sense of normalcy for families preparing to celebrate together.

In one of the most serious cases, an 11-year-old girl from the ultra-Orthodox city of Bnei Brak was critically injured by shrapnel to her limbs and rushed to Sheba Medical Center. Hospital officials said she remained alive as the holiday began.

Israeli security and rescue forces at the scene where a missile fired from Iran toward Israel caused damage in Bnei Brak, April 1, 2026. (Photo: Flash90)

Elsewhere, in Rishon LeZion, MDA treated a 6-year-old boy in moderate condition with a head injury after he was struck by a car while running to a shelter.

“We arrived quickly and found the child conscious with a head injury,” said MDA EMT Ruth Chen. “He told us he was running to a protected space when he was hit by a car. We treated him and evacuated him in stable condition.”

More broadly, MDA reported that 26 people have been injured in car accidents during sirens since the start of the war. By Wednesday evening, medics had treated more than 70 individuals, including 50 suffering from physical injuries.

The attacks resumed early Thursday morning, with another barrage striking Bnei Brak in central Israel. MDA said it treated five people, including two 7-month-old infants injured by shattered glass.

At the same time, more than 30 rockets were launched from Lebanon toward the Galilee before noon, with multiple impact sites reported in Kiryat Shmona, causing damage to homes and buildings. At least two people were lightly injured, and police said several others were treated for anxiety at the scene.

The Ministry of Health reported 6,286 people have been evacuated to hospitals since the start of the war. MDA alone has treated more than 530, including 19 people who were pronounced dead.

Although there has been no official confirmation of where those injured in Bnei Brak were located at the time of the strike, it is reasonable to assume that some were not in shelters, likely caught off guard while preparing for the holiday.

Israeli security and rescue forces at the scene where a missile fired from Lebanon toward Israel caused damage in the northern Israeli city of Kiryat Shmona, April 1, 2026. (Photo: Ayal Margolin/Flash90)

In the United States, President Donald Trump delivered a speech on the night of the Seder, declaring, “We are going to hit them extremely hard over the next two to three weeks. We are going to bring them back to the stone ages, where they belong.”

Following the speech, energy prices surged, underscoring how closely American public sentiment is tied to economic conditions. If prices remain elevated, domestic pressure on the president to scale back operations before achieving stated goals could intensify.

This is despite the president’s insistence that the United States will not stop until its objectives are met. At the same time, Trump has suggested that regime change is already underway, citing the deaths of several senior figures, even though no formal shift in leadership has taken place.

In a post on Truth Social, the president also claimed that Iran had approached the United States seeking a ceasefire, a claim Tehran has denied. He added that

Washington would only consider such an agreement if Iran reopened the Strait of Hormuz. Until then, he said, “we are blasting Iran into oblivion.”

Iran appears to be counting on mounting pressure from Israeli and American civilians to bring the war to an end. In Israel, that means betting the strain on daily life will eventually become too great.

While the broader goal of regime change and a new regional reality still has wide support, maintaining public patience after two and a half years of multi-front conflict is no simple task.

At 3:30 a.m. between Wednesday and Thursday, sirens once again echoed through Jerusalem, sending families rushing to shelters, many of whom had finished their late-night Seders only hours earlier.

Passover is meant to celebrate freedom. Yet sitting together in an underground shelter, huddled for safety while relying on the army’s protection, feels anything but freeing.

And that may be the point.

Beyond the physical damage, the timing and intensity of these attacks are designed to erode resilience from within, to turn routine moments into ones of fear and disruption.

As Israelis move through a holiday rooted in liberation while under fire, the question is not only how long the war will last, but how much strain a society can absorb before that pressure begins to shape the outcome.

# [North Korea helps build Iran's missile arsenal for war in arms partnership | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #iran, #north korea, #war, #missiles

Mar 30, 2026

The Islamic Republic of Iran's vast missile system is the brainchild of the U.S.-designated state-sponsor of terrorism, the communist [North Korea regime](#), which works hand in glove with Iran, according to one of the world's leading experts on the Iran-North Korea strategic alliance.

