



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

News Articles for Episode 421

[Israeli reactions to the Iran deal - Coalition and opposition members criticize failure to protect Israel's security needs | All Israel News.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #iran, #security, #peace deal

Jun 15, 2026

While the agreement between the United States and Iran has been welcomed by many around the world, it has been poorly received in Israel.

Details of the agreement have not yet been officially released, with the U.S. and Iran making contradictory statements about its terms.

However, one part of the agreement is reportedly a clause stating that Lebanon is to be considered as part of the permanent ceasefire agreement, which would appear to restrict Israeli freedom of operation against Hezbollah.

In announcing the achievement of a “peace deal” between the two countries, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif claimed, “Both sides have declared the immediate and permanent termination of military operations on all fronts, including in Lebanon.”

That statement provoked sharp reactions from Israeli politicians and leaders across the political spectrum.

Coalition members, while not openly criticizing U.S. President Donald Trump, expressed their opposition to apparent flaws in the agreement.

National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir said that the U.S. agreement is not binding on Israel.

“Trump's agreement does not bind us,” Ben Gvir wrote on X. “Israel is not subject to the United States, and we are an independent and sovereign nation!”

“Every time we succumbed to international pressure at the expense of Israel's security, we paid a blood price with interest,” Ben Gvir continued.

“We emphasize: We love the USA and are grateful to President Trump,” Ben Gvir said, in an apparent attempt to soften his statements. “And yet, the State of Israel is not a banana republic.”

The minister also said that because Israel was not a partner to the agreement, which “does not ensure our security, it also does not bind us in any way.”

Ben Gvir also called for continued retaliatory strikes in Dahiyeh if Hezbollah continues attacks against Israeli soldiers or communities.

Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich also expressed sharp criticism of the agreement.

“The agreement with Iran is bad for Israel and for the entire free world. Period,” Smotrich wrote to X.

He also cast doubt on the effectiveness of the deal in preventing the Islamic Republic from achieving nuclear weapons.

“The joint campaign had many achievements in weakening Iran, and they will not go to waste,” Smotrich continued. “We will have to continue the campaign to topple the regime ourselves and in creative ways, and ensure that Iran will never have nuclear weapons.”

Defense Minister Israel Katz did not directly refer to the U.S.-Iran agreement, but noted that Israel would not give up on its achievements in Lebanon.

“Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and I are leading a clear policy that states that the IDF will remain in the security zones in Lebanon, Syria, and Gaza – indefinitely – in order to defend the border and Israeli communities from there against jihadist elements,” Katz said in a statement.

“The area will be cleared of local residents and all terrorist infrastructure, above and below ground - including the houses in the contact villages that served as terrorist outposts - will be destroyed,” Katz continued, calling such actions a “lesson learned from October 7.”

Saying both he and Prime Minister Netanyahu communicated this position to the American administration, Katz promised to resist “all the existing and future pressures” to change their stance.

However, it was not only coalition members who expressed dismay at the apparent sidelining of Israeli interests in the Iran agreement.

Former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett, who is chairman of the new Together party, called the deal “a dangerous turn for Israel's security that only a new leadership can fix.”

“In the last thousand days, we have repeatedly discovered the greatness of the people and the weakness of the government,” Bennett said.

“In the war with Iran, we saw the tremendous performance of the IDF and the security forces on the front lines and the heroism of the people on the home front,” he continued. “This morning we discovered that the government is once again incapable of turning all of this into sustainable security achievements.”

Former IDF Chief of Staff and prime minister hopeful Gadi Eisenkot also called the agreement “the dismal result of a failed government.”

“Nearly three years after the October 7 debacle, with heavy costs and commendable military achievements – Israel wakes up this morning to a deal taking shape far from here and far from Israel's interests,” Eisenkot wrote.

Eisenkot accused Netanyahu of not being honest with the Israeli public regarding the agreement and pointed to the northern communities as an example of the government’s failure to provide security for its citizens.

“Once again, Israeli citizens learn about the deal through reports from foreign leaders,” Eisenkot wrote in a post to X. “The residents of the north, who were abandoned for two and a half years, discover this morning that their homes and security remain exposed to threat and that their outcry was not heard in Jerusalem once again. We will not leave them alone.”

Opposition MK, and former war cabinet member Benny Gantz said Israel cannot accept any restrictions in Lebanon.

“Under no circumstances – it is forbidden to agree to restrict Israel's freedom of action in Lebanon or to a withdrawal that endangers the residents of the north,” Gantz wrote to X. “The emerging agreement with Iran appears to be a strategic failure that will require Israel to engage in diplomatic, military, and legal struggles in the coming years, which only a broad Zionist government can lead.”

