

'There Is Genocide Taking Place': Jihadists Attack Church, Kill 3 and Abduct Pastor

Armed men have attacked another church in Nigeria. This time, the gunmen killed at least three people and kidnapped a group of worshippers, including the church's pastor.

The attack on the Christ Apostolic Church (CAC) congregation on Tuesday evening in [Eruku, Kwara state](#), Nigeria, came just hours after 25 girls were abducted from a boarding school and one staffer was shot and another wounded in the country's northern region.

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Gunshots interrupted Tuesday night's service shortly after members of the church arrived for a meeting, International Christian Concern, a persecution watchdog group, reports. Witnesses recalled that the gunmen entered the church compound, firing their weapons, causing worshippers to flee in different directions.

Those who couldn't flee were held at gunpoint and forced into nearby forest paths that link Eruku with surrounding villages.

"They later rounded up some worshippers, including the pastor, and took them into the bush," church member Joseph Bitrus told Reuters by phone, without saying how many were taken.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Police responded to gunfire and found one person fatally shot inside the church and another nearby, Kwara state police spokesperson Adetoun Ejire-Adeyemi said in a statement.

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Witnesses said the attackers fled very quickly using bush routes commonly used by armed groups operating between Ekiti, Oke-Ero, and communities bordering Kogi state.

Families are still searching for missing relatives; meanwhile, the exact number of abducted church members has not been confirmed.

There have been [several attacks across Kwara](#), but the recent abduction in Eruku is noted to be the most significant.

Kwara State Gov. AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq, in a statement on Wednesday, praised Nigerian President Bola Tinubu for the deployment of 900 additional troops there.

As CBN News has reported, Christians have been gruesomely murdered this month as the ongoing genocide in Nigeria continues.

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Nigeria remains one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a Christian, according to Open Doors' 2025 World Watch List. In a recent report, the organization noted that of the 4,476 Christians killed recently for their faith worldwide, 3,100 or 69 percent took place in Nigeria.

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US Marshals Help Rescue 122 Missing Children Calling It ‘Largest Rescue Mission in History’

More than 120 missing children have been rescued in Florida in a two-week operation that the state’s attorney general is calling the [“largest child rescue mission in history.”](#)

U.S. Marshals announced earlier this week that a task force comprised of local, state, and federal law enforcement groups located and recovered 122 missing and endangered Florida children.

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The two-week operation, named “Home for the Holidays,” saw children rescued from Central Florida and metro areas, including 57 children rescued in the Tampa Bay area, 14 rescued in Orlando, 22 rescued in Jacksonville, and 29 rescued in Fort Myers. The effort also rescued children in nine other states.

Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier said the rescue efforts were “one of the single largest child-rescue operations in U.S. history,” and tops the scale and success of Operation Dragon Eye, which was conducted earlier this year

[and saw 60 critically missing children rescued.](#)

“These kids, ranging in age from 17 down to just 2 years old, many have been through the unthinkable,” he said during a press conference. “They’ve been trafficked. They’ve been exploited. They’ve been abused.”

He added, “This operation highlights the strength and diligence of Florida’s Law Enforcement. I am deeply grateful for everyone that made Operation Home for the Holidays a massive success. Many of these kids have been victimized in unspeakable ways. We will prosecute their abusers to the fullest extent of the law.”

“Child predators, stay out of Florida, you are not welcome here,” Uthmeier said.

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United States Marshal for the Middle District of Florida Bill Berger said the FBI, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), and 11 sheriff’s offices were all involved. He explained to reporters on Monday that finding, identifying, and recovering the children is no easy task.

“What allows our Middle Florida-based child recovery initiatives to stand out is the emphasis placed on what happens after. We know these children will have needs once we find them. It only makes sense to build these operations alongside like-minded partners from across the child welfare space,” Berger said.

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According to a press release from the FDLE office, many of the children experienced various levels of abuse, neglect, exploitation, or exposure to other criminal activity.

