



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

News Articles for Episode 428

A second red heifer is born in the Golan: “God is pressing us toward building the Temple.” | Israel365 News.com

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #red heifer, #temple, #sacrifice

Jul 23, 2026

"The team at the Institute expected potential heifers to be born this season, but her birth so close to Tisha B'Av gives the strong sense that God is pressing us to accelerate the path toward building the Temple.

Just a month and a half after the [National Red Heifer Institute announced the birth of a red heifer](#) around the reading of Parshat Chukat, the Institute is announcing the birth of a second red heifer, this time in the Golan Heights, on the eve of Tisha B'Av. The same week, two red heifers were inseminated in Ancient Shiloh, part of what the Institute describes as a broader effort to raise a full herd of red heifers and restore the laws of purity to Israel after 2,000 years of exile.

The new heifer was born in the herd of Shai Givon, a farmer with the National Red Heifer Institute, with strict care taken from birth to preserve her unblemished status: no ear tag was placed, since the puncture itself would constitute the kind of blemish that disqualifies a heifer from the ritual. Givon is the same breeder who first identified the previous heifer, discovered in one of the dairy barns where he was working.

Asked how two red heifers could be born so close together, Givon said he sees the timing as more than coincidence. "I feel that we are living in a historic era," he said. "Since the last heifer was born, I have received inquiries and questions from every part of the Jewish spectrum, in Israel and abroad; Hasidim, Litvaks, secular Jews and religious Jews alike. The Jewish people are more attuned than ever to the Temple and to restoring purity to Israel, and God is opening doors and opportunities that have not existed in 2,000 years."

"We are on our way to raising a full herd of red heifers," Givon said. "The team at the Institute expected potential heifers to be born this season, but her birth so close to Tisha B'Av gives the strong sense that God is pressing us to accelerate the path toward building the Temple. The real question is whether we want to."

Because she was born directly in Givon's herd, the new heifer carries no ear tag. But her health has opened a halachic question the Sages never had to confront. She was born a twin to a male calf, and cattle are unique among animals in that twin fetuses can share a connected blood supply between their placentas. In the small share of these cases — Givon's Institute puts the figure at roughly 98 percent — this cross-circulation mixes the hormones needed for reproductive development between the male and female

twins, and the male's testosterone can permanently damage the female's uterus. The English veterinary term for the resulting female twin is a freemartin: an animal born with an intact uterus that cannot properly develop, leaving her what halachah terms an aylonit — a female incapable of ever conceiving.

The question now sits with the Beit Midrash, the roughly twenty rabbis who provide halachic guidance to the Institute. The Beit Midrash only recently finished ruling on the previous heifer's kashrut, after the puncture from her ear tag healed to the point that barely any trace remained of the blemish inflicted shortly after her birth. Now it must decide whether a uterine defect present from birth, but invisible on the outside, disqualifies the new heifer from the mitzvah of the red heifer altogether.

“There is a real question as to whether a birth defect that is not external and visible on the cow's body disqualifies her unblemished status, both for sacrifices generally and for the red heifer specifically,” said Rabbi Azariah Ariel, head of the Beit Midrash at the National Red Heifer Institute. “Since our goal is to establish a national halachic standard, we will not rule on this alone. The Beit Midrash will need to deliberate together and bring its conclusions to the leading halachic authorities of the generation for their endorsement. With God's help, we hope within about a year to publish our conclusions on the central questions in this field, and afterward to publish four comprehensive volumes of *Parah Adumah Kehilchatah* [The Red Heifer According to Halachah], summarizing a decade of halachic research for the rabbinic community in Israel.”

The Institute is inviting rabbis from across Israel to a gathering on Thursday, August 6, at a farm in the north, to deliberate together on the halachic questions the project keeps raising. Rabbis interested in attending can register through the [Institute's website](#) or by emailing menachem@redheiferinstitute.com.

The heifer's birth comes as public engagement with the Temple keeps climbing ahead of Tisha B'Av. Yehuda Ben Tzvi, one of the Institute's leaders, sees the shift firsthand through his educational work at the Mikdash Educational Center. “During the Three Weeks we don't only mourn the Temple, we work without pause, running educational programs across the country on the subject,” Ben Tzvi said. “Over the past month we've met close to 10,000 people across roughly 60 communities, from Acre in the north to Bnei Netzarim on the Egyptian border. Just this week of the Nine Days, we reached 1,000 children a day at a massive educational event in Ancient Shiloh, connecting 5,000 children from the Binyamin Regional Council to the subject of the Temple ahead of Tisha B'Av.”

“Over the past year we've felt a tremendous public awakening around the Temple,” Ben Tzvi said, “and to keep up with the demand, we've launched a mass fundraising campaign in recent days to expand our educational work on the subject.”

“Perhaps on Tisha B'Av two years from now, we will merit purifying the people of Israel for the first time in 2,000 years, through a historic national event that fulfills the words

of the prophet — that the days of mourning the destruction will become days of joy for the building of the Temple,” Ben Tzvi said. “As it is written: ‘Thus said the Lord of Hosts: The fast of the fourth month, the fast of the fifth, the fast of the seventh, and the fast of the tenth shall become occasions for joy and gladness, happy festivals for the house of Judah — but you must love truth and peace’ (Zechariah 8:19).”