As reports came in that Lebanese civilians were trying to return to homes in southern Lebanon, while the IDF was continuing to report Hezbollah drones, Metulla Council head David Azoulay said, “We woke up this morning to the sounds of gunfire and explosions; this is part of ‘peace.’”

“I'm sad that we're falling into this trap again,” Azoulay said. “It is sad that the prime minister is not acting in the interest of the citizens of the State of Israel. We are in a much worse situation today than before 7/10 in the north. We have to end the story with Hezbollah once and for all. I hope the prime minister will come to his senses.”

The Lebanese government warned civilians not to attempt to return to their homes until a final agreement is reached between Israel and Lebanon.

[Israel severs ties with EU foreign policy chief over alleged 'apartheid' remarks | All Israel News.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #israel, #european union, #apartheid

Jun 20, 2026

Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar announced on Thursday that Israel is severing ties with European Union (EU) foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas after she reportedly compared Israeli policies in Gaza and Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) to apartheid-era South Africa. Kallas reportedly made the remarks last month during an official EU visit to Mexico City.

Sa'ar condemned the comparison in a post on X, saying Kallas "has for some time now been acting obsessively and with blatant unfairness toward the State of Israel." He added that "to date, no denial, clarification or response has been issued by her regarding this severe statement."

"Therefore, I have no choice but to sever all contact with Ms. Kallas until she retracts the blood libel she directed at the world's only Jewish state, which is also the only democracy in the Middle East," Sa'ar said.

Kallas responded with a reply on X: "Dialogue is the foundation of diplomacy, especially when differences arise. The EU is always committed to a constructive relationship with Israel."

She emphasized that the European Union remains committed to the two-state solution and considers Jewish homes in Judea and Samaria to be "illegal" settlements and an obstacle to a peace agreement.

The Israeli foreign minister signaled further criticism, writing, "Even in your remarks here you refrain from denying or condemning what has been attributed to you and published publicly."

"To the best of my knowledge, the statements attributed to you regarding 'apartheid' do not reflect the position of the European Union."

He added, "The matter is simple: if you did indeed make these vile and defamatory statements, stand behind them. If you did not make them, deny it. Until this matter is cleared up, my decision will remain unchanged."

The term "apartheid" is sometimes used in international discourse to describe Israel, but it is also strongly disputed and rejected by the Israeli government and its supporters. Jewish and Arab Israelis enjoy equal civic rights. Arab Israelis serve as

senior IDF officers, ambassadors, lawmakers, tech officials, senior judges and lawyers. Christians, Muslim Arabs and Jews frequently work side by side in Israeli hospitals, shops and other facilities. Israeli citizens include both Jewish and Arab Israelis, while Palestinians in Gaza and parts of the West Bank live under different governing authorities and legal frameworks.

Kallas, the former prime minister of Estonia, became EU foreign policy chief in December 2024, succeeding Josep Borrell. There were initially expectations in Jerusalem that her appointment could improve relations between Israel and the EU, based in part on statements she made following the Hamas-led Oct. 7, 2023, attack in southern Israel.

“ Hamas is waging a ruthless campaign of terror with zero regard for human life, including the lives of Palestinians,” Kallas [said](#) in November 2023. “ Israel is fully entitled to defend itself, but it must do so in a way that spares innocent lives and adheres to international law,” she added.

Following her appointment, Kallas became more critical of Israel’s military operations in Gaza, including comments in April 2025 describing them as “ [disproportionate](#),” while reiterating Israel’s right to self-defense. Last month, the EU also imposed [new sanctions](#) on individuals and entities it said were linked to alleged settler violence.

[Donald Trump Drops Controversial Comment Regarding Israel | Yahoo.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #trump, #israel, #survival

Jun 16, 2026

Donald Trump raised eyebrows at the **G7 summit** after making a bold claim about **Israel's** survival. The **POTUS** suggested that both the United States and Israel owe much of their current position to actions he took while in office.

The comments came during a tense moment in international politics, as reports of friction between Trump and Israeli Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** continue to grow amid ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

Donald Trump credits himself with Israel's current existence at the G7 summit

BREAKING: President Trump publicly rebukes Israel over its war against Hezbollah.

"Israel's fighting Hezbollah too long and too many people are being killed."

Trump said he opposed strikes that destroy apartment buildings filled with civilians and revealed he urged Israel to... pic.twitter.com/sfLxhiWTqA

— Fox News (@FoxNews) [June 16, 2026](#)

Speaking at the G7 summit in Évian-les-Bains, France, alongside Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Donald Trump addressed questions about Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, and the fragile regional situation.

While insisting he still has "a great relationship" with Netanyahu, Trump delivered a statement that quickly grabbed headlines.

