

5 Sins That Open the Door to Demons, and How to Shut Them for Good

Demons are real, and their influence is more present in daily life than many realize. In a recent teaching on the DLM Christian Lifestyle channel, Daniel Maritz warns believers that many people are unknowingly living under demonic oppression because of certain sins they've allowed to remain in their lives. These actions, he says, give demons "the legal right, access, a foothold" into people's lives. Maritz doesn't mince words: "Ongoing sin is a big problem and some choose to live in the darkness."

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Here are the five sins he identifies as the most common open doors to demonic activity, and what you can do to close them.

1. Unforgiveness and Bitterness

"Unforgiveness, which also brings bitterness and resentment." According to Maritz, many Christians go to church and think they are spiritually healthy, yet still harbor resentment toward someone in their past or present. He cites Ephesians 4:26–27: "Do not let the sun go down on your anger and give no opportunity to the devil." "Demons thrive on bitterness. And if you're bitter, it means that they might be still having their claws on your heart."

2. Sexual Sin

"Sexual sin: pornography, adultery, fornication, homosexuality, all sexual sin."

Maritz warns that sexual sin not only damages lives but also

invites “unclean spirits” and forms soul ties with others. “Sexual sin has spiritual ties... if you are not a child of God, you are open. Demons can come into you because the Holy Spirit is not there not protecting you, right?”

3. Occult Practices

“These are things like witchcraft, new age astrology, and so forth.” Maritz emphasizes that involvement in occultic or pagan practices—even horoscopes and crystals—are spiritual entry points. “They are all demonic doorways.” He also says other religions often involve demons masquerading as gods: “Those are not gods. Those are demons behind those idols.”



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4. Addictions

“These can be drugs, alcohol, gambling, games and so forth.” Addictions enslave people, and Maritz says they can give access to “spirits of bondage.” “If you cannot say no, you already have a problem. You’re not controlling it. It is controlling you. You are a slave to it.”

5. Willful and Repeated Sin

“You continuing to live in disobedience and not asking God for forgiveness while you know it is wrong.”

According to Hebrews 10:26, willful sin after knowing the truth invites judgment. Maritz says, “Demons have the legal right to influence and come into people who reject God’s commands.”

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How to Close Demonic Doors

Maritz offers a five-step process for shutting these doors once and for all:

- **Repent Immediately:** “Repent immediately. Turn away from any sin that has given the devil access.”
- **Renounce All Connections to Evil:** “Whatever it is... reject it. Renounce it 100%, completely, in the name of Jesus Christ.”
- **Pray for Deliverance and Protection:** “You just say in the name of Jesus Christ, remove any demonic influence over my life... You have no legal right. Go out.”
- **Fill Your Life with God’s Word:** “The more of the Bible you have in you, the stronger you become.”
- **Stay Accountable and Surround Yourself with Strong Believers:** “If you don’t have good brothers and sisters in Christ that you can trust, pray for it... They will keep you accountable, but they will also keep your eyes on Jesus Christ.”

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No matter your past, no matter how dark things may seem, freedom is possible. Maritz reminds us, “God loves you. He gives you the choice to choose to live in the light or to live in the darkness.” But through Jesus Christ, the victory is already won. “It is enough. The final sacrifice for sins... we are also victorious through Jesus Christ.”

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Was the Real Site of the Temple in Jerusalem? Separating Fact From Fiction

A growing number of online voices are claiming the ancient Jewish temples once stood in the City of David, not on the Temple Mount. But according to prophecy experts Tom Hughes and Mondo Gonzales, that theory falls apart when examined through the lens of archaeology and history.

Their conversation traced the roots of the idea back to author Ernest Martin, who argued in the 1990s that the Temple Mount was actually the Roman Antonia Fortress and that the real temple stood further south. Martin's work relied heavily on older interpretations of the historian Josephus, but Hughes and Gonzales explained that advancements in archaeological excavations have since corrected these misunderstandings.

