

# '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.