"Without the United States, there would be no Israel," Trump said as per a clip shared by [Fox News](#). "Without me, there would be no Israel because no other president was willing to do what I did" (via The Hill).

The president then doubled down on the remark, adding that "Israel would have been blown up a long time ago, had I not gotten involved"

The comments arrive amid reports that Trump has become increasingly frustrated with Netanyahu's handling of military operations in Lebanon. According to [The Hill](#), Trump specifically criticized recent Israeli strikes and argued that civilian casualties have become too high.

Referring to one attack, Trump said, "I saw that attack, I saw where that bomb went. That was vicious" before warning that Netanyahu needed to be "more responsible" regarding Lebanon as per [Newsweek](#).

He also questioned the scale of some Israeli operations, saying, "You don't have to knock down an apartment house every time you're looking for somebody because there's a lot of people in those apartment houses and they're not all Hezbollah."

The backdrop to Trump's remarks is a developing U.S.-Iran agreement that has reportedly caused concern among some Israeli officials. Netanyahu has repeatedly stated that preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon remains a top priority, while critics worry the proposed deal could strengthen Tehran's position in the region.

Whether Trump's comments signal a temporary disagreement or a deeper rift with Netanyahu remains unclear. But his claim that there would be "no Israel" without him is certain to spark debate far beyond the G7 summit.

[Germany says it will become Europe's military backbone as NATO faces Russia threat | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #germany, #nato, #russia, #military

Jun 14, 2026

Germany is pledging to become a more powerful military force inside NATO, with Berlin's ambassador to Washington telling Fox News Digital that the country is ready to assume greater responsibility for European security after decades in which the United States carried much of the alliance's military burden.

"Germany is stepping up — we heard the call!" German Ambassador to the United States Jens Hanefeld told Fox News Digital in an exclusive interview.

[Chancellor Friedrich Merz](#) has said Germany's armed forces should become the strongest conventional army in Europe, a goal Hanefeld said is now backed by Berlin's new military strategy.

[UK, GERMAN DEFENSE OFFICIALS DEFEND MILITARY BUILDUP UNDER RUSSIAN THREATS](#)

"Russia's illegal war of aggression has shaken old certainties in Europe and Germany as the international rules we have relied on are being challenged," Hanefeld said. "This changes the strategic environment we operate in."

"Today, Germany is [Ukraine](#)'s largest supporter," Hanefeld said in written answers. "Germany's decision to become Europe's strongest conventional army, well anchored in the NATO alliance, is an ongoing commitment."

Germany's historic military shift

The shift marks a historic turn for a country whose postwar military identity was built around restraint.

After World War II, West Germany was allowed to rearm only within a Western alliance framework, joining NATO in 1955 and building the Bundeswehr as a force embedded in collective defense rather than independent German power. For decades after reunification, Germany relied heavily on the U.S. security umbrella and often lagged behind [NATO spending targets](#), feeding repeated American complaints that Europe's largest economy was not pulling its weight.

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 forced Berlin to begin rethinking that posture. Then-Chancellor Olaf Scholz called the shift a "Zeitenwende," or turning point. Merz is now seeking to turn that phrase into a long-term military buildup.

In Germany, Hanefeld said, the changes underway are often described as a "Zeitenwende," but he acknowledged that the transformation does not come easily given the country's history.

Trump–Merz tensions complicate NATO politics

The effort is unfolding against a backdrop of public friction between President [Donald Trump](#) and Merz, a dispute that a U.S. defense expert warned could complicate critical decisions on deterring Russia.

The tension escalated after Merz criticized Washington's handling of the [Iran](#) war, saying the United States was being "humiliated" by Iran's leadership in negotiations and questioning the Trump administration's exit strategy. Trump fired back by accusing Merz of being soft on Iran's nuclear program, even though Merz has said Iran must not obtain a nuclear weapon.

The dispute quickly spilled into NATO politics. Trump later threatened to review possible [U.S. troop reductions in Germany](#) and said Merz should spend more time ending the war in Ukraine and "fixing his broken country" than commenting on Iran.

Then Merz added another irritant. Speaking to a young audience in Germany, he said he would not advise his children to live, study or work in the United States "today," citing America's changing social climate, while also saying he remained "a great admirer of America," but "My admiration isn't growing at the moment."

Retired Rear Adm. Mark Montgomery, a senior fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies and former U.S. European Command official, told Fox News Digital that Merz was wrong to speak that way about Trump at a moment when Germany needs Washington's support.

"Talking trash about the president at a meeting with school kids in Germany is not professional diplomacy, and especially a president who is well-known to be prickly as President Trump," Montgomery said. "Germany is not the big country in this relationship, the United States is, and Merz needed to show more discipline as a national leader."