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Excavation in the City of David, particularly work done by Israeli archaeologist Eilat Mazar, has revealed structures dating back to the time of King David, yet no evidence of a large temple complex has been uncovered. The area lacks the space needed to support the scale of Solomon's or Herod's Temple, as well as the crowds of worshippers who traveled there for feasts and sacrifices. Topographically, the City of David sits too low between valleys to match the biblical description of the temple's elevated position.

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Water supply further complicates the theory. While the Gihon Spring runs through the City of David, it couldn't have supported the immense water demands of temple sacrifices. In contrast, the Temple Mount was connected to vast reservoirs like Solomon's Pools, which transported millions of gallons of water from Bethlehem to Jerusalem.

Gonzales emphasized that this theory persists largely because many rely on sensational videos rather than verified excavation reports or peer-reviewed journals. The clarity brought by decades of archaeology has shown why early interpretations of Josephus were flawed.

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Historical records also confirm the traditional Temple Mount location. Roman Emperor Hadrian, after crushing the Bar Kokhba revolt, built a shrine to Jupiter on the Temple Mount, an act widely seen as a deliberate insult to Jewish religious identity. This would have made little sense if the area had only been a military garrison.

Although some debate remains over the temple's exact placement within the Temple Mount, whether to the north near the Dome of the Spirits or directly beneath the Dome of the Rock, experts agree: the temple was not in the City of David. If permission is ever granted for formal excavations on the Temple Mount, the mystery of its exact location may finally be resolved.

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The evidence from archaeology, ancient texts and historical

accounts paints a consistent picture. Misleading theories may capture attention, but serious investigation continues to confirm the temple's true location on the mount.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Christian Pastor and 20 Family Members Massacred Amid Sectarian Violence

An evangelical pastor and approximately 20 of his family members were killed over the weekend in what Christian leaders have described as a targeted massacre amid escalating violence in southern Syria.

Pastor Khalid Mezher, who led the Good Shepherd Evangelical Church in Suwayda, was murdered alongside his parents, siblings, nieces, nephews and other close relatives. Mezher and his family had converted from the Druze faith to Christianity several years ago and remained in Suwayda despite growing tensions and threats.

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The massacre occurred during ongoing clashes between Sunni Bedouin fighters and Druze militias in the region, as reported by The Christian Post. The violence has claimed more than 250 lives in the past week and left many areas, including Suwayda, without food, water, electricity or internet.



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Christian organizations and regional church leaders responded with grief and condemnation. The Archdiocese of Bosra, Hauran, Jabal al-Arab and the Golan described the continuing violence as "savage" and said it had taken the lives of "young and old." In a statement, the archdiocese called for "urgent humanitarian intervention" as Suwayda remained under siege.

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A local Arab pastor wrote to supporters that the church in Suwayda is now "scattered" and said Mezher and his family were killed "for his faith." The pastor added that remaining Christians are "cut off from food, water, electricity, internet and hope for safety."

Johnnie Moore, executive director of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, called the attack a "senseless murder" by terrorists. Posting on X, Moore wrote that Mezher "died for a faith that many Christians hardly live," and that his family "gave their entire lives ... to share the love of Jesus with their neighbors and beloved Syria."

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A Syrian Orthodox Church appeal urged the United Nations and international organizations to act swiftly to stop what it described as "terrorist massacres." The statement described the crisis as dire and called for global prayer, citing mounting casualties and widespread displacement.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charism Media.

5 Signs You're Falling Into End-Times Deception and Don't Even Know It

Revivalist Isaiah Saldivar is urging Christians to open their eyes to the widespread spiritual falling away that was prophesied in Scripture. During a recent livestream teaching from 1 Timothy 3–4, Saldivar walked viewers through the signs of the coming apostasy, and explained why he believes it's already begun.

Quoting 1 Timothy 4:1, "The Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith," Saldivar explained that this is not a warning for a far-off future. "We're in the latter times right now," he said. "We're seeing people turn from God. We're seeing deception take root in the church."