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Oregon School District Pays \$650,000 to Teachers Fired for Opposing Trans Policy

Two Oregon teachers who were fired for criticizing their school district's policy, which allowed trans-identifying students to use bathrooms and [locker rooms of their choice](#), have reached a \$650,000 settlement with their former employer.

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The Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), a nonprofit legal group, issued a statement last week announcing that the Grants Pass School District agreed to pay that amount in damages and attorneys' fees for the wrongful termination of Rachel Sager (formerly Damiano) and Katie Medart.

As CBN News reported, the educators filed a lawsuit after officials suspended and then fired them in 2021 for expressing their opinions on a [personal online platform](#), when they weren't acting as representatives of the school district.

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Sager and Medart have worked in the education field for several years, including at North Middle School in Grants Pass, according to the ADF. Sager served as assistant principal, and Medart taught science at the school. Together, they started the grassroots organization "I Resolve" to propose gender identity education policies that respected the rights of students, parents, and teachers.

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Their proposals advocated for teachers to abide by their conscience and refrain from using pronouns inconsistent with a student's biological sex. "I Resolve" suggested that locker rooms, showers, and restrooms be designated based on a person's biological gender. The group also endorsed and gave students the option to request access to private restrooms and locker rooms.

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Christian Zionists Counter 'Heresy' Charge, Point to Scriptures Outlining God's Covenant with Jews, Land of Israel

Media influencer Tucker Carlson, listened to by millions, recently fired a shot heard around the world by [labeling Christian Zionism a heresy and a brain virus](#). However, Christian Zionism has a history that goes back centuries, and its adherents say its roots are found in the Bible.

Carlson later apologized for saying he despised "Christian Zionists" and called them "some of the nicest people I know," but he did not retract his statement that Christian Zionism is Christian heresy and a brain virus.

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Tricia Miller from the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting and Analysis (CAMERA) wrote an article tracing the history of Christian Zionism.

She told CBN News, [Christian Zionism is simply the Christian belief in Zionism](#), which is simply the right of Jews to self-determination in their ancient homeland. That's it. It's not more complicated than that."

Miller contends that the roots extend almost to the time of Jesus.

“It goes back to the first century,” she explained. “Actually, with Jesus and his apostles, you can see references in the Gospels to the expectation of the future restoration of the Kingdom of Israel. It wasn’t called that then; we’ve labelled that now, maybe in the last couple of hundred years. But there is a 2000-year history of Christian belief in the restoration of Israel.”

Miller points out that in the 3rd century AD, the early church father Tertullian wrote, “It will be fitting for the Christian to rejoice and not to grieve at the restoration of Israel. If it be true, as it is, that the whole of our hope is intimately united with the remaining expectation of Israel.”

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A large number of medieval and Protestant Reformation theologians agree. In the 18th century, Jonathan Edwards, an influential biblical scholar living in the American colonies, wrote, “Israel would again be a distinct nation, and Christians would have free access to Jerusalem because Jews would look on Christians as their brethren.”

Miller asserted, “We are living in that day now. We’re seeing Israel as a distinct nation, and Christians have free access to Jerusalem because Israel ensures freedom of religion for everyone here, and the Jews are understanding Christians to be their brethren.”

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Christian Zionists, including England’s Lord Arthur Balfour and U.S. President Harry Truman, helped establish the modern State of Israel. Later, Christian leaders such as Billy Graham and CBN Founder Pat Robertson affirmed Israel’s rebirth as a fulfillment of prophecy.

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6,000 Students ‘Fully Surrender Their Lives to Jesus’ at UniteUS Clemson University

Ministry leaders with UniteUS are testifying that “hundreds of students fully surrendered their lives to Jesus” during its last event of the year at Clemson University Tuesday night.

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[More than 6,000 people turned out](#) for worship, prayer, and preaching at the T. Ed Garrison Arena in Pendleton, South Carolina. The ministry reports hundreds of lives were changed at the event, and 78 people were baptized.

“6,000 students gathered for Unite Clemson,” wrote UniteUS founder and organizer Tonya Prewett. “Hundreds went all in with Jesus and followed up with water baptism!! It’s revival!!”