Montgomery said those tensions risk affecting hard security decisions, including long-range strike capabilities in Germany.

He criticized recent U.S. moves to delay or potentially [cancel a rotational deployment](#) of long-range strike systems to Germany, which he said would have included Tomahawk, SM-6 or Precision Strike Missile capabilities. Reuters reported in May that

Germany's defense ministry said there had been no "definitive cancellation" of the deployment.

"Both of these are bad decisions being made by our [Department of Defense](#)," Montgomery said. "These are weapons systems that are incredibly important to deterring Russia."

He said the goal is not to fight Russia in Poland, the Baltics or the Suwałki Gap, but to prevent Moscow from attacking in the first place.

"And those long-range strike weapons are a big part of that. And I'm very disappointed in our Department of Defense," Montgomery said.

A source with knowledge of the matter said that despite briefings about possible decreases in U.S. involvement, the U.S.–Germany defense relationship remains strong and cooperation remains close.

Europe's future defense industrial base

"Germany developing a large, impressive defense industrial base is good for NATO, it's good for Western security, and it's even good for our primes," Montgomery said, arguing that Germany, not Poland, [France](#) or the United Kingdom, is most likely to become the "beating heart" of Europe's future defense industrial base.

Germany has long been central to the U.S. military presence in Europe. Hanefeld pointed to Ramstein Air Base, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and the training area in Grafenwöhr as examples of Germany's continuing importance to American power projection and NATO deterrence.

"These facilities serve U.S. [national security](#) interests and U.S. military personnel and further NATO's ability to deter and defend," he said. "I am confident: NATO will remain transatlantic at its core, but will become more European over the next decade."

At the 2025 NATO summit in The Hague, allies agreed to invest 5% of GDP annually in defense and defense-related spending by 2035, including core [military spending](#) and broader security investments. Merz said at the time that the decision was meant to safeguard "freedom, security and prosperity," according to the German government.

Hanefeld said Germany is already moving to meet that standard, saying Berlin will increase defense spending to 5% of GDP "well before" 2035 and [recruit almost 100,000 new](#) active-duty soldiers into the Bundeswehr.

He also pushed back against U.S. critics who argue that Germany and other European allies are still [not carrying their fair share](#) of the defense burden. Hanefeld said Germany has signed more than 380 contracts worth more than \$33 billion with U.S. defense companies to procure and manufacture fighter jets, transport helicopters, air defense systems and ammunition.

"It's a down payment on the transatlantic future and on our political commitment to [shift the burden for deterrence](#) and defense to Europe," Hanefeld said.

Defending NATO's eastern flank

One of Germany's most visible commitments is its permanent brigade in Lithuania, expected to include around 5,000 German military and civilian personnel. The Bundeswehr says the force is intended to become fully operational for the defense of NATO's [eastern flank in the Baltic](#) region within three years.

Hanefeld called the brigade one of Germany's "signature efforts" to reassure Baltic allies that NATO "will defend every inch of allied territory."

For Germany, the change is not only about money. It is a political and cultural break with decades of caution about military power. For the United States, it is also a test of whether the ally long criticized by Trump and other U.S. leaders for underspending can now become the European backbone Washington has demanded.

Hanefeld said that is exactly where Berlin intends to go.

"NATO will remain transatlantic at its core," he said, "but will become more European over the next decade."

[Four-way talks on US-Iran peace begin in Switzerland, urgent session on Hezbollah added to agenda | Jpost.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #peace, #iran, #united states

Jun 21, 2026

The first session of peace talks between the US and Iran in Switzerland has concluded, mediators [Qatar](#) and Pakistan announced in a joint statement early on Monday morning.

The talks were conducted in a "positive and constructive atmosphere," the countries said, despite reports of the Iranian delegation walking out of negotiations on Sunday night in protest at [US President Donald Trump's](#) threats to resume strikes unless the Strait of Hormuz is reopened.

Additionally, both Iran and the US have agreed to establish a High-Level Committee for political oversight during future talks, said the joint statement.

Chief negotiators will regularly report to the committee on the status of negotiations, which has agreed to establish a roadmap to reach a final deal within 60 days.

The US and Iran also agreed to the creation of a "deconfliction cell," through which the termination of Israeli military operations in Lebanon would be assured.

'Just the beginning'

The talks began after representatives of the United States, Pakistan, and Qatar spoke to the press after a [quadrilateral meeting](#), also including Iran, at the Bürgenstock mountain resort in Switzerland, earlier on Sunday.

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif launched the talks by thanking Trump for his efforts that led to them.

"We are witnessing a great day that will lead to world peace," said Sharif. "We thank Trump for his active vision that led to direct negotiations and look forward to fruitful negotiations between the United States and Iran that will lead to results. I am confident that a meaningful document can be reached that will lay the foundations for lasting peace."