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According to Saldivar, the apostasy is marked by a willingness to embrace demonic teachings dressed up in spiritual language. "There are doctrines of demons spreading in churches today. Not every supernatural thing is from God," he warned. "Many are departing from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits."

5 Signs Someone Is Vulnerable to Apostasy

Saldivar outlined five key traits commonly found in people who are most likely to fall away from biblical truth:

1. Emotion-Led Spirituality

Christians who base their faith primarily on emotions or spiritual experiences rather than Scripture are easy targets for deception. Constantly seeking emotional highs or mystical encounters leaves them unstable when truth challenges their feelings.

2. Overdependence on Church Leaders

When believers place more trust in charismatic personalities than in God's Word, they lose discernment. Saldivar emphasized that while spiritual leaders can help guide, they are not a substitute for a personal walk with Christ.

3. Undiscerning Acceptance of Supernatural Events

Many people assume any miracle, prophecy, or word of knowledge is from the Holy Spirit. Saldivar warned that Satan can also produce signs and wonders to imitate God's power and deceive the naive.

4. Rejection of Suffering and Persecution

The modern desire for a comfortable Christianity is incompatible with the gospel. Saldivar explained that a refusal to endure hardship leads many to accept false teachings that promise ease and prosperity at the cost of truth.

5. Lack of Biblical Understanding

Without a solid grounding in Scripture, believers have no defense against manipulation. Saldivar said biblical illiteracy has become one of the most dangerous open doors to spiritual deception in the church today.

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A Present-Day Example of Apostasy

Saldivar pointed to real instances of cult-like behavior emerging in the church as evidence of the apostasy described

by Paul. One involved people legally changing their last names to match a well-known spiritual leader's and calling him "Papa."

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"That's apostasy," Saldivar said. "That's cult behavior. That's giving heed to doctrines of demons."

A Call to Integrity and Sound Doctrine

Saldivar didn't stop with warnings, he also laid out a biblical roadmap to safeguard faith. He urged viewers to prioritize spiritual discipline, submit to the authority of Scripture, and pursue godliness with intentionality.

"You don't drift into holiness," he said. "Godliness takes effort. You have to exercise yourself toward it."

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He continue by emphasizing Paul's charge to Timothy: "Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you."

The call is clearly urgent: we live in a world where apostasy deception is growing, and the church must remain rooted and committed to truth.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Glenn Beck: America's Schools Need the Ten Commandments

As America wrestles with growing cultural chaos, political division and moral confusion, some voices are calling for a return to the foundational values that once undergirded the nation's institutions.

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In a recent video, conservative commentator Glenn Beck made a passionate case for restoring the Ten Commandments in public school classrooms, arguing that they are not only biblically rooted but essential for preserving the moral fabric of society. Beck, through his new initiative , urges Americans to recognize the commandments not merely as religious relics but as timeless principles that sustain freedom, order and justice. "We removed the blueprint for all civilization," he warned, "and without the Ten Commandments, we cannot fix ourselves."

Commandments and Their Societal Relevance

Beck unpacks each commandment to highlight how its practical wisdom transcends religion:

1. No other gods before Me – Teaches boundaries on power: "This is a warning against idolatry... when we make the state or money or race or creed or technology the ultimate authority, we create a god that will consume us."

2. No carved images – Calls us to seek truth over manipulation: "This frees your mind. It's a call to seek truth, not manipulation."

3. Do not take the Lord's name in vain – Warns against misusing moral authority: “We will not invoke God or any higher cause for wicked ends.”

4. Remember the Sabbath – Upholds human dignity and rest: “In a world that never sleeps, we forget the human soul needs time unmonetized, unplugged.”



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5. Honor your father and mother – Reinforces the importance of family: “A society that mocks its elders and abandons its children is suicidal.”