"The missile launched at Diego Garcia was a Musudan. The Iranians bought 19 of these from the North Koreans and took delivery in 2005. They have had this capability since 2005 — and this is no 'secret weapon,'" Bruce Bechtol, who co-authored with Anthony Celso the groundbreaking book "Rogue Allies: The Strategic Partnership Between Iran and North Korea," told Fox News Digital.

Fox News Digital reported last week that Iran significantly escalated its war effort against the U.S. with its launch of two intermediate-range ballistic missiles toward Diego Garcia—roughly 2,500 miles from Iran.

Bechtol said, "The most important threat from Iran as the war with the United States and Israel has evolved has been the ballistic missiles, launched not only at U.S. facilities and Israeli cities, but also at neighboring Islamic countries. Thus, it is important to consider this capability and where Iran got it."

He said, "The short-range ballistic missiles that Iran has launched at key U.S. facilities and at neighboring Arab states include a key system — the 'QIAM.' The QIAM was developed and improved with North Korean assistance... North Korea has proliferated a lot to Iran that we are seeing right now in the war."

The joint U.S.-Israeli war against Iran's regime, the world's worst state-sponsor of terrorism, according to the U.S. State Department, has entered its fifth week.

Bechtol, who is a professor of political science in the Department of Security Studies at Angelo State University in Texas, noted that, according to the Wisconsin Project, North Korea had constructed a large missile test facility at Emamshahr, a city in the Fars Province [in Iran](#), and a tracking facility at Tabas in South Khorasan province.

He said North Korea aided Iran with crucial technology "for targets farther away from Iran."

"The North Koreans proliferated around 150 No Dong systems to Iran in the late 1990s. The Iranians were apparently very happy with the missiles the North Koreans provided them, and, following the earlier precedent of the Scud C factory, contracted with Pyongyang to build a No Dong facility in Iran."

Bechtol continued, "The Iranians called this 'new' missile the Shahab-3. The Shahab-3 is almost an exact copy of the No Dong. Once the Shahab-3 was up and running, the North Koreans moved forward with the Iranians in improving its range and lethality."

He said, "With assistance from the North Koreans, the Iranians were then able to produce (at the No Dong facility) the Emad and the Ghadr. The Emad has a range of 1,750 kilometers (approx 1,087 miles) and the Ghadr has a range of 1,950 kilometers (approximately 1,212 miles.) The Iranians have used these two systems to target not only Israel, but their Arab neighbors (including U.S. bases located in these countries) throughout the ongoing first stages of this conflict."

Bechtol said the North Koreans spawned an Iranian missile warhead that weighs a ton and a half to two tons on the powerful Khorramshahr-4. "There is another system capable of [hitting Israel](#) that has been even more lethal than any of the systems described thus far. This system is called the 'Khorramshahr,' and the fourth version of this system, appropriately called the 'Khorramshahr-4,' has been proven to carry a warhead larger than any other in Iran's missile inventory, armed with what appears to be cluster munitions," he said.

He described the [strategic partnership, noting](#): "North Korea is the seller and Iran is the buyer. North Korea proliferates weapons systems, technology, parts and components, technicians, engineers and specialists and military capabilities (such as the building of underground facilities) to Iran. Iran pays North Korea with cash and oil. Simple as that."

Bechtol said the only way to stop this is through [sanctions enforcement](#) against North Korea. "The sanctions that are needed are already on the books. But the USA and our key allies need to robustly enforce them. We need to go after banks, front companies and cyber entities in order to squeeze the money and contain or destroy the supply chain."

He said, "More emphasis needs to be placed, and more action needs to be taken using the Proliferation Security Initiative — an underused aspect of preventing North Korea's arms from flowing to rogue nations and terrorist groups. If you cut off the supply chain, you [cut off the proliferation](#)."