A source told Iran's semi-official *Tasnim News Agency* that the Iranian delegation declined to participate in a group photo with the US delegation, and that Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad-Bagher Ghalibaf refused to enter the room during the press conference.

US Vice President JD Vance began his speech by thanking Trump, attributing the US president's "leadership" for bringing the world "to this moment."

"I want to thank the President of the United States, who sends his best to all the great leaders assembled here, because he empowered us to find a diplomatic solution to a host of issues that matter to the American people," said Vance. "What brought us to this moment is the president's leadership and the president's willingness to see a Middle East that is much different 10 years from now than it was 10 years ago."

"Through diplomacy, through working together to transform the ME where Iran and the Gulf had been at war with each other," Vance continued. "Iran has been a driver of regional instability; now we see a future where everyone can work together to promote peace and prosperity for everyone."

"What the president has asked us to do is turn over a new leaf," added Vance.

Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad bin Abdulrahman Bin Jassim Al Thani described the meeting as "just the beginning" of a negotiation process.

"What is happening today in this meeting is important for the security of the region and the world," said Al Thani. "Today's meeting is just the beginning of the process to achieve the goals."

"We have seen tremendous dedication and efforts from Vance, the Pakistani Prime Minister, and the Iranian Foreign Minister," he added.

A reporter asked Vance if he had a message for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, to which Vance replied that the US has "seen great progress over the last couple of days in ensuring the ceasefire holds in Lebanon."

"We found great partners in working with the Qataris, the Pakistanis, our friends in Israel, who were all working towards regional peace," Vance said. "There's still some additional wood to chop, but we're gonna keep on working on it."

Vance added that Trump and the US "have done more to stop the conflict in Lebanon than any government anywhere in the world over the last few months."

He emphasized that Trump is "committed to a regional peace," not just between the US and Iran.

"We've got a lot of work to do, we're excited to do it," Vance concluded.

Emergency session on Israel-Hezbollah conflict reportedly added to Switzerland peace talks

An emergency session to address the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hezbollah has been added to the schedule of the first day of the Switzerland talks, CBS News reported on Saturday night, citing a diplomat attending the talks.

That issue will be raised during the first session of negotiations between the US and Iran, according to the diplomat.

Neither Israeli nor Hezbollah representatives will be attending the talks.

This comes as the Strait of Hormuz reportedly remains closed. According to regime-aligned outlet Fars, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Navy has not granted permission for any vessels to transit until further notice.

The US military had denied earlier reports of the closure and said commercial vessels were still operating.

US officials have disputed that the strait is closed and said 55 merchant ships crossed it on Saturday.

Vessel-tracking data showing ships actively transmitting their positions broadly backs Iran's claim that the strait is closed, with no tanker crossings recorded since Tehran announced the move on Saturday afternoon.

Tasnim, citing a source close to the negotiating team, reported that the Strait would not be reopened until a ceasefire in Lebanon was respected.

[Antisemitism hits record high since tracking began in Germany with 8,725 incidents in 2025 | Israel National News.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #anti-semitism, #germany, #attacks, #hostility

Jun 18, 2026

Germany recorded an unprecedented 8,725 antisemitic incidents in 2025, according to a new report.

Antisemitic hostility in Germany climbed to an unprecedented peak in 2025, reaching a total of 8,725 logged offenses, according to the annual findings released Wednesday by the Berlin-based Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism (RIAS) and quoted by *JNS*.

The monitor highlighted that the high frequency of anti-Jewish activity has remained unwavering since the October 7, 2023, attacks in Israel, drastically reshaping daily realities for the local Jewish population. The documentation revealed that 68% of all recorded incidents involved "Israel-related antisemitism."

The 2025 data reflects an escalation of 98 occurrences compared to the prior year's tally, comprising 257 cases of overt threats and 178 physical assaults. By comparison, the baseline of anti-Jewish behavior stood at a significantly lower ,2,480 instances in 2022.

The comprehensive findings detailed individual instances of hostility across the country. In the western border community of Kehl, situated near Strasbourg, four Jewish citizens were targeted with verbal slurs and spat upon outside a prayer venue.

Meanwhile, in the state of Hesse, a rabbi was physically shoved inside a grocery store, causing his phone to be stolen in front of his children during a confrontation where attackers explicitly targeted him with remarks regarding Israel.

The research also uncovered four separate flashpoints of "extreme violence," prominently featuring a terrorist assault at Berlin's Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe.

Josef Schuster, who leads the Central Council of Jews in Germany, underscored the severity of the findings by noting the count averages roughly 24 anti-Jewish actions every single day.