The question now, Ben Tzvi said, is whether the Jewish people want the Temple built, and what each person is doing to advance that process speedily in our days.

Netanyahu REJECTS Trump's Gaza peace plan: 'They have ideas' | The Blaze.com

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #gaza, #peace, #trump

Aug 10, 2026

Days after Trump announced a 'historic agreement,' the Israeli leader decided to throw a wrench in the gears.

President Donald Trump [announced](#) on July 30 that his Board of Peace had "reached a HISTORIC agreement" in Gaza that would bring an end to a conflict that has claimed well [over](#) 70,000 lives.

While the president characterized his proposed resolution as a major win for the Palestinian people and for Israel alike, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is evidently of a different mind.

'President Trump will be very, very disappointed.'

Netanyahu — whom Trump has [rebuked repeatedly](#) in recent months for undermining his initiatives in the region — rejected the Board of Peace's 15-point peace plan on Sunday, [telling](#) his cabinet that some of its terms are unacceptable.

Peace proposal

The peace plan [released](#) by Trump's Board of Peace, which would be undertaken in stages, requires, among other things, that:

- Israel, Hamas, and "other Palestinian factions" suspend military operations in Gaza;
- Hamas and other factions in Gaza agree not only that all civilian governance and security functions in Gaza will be taken over by the National Committee for the Administration of Gaza, but that the committee can carry out its responsibilities independently;
- the NCAG will oversee the disarmament process;
- Gaza will be "governed according to the principle of One Authority, One Law, One Weapon";
- Israeli forces — who presently occupy more than half of Gaza — will execute a phased withdrawal from Gaza; and
- the International Stabilization Force will separate Israeli forces from NCAG-controlled areas during the withdrawal.

"This agreement is a critical step towards Gaza finally being governed by a new Palestinian government that will work closely with the Board of Peace to help the Palestinian people," Trump [said](#) in a statement. "At the same time, Israel will have the security it deserves, with Gaza no longer used as a base for terror attacks."

"The threat that emerged from Gaza on October 7 will NOT be allowed to rebuild!" continued the president. "Under this agreement, Gaza will finally be in the hands of a new Palestinian government that serves its PEOPLE."

After announcing the deal, which Hamas accepted through Egyptian mediators, Trump [told](#) reporters that "Israel is very happy."

While the Israeli security cabinet initially approved of having the International Stabilization Force enter Gaza to aid in the disarmament of Hamas and the transition, top officials called on Netanyahu to reject the plan, [reported](#) the Times of Israel.

Rejection

Netanyahu, who facing both a [tough re-election battle](#) and an [ongoing corruption trial](#), told his cabinet on Sunday, "Israel rejects the 15-point document."

"The IDF will not carry out any withdrawal until Hamas is disarmed," continued Netanyahu. "And when I say Hamas must be disarmed, I mean the heavy weapons, the less-heavy weapons, all weapons. And we are talking about genuine disarmament, not a fictitious one."

The Israeli leader — whose nation is the ["largest cumulative recipient"](#) of U.S. foreign assistance since World War II — noted that his government has raised its reservations over the peace deal with Washington.

"They have ideas," said Netanyahu, apparently referring to the Americans behind the peace deal. "Some of them are acceptable to us and some are unacceptable to us, and we know how to stand up to these things. We have proven this in the past, and we are proving it today as well. In addition, the IDF will continue to thwart threats against our forces and against our citizens."

The White House did not immediately respond to Blaze News' request for comment.

While flatly rejecting Trump's peace plan, Netanyahu nevertheless spoke warmly of the American president.

"I have great appreciation for President Trump," said the foreign leader. "He is a great friend of ours in the White House. I greatly appreciate the historic partnership with the United States against Iran's attempts to acquire nuclear weapons. And I want to emphasize again: With an agreement or without an agreement, as long as I am prime minister, Iran will not possess nuclear weapons."

"Unlike all those who preach to us, we are doing what needs to be done for Israel's security, and we can and know how to stand our ground even against our very best friends when necessary," added Netanyahu.

In addition to rejecting the peace deal, Netanyahu rejected the possibility of a Palestinian state in Gaza.

The prime minister's remarks were [welcomed](#) by various Israeli officials, including finance minister Bezalel Smotrich, the leader of the Religious Zionist Party.

"We went to war with a central goal: the destruction of Hamas," said Smotrich, in a statement reported by [the Times of Israel](#). "The (military) cannot withdraw even a millimeter from the Gaza Strip. The Gaza Strip cannot begin any process of reconstruction before the complete dismantling and demobilization of Hamas and the Gaza Strip."

Hamas, on the other hand, remains supportive of Trump's plan and has asked Washington to pressure Israel to get on board.