6. Do not murder – Defends the sanctity of life: “Life has value. Not because the state permits it, because life is sacred and doesn't belong to you.”

7. Do not commit adultery – Protects trust and fidelity: “If there is no vow, fidelity is dead, trust is dead, and a community dies.”

8. Do not steal – Safeguards private property and innovation: “Without ‘thou shalt not steal,’ you wouldn't have patents. Without patents, you wouldn't have America.”

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9. Do not bear false witness – Establishes truth as a societal cornerstone: “If lies rule, justice dies.”

10. Do not covet – Rejects envy and class division: “That's covet... they have something I want, and I don't care what happens to them.”

Beck's appeal is more than a call for religious nostalgia, it's a cry to restore moral clarity in American classrooms.

The Ten Commandments, paired with the reintroduction of prayer, offer a foundation for guiding students toward discipline, truth and responsibility.

“It is the formula for Western civilization,” Beck declared.

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As moral boundaries continue to erode and confusion spreads across generations, reinstating these biblical principles could be the key to rebuilding a society rooted in God’s order, justice and respect for life.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Why Today’s Peace Plans May Trigger a Prophetic Disaster

Peace in the Middle East may appear to be within reach, but some believe it’s a carefully laid trap leading straight into the pages of biblical prophecy.

As the world watches historic alliances form and global leaders champion agreements like the Abraham Accords, a deeper, and more ominous, narrative may be unfolding. For those paying close attention to biblical prophecy, these developments are not signs of stability but precursors to a coming storm foretold thousands of years ago.

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In a recent discussion between Pastor Tom Hughes and attorney-

prophecy teacher John Haller, the two examined how modern geopolitical developments are aligning with ancient biblical prophecies, particularly those concerning the end times. Their conversation focused on the Abraham Accords and how these agreements, while framed as peace initiatives, may in fact represent a prophetic setup for future conflict. They connected the regional alliances and growing political maneuverings to Scriptures such as Psalm 83 and Ezekiel 38, suggesting that these alignments foreshadow a coming war involving Israel and its surrounding nations.



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A significant portion of their analysis centered on events taking place in Israel, particularly around the Temple Mount and other sacred sites. They pointed out the incremental steps being taken that could lead to the reinstatement of temple sacrifices, an event that is necessary for end-times prophecies to unfold.

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The growing tensions in places like Hebron and increased Jewish access to holy areas are seen as pivotal indicators that prophetic milestones are being reached. At the same time, they noted the disturbing rise of anti-Israel sentiment worldwide, especially in the U.S. and Europe, which they see as evidence of the spiritual battle intensifying in the last days.

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The conversation also covered the propaganda war Israel faces, the role of Islamic nations in forming alliances that mask

deeper hostilities, and how world leaders are unknowingly using language that mirrors biblical prophecy. Haller and Hughes emphasized the urgency of recognizing these converging signs as indicators that the world is rapidly approaching a prophetic inflection point.

If you want to learn more about how current events in Israel and the broader Middle East connect to Bible prophecy and the end times, watch the full video above.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Threats Against Trump and Israel Are More Than Political, They're Spiritual

Pastor James Kaddis is warning viewers that the Iranian regime's escalating hostility toward President Donald Trump and Israel is not just a geopolitical issue, it's part of a larger spiritual war unfolding in real time.

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In his latest video, Kaddis breaks down how Iran's top religious authorities have openly called for Trump's assassination and are offering financial and spiritual incentives to carry it out.



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The video covers a disturbing new fatwa from Iranian Grand

Ayatollahs that equates Trump with an “enemy of Allah,” prescribing death as the punishment. Backed by a group called “Blood Covenant,” Iran claims to have raised over \$40 million to fund the assassination. Kaddis also highlights how these threats are being publicly endorsed by Iranian clerics, promoted in state media and directed at younger Muslims worldwide as a so-called act of religious devotion.