CBN News has followed the ministry's outreach [since the start of its outreach more than two years ago.](#)

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UniteUS began in September 2023 at Auburn University. At its first event, five thousand students showed up to proclaim the name of Jesus, and 200 were spontaneously baptized in a nearby lake.

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“When God gave me the vision for Unite Auburn, I could have never imagined what was coming,” Prewett told CBN News.



[View this post on Instagram](#)

A post shared by Tonya Prewett (@tonyaprew)

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Judge Orders Maine Mom Not to Take Her Daughter to Church or Read Her the Bible

The Maine Supreme Judicial Court is set to weigh in on whether [a lower court overstepped its limits](#) when it barred a mother from reading the Bible to her 12-year-old daughter or taking her to church.

The state's high court heard oral arguments last week in the

case of Bickford v. Bradeen – a battle between judicial authority and parental rights. Liberty Counsel, a faith-based non-profit legal group, is representing Emily Bickford. She is challenging a December 2024 custody order that prohibits her from bringing her daughter, Ava, to Calvary Chapel in Portland, Maine.

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According to Liberty Counsel, Bickford and Ava's father, Matthew Bradeen, never wed after becoming pregnant with their daughter. Bickford maintained primary custody of Ava, while Bradeen had visitation rights.

After attending Calvary Chapel for three years, young Ava decided to be baptized. She shared the exciting news with her father. However, the news reportedly enraged Bradeen.

Liberty Counsel contends that the father found “an ACLU judge” and “flew in a Marxist former sociology professor from California” to testify that Calvary Chapel or any Bible-believing churches, for that matter, are “cults” that are “psychologically detrimental.”

The Portland District Court sided with Ava's father and found that Bickford is [“a fit parent except for the fact that she is a Christian,”](#) explained Liberty Counsel in a press statement.

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The judge ruled that Bickford could not take her daughter to

any church unless the father approved of it. Liberty Counsel claims that the order is so broad that if enforced, it can make it so that the young girl cannot associate with any of her church friends or any member of Calvary Chapel Portland. If she meets new friends and they decide to attend the church, she allegedly would have to cut ties with them.

Also, she reportedly cannot attend any Christmas, Easter, or any other Christian event or celebration at any church, including any wedding, funeral, or even hospital visits with anyone associated with Calvary Chapel. Ava is not allowed to have contact with any religious organization nor read the Bible or religious literature.

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“Ava wants to attend church and be with her Sunday school friends. But this custody order has completely cut her off from Calvary and her friends, and from growing her Christian faith. This has been devastatingly heart-wrenching for both Emily and Ava. This has been going on since December 2024,” wrote Mat Staver, the Founder and Chairman of the Liberty Counsel.

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Trump Celebrates Security Council Vote Approving Gaza Plan as Hamas Rejects Disarming 'Resistance'

JERUSALEM, Israel – A new era in the Middle East has arrived after the United Nations Security Council voted overwhelmingly to support President Donald Trump's Gaza peace plan.

With the council's approval, the authorization of a new International Stabilization Force could deploy inside the Gaza Strip [within weeks](#).

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Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu welcomed the vote and said the plan will lead to "peace and prosperity."

Thirteen of the fifteen council members backed Trump's plan. Russia and China abstained.

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Trump celebrated the vote on Truth Social, calling it "one of the biggest approvals in the history of the United Nations," and saying it will "[lead to further peace all over the world](#)."

Israeli Ambassador to the U.N. Danny Danon counted it as a victory for the Jewish state.

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He stated, “Despite the pressure of many members of this very Council, despite the political theater, the condemnations and the hypocrisy, Israel stood firm. We did not waver. We prevailed.”

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‘God Is at Work’: Hundreds Flood Altar to Choose Jesus in Outreach at Site of Charlie Kirk Murder

Thousands of people worshipped Jesus, heard a transformational message about God’s unconditional love, and made decisions of faith Sunday night at Utah Valley University, just two months after conservative and Christian commentator Charlie Kirk was assassinated there.

