

Are We Seeing Signs of the Giants From the Days of Noah?

The cry for restoration is growing louder in Israel, as thousands risk criticism, opposition and tension to ascend the Mount, while tens of thousands more unite in prayer at the Wall. The hunger for God's house to be rebuilt is undeniable.

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These two developments, the government loosening restrictions on Jewish worship at the Temple Mount and the masses ascending to pray for the Temple's restoration, cannot be viewed apart from the prophetic timeline outlined in Scripture. The Bible tells us that a Temple will one day stand in Jerusalem again, one in which sacrifices will resume and which will play a central role in the last days (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15; Rev. 11:1-2). The longing of the Jewish people to ascend the Mount and pray for the Temple's rebuilding is not just religious fervor; it is part of the divine plan spoken of thousands of years ago.

The prophet Zechariah declared that in the end times, Jerusalem would become a heavy stone for all nations to bear (Zech. 12:3), and we are watching that reality unfold. Every small shift in worship policy at the Temple Mount sparks international criticism, stirs regional anger and heightens tensions, just as the Word of God said it would. Yet what is often overlooked in the chaos is the greater truth, God's hand is at work, and His Word is being fulfilled before our very eyes.

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The Jewish people are rising, their voices of prayer filling the Temple Mount and the Western Wall. The obstacles remain, the opposition is fierce, but prophecy marches forward. The Bible is the ultimate source of truth, and its words are leaping off the page and into our headlines. What we witnessed on Tisha B'Av is not just a matter of politics or religion, it is the unfolding of God's prophetic plan, preparing the stage for what is to come.

James Lasher is staff writer for *Charisma Media*.

Pastor Arrested in Latest Communist Crackdown on Christians

Chinese authorities have formally arrested Protestant pastor Huang Yizi on charges of "illegal business operations," part of the Chinese Communist Party's intensifying crackdown on unregistered Christian activity.

"Pastor Huang Yizi was informed of his formal arrest this week, more than a month after he and four others were taken into custody by Pingyang Public Security officials on June 26," Christian Solidarity Worldwide reported. The believers, from Zhejiang Province, were detained the following day.

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As reported by The Christian Post, "Two of the five were released on bail last Friday, while the remaining three,

including Huang, remain in custody. The charges against the other detainees have not been made public. A sixth church member was detained on July 17 and remains in custody.”

Under China’s Criminal Procedure Law, authorities must request a formal arrest within 30 days. Huang’s representative said the arrest was rushed through suspiciously, raising “concerns about the depth of the review and the lack of official documentation.”



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This is not Huang’s first imprisonment. He previously served a year in prison in 2014 for protesting the demolition of church crosses in Wenzhou and was later held again on charges of “endangering national security.”

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The Chinese Human Rights Lawyers Group condemned the regime’s use of vague accusations like “illegal business operations” to suppress pastors, stressing that sharing sermons is a constitutionally protected expression of faith.

Pastor Huang’s arrest highlights the growing cost of following Christ in China, where Christians face intimidation, prison and the confiscation of religious materials.

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We must continue to pray for our Chinese brothers and sisters in Christ suffering under the heavy hand of communism. Pray that they are strengthened to endure persecution, and that their oppressors encounter the radical, transforming power of Jesus Christ.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

John Bevere Exposes the Silent Threat Facing the Modern Church

Hamas released a disturbing propaganda video showing emaciated Israeli hostage Evyatar David, 24, being forced to dig his own grave, sparking outrage in Israel and across the world. The horrifying footage highlighted once again the terror group's brutality and its refusal to release the remaining hostages.

In the nearly five-minute video, David is seen trapped inside a narrow tunnel, marking days on a calendar before digging into the dirt with his bare hands. "I haven't eaten for a few days in a row," he says, later being handed a single can of beans. "This can is for two days... This whole can is for two days so that I don't die. This is the grave I think I'm going to be buried in. Time is running out."

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As reported by the New York Post, David's family gave permission for the release of the video, saying in a statement: "We are forced to witness our beloved son and brother, Evyatar David, deliberately and cynically starved in Hamas's tunnels in Gaza, a living skeleton, buried alive. The deliberate starvation of our son as part of a propaganda campaign is one of the most horrifying acts the world has seen."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu condemned Hamas's grotesque tactics, declaring, "Hamas terrorists deliberately starve our hostages, documenting them in a cynical, humiliating, and malicious manner." Holocaust survivor Naftali Fürst said the images took her back to the days of Auschwitz and Buchenwald: "I know hunger up close. In the camps, we were given rations of bread and watery soup. I remember the humiliation, the complete stripping of human dignity."



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U.S. lawmakers also denounced the terror group. "The chilling video of Hamas hostage Evyatar David is a grotesque reminder of why America must stand with Israel and demand every hostage's release," Rep. Don Bacon (R-Neb.) said, adding, "If Hamas released the tortured hostages, this war would end." Sen. Rick Scott (R-Fla.) called the footage "gut-wrenching," stressing that "we cannot stop until every hostage is home and Hamas is destroyed."

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Even across party lines, the condemnation was strong. Sen. John Fetterman (D-Pa.) said he could not "begin to imagine the horror of this video" for the David family and demanded Hamas "send these poor souls home, disarm, and end this hell on earth in Gaza." Rep. Mike Lawler (R-N.Y.) called the video "vile" and laid responsibility for the humanitarian crisis solely on Hamas: "The only entity for the devastation that has been inflicted upon innocent Israelis and Palestinians is Hamas. Period. Full stop."