# Contributor for left-wing outlet says Israelis 'must be removed from our planet' | Foxnews.com

#bibleprophecy, #anti-semitism, #israel, #hate, #soros

Mar 31, 2026

A contributing writer for the far-left publication Drop Site News called for "wiping out" [Israel](#) and urged his followers not to make Israelis "feel safe."

Palestinian journalist Abubaker Abed, a self-described "accidental war correspondent" whose work is published by Drop Site, took to social media Monday with a post calling for the complete elimination of the Jewish state.

"Wiping out Israel off the planet is not enough revenge. Israelis mustn't feel safe anymore. Haunt them and go after them where they go. These terrorist parasites must be removed from our planet," Abed posted on Instagram.

Drop Site co-founder Ryan Grim directed [Fox News Digital](#) to a statement saying Abed's message does not represent the organization's editorial position but stopped short of condemning the anti-Israel rhetoric.

"We also are never going to police the language of anyone who survived a genocide," Grim wrote on X.

## WATCHDOG BLASTS BBC, CNN, NYT FOR APPLYING 'WAR CRIME' LABEL ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO US, ISRAEL IN IRAN CONFLICT

Drop Site, primarily known for its anti-Israel coverage of the Gaza war, bills itself as a "a non-aligned, investigative news organization dedicated to exposing the crimes of the powerful — particularly in overt and secret conflicts where the U.S. government is playing a key role."

It has money from the [George Soros](#)-funded Open Society Foundations, which gave Drop Site a \$250,000 grant in 2024 to establish a Middle East desk, according to a listing on Open Society's [website](#).

The Washington Free Beacon also [reported](#) Soros' money was funneled to Drop Site through the Social Security Works Education Fund.

# [Woman, 84, Went to the ER for Pain and Claims a Doctor Suggested a Euthanasia Program Over Treatment | People.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #euthanasia, #health care, #doctors, #pain

Mar 28, 2026

## NEED TO KNOW

- A woman, 84, said she visited an ER while experiencing severe pain and claimed a doctor recommended medical assistance in dying (MAiD) instead of treatment options
- “I just wanted to find out why I was in pain — I did not want to die,” the woman told the *Western Standard*
- She went on to make a full recovery and travel the world

An woman said she went to the ER after waking up in pain and claimed a doctor [recommended euthanasia](#) before even conducting initial tests.

Miriam Lancaster, 84, of Vancouver, Canada, said that she woke up in April 2025 in intense pain, according to the [Western Standard](#).

Lancaster was taken to the emergency room at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH), per the outlet. After arriving at the hospital, but before any “tests had been taken,” a doctor approached her and suggested medical assistance in dying (MAiD), which is a legal process in Canada in which eligible adults can request [medical assistance to end their lives](#).

Lancaster said that she was shocked by the comment, as she said she hadn’t even received a diagnosis yet.

"All I knew was that I was in an emergency ward and was approached by a doctor, which I was expecting. And the first thing the doctor did was ask about MAiD," she told the outlet.

Lancaster’s daughter, Jordan Weaver, who was with her at the time, said that she recalls the timeline of events slightly differently, but said that her mother was offered MAiD for an injury which ultimately was [entirely treatable](#).

"My recollection is that she had received her diagnosis ... My mom had a fractured pelvis. It fractured spontaneously due to osteoporosis, and it was hard for them to find

at first, because it was such a hairline fracture,” Weaver recalled to the *Western Standard*.

Weaver said that her mother ultimately stayed at the VGH for a week and then was transferred to another facility, where she stayed a month while she healed.

"She couldn't come home, so it was very expensive to treat, but it didn't require surgery. And as you know from the story, she made a full recovery," Weaver said.

Weaver went on to say that she worries what might have happened if she had not been with her mom at the time that MAiD was discussed.