According to an X.com translation of the original Arabic, Basem Naim, a member of Hamas' politburo, [stated](#) on Sunday, "We are committed to the roadmap reached with the representatives of the Peace Council in Cairo just days ago, and our agreement, despite all the challenges, reflected a commitment to the interests of our Palestinian people."

"We expect the mediators and the American guarantor to press Netanyahu and his government to compel him to adhere to the roadmap and not obstruct the path for internal political and electoral reasons," added Naim.

After Trump first announced the deal, a U.S. official told the Washington Post, "We're not asking Israel to do anything other than agree to the 20-point plan that they agreed to initially, and so we're very confident they will adhere to it. If they don't, obviously, President Trump will be very, very disappointed."

Is this the beginning of an Islamic NATO against Israel? | Israel Today.com

#bibleprophecy, #islam, #alliance, #israel, #defense

Aug 9, 2026

Pakistan, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia say their new defense pact is about deterrence, but Islamabad's defense minister quickly made clear who he sees as the common threat.

Pakistan, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia have signed a mutual defense pact that could reshape the strategic balance of the Middle East and beyond.

The agreement, signed in Mecca, commits the three Muslim powers to treat an attack on one as an attack on all. Pakistan's Foreign Ministry described it as a collective deterrence framework, language that closely resembles NATO's Article 5.

The pact comes during the ongoing US-Israel confrontation with Iran, and Tehran has previously clashed with all three countries in different ways. Iran has fired missiles toward Saudi Arabia and Turkey since the war began, and Pakistan has had border skirmishes with the Islamic Republic.

But if the pact were aimed mainly at Iran, Pakistan's own defense minister quickly complicated that reading.

Within hours of the signing, **Khawaja Asif** used a television interview to call for the Muslim world to unite against Israel. Speaking to *Geo News*, he described Israel as a "common threat" and said Muslim countries must confront it together.

Pakistani Defense Minister Khawaja Asif on Israel:

When it comes to Israel, all Muslim countries should come together. There is absolutely no ambiguity in my mind about that.

Given Israel's current conduct, as well as the historical evidence of what it has been doing—at one... pic.twitter.com/3Uqzo1cdnR

— Clash Report (@clashreport) [August 8, 2026](#)

Turkey under **Recep Tayyip Erdogan** has become one of Israel's most [hostile regional critics](#), routinely accusing the Jewish state of crimes while aligning itself politically with the Palestinian cause. Pakistan has never recognized Israel and has repeatedly rejected normalization, including calls to join an expanded Abraham Accords framework.

Saudi Arabia is more complicated. Riyadh has been exploring normalization with Israel for years and shares deep concerns over Iran. But the kingdom is also under heavy pressure from the broader Muslim world and has positioned itself as a defender of Palestinian interests.

The new pact therefore points in two directions at once.

It could become a Sunni security bloc aimed at containing Iran. Or it could evolve into a formal mechanism for collective pressure against Israel, especially if other Muslim states join.

Turkey has denied that the agreement targets Iran or any specific country. That may be true in diplomatic language. But Asif's remarks stripped away some of the ambiguity.

For Israel, the warning is clear. The region's security architecture is shifting, and not every anti-Iran alignment is necessarily pro-Israel.

A Muslim defense bloc led by nuclear-armed Pakistan, NATO-member Turkey, and Saudi Arabia is not something Jerusalem can afford to ignore.

2025 deadliest year for Jews outside Israel since Buenos Aires bombing, report says | JNS.org

#bibleprophecy, #jews, #anti-semitism, #global, #violence

Jul 29, 2026

Last year "was one of the most violent years for American Jews on record," stated Jonathan Greenblatt, of the ADL. "We were targeted an average of 17 times a day."

Twenty people were murdered in antisemitic attacks in 2025, making it the deadliest year for anti-Jewish violence outside of Israel since the bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires on July 18, 1994, according to a new report.

The J7 Large Communities' Task Force Against Antisemitism documented more than 23,000 antisemitic incidents in 2025 across Argentina, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States, which are home to more than 90% of Jews.

The number of antisemitic incidents across the seven countries was 136% higher than in 2022, according to the task force, which called antisemitism in these countries "our new normal."

The 20 murders included 15 people killed at a Chanukah celebration on Bondi Beach in Sydney, two killed at the Heaton Park Synagogue in Manchester, two killed at the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington, D.C. and one killed in Boulder, Colo.

Although reported incidents declined by 33% in the United States in 2025, they remained 131% higher than in 2021, per the report.

Australia recorded the largest increase during that period at 270%, followed by Germany at 215% and France at 124%. Germany had nearly 70 incidents for every 1,000 Jewish residents, the highest per-capita rate among the seven countries and nearly 70 times the U.S. rate.

Anti-Zionism was identified as a central motivation in 48% of incidents in the United Kingdom, 45% in the United States and 23% in Germany.

The report found that in Ireland, the Jewish community of about 2,200 people reported 143 antisemitic incidents in six months. Ireland has no national strategy to combat antisemitism or dedicated security funding for its Jewish community, according to the report.

Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO and national director of the Anti-Defamation League, which helped found the task force in 2023, said that “2025 was one of the most violent years for American Jews on record. We were targeted an average of 17 times a day.”

“This isn’t just an American crisis,” Greenblatt stated. “Every single J7 country remains dramatically above pre-Oct. 7 levels.”

The task force recommended that governments “must stop reacting after Jews are attacked and start acting before, with real security funding, stronger laws and social media platforms that enforce their own rules.”

It also urged technology companies to “strengthen moderation of hate content and increase transparency and cooperation with civil society to counter emerging threats.”

No cure, no vaccine: Experts warn of rare Bourbon virus after first NY case | Foxnews.com

#bibleprophecy, #virus, #vaccine, #ticks, #symptoms

Aug 1, 2026

A rarely diagnosed [tick-borne virus](#) with no vaccine or specific treatment has been confirmed in New York for the first time, prompting researchers to warn that additional infections may be going undiagnosed.

The Bourbon virus, "transmitted through the common lone star tick, could soon begin to complicate diagnoses if it becomes more prevalent this summer and in coming years," Stony Brook Medicine warned in a [news release](#) reporting on a study of the virus.

Only six human cases have been reported since Bourbon virus was first identified in Bourbon County, Kansas, where the first known patient was diagnosed in 2014. That patient later died.

The virus has been linked to at least two deaths, including the original 2014 case and another reported in 2026. [Researchers believe](#), however, that additional infections have likely gone undiagnosed.

Symptoms of Bourbon virus include fever, fatigue, rash, headache, body aches and nausea. Because there is no commercially available diagnostic test, doctors have a difficult time identifying it.

Many [healthcare](#) providers are also unfamiliar with the virus, "thus increasing the possibility of misdiagnosis," the release said.

A team of researchers led by Stony Brook Medicine confirmed the first case of Bourbon virus in New York in a patient from Long Island who developed severe symptoms and an eight-fold rise in antibody titers of the Bourbon virus. The patient was hospitalized.

"There are a lot of lone star ticks in New York and in the Northeast, we have dense populations and when someone is infected with Bourbon virus symptoms they are similar to other tick-borne infections," Luis Marcos, Stony Brook Medicine professor and director of the Tick-borne Disease Clinic, said in the news release.

"For these reasons, the Bourbon virus is likely more prevalent than we think in our region, and other cases are likely not being diagnosed."

Marcos and his co-authors said their findings show the need for expanded surveillance and better testing to improve diagnosis and track the spread of Bourbon virus.

"Without identifying the cause of an infection, the chances of developing accurate diagnostic tests or effective treatments are minimal," he said. "That is why it is so important to first understand the true impact of the virus in high-risk areas."

According to the [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC), "The lone star tick is widely distributed in the Northeast, South and Midwest United States."

The tiny, blood-feeding, parasitic arachnid has established populations in Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia, according to the CDC.

Lone star ticks are an "aggressive tick," according to the agency.

"The adult female is distinguished by a white dot or 'lone star' on her back. The nymph and adult females most frequently bite humans and spread disease," the CDC reports.

Despite the Bourbon virus' severity, "only a select few [ticks] bite and transmit bacteria, viruses and parasites (pathogens) that cause diseases in people," according to the CDC.

To avoid tick bites, people should wear protective clothing, such as pants they can tuck into boots and long-sleeve shirts.

Experts also recommend applying insect repellent, such as permethrin, to clothing and outdoor gear, not directly on the skin.

Stay out of tall grass and on well-beaten trails whenever possible because ticks thrive in overgrown and heavily wooded areas.

Check for ticks after spending time outdoors and remove them as soon as you find them. Seek medical attention if you develop fever, rash, fatigue or other flu-like symptoms in the days or weeks following a tick bite.

[Dangerous drug-resistant fungus spreads across US, reaching 27 states | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #infections, #fungus, #united states, #resistant

Aug 11, 2026

Thousands of cases of a potentially deadly, [drug-resistant fungus](#) have been reported across 27 states so far this year, according to provisional CDC data.

As of the week ending July 25, a total of 3,437 clinical cases of Candida auris (C. auris) had been documented in the U.S. so far in 2026.

California accounts for 873 cases — roughly one-quarter of the country's total. Other states with high numbers include Texas (433), Tennessee (283), Ohio (279), Georgia (193), Louisiana (179), Illinois (171), Arizona (171), Michigan (146), Virginia (132) and Pennsylvania (121), per the CDC.

The remaining states have fewer than 100 cases each.

Candida auris is a type of yeast that can cause serious infections, primarily in hospitals, nursing homes and other [healthcare settings](#).

The fungus, which can survive on surfaces for prolonged periods, is "highly transmissible between patients through contact with contaminated surfaces or objects," the CDC states. It can spread through contaminated items such as bedrails, doorknobs and shared medical equipment.

C. auris can also be spread by people who carry the fungus but do not show symptoms, known as "colonization."

California accounts for 873 cases — roughly one-quarter of the country's total.

Clinical cases do not necessarily represent infections. The CDC defines a clinical case as detection of C. auris in a specimen collected during the normal course of [medical care](#).