The atrocity showcases the cruelty of Hamas, which continues to hold at least 20 living hostages and 30 dead, according to Israeli officials. Despite international pressure, Hamas has

shown no willingness to release captives or surrender, instead using human suffering as a weapon to prolong the conflict.

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The families of the hostages, and the hostages themselves, still desperately need the prayers of the world. Let us pray for God's protection over those still held in captivity, for strength and comfort for their families and for the swift defeat of Hamas so that peace and freedom can return to Israel.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

A Christian Guide to the 7 Deadly Sins

When it comes to the Bible, some wonder which book carries more weight, Genesis, the first book of beginnings, or Revelation, the last book of prophecy and Christ's return. Both are filled with vital truths, yet too often believers find themselves drawn to one while overlooking the other. Questions about creation, time, prophecy and eternity swirl in people's minds, but the deeper issue may be how we approach Scripture as a whole.

Christian apologist Ken Ham recently addressed this question and offered an important reminder about the foundation of our faith. "Actually, every book of the Bible is important because it's all God's Word," he said.

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Still, he noted that while “a lot of people...concentrate on the book of Revelation” and various end-time views, the opening chapters of Genesis are often neglected, even though they are essential for a right understanding of the rest of Scripture.

Ham pointed to the parable Jesus told about a nobleman who entrusted resources to his servants, saying, “I’m going to go away and then I’m going to come back. While I’m away, you do business.” According to Ham, this illustrates how Christians should live as they wait for Christ’s return: “It’s a reminder for each of us that God has entrusted talents to us, gifts to us, and we’re to use the gifts he’s entrusted to us until the King returns.”



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Part of that faithfulness, he explained, comes through rightly understanding the foundation of the Bible. “Genesis 1–11 is the foundation for everything. For the rest of the Bible, for all of our doctrine, for our worldview, it’s the foundation for everything,” Ham said. By contrast, “Revelation is not the foundation for the rest of the Bible. Genesis is. Revelation is not the foundation for all doctrine. Genesis 1–11 is. Revelation is not the foundation for the gospel. Genesis 1–11 is.”

Ham warned that dismissing or compromising on Genesis has led to devastating consequences in the church and culture. “There’s been a catastrophic generational loss because they’ve been told Genesis 1–11, you don’t have to take it literally. It doesn’t matter. You can believe in evolution, millions of years. Well, why should we believe the rest of the Bible?” he said. Once the foundation is removed, “many of these people today don’t understand what they should believe in regard to

marriage or gender or anything else.”

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At the same time, Ham is careful to affirm that Revelation is also a vital part of God’s Word. “Genesis or Revelation, well, both are the Word of God. Both are vitally important, but they have different functions. And Genesis is actually the foundational book of the Bible.”

The discussion ultimately points to a balanced approach. It is good to study specific books of the Bible, whether Genesis, Revelation or any other, but not at the expense of the rest. Each book is divinely placed, interconnected and serves a distinct purpose.

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As Ham explains, beginning with Genesis lays the foundation for understanding the entire Word of God. But Revelation, along with every other book, gives us truths God intended for us to know. Every word serves a purpose, and together they provide the complete picture of God’s plan for humanity.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Have You Committed the Unpardonable Sin? The Truth

from Scripture

The month of August is filled with remarkable celestial events that Pastor Troy Brewer highlights in his latest edition of Heavenly Happenings.

On August 9, skywatchers can look forward to the big full moon. Brewer explained, "Remember the big full moon nights are not the night that you want to go out to see all the stars. It's the night that you want to go out to see the full moon. And that's going to happen on August 9th."

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Later in the month, on August 23, the new moon will arrive, signaling what Brewer calls the true beginning of the lunar cycle. He noted, "A lot of folks don't know what a new moon is. It's actually the new beginning of the solar cycle and it is not when the moon is full. It's actually when you can't see it at all." He went on to connect this with the Hebrew calendar: "For us a day starts whenever the sun comes up. For them it's exactly opposite. The sun going down is when the day begins. And by the way, that was God's design."



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Brewer drew spiritual encouragement from this biblical pattern: "God likes to start off with building momentum for hope. He always wants to make sure that the worst thing is never the last thing. I just love that about King Jesus."

Another highlight this month is the close appearance of Venus and Jupiter in the night sky. Brewer described, "On this date, you can go outside and what you can actually see is you can see Jupiter, you can see Venus together and they're right

there by each other and they're just beautiful. So, you will be looking like just after sundown or just before sunrise on the 9th."

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In addition to the moon and planetary events, the Perseid meteor shower will continue to light up the skies this month. As reported by , "The Perseid meteor shower is one of the most prolific meteor showers of the year. The shower is active from mid-July until late August and will peak on the night of Aug. 12, before dawn on Aug. 13, 2025."

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Observers are encouraged to start watching around 11 p.m. local time, though the report notes that "the peak occurs just three days after a full moon, so moonlight may wash out fainter meteors."

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Temple Institute Declares It Is Time to Build the Third Temple in Jerusalem

The Temple Institute in Jerusalem stirred global attention this week with a striking Facebook post featuring a wristwatch with an image of the rebuilt Jewish Temple. The post read: "SYNCHRONIZE YOUR WATCHES! IT'S TIME TO BUILD!"