"It was something like, you know, 'MAiD is an option that would end the pain forever,' you know, with a sort of encouraging attitude," she recalled. "So if someone was being respectful of [healthcare workers](#), they might almost go along with it. "

"I think my mom's pretty feisty, but if I hadn't been there, the doctor might have been able to manipulate. It was off the cuff — it was manipulative," Weaver added.

Weaver said that her mother has since made a full recovery and traveled to different countries and is "living life [in] full."

"When we were [in Guatemala](#), she climbed a volcano," Weaver said. "When we were in Mexico, she was taking cooking classes and making her own tacos. And when we were in Havana — she is a retired piano teacher — she played with a five piece jazz ensemble."

In a statement obtained by PEOPLE, Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH), which oversees VGH, said it "is committed to the health and safety of everyone in our care."

"While VCH is limited in what we can say due to patient privacy and confidentiality, we are not aware of a conversation between the patient and emergency department physicians at Vancouver General Hospital related to Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD)," VCH continued.

"Staff may consider bringing up MAiD based on their clinical judgement, provided they possess the necessary knowledge and skills to do so," they said, adding that emergency department staff "are not generally in a position to raise the topic of MAiD with patients."

"Should an individual make a formal request for MAiD, practitioners must conduct assessments in alignment with federal and provincial legislation, regulations, and standards of practice, outline specific safeguards and eligibility criteria and must agree these safeguards have been met, in order to determine eligibility for MAiD," VCH added, before concluding the statement with, "We strongly encourage those who are concerned about their care to connect with our Patient Care Quality Office."

While Lancaster and Weaver said that they respect that MAiD might be the right choice for some patients and families, they do not think it should be offered unless a patient specifically asks about it.

In a video clip posted to [X](#) by Amanda Achtman, founder of Dying to Meet You, an anti-euthansia organization in Canada, Lancaster said she recalled feeling shocked by the mention of MAiD at the time.

"I was taken aback. That was the last thing on my mind, I just wanted to find out why I was in pain — I did not want to die," Lancaster said in the clip.

"My recovery has been amazing, and there was no need for MAiD to even have been suggested," she added.

# [Spanish, European courts denies father's bid to block euthanasia of daughter](#) [Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #euthanasia, #spain, #europe

Mar 28, 2026

## [Noelia Castillo Ramos dies by euthanasia after legal fight](#)

Noelia Castillo Ramos, 25, died Thursday after receiving euthanasia in Sant Pere de Ribes, Barcelona, following a legal battle of more than a year. Supporters gather outside Sant Camil hospital, where flowers were left. (EFE via Reuters Connect.)

*This story discusses suicide. If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide, please contact the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988 or 1-800-273-TALK (8255).*

[Spain](#) is grappling with the death of a 25-year-old woman from Barcelona who was euthanized following a series of tragic events despite multiple legal challenges from her father.

Noelia Castillo Ramos' case galvanized international attention after her father, Gerónimo Castillo, mounted a legal battle against the authorization of various Spanish courts for his daughter to receive euthanasia in 2023. Aided by Abogados Cristianos (Christian Lawyers), a conservative Catholic organization, Mr. Castillo exhausted all appeals to the Spanish courts.

The father argued that his daughter wasn't fully psychologically able to make a decision regarding euthanasia and that she needed better medical and psychiatric care. His legal battle was ultimately shut down by the European Court for Human Rights in [Strasbourg, France](#), on March 10.

## [GRIEVING PARENTS DEMAND CHANGES AFTER 26-YEAR-OLD SON EUTHANIZED UNDER CONTROVERSIAL LAW](#)

The case of Castillo Ramos is just the latest in euthanasia deaths across Europe, but the Barcelona woman's choice to die has inflamed passions across the country.

Castillo Ramos' parents divorced when she was 13 and spent almost four years in public tutelage centers when she was diagnosed with [borderline personality disorder \(BPD\)](#) — a serious psychiatric condition often leading to severe depression, suicide ideation and a tendency to addiction.