Some clinical specimens can come from sites where the presence of C. auris may represent colonization rather than a true infection.

The health effects of the fungus can range from colonization without symptoms to potentially deadly invasive infections, including bloodstream infections.

Those most at risk of infection include patients with severe underlying medical conditions. In particular, those who use breathing tubes, feeding tubes, IVs or catheters

are more vulnerable, as are those who are hospitalized frequently or for long periods of time.

People without those risk factors are unlikely to become colonized with *C. auris* or develop an infection.

Dr. Marc Siegel, Fox News senior medical analyst and clinical professor of medicine at NYU Langone, said he considers *C. auris* an "emerging problem of great concern."

"It is resistant to multiple [antifungal drugs](#), and it tends to spread in hospital settings, including on equipment being used on immunocompromised and semi-immunocompromised patients, such as ventilators and catheters," he previously told Fox News Digital.

"Unfortunately, symptoms such as fever, chills and aches may be ubiquitous, and it can be mistaken for [other infections](#)."

Invasive *C. auris* infections have been associated with mortality rates of 30% to 72%, although most affected patients are already seriously ill. This can make it difficult to determine how often the fungus is a direct cause of death.

Candida auris can be difficult to treat because it is often resistant to antifungal medications, leading the CDC to classify the fungus as an "urgent [antimicrobial-resistance threat](#)."

More than 90% of U.S. samples are resistant to fluconazole, a common antifungal treatment. Echinocandins, another family of [antifungals](#), are currently the main treatment option for *C. auris*, although some strains are resistant to all three main classes of antifungals.

"[Major research](#)" is ongoing to develop new treatments, according to Siegel.

"This is part of a much larger problem of emerging antibiotic resistance in the U.S. and around the world," the physician previously cautioned. "At the same time, sterilization and disinfection measures in hospitals can be very helpful."

47 dead and buildings collapsed after 7.4-magnitude earthquake shakes western Colombia | AP News.com

#bibleprophecy, #earthquake, #columbia, #death, #destruction

Aug 10, 2026

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — A powerful 7.4 magnitude [earthquake](#) struck western [Colombia](#) on Monday, killing at least 47 people, trapping residents under debris of collapsed buildings and forcing people to evacuate their homes as far as the capital of Bogotá.

The epicenter was in San Jose Del Palmar, a community of about 4,800 people in the Choco region about 250 miles (400 kilometers) west of Bogota, the U.S. Geological Survey and Colombia's counterpart reported. The USGS said it struck at a depth of 66 miles (107 kilometers). The quake also was felt in neighboring Ecuador and Panama, though minimal damage was reported there.

Local officials confirmed that at least 18 people had been killed in the city of Pereira, two in the city of Manizales, and 27 people in the Valle del Cauca department, where Colombia's third-biggest city, Cali, is located. At least three killed in Valle del Cauca were children, the governor reported.

The quake left cities across the west of the country — Pereira, Quibdo, Cali and Manizales — ravaged. A mix of residents and search teams picked through the rubble of collapsed buildings amid concerns by authorities of aftershocks. Colombia's interior minister said more than 20 municipalities across the country had been hit.

Jorge Moncayo, a 64-year-old taxi driver in Cali, said he saw plumes of dust shoot up across the city from his home in hills of the city as buildings collapsed. Residents in the city and rescue workers were searching the rubble for survivors.

"My entire house shook. I've never lived through such a powerful earthquake," he said. "We're thanking god we're alive."

Colombia's Geological Service said Monday that it had been "the highest magnitude earthquake registered in Colombia in the last decade" and that it had been followed by two 2.8 and 4.8 magnitude aftershocks. Authorities also reported that flights were suspended in the airports of Manizales, Quibdo, Armenia, Cartago y Buenaventura and Pereira.

The earthquakes left many in the Andean nation unnerved after two back-to-back quakes devastated neighboring Venezuela in late June, destroyed hundreds of buildings and [killed more than 5,000](#) people. At the same time the quake brought down

buildings in Colombia, desperate families in Venezuela continued to search the ruins for the bodies of their loved ones.

In Pereira, photos and videos published by local media showed pieces of the airport ceiling falling down on travelers taking shelter and screaming, and people running through rubble in a panic.

Pereira's mayor, Mauricio Salazar, told a local radio station that at least 18 people had died and that many more were trapped under "a massive quantity of collapsed buildings."

In nearby Manizales, a city nestled in the coffee-producing mountains of Colombia, one of the towers of the neo-Gothic cathedral collapsed and fell on the nave. Jorge Eduardo Rojas, the mayor of Manizales said two people had died in the city "because of the quake" and asked residents to stay outside in case of aftershocks.

Authorities in the rural state of Choco, the epicenter of the quake, reported injured people and damaged buildings in the capital, but provided few details.

In Cali, a city 2 million people, Mayor Alejandro Eder said that residents were trapped in at least 19 buildings that had collapsed.

Small earthquakes, known as "temblores," are common in central and western Colombia, but those above 6.0 magnitude are rare. In 1999, a 6.2 magnitude quake near the city of Armenia, killed more than 1,100 people.