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Throughout the episode, Kaddis calls out what he describes as deception from both Iran’s leadership and Western influencers who minimize or excuse the regime’s behavior. He points to biblical prophecy as the lens for understanding these developments, noting how hostility toward Israel and the United States aligns with end-times warnings found in Scripture.

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Viewers can expect in-depth analysis, video clips of Iranian leaders making threats, and a strong call for Christians to remain prayerful, discerning and grounded in truth. To learn more about the spiritual warfare taking place in the world today, watch the full episode with Pastor James Kaddis above.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Iran Abandons Terror Proxies, Aligns With Russia and China in Prophetic Power Shift

As Israel continues to dismantle Iran's terror proxy network, the Islamic Republic is turning away from militias and toward global superpowers like Russia and China, escalating tensions and laying the groundwork for prophetic end-times events foretold in the Bible.

Erick Stakelbeck, host of The Watchman newscast, warned in his latest livestream that Iran is "recalibrating" its military alliances after Israel's crushing victory in the recent 12-day war. "All that time, money, treasure, and blood that the Iranian regime spent in building up this ring of fire... it's all out the window now," he said. "It's been exposed... as a flimsy strategy at the end of the day."

Following Israel's decisive strikes, Iran's longstanding "ring of fire" strategy, arming and deploying terror proxies like Hezbollah, Hamas and the Houthis, has largely collapsed. "They're a shell of their former selves," Stakelbeck said. "The Ring of Fire is now a smoldering heap of ruins."

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Despite its losses, Iran is not retreating. Instead, it is strengthening ties with stable nuclear powers. "If you're Iran, where do you go? You go to nation states," Stakelbeck explained. "Which nation states in particular do you go to? Nation states that are stable. How do nation states become stable? Through having nuclear weapons. It's the ultimate deterrent."

He called this alliance the "Gathering Storm coalition,"

consisting of Iran, Russia, China and North Korea. "There will never be a time when Russia, China, and North Korea... are completely irrelevant on the world stage," he said. "They can't be dismissed out of hand."

This pivot was on full display during a joint naval drill between Iran and Russia in the Caspian Sea this week. Dubbed Cassariks 2025, the exercise was announced under the banner "Together for a Safe and Secure Caspian Sea." Stakelbeck dismissed the framing, saying, "Iran and Russia, two of the world's worst actors, are holding joint naval drills... and look, don't worry. It's just to reinforce maritime safety."



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Iran's foreign minister has also doubled down on his country's nuclear ambitions. "We're not going to give up our uranium enrichment program," the minister told Fox News, according to Stakelbeck. "They're digging in their heels... they're not changing their tune at all. They're doubling down."

Stakelbeck praised President Donald Trump for his bold response to the rising threat. "Trump is a man of keeping his word when it comes to deadlines," he said. "Peace through strength is back. He's strong. He's bold. He's got leverage. And he's not afraid to use it."

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He also tied the geopolitical unrest to biblical prophecy, referencing Ezekiel 38 and 39. "That invasion force will come... mostly Islamic nations that come against Israel in the latter days of history," he said. "Russia, Turkey and Iran are all named by their ancient biblical names in the book of Ezekiel."

While much of Iran's regional network has crumbled, Stakelbeck

noted the Houthis in Yemen remain active and dangerous. "They continue to launch attacks, ballistic missiles, drones, attacking shipping in the Red Sea," he said. A senior Israeli official reportedly told Stakelbeck in Washington: "We will destroy the Houthis."

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Stakelbeck concluded that the Ayatollahs' public bravado hides their real weakness. "They've been exposed," he said. "They're puffing their chest out right now and acting tough... but come on, let's get serious."

As tensions escalate, Stakelbeck urged viewers to watch for prophetic patterns. "Don't be surprised that the demonic activity continues until you absolutely crush it decisively," he said. "The Bible's very clear... that day will come."