By her own account, in an interview she gave before dying to [Spanish TV channel Antena 3](#) she tried to commit suicide at least twice despite being under intensive

psychiatric care. In her first suicide attempt, she took several pills and ingested a toxic automotive liquid, but was saved by her mother, who took her to the hospital for a gastric-intestinal cleansing procedure.

Things got worse for her when she left the home and ended up being [sexually assaulted multiple times](#) when she was about 20. First, she was sexually abused by a former boyfriend after taking sleeping pills. Soon after, two men attempted to rape her while in a nightclub, leaving her deeply scarred, and as reports indicate, this led her to a care home for worsening psychiatric symptoms.

### **POPE LEO XIV SAYS HE'S 'VERY DISAPPOINTED' AFTER ILLINOIS APPROVES ASSISTED SUICIDE LAW**

There, she was [gang-raped by three men](#). With her mental state deteriorating, she attempted suicide by jumping out of the fifth floor of a building.

Multiple reports and social media posts originally indicated that the three rapists who assaulted her were immigrant minors under the care of the state – something the Barcelona-based newspaper El Periódico says is false.

Many Spaniards have reacted angrily to the court's authorization for her to receive euthanasia, accusing the leftist government of Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez of not providing the girl with adequate medical care, opening up the country to mass migration, lack of policing and ultimately handing down euthanasia as a solution to her case.

After her interview on Spanish TV, several anonymous donors and public figures, including pianist James Rhodes, offered to fund her treatment and to provide her and her family with material assistance if she decided against having the procedure.

The Catalan High Court of Justice confirmed to Fox News Digital that all legal and medical requirements, including a favorable opinion by the Catalan Commission of Guarantee and Evaluation (CGEC), had been met and that there was nothing preventing the young woman from receiving the requested euthanasia.

Noelia died at 6 p.m. local time on Thursday at Hospital Sant Pere de Ribes in Barcelona. She is the youngest person ever to be euthanized in Spain under the country's assisted dying law passed in 2021.

# [Extreme weather in Afghanistan leaves 17 people dead, authorities say | AP News.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #weather, #flooding, #disaster, #death

Mar 29, 2026

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Severe flooding, a landslide and thunderstorms in parts of Afghanistan left 17 people dead and 26 injured over the last 24 hours, with more heavy rainfall predicted, authorities said Sunday, [the latest casualties](#) from extreme weather in the country this season.

The number of casualties could increase as crews from the country's National Disaster Management Authority survey the affected areas, the authority's spokesman, Yousuf Hammad, said in a statement. Thirteen of Afghanistan's 34 provinces, mostly in the western, central and northwestern parts of the country, were affected.

The severe weather also left 147 homes either completely or partially destroyed, wiped out 80 kilometers (about 50 miles) of roads and destroyed agricultural land and irrigation canals and businesses, Hammad said. In all, he said, 530 families were affected.

Heavy rainfall was also forecast to affect eastern and central parts of the country Monday, and Hammad warned flooding was also possible in those areas. The disaster management authority warned residents to avoid river banks and areas at risk of flooding in those regions, and ordered local officials to be on standby to provide assistance.

Earlier this year, heavy snowfall and flash floods [left dozens of people dead](#) across the country.

Afghanistan is highly vulnerable to [extreme weather events](#), with snow and heavy rain that trigger flash floods, often killing dozens, or even hundreds, of people at a time. In 2024, [more than 300 people died](#) in springtime flash floods.

Decades of conflict, coupled with poor infrastructure, a struggling economy, deforestation and the intensifying effects of climate change have amplified the impact of such disasters, particularly in remote areas where many homes are built of mud and offer limited protection against sudden deluges or heavy snowfall.

# Scholars say forced abortions on minors using 'physical restraint' may be justified as a last resort | Foxnews.com

#bibleprophecy, #abortion, #minors, #pregnancy, #morality

Mar 29, 2026

Two scholars are advocating for forced [abortions](#) on minors with "restraint" as a last resort if needed.