Colombia's newly inaugurated President Abelardo de la Espriella said Monday that he had personally taken charge of the government's response to the emergency in San José del Palmar following the earthquake that struck the country.

"You are not alone. The state is present and taking action," he said.

[Deadly disease outbreak kills 2,000 as experts reveal what Americans should know | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #disease, #ebola, #congo, #infections

Aug 12, 2026

The Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo has killed over 2,000 people, but experts say the average American faces very little threat.

As the death toll from the latest [Ebola outbreak](#) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) surpasses 2,000 people, infectious disease experts say Americans should remain aware of the humanitarian crisis overseas while understanding the reality of domestic risk.

The virus has spread rapidly across parts of eastern and northeastern DRC, with earlier cross-border cases in Uganda. Published government data shows a total of 4,381 confirmed cases.

"There's a lot of people who live there. So this is not breaking out in a town of 50, but in rural cities of hundreds of thousands," David Wohl, MD, a professor of medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, told Fox News Digital.

"Compared to [previous outbreaks](#), the pace at which this is moving is unprecedented," he went on. "The slope is just so catastrophic, with more and more people getting infected at a very significant pace without much slowing down."

Controlling transmission has proven particularly difficult in the DRC due to what Wohl calls a "perfect storm" of adverse conditions.

Dense populations and limited access can complicate efforts to deliver [medical care](#), track contacts and establish quarantine protocols, he noted.

"There's conflict in and around these areas, which makes getting in and out of them ... really tough," Wohl said.

What the outbreak means for Americans

Despite the escalating death toll in Africa, health officials emphasize that the average American faces very little threat from Ebola.

"This is not something that I think the average person has to worry about acquiring here in the United States," Wohl said, noting that transmission requires close [physical contact](#) with bodily fluids from a severely ill or deceased individual.

"It doesn't travel across the air and across a room," he added.

"The average person who gets a headache or a fever does not need to worry about Ebola."

Even during the massive 2014 West Africa outbreak, which Wohl said infected more than 28,000 people, only four Ebola cases were diagnosed in the U.S. Two were imported cases, and two nurses contracted the virus while caring for an infected patient in Dallas, according to the CDC.

Several other Ebola patients who had been infected and diagnosed overseas were medically evacuated to the U.S. for treatment.

"We just have so much better [public health](#), healthcare systems, hygiene, access," Wohl said. "It's a very different environment."

[Viruses](#) like measles, influenza, RSV and SARS-CoV-2 pose more immediate public health concerns for Americans, he added.

"The average person who [gets a headache](#) or a fever does not need to worry about Ebola," the doctor said.

For the U.S., potential concerns include the risk to healthcare providers traveling to Africa to assist with containment efforts and the possibility of further instability in the region.

The treatment challenge

[Medical researchers](#) are also navigating challenges with virus variants, according to Wohl.

While treatments and vaccines were successfully deployed against the Zaire strain during the 2014 crisis, the doctor said the Bundibugyo virus circulating in parts of the DRC is genetically different.

As a result, approved Ebola therapeutics are not approved for Bundibugyo-related disease, and their effectiveness against it has not been established.

Researchers are actively evaluating new treatments and vaccine candidates for Bundibugyo virus, Wohl said.

Emerging technologies, including mRNA platforms, could potentially help researchers more rapidly develop [vaccines](#) against specific viral threats, according to the doctor.

Global agencies, including the World Health Organization and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, continue to monitor the region closely. Wohl emphasized that international support and resource deployment remain critical to stopping the surge.

"This is a fire that's raging that continues to be out of control," Wohl said. "There's lots of people suffering ... and I think more can be done."

Extremist' and 'barbaric': Massachusetts Democrats break ranks over new abortion law | Foxnews.com

#bibleprophecy, #abortion, #massachusetts, #democrats, #pro-choice

Aug 14, 2026

Fox News host Greg Gutfeld and the 'Gutfeld!' panel evaluate a bill signed by Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey that allows fewer restrictions on abortion up to birth.

A new [Massachusetts](#) law eliminating gestational limits on abortion has drawn backlash from conservatives and sparked a rift among state Democrats.

The Prioritizing Patient Access to Care Act [passed 119-33](#) in the state House of Representatives on July 22, largely along party lines. The bill, signed into law this week by Democratic Gov. Maura Healey, removes statutory restrictions on abortions past 24 weeks, allowing physicians to perform the procedure later in pregnancy based on their professional medical judgment and grants greater protection from legal penalties.

Nine House Democrats voted against the legislation alongside [Republicans](#). Speaking to Fox News Digital, several dissenting lawmakers cited ethical and legal concerns, and said the bill does not align with the majority of their constituents' opinions on abortion.

LATE-TERM ABORTION TAKES FRONT SEAT AS BLUE STATE RUSHES TO EXPAND ACCESS BEFORE SESSION ENDS

"This new law represents an extremist and dangerous position," State Rep. Jeffrey Turco of Winthrop told Fox News Digital. "To be clear, it allows abortion anytime, unrestricted, and in many cases, publicly funded until the moment of birth."