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[Pastor Greg Laurie](#), founder of Harvest Crusades and senior pastor of Harvest Church in Southern California, preached the Gospel before thousands on the campus in Orem, Utah, as well as an online audience, during the one-day event, “Hope for

America.”

“Our one-night event at UVU in Utah was an astounding success! The people were so open, worshipful, and responsive to the Gospel. Many came to Christ,” Laurie wrote on X.

As CBN News reported, Laurie regularly hosts large-scale evangelistic events and had planned to host a Harvest Crusade in 2027. However, Kirk’s assassination at UVU changed everything. Laurie and his team reached out to the school to see if they could move up the outreach after Christians in the community expressed a pressing need for the Gospel at this time.

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“They said, ‘Yes, come now. We need you now,!’” Laurie told CBN News. “And so we did something we’ve never done before: We accelerated the timeline. So normally it would take us six months to a year, sometimes even longer, to get a Crusade ready.”

It took only six weeks to put together, and Laurie told Fox News [he became even more intentional](#) about sharing the Gospel on the campus, where the shocking tragedy took place.

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“This community has experienced unimaginable tragedy, and we believe the message of hope found in Jesus Christ is exactly what’s needed right now,” Laurie said. “Out of tragedy, God

can bring healing, unity, and revival. Our prayer is that this event will remind people that evil does not have the last word; Christ does.”

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‘America Was Founded on Faith’: Trump Launches ‘America Prays’ Initiative

As America nears the 250th anniversary of its founding, President Donald Trump wants the nation to recognize its dependence on God. [He’s launched “America Prays,”](#) an initiative emphasizing the enduring role of faith in the country’s identity.

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“America was founded on faith, as we know, and I’ve been saying it for a long time. And when faith gets weaker, our country seems to get weaker. When faith gets stronger, as it is right now, we’re having a very good period of time,” he said.

Throughout his second term, President Trump has made clear his belief that [America needs God.](#) In that spirit, he has established the White House Faith Office, Task Force on Anti-Christian Bias, and Religious Liberty Commission.

White House Cabinet meetings begin with prayer, and now the president is urging Americans to extend that practice nationwide.

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“We’re dealing, as you know, with all of the, different and not just, evangelicals and Christians. We’ve we’re dealing with lots of different faiths, religions. And I’ve felt for a long time that, you know... if a country doesn’t have religion, doesn’t have faith, doesn’t have God, it’s going to be very hard to be a good country,” Trump said.

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The White House is encouraging people to form prayer groups, pray daily over specific issues, and participate in online prayer communities.

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Moody Bible College Sues Chicago Schools for Discrimination Over Rejecting Christian Teachers

The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago has filed a lawsuit against the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, claiming the district barred their students from participating in a student-teacher program because of the [college's faith-based hiring policies](#).

The Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), a non-profit legal group, filed a lawsuit on behalf of the college earlier this month in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

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Moody Bible Institute's Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education program requires prospective teachers to complete a minimum number of classroom observation, practicum and student-teaching hours.

However, the lawsuit argues that Chicago Public School officials are refusing to allow Moody students to participate in its student-teaching program unless Moody abandons its religiously based hiring practices and hires employees who disagree with Moody's core mission and biblical values.

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Chicago Public Schools have a policy that colleges and universities participating in the student-teaching program cannot “discriminate against any individual with respect to compensation, or other terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, because of...religion,...gender identity/expression, (or) sexual orientation.”

“As a condition of participation, Chicago Public Schools insists that Moody sign agreements with employment nondiscrimination provisions that forbid Moody from employing only those who share and live out its faith,” the lawsuit claims.

Moody requested an amendment to the [policy to accommodate its religious affiliation](#), citing that the school district has signed agreements with Trinity Christian College and Concordia University despite those schools giving employment preference based on religion.

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“By allowing these other colleges and universities to participate in the Program, Chicago Public Schools demonstrates that it selectively enforces its employment nondiscrimination policy,” Moody argues.

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