Kimberley Brownlee and Alyssa Izatt wrote a research paper titled "Justice for Girls: On the Provision of Abortion as Adequate Care," that addressed the "critical moral questions about pregnancy in childhood." The article is included in the University of Chicago Press's April 2026 edition of its peer-reviewed journal, "Ethics."

According to the scholars, "Providing care might then require sedation or physical restraint, which could be traumatizing, especially since this is a girl who most likely has already had her bodily integrity violated by someone."

"Compelling abortion care for an unwilling girl thus might seem to compound the harm she has already endured," Izatt and Brownlee [wrote in the paper](#).

The two added, "Here, it is worth considering that, while it may be distressing for parents, medical caregivers, and the patient herself, the use of restraint (chemical or physical) on children to provide lifesaving or life-altering treatment is used in other areas of medicine, including in procedures such as surgeries and cancer treatment, and is justified as a last resort when it is necessary to provide adequate care."

Brownlee is the Canada research chair in ethics and political and social philosophy at the University of British Columbia (UBC). Izatt is a Ph.D. student studying moral philosophy at UBC.

"Both opponents of abortion and liberal defenders of a woman's right to control her own body make a mistake in relation to impregnated children," the authors wrote.

"As such, the adults responsible for her care should never pressure or compel her to continue a pregnancy. Nor should they confront her with the three 'options' of [abortion](#), adoption, or mothering, as medical professionals are currently advised to do. Instead, her adult caregivers should view her impregnation as a malady and take steps to terminate it."

"Mandating care is something that is done in other serious medical contexts, such as cancer treatment, when it's necessary to save a child's life or health, and we believe it

should be done here too for the child's safety," Brownlee said in a statement to [Fox News Digital](#) on Friday.

"For a child, pregnancy is a life-or-death matter. Pregnancy-related complications are the second highest cause of death of teenage girls worldwide. The younger the child, the graver the risks. We believe that older teens may be able to decide against abortion care, but they should be informed of the risks they face."

Charlie Camosy, who teaches moral theology and bioethics at Catholic University, slammed the authors' arguments.

"Published in top tier journal. In order for an argument like this to pass muster, [abortion](#) has to thoroughly break the people involved in the process," Camosy posted on X.

Camosy shared Secular Pro-Life's post. The organization advances "secular arguments against abortion."

"Paper argues for forced abortions on minor girls – even if it requires chemically or physically restraining them – as the ethical position," Secular Pro-Life wrote.

Izatt and the Journal did not respond to [Fox News Digital](#)'s request for comment.

# [China Intensifying Persecution of Christians in Underground Churches | Crosswalk.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #persecution, #christians, #china, #government

Mar 25, 2026

China's crackdown on unregistered churches extends to legal professionals, with lawyers facing license revocation and suspension for assisting persecuted Christians.

Throwing Christians and Christian leaders in the underground Zion Church into prison was apparently only the beginning for the Chinese government. They're now also after lawyers who attempt to help them. Attorney Zhang Kai had his license for practicing law revoked by the Chinese government, and several other attorneys had their licenses suspended or were warned verbally about their involvement, according to [The Wall Street Journal](#).

## **Chinese Government Wants to Control What Churches Teach and Their Activities**

China claims to offer religious freedom in their constitution, but that's really only in connection to churches that are registered with the government. Then the government controls what is said and what people in those churches do in connection to religion.

"We feel deeply that this is an open defiance and trampling of justice and the rule of law," representatives of Zion Church said in a recent letter obtained by [China Aid](#).

Grace Jin, the pastor's daughter, laments that trying to learn what's happening with her father may be more complicated now because of how the Chinese government is treating the attorneys, according to [The Christian Post](#).