Turco said the bill was "rushed through the legislative process in two weeks, without an opportunity for the public to weigh in," and was "out of step with the views of the average person in Massachusetts."

"[The new law](#) is barbaric," he added.

State Rep. Chris Markey of Dartmouth warned that the bill creates a troubling precedent.

"I am deeply disappointed in the passage of this bill. This bill creates a very slippery slope," Markey told Fox News Digital. "I believe this law puts doctors in a very difficult ethical dilemma, as well as conflicts with long-standing criminal [case law](#). This law, I believe, is not consistent with the beliefs of the vast majority of my constituents. While

many are pro-choice, you can still be pro-choice and see this law as going beyond the norms of acceptability."

State Rep. Dennis Gallagher, a Democrat representing the 8th Plymouth District, told Fox News Digital he struggled with his decision but concluded that changes to the existing abortion law were unnecessary. While affirming his view that abortion should remain a decision between a woman and her doctor, he argued there should be greater emphasis on alternatives such as adoption when the mother's health is not at risk.

Gallagher emphasized that prior state law already permitted abortions after 24 weeks to protect the health of the mother or in cases of severe fetal anomalies.

"At that point in a pregnancy, if the health of the mother is fine and the baby's health is fine, I just think alternatives should be encouraged for that baby," he told Fox News Digital. "So that's what I struggled with. But it should always be between a woman and their doctor."

State Rep. Alan Silvia, a pro-life Democrat from Bristol, said he strongly opposes expanding abortion in Massachusetts.

In a statement to [Fox News Digital](#), Silvia questioned why lawmakers are moving to protect endangered wildlife while offering less protection to unborn children.

"My position has been consistent: I believe in protecting human life, including the life of the unborn," he said. "We go to extraordinary lengths as a society to protect vulnerable life, saving whales and saving strays, yet when it comes to an unborn child, that same sense of protection too often seems to disappear."

"As a legislator, I cannot support policies that continue to expand abortion, particularly in the later stages of pregnancy," Silvia continued. "This is not an issue I take lightly, and I understand there are deeply held views on both sides, but I will continue to stand by my convictions and vote accordingly."

SURROGATE GIVES BIRTH IN TEXAS TO BABY WITH HEART DEFECT AFTER PARENTS REQUESTED ABORTION

Healey defended the new law at the bill's passage, saying it is intended to ensure families facing medical complications late in pregnancy can abort their babies in Massachusetts rather than having to travel out of state.

Healey's office did not immediately respond to Fox News Digital's request for comment.

[This tattoo is permanent, pain-free, and might soon come in the mail | The Verge.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #tattoo, #mark of the beast, #needles

Jul 31, 2026

The refurbished railway station in London I entered last week had none of the usual signs of being a tattoo studio. The walls were devoid of any art, and there were no reclining chairs or massage tables in the room. The only tattoo gun on the premises sat in a display case instead of buzzing in someone's gloved hand. I felt like I was getting inked in a half-assembled biolab with some interesting benefits.

I'm not trying to put on a show of bravado when I say my latest tattoo didn't hurt. Getting the small sparkle lineart permanently marked on my skin was a genuinely painless experience. It was over in seconds, and didn't involve any grisly needles — at least, not in the traditional sense.

It was applied by [CipherX](#), a London-based biotech company that's developed disposable "Microdot" patches that provide an alternative form of permanent tattooing. Each patch is roughly the size of a US quarter and uses microscopic, biodegradable needles to deposit pigment into the upper layers of the skin. The process is designed to be "quiet, fast, and pain-free," all of which I found to be true, opening the door for even more people to rock some permanent ink.

Some cosmetic products already use a similar technology, and microneedle tattoo patches have been [explored since at least 2022](#), but CipherX appears to be the first to turn that latter concept into a consumer-ready product. My [Verge colleagues](#) have previously [put their bodies on the line](#) in the name of testing technology, and I was more than happy to offer up my flesh.

The application itself was actually faster than I expected. After choosing my design — a "[Bold Sparkle](#)," now widely associated with AI iconography — CipherX CEO Ferdinand Kohle placed an ink-coated transparent guide disc on my arm to indicate where it would be applied. He then lined up the seemingly 3D-printed applicator with the ink guidelines, pressed a button, and removed it to reveal the Microdot patch affixed to my arm, embedding 112 microneedles into my skin.

A flexible tattoo bandage was applied to prevent it from moving around, and a branded plastic sticker was placed over that — presumably for marketing as Kohle admitted that part wasn't necessary. The final step involved waiting 15 minutes for it to process, and I was free to move around during that time.

I was warned that I might feel a slight “flicking” sensation as the applicator was pressed, but I barely noticed a thing. It felt more like someone had lightly touched my arm with their finger. I wouldn’t even describe the sensation as uncomfortable, let alone painful. It’s also worth mentioning that I have sensitive skin and bleed *very* easily, but I didn’t experience any bleeding or irritation from the microneedles. There was no scabbing or healing time at all, unlike my other tattoos.