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Former Queen's Chaplain Warns of Apostasy and Collapse Within the Church

A former chaplain to Queen Elizabeth II is warning that the Church of England is suffering a spiritual collapse, rapidly approaching apostasy and demographic extinction.

"It will become hollowed out with nothing at the center," Gavin Ashenden told EWTN, lamenting that the church is clinging to its wealth and historic buildings but has lost the vitality of faith. "They will keep a show going in the more

dramatic places,” he said, referencing ceremonies like royal funerals and coronations, while local parishes “are very close to being defunct already.”

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Ashenden, who left the Anglican Church in 2019 and converted to Roman Catholicism, pointed to the Church of England’s aging congregation and lack of youth engagement as signs of irreversible decline, as reported by The Christian Post.

“The average age in Anglican parishes is over 70, and there is no great renewal in the youth, so demographically, it’s simply going to evaporate,” he said.

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Ashenden resigned from his royal post in 2017 after speaking out against St. Mary’s Cathedral in Glasgow for reciting Quranic verses denying Christ’s divinity during an Epiphany service. He later explained the decision to leave Anglicanism came with personal cost but was rooted in conscience. “It was easy and difficult at the same time,” he told EWTN.

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Over the years, Ashenden said he tried to reason with liberal Anglicans, warning, “You’re changing the nature of faith itself.” When he publicly voiced his concerns, he said he was told by the Lord Chamberlain of the Royal Household that his views might be seen as representing the queen herself, prompting him to resign.

His journey, marked by suffering and supernatural encounters, included a vision in the 1990s in which he briefly experienced

the agony of Christ on the cross. "Once you've discovered God really does love you... it gives a value to your life that you never lose," he said.

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The Bible warns that in the last days, many will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceptive spirits and doctrines of demons (1 Tim. 4:1). Apostasy is part of the prophetic picture of the end times, something believers are cautioned to expect but also to pray against. While such events shouldn't shock us as Christians, they are a clear reminder to remain rooted in the truth of God's Word and pray for revival within the church.

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

End-Times Watch: A Restored Temple and Red Heifers in Israel?

Could Israel be closer than ever to building the Third Temple? Many believe so, and point to unfolding prophetic signs as evidence that the world is approaching the final days before the return of Christ.

"We are sitting here in the very last days," said Tom Cote, host of the Watchman River Podcast. "Some people say in the last hours, but we are sitting here in the very last days. We are seeing everything set up, everything for the seven-year tribulation."

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Cote believes the modern state of Israel plays a central role in end-times prophecy and that the acceleration of temple-related developments signals something monumental is near. "With all the talk of the third temple, it really shows us how close we are to the pre-tribulation rapture of the church," he said. "Could the temple, the third temple, be built in 2025 or 2026? I think it's very possible."

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One of the most talked-about developments is the arrival of the red heifers, a biblically significant requirement for temple purification. "They've got these perfect red heifers ready to go," Cote said. "They already did a rehearsal where they burned one of the heifers... there's two more red heifers that are perfect. And the timing is perfect."

In recent weeks, imagery and messaging surrounding the Third Temple have been spotted more frequently in Israel, a fact Cote sees as more than symbolic. "Signs were installed that were pointing to the temple, the third temple, that's not there yet," he said. "But the Israeli government has not taken them down... everyone's getting ready for it."

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He also noted unusual displays in Palestinian territories: "Israeli settlers are now flying third temple flags at key intersections on the daily routes for Palestinians who live there in the West Bank."

According to Cote, these events align with the prophetic warnings given throughout Scripture. "Ezekiel saw it in Ezekiel 37:28. Daniel mentioned it in Daniel 9:27. Jesus

confirmed it in Matthew 24:15–16. Paul saw it in 2 Thessalonians 2:4, and so did John in Revelation 11:1 and 2.”

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The progression of war and faith in the region is leading to one ultimate outcome, he said. “The Middle East is on the verge of some pretty chaotic times. And I think out of that will probably come the covenant where they give Israel permission to build the third temple.”

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.