Pastor Jin became a Christian as a result of the Tiananmen Square massacre of 1989. He's a graduate of Fuller Theological Seminary in California, and has been a primary leader in China's house church movement.

There are 18 people who are a part of Zion Church who have been arrested and are being held in a Chinese detention center in the south. This is the first step in prosecuting them and potentially keeping them in prison for three years, according to U.S. Congressman Chris Smith's [website](#).

## **U.S. Experts Warn Congress to View Persecution as National Security Threat**

A coalition of experts have warned the U.S. Congress that China's intensification of persecuting Christians needs to be viewed as a national security threat to the entire United States.

Former Kansas Governor and ambassador-at-large Sam Brownback also said that he sees China's intensifying Christian persecution as something that should be treated as a national security issue.

"China is at war with faith, and it is at war with us. We should unequivocally and clearly be on the side of their opponents. China fears religious freedom more than they fear our aircraft carriers or our nuclear weapons," Brownback said during a Congressional-Executive Commission on China, as reported by U.S. Congressman Chris Smith's website.

"If the world's largest authoritarian state can eradicate religious freedom without consequences, it undermines the authority of America's founding values and global leadership," Brownback added.

Grace Jin testified during the joint committee that the Chinese government's persecution followed her and her mother to America. Jin said her mom was contacted by someone impersonating a United States agent, and the Chinese government watches and follows Grace Jin as she goes about her day in Washington.

In an interview with [ABC News Australia](#), reporter Max Walden was asked why he thought China was threatened by Christianity. Walden said that the present government is really atheist, and that faith groups that aren't registered with the Chinese government are seen as a "national security threat." He went on to note that there are approximately 90 million Christians believed to be in China, and that number is about the same number as the entire Chinese communist party. The Chinese government doesn't want to risk that these groups could mobilize against it and overthrow it. When relations are strained between China and another government, such as the United States, China tends to crack down on unregistered religious groups.

# [JD Vance says he was 'obsessed' with UFOs, believes aliens are actually 'demons' | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #jd vance, #demons, #ufos, #aliens

Mar 28, 2026

While discussing the mystery surrounding UFOs, Vice President [JD Vance](#), who is Catholic, said he believes what people think of as aliens are actually "demons."

While interviewing Vance, conservative commentator Benny Johnson asked the vice president, "You gonna release all the UFO files?"

"Ah, we're workin' on it," Vance said.

He explained that when he took office he "was obsessed with the [UFO files](#)" but ended up being busy with other issues.

Vance asserted that he will "get to the bottom" of the matter.

## [JD VANCE SAYS UFOS, ALIENS COULD BE 'SPIRITUAL FORCES' AS VP VOWS TO 'GET TO THE BOTTOM' OF MYSTERY IN SKIES](#)

"I don't think they're aliens. I think they're demons anyway," Vance noted.

Prompted by Johnson, Vance later elaborated on his view.

"Well, look, I, I think that celestial beings who fly around, who do weird things to people — I think that the desire to describe everything celestial... to describe it as aliens — I mean every great world religion, including Christianity, the one that I believe in, has understood that there are weird things out there, and there are things that are very difficult to explain," he said.

"And I naturally go — when I hear about, sort of, extra-natural phenomenon — that's where I go to is the Christian understanding that, you know, there's a lotta good out there, but there's also some evil out there," he continued.

## [UFO SECRET FILES, DRONE SWARMS AND NUCLEAR-LINKED SIGHTINGS STUN EXPERTS IN 2025](#)

He added that he believes that among "the devil's great tricks is to convince people he never existed."

Last month, President [Donald Trump](#) said he would order the release of files pertaining to the issue of aliens and UFOs.

## **EXPLOSIVE NEW DOCUMENTARY PROBES '80-YEAR GLOBAL COVERUP' OF UFO SECRETS**

"Based on the tremendous interest shown, I will be directing the Secretary of War, and other relevant Departments and Agencies, to begin the process of identifying and releasing Government files related to alien and extraterrestrial life, unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP), and unidentified flying objects (UFOs), and any and all other information connected to these highly complex, but extremely interesting and important, matters. GOD BLESS AMERICA!" the president declared in a February Truth Social [post](#).