The tattoo is revealed after the patch is removed, and becomes visibly darker over the course of two days. Initially, the tattoo consisted of lots of teeny dots rather than a smooth, connected line. The ink is supposed to “bleed” together as it develops, like a regular tattoo does over the years, but that hasn’t occurred in the five days since I had it done. I now have to look very closely to see the dots, but they’re definitely still there.

The superfluous branded sticker they applied over the tattoo bandage was actually the most annoying part of the entire experience because it pinched my skin when I moved my arm. I had the tattoo applied near the inside of my elbow as that’s one of the more painful areas for traditional tattooing — I have my ankles done already (another notable pain zone) and wanted to compare.

This isn’t a viable solution for tattooing most of the more painful body areas like your ankle joint or fingers though. The applicator requires enough of a flat surface area to accommodate the patch and skin that can be lightly stretched, so bony areas aren’t ideal if you want every bit of the tattoo to come out cleanly. CipherX also isn’t applying these on people’s face, neck, hands, or groin area, but that’s more because the company isn’t comfortable doing so, and some tattoo artists reject those areas over similar personal boundaries.

Right now, the tattoo selection only includes about 15 designs, they can’t be customized or measure larger than 15mm in diameter, and black is the only color option. CipherX is working on expanding beyond those limitations: It’s developing additional colors, including an invisible UV-reactive ink, and is working on a larger size option, both of which were previewed at the event. The company is also increasing its range of designs and plans to collaborate with established artists for future releases.

As someone who prefers larger, colorful custom ink, I can confidently say that I’m not the target demographic for Microdot tattoos, but I’m also not entirely sure who is. The tats could be a good space filler for people with existing tattoos, but those folks clearly don’t have any issues with going the more painful traditional route. It’s a good option for needlephobes, but they would have to *really* want a tattoo while simultaneously not caring about hosting a generic design on their skin, forever.

CipherX showed me another interesting perk in development: It’s planning to sell kits that let you apply the tattoo yourself at home. At the launch event I attended, the company showed off a mockup of a palm-sized metal tin that could be shipped to a customer’s doorstep in the future. I asked CipherX for a launch timeline, but it hasn’t responded at the time of writing. CipherX is currently only offering tattoos through

approved pop-ups in London, using trained practitioners to manage age verification requirements.

I don't think Microdot patches will revolutionize tattooing, but it might make them more accessible for a wider audience of needle-fearing folk. At £50 (about \$66), I feel it's a fair price for a more comfortable tattooing experience, and comparable to the price of similarly sized tattoos, though this obviously varies by area and artist rates. My only remaining test will be to see how "permanent" these tattoos really are. While it did darken, it's now settled to a shade of black that looks fairly washed out, as if I'd had it for years, not days.

I'll provide an update in the coming months to show if the tattoo has changed. But for now, I have no regrets.

Over 70 Million Christians to Gather to Pray for Peace of Jerusalem in October

#bibleprophecy, #peace, #prayer, #jerusalem, #christians

Aug 6, 2026

Over 70 Million Christians to Gather to Pray for Peace of Jerusalem in October,

The 24th Annual Day of [Prayer](#) for the Peace of Jerusalem (DPPJ) will be taking place in Jerusalem on Oct. 4, 2026. Christians from all over the world (175 nations) are expected to attend the event, hosted by Eagles' Wings, a ministry led by its president and founder, Bishop Robert Stearns. There is also an option to participate via a livestream to be broadcast from the Tower of David Jerusalem Museum, according to [CBN](#).

Others expected to attend the event include 500 senior Christian leaders from various Christian denominations and 50 countries, as well as senior government officials from multiple countries.

“When government officials, [pastors](#), worship leaders, and everyday believers stand in the same place at the same time, something shifts. DPPJ draws political and faith leaders who would never attend a Christian worship event into a moment of shared [prayer](#) for peace. That is the power of this day,” according to the [Eagles' Wings](#) website.

“This is far more than a prayer event. It is a global declaration that Israel is not alone,” Reverend José Wellington Costa Jr., General Superintendent of Brazilian Assemblies of God, told [The Jerusalem Post](#).

“At a time when the Jewish people face extraordinary challenges, tens of millions of Christians are choosing to stand publicly with Israel, pray for her peace, and reaffirm the unbreakable bond between our people,” he added.

The event also coincides with the Jewish feast day Simchat Torah, which commemorates the restarting of the Torah reading cycle. This comes on the heels of the fall feast of Sukkot (Feast of Booths or Feast of Tabernacles), which includes a request on the seventh day for great salvation, according to [One for Israel](#).

[Psalm 122:6](#) directs believers to “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem,” and includes the added blessing of, “May they prosper who love you.” The Hebrew word for “prosper,” according to Strong's Concordance, involves the ideas of having tranquility, happiness, success and being in safety.

The Eagles' Wings website also offers individuals the opportunity to join the event via livestream, or an entire church can register to host it for its congregation or region and still participate via the livestream. For details, please [click here](#).