“These are not statistical outliers; it is the grim reality in Germany. The 2025 annual report from RIAS clearly shows that we are witnessing antisemitism solidify at record levels rather than easing,” Schuster said.

[Leftist Hasan Piker Says Israel 'Does Not Have a Right to Exist,' Compares Jewish State to 'Nazi Germany' | The Gateway Pundit.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #anti-semitism, #israel, #jewish state, #hate

Jun 21, 2026

Leftist political commentator and streamer Hasan Piker repeated his leftist views on Israel.

During a Tuesday appearance on “The Breakfast Club,” Piker was asked by host “Charlamagne tha God” about people who argue Israel does not have a right to exist.

“I hear people that are anti-Israel, they’ll say Israel doesn’t have a right to [exist],” Charlamagne said.

Piker dove right into his usual rhetoric.

“I think Israel, in its current formation, given that it’s a settler-colonial operation that’s seeking out the expulsion or complete extermination of the indigenous population, as an apartheid state, does not have a right to exist,” he said.

Hasan Piker says “Israel doesn’t have a right to exist”

“It’s like saying does Nazi Germany have a right to exist”

pic.twitter.com/gojrATAyai

— Defiant L’s (@DefiantLs) [June 16, 2026](#)

Piker then compared the Jewish state to Hitler’s Germany — which eradicated Jews.

“It’s like, for me, it’s like saying, does Nazi Germany have a right to exist, or does apartheid South Africa have a right to exist?” Piker continued.

“Does Rhodesia have a right to exist? No, of course not,” he added.

Piker then said, “People have a right to exist, people do exist, Israel currently exists.”

“It’s just a matter of are they following international humanitarian laws?” he said. “And they certainly are not. And I want to change that.”

Piker, whose profile has been elevated in recent years, is not a fringe troll.

He is one of the most popular left-wing streamers, enjoying a large following and a long record of promoting extremism.

NEW: Streamer Hasan Piker says Communist China is the best example of a country that the United States should learn from and model after.

Konstantin Kisin: Is there a country that has done socialism the way that you like?

Piker: I would say China is probably the closest... pic.twitter.com/EXzeak1QQX

— Collin Rugg (@CollinRugg) [November 24, 2025](#)

Hasan Piker is an anchor baby.

He was raised in Turkey until he was 18 then moved back to the United States.

When he says "I have no patriotism in my heart for America" he means it.

He is a product of birthright citizenship, and he should have a citizenship revoked....

— J (@JayTC53) [June 1, 2026](#)

His comments have become so extreme that Rep. Ritchie Torres, a Democrat from New York, [has condemned](#) him.

In a letter posted on his official House website, Torres called Piker "the poster child for the post-October 7th outbreak of antisemitism in America."

Torres further noted Piker was "an apologist for the sexual violence and savage rapes of October 7th."

Piker has also previously [said](#) that "America deserved 9/11."

[Deadly tick-borne disease that can cause brain damage is spreading across the US | Foxnews.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #disease, #ticks, #virus, #united states

Jun 18, 2026

Authorities are sounding the alarm about a rare, but potentially deadly tick-borne disease as tick season ramps up across the [U.S.](#)

[LARGE INCREASE IN TICK BITES REPORTED AT HOSPITALS ACROSS THE US AS SPRING WARMTH KICKS IN](#)

Powassan virus is an extremely rare but serious illness that spreads through the bite of infected black-legged deer ticks, according to [Massachusetts](#) health officials.

If an infected tick bites a person, the virus can be transmitted within minutes, attacking the brain and potentially causing encephalitis, speech difficulties, seizures and paralysis, according to the [Cleveland](#) Clinic.

"One of the most dangerous aspects of it is its rapid transmission," Dr. Jorge P. Parada, medical advisor for the National Pest Management Association (NPMA) in Chicago, told [FOX News Digital](#). "Powassan can be transmitted in as little as 15 minutes after an infected tick bites, while Lyme disease usually requires a 36- to 48-hour attachment time for transmission."

Early symptoms of Powassan virus can include fever, headache, vomiting and fatigue.

People that do recover may experience long-term [health](#) effects, including chronic headaches, memory problems and reduced muscle strength.

"Unlike most tick-borne illnesses, 10% to 15% of severe cases are fatal," Parada said. "And about half of survivors experience permanent neurological damage."

Although the disease is extremely rare, reported cases have increased in recent years.

[HOW TO STAY SAFE DURING TICK SEASON](#)

Since 2012, roughly 200 cases have been reported across the [U.S.](#), with fewer than 10 cases reported so far in 2026.

One recent case involved [New Hampshire](#) resident John Reagan, who was diagnosed with Powassan virus about a month ago.

According to a GoFundMe page created for Reagan and his family, he was hospitalized after contracting the disease.