# Modern tech's dangerous quest to rewire God's design may be catapulting us into the end times | The Blaze.com

#bibleprophecy, #god, #virtual reality, #digital consciousness, #brain

Mar 28, 2026

In this day and age, [technology](#) is no longer just about efficiency. It's about pushing the limits, regardless of the consequences.

Earlier this month, a scientific [breakthrough](#) occurred when neurotechnology company Eon Systems took a complete digital map of a fruit fly's brain and ran it inside a virtual fly body in a simulated world. The digital fly started walking, grooming itself, and behaving just like a real one — all from its brain wiring alone.

But Eon Systems isn't stopping there. The company plans to do the same for a mouse brain next — and eventually for a human one. If successful, it could ultimately allow the human consciousness to live on in perpetuity in a digital format.

The spiritual implications of this are massive, says [BlazeTV](#) host Rick Burgess. On this episode of "Strange Encounters," he explores the growing theory that our quest for technological dominance is inextricably linked to the end times.

This kind of "digital consciousness" that fuses the real and virtual worlds is very "dangerous," Rick warns.

"[Eon Systems is] trying to reflect a version of God creating things," he says.

When the original blueprints for God's good creations are tampered with, biblical history paints a terrifying picture of what follows: divine wrath.

Rick points to Genesis 6, which documents the mysterious Nephilim, which many believe were a race of human-demon half-breeds that resulted from fallen angels reproducing with human women.

"One of the most plausible theories about the Nephilim is [that] when God became so angry when demons — fallen angels — were able to reproduce with human women ... he killed everybody except for Noah and his family," says Rick.

Satan's specific crime in this particular scenario, he argues, was attempting to "mimic God" creating the perfect "God-man" in Jesus by creating his own counterfeit god-man in the Nephilim.

While Satan's evil plot was foiled by the great flood, his desire to spawn his own dark creations will live on until his final defeat. Rick wonders if some of our modern technological advancements — especially those that seek to rewire what is natural — are linked to Satan's ultimate plot to unleash unmitigated darkness across the earth in the final days before Christ's second coming and the final climactic pouring out of God's wrath on the earth.

“Can Satan find himself in this technology, working with these people — unbeknownst to them, I'm sure — to take modern technology and the whole AI world and begin to use it for the things he's still going to do in the future?” he asks.

While Rick thinks it's plausible that dystopian technology will play a role in the end times, he doesn't subscribe to the theory that the Antichrist prophesied throughout Scripture will be some kind of half-human, half-robot cyborg.

“I think it's pretty obvious in Scripture that Antichrist will be a human being,” he says.

But that doesn't mean the Antichrist won't be dependent on modern technology. In fact, Rick suspects that he will be.

He refers to Revelation 13, in which it is prophesied that the Antichrist — or “the beast” — will appear to be resurrected after a “mortal head wound,” leading many blind followers marveling at his supposed divine power.

Rick envisions a scenario in which this prophecy comes to fruition through modern technology.

“You think you couldn't take AI technology and fake a mortal head wound and a resurrection? You could do that easily,” he says.

As for the scientists striving to fuse human life with technology, Rick still believes they very well could play a role in Satan's sinister plot — even if nothing more than creating another race of “hybrids” that are abominations to God.

“I do think this is going to be an attempt for mankind ... under demonic direction to start trying to play God and create animals and create human beings, which is extremely dangerous territory,” he warns.

While Eon Systems is still a ways off from experimenting on human brains, others are already doing it. In the next part of this episode, Rick dives into another dystopian tech story involving a biotech startup that built a computer using living human brain cells and is now teaching it to play the video game Doom. To get the full story, watch the episode above.