Since then, he has been unable to speak clearly and is bedridden. He requires a ventilator to help him breathe and a feeding tube because he cannot swallow on his own.

Before his diagnosis, Reagan was described as an extremely active individual.

"Every day is a challenge, and every day is a miracle as John continues to fight back against this devastating disease," the GoFundMe post said.

"The impact of John's illness has been overwhelming for his wife and family. In addition to the mounting medical costs, they are facing the daily expenses of maintaining their home and life while John remains in the hospital. The emotional and financial strain is immense," the post continued.

Currently, there is no specific treatment for [Powassan virus](#), and those who contract severe cases may face lifelong complications.

Health officials say older adults, young children and people with weakened immune systems are at the highest risk.

Cases are most common during the late [spring](#) through mid-[fall](#) months, when [tick](#) activity is at its peak.

[DOCTORS WARN OF INCREASE IN TICKS, LYME DISEASE AFTER MILD WINTER](#)

The CDC said the best way to prevent infection is to use insect repellent, wear long sleeves and pants, avoid wooded and brushy areas when possible, and perform thorough tick checks after spending time [outdoors](#).

"We also recommend making your yard less attractive to ticks by keeping grass short and using gravel or wood chips to create a 'tick moat' around the edge of your property to discourage migration," Parada said.

[Evangelical leaders sound alarm as Canada's Bill C-9 removes religious speech defense | Christian Post.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #canada, #religious speech, #bill c-9, #hate speech

Jun 23, 2026

The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC) has weighed in on the recent passing of Bill C-9, which critics say weakens free speech protections on religious matters.

Under the changes, people who make religious statements deemed controversial by others will no longer be able to use the legal defense that they spoke in “good faith.” The provisions of Bill C-9 will take effect after receiving Royal Assent.

Prior to the bill’s passage, Finnish politician Päivi Räsänen [warned](#) against any measure that could potentially limit freedom of speech, citing her own [years-long legal battle](#) in Finland over a tweet and a decades-old pamphlet.

The EFC was among a number of faith groups to raise concerns about the changes. It had been argued that the “good faith” defense should be maintained and that the bill should not be passed.

Three defenses against the willful promotion of hatred remain, namely, if a person’s statements are true, are deemed for the public benefit, or are being quoted in order to be criticized.

The EFC noted that there have been very few cases of people being charged with willfully promoting hatred, at least in part because the law requires that for a person to be guilty, they must have a clear intent of promoting hatred against an identifiable group. In addition, the law doesn't apply to private conversations.

On those rare occasions where the law has been used, the defense of religious belief has been unsuccessful.

In response to the passing of Bill C-9, the EFC said it will “monitor the effects.”

"It is not clear what impact the removal of the religious belief defense will have over time, and whether its removal could broaden the understanding of 'willful promotion of hatred,'" it said.

The Canadian justice minister has said that under the new bill, people will still be “able to pray, preach, teach, interpret Scripture and express religious belief in good faith, without fear of criminal sanction.”

In a statement, the EFC said, "We would welcome an approach that makes clear that the good faith practice and expression of religious belief isn't a hate crime to begin with."

It added, "The EFC will monitor the effects of Bill C-9 and will continue to advocate for freedom of religion and belief."

[Five Christian footballers using football's biggest stage to point people to Christ | Christianity Today.com](#)

#bibleprophecy, #soccer players, #faith, #confession, #faith

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The World Cup is underway, capturing the attention of millions of fans across the globe. Every four years, the tournament sparks passion, drama and national pride, creating unforgettable moments. Yet amid the goals, trophies and celebrations, some players are using football's biggest stage to point beyond themselves and give glory to God.

For these footballers, faith is not simply a private belief reserved for Sundays. It shapes how they handle success, respond to setbacks and use their platform. Here are five Christian players to watch at this summer's World Cup.

Marc Guéhi (England)

England defender Marc Guéhi has become one of the most respected defenders in world football. Born in the Ivory Coast before moving to the UK as a child, Guéhi was spotted by a Chelsea scout at the age of six and developed through the club's academy system.

After a successful spell at Crystal Palace, where he captained the club to FA Cup success in 2025, Guéhi moved to Manchester City and is a key figure for England's national team at the 2026 World Cup.

His Christian faith has been central to his life from an early age. His father, John Guéhi, pastors a church in South London, and Marc has often spoken about the influence of his upbringing. He regularly has Bible verses inscribed on his boots, including Isaiah 54:17: "No weapon forged against you will prevail."

Guéhi made international headlines when he wrote "Jesus loves U" on a Rainbow Pride captain's armband during a Premier League fixture. While the gesture resulted in a reprimand from the Football Association, it also sparked widespread discussion about faith, freedom of expression, and Christian witness in professional football.

Bukayo Saka (England)

Few players have captured the hearts of England supporters quite like Bukayo Saka. Born in London to Nigerian parents, Saka came through Arsenal's academy and has become one of the club's brightest stars, helping them secure the Premier League title during the 2025-26 season.

Internationally, Saka has been a crucial player for England, featuring in the Euro 2020 and Euro 2024 finals and scoring three goals at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

Despite his rapid rise, Saka consistently places his faith above football. In an [interview during the 2022 World Cup](#), he said: “It's really important to obviously have the presence of God in me all the time, and it gives me more confidence that God’s plan is perfect so I can go on the pitch and know that God has my back.”

Saka has repeatedly spoken about the importance of his Christian faith and the role it plays in every area of his life. At Arsenal, he has been part of a group of Christian players affectionately known as the “Bible brothers,” alongside Eberechi Eze and Noni Madueke. Teammates have often noted how his faith influences his attitude, humility and character both on and off the pitch.

Christian Pulisic (United States)

Nicknamed “Captain America,” Christian Pulisic has become the face of American soccer.

Raised in Pennsylvania, Pulisic moved to Germany as a teenager and developed at Borussia Dortmund, where he emerged as one of the Bundesliga's most exciting young talents. A transfer to Chelsea followed in 2019, and since joining AC Milan in 2023 he has become one of Serie A’s standout attacking players.

For the United States men's national team, Pulisic has already established himself among the country’s greatest players, becoming one of its leading goalscorers and helping guide the team into the knockout stages of the 2022 World Cup with a decisive goal against Iran.

Throughout his career, he has frequently spoken about his dependence on God. After a [Champions League match in 2021](#), Pulisic said: “I've had to continue to prove myself over and over again. But, as always, I reach out to God and He gives me strength. With that behind me, nothing can stop me, really.”

His comments reflect a recurring theme among many Christian athletes: confidence rooted not in personal ability alone, but in trust in God's presence and purpose.

Alisson Becker (Brazil)

Brazil has produced some of football's greatest players, and goalkeeper Alisson Becker is widely regarded as one of the best in his position.

Alisson began his career with Internacional in Brazil, winning the Campeonato Gaúcho in 2014 and 2015 before moving to Roma in Italy in 2016. His performances earned him a transfer to Liverpool in 2018 for what was then a world-record fee for a goalkeeper. Since arriving at Anfield, the team has won the Premier League,

Champions League, FA Cup and League Cup, while also receiving the Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper award.

Now Brazil's first-choice goalkeeper for a third consecutive World Cup, Alisson remains outspoken about his faith. [Writing about his Christian journey](#), he explained: “Real faith came to me later in life. Faith is not something that can be seen, or even put into words. It is a force that is more powerful than just a feeling of emotion, or a slogan. It is the complete trust in the Son of God, Jesus Christ.”

His faith is evident beyond public statements. In 2020, Alisson baptised Liverpool teammate Roberto Firmino in the swimming pool at his home. He has also [spoken about the difference between religion and a personal relationship with Christ](#), saying: “I'm not religious. I'm a follower of Christ. Religion is often tied to traditions that have clouded the true message of Christianity. Jesus is far greater than religion.”

Noah Sadiki (DR Congo)

At just 21 years old, Noah Sadiki represents one of the rising stars of this World Cup.

Born in Brussels, Sadiki progressed through Anderlecht's academy before spells with Union Saint-Gilloise and Sunderland. Since joining Sunderland in 2025, he has quickly adapted to Premier League football and earned praise for his energy, athleticism and technical ability.

Although he represented Belgium at youth level, Sadiki chose to play internationally for the Democratic Republic of Congo. The 2026 tournament marks a historic moment for the nation, which is making its first World Cup appearance since 1974, when it competed as Zaire.

Sadiki is also unapologetic about his Christian faith. “I feel well talking about my faith because it's giving me peace and I thank every day my Lord and Savior to give me another day to enjoy the sport I did since I was young,” [he said](#).

Following his first Africa Cup of Nations appearance, journalists asked him about the secret behind his strong performances. Rather than giving a lengthy answer, Sadiki simply held up his Bible.

Final thoughts

The World Cup is often a showcase of extraordinary talent, national pride and sporting drama. Yet for these players, the tournament is also an opportunity to bear witness to something greater than football.

Whether through Bible verses on boots, public testimonies, baptisms, post-match interviews or simple acts of gratitude, these players remind fans that faith and sport do not have to exist in separate worlds.

As millions tune in to watch the action unfold, they will be hoping to lift football's most coveted trophy. But they are also among a growing number of players seeking to use the world's biggest sporting stage to point people towards Christ.