

Erick Stakelbeck: Iran's 2040 Threat Against Israel Marks a Global Prophetic Turning Point

The stage is set. The deception is already here. The language of the coming delusion floods movies, government hearings, podcasts and social media feeds while humanity stares into the skies waiting for salvation from the stars.

During a recent appearance on Rebecca Lamb Weiss' podcast, pastor and author Billy Crone laid out what he believes is one of the greatest end-times deceptions preparing to engulf the planet: the idea that aliens will explain away the biblical rapture.

"We did a mega deep dive just last year UFOs, aliens, and the coming mass abduction," Crone said. "And I titled it that way on purpose because the world will see a mass abduction. But what they'll be told is it was from the aliens as to why these people disappeared. The Bible calls it the rapture."

Crone described a world already conditioned to accept extraterrestrials as humanity's saviors.

"Rapture means an abduction," he said. "We'll be abducted, snatched quickly away by the Lord Jesus Christ, the church, meet him in the clouds, and then the wrath of God comes down, the seven-year tribulation. But they're not going to hear that. They're going to hear it was aliens."

According to Crone, the groundwork for that deception began generations ago.

"In order to fall for the lie of UFOs and aliens, you have to

first fall for the lie of evolution," he said. "Because when these things come off their so-called crafts, what's the first thing they say about themselves? We're a higher evolved."



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Crone argued that Satan slowly prepared the modern world for this moment through entertainment, philosophy and spiritual deception.

"He had to start this thing, this last days lie explained away the rapture that it was the aliens, not the rapture," Crone said. "He had to start this 150 years ago and first get the planet to buy into lie evolution. And then sure enough in the 60s and 50s and the black and white movies and here comes alien this, alien that."

Now, Crone believes humanity has reached the tipping point.

"Today UFOology is the new religion for the 21st century," he said. "More people believe that aliens have visited planet Earth than that Jesus is the Son of God."

The discussion moved deep into the prophetic warnings of Scripture and what Crone sees as the rise of a coming one-world system foretold in Revelation.

"They're preparing the mindset for the seven-year tribulation, the antichrist kingdom for a one world government and a one world religion," Crone said. "It'll be a one-world political structure government and a one-world religion, all working together to bring what? Peace and utopia to the planet."

Crone warned that Christians themselves are increasingly being targeted as obstacles to global unity.

He referenced alleged New Age "channeled" messages predicting the disappearance of millions of people from Earth and

connected them directly to the church being removed during the rapture.

“These people no longer fit here anymore,” Crone quoted from one message. “They are stopping the harmony of the earth.”

“You know what the Bible calls that?” Crone asked. “2 Thessalonians 2, the restraining influence.”

The warnings did not stop with UFOs. Crone connected the rise of artificial intelligence, digital surveillance and biometric systems to the infrastructure of the coming beast system described in Revelation 13.

“The first day in office, he launched the AI Stargate program, a \$500 billion investment to speed up the development of AI,” Crone said while discussing President Donald Trump’s artificial intelligence initiative. “I believe that AI is the lynch pin to pull off Revelation 13.”

He continued: “How are you going to monitor people, know where they’re at at all times? How are you going to the mark of the beast, the buying and the selling? How are you going to control all that? ... You need something superhuman. That’s where AI comes in.”

Crone also pointed to global surveillance systems and AI-powered monitoring as evidence the world is moving rapidly toward prophetic fulfillment.

“Citizens will be on their best behavior because you’re going to be watched at all times,” Crone said while quoting comments from tech leaders involved in AI development.

Throughout the interview, Crone returned repeatedly to one central message: deception is accelerating and the church must remain grounded in Scripture.

“The Bible’s the only book on the planet that tells us in minute detail exactly how it’s going to play out,” he said.

“Demons are real. Satan is real. This is not a game.”

Crone warned that the coming delusion will sweep across a world already desperate for answers, unity and peace.

“The Bible says there’s coming a delusion on this planet that people are going to fall for because they refuse to love the truth,” he said. “And I think part of that delusion is the alien factor.”

As governments discuss UFO disclosure, artificial intelligence expands at breathtaking speed and society drifts further from biblical truth, Crone believes the world is watching the final pieces fall into place before the rise of the Antichrist kingdom and the return of Jesus Christ.

“We have got to be getting close to the rapture,” Crone said. “Because they are setting up the antichrist kingdom and the planet is ripe for it.”

James Lasher, a seasoned writer and editor at Charisma Media, combines faith and storytelling with a journalism background from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and at the LA Dream Center. A Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, he is the author of The Revelation of Jesus: A Common Man’s Commentary and a contributor to Charisma magazine. For interviews and media inquiries, please contact media@.

Michael Knowles Calls Out Terror-Supporting Hasan

Piker's 'America Deserved 9/11' Past Amid Federal Probe

Federal scrutiny surrounding Hasan Piker has reignited fierce debate over the kind of rhetoric allowed to flourish on streaming giant Twitch while many conservatives say their own voices are routinely censored for opposing left-wing ideology.

During a recent episode of "The Michael Knowles Show," Michael Knowles reacted to reports that Piker had been subpoenaed by federal investigators over a controversial Cuba trip that allegedly violated U.S. sanctions regulations.

Knowles celebrated the development, arguing that Piker has spent years pushing radical anti-American rhetoric and inflammatory political commentary to millions of young viewers online.

"I've been calling for Hasan Piker's arrest for months and months and months," Knowles said during the broadcast, accusing the streamer of openly promoting hatred toward America and conservatives.

Federal investigators reportedly issued subpoenas connected to Piker's March trip to Cuba alongside activist groups accused of potentially violating Treasury Department sanctions rules.

The controversy has also renewed scrutiny over Piker's long history of inflammatory statements regarding Israel, conservatives and the United States itself.

Among the most infamous remarks, Piker previously declared, "America deserved 9/11." He also said, "I would vote for Hamas over Israel every single time," while describing Hamas as "a thousand times better" than Israel.



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The Anti-Defamation League documented additional comments from Piker in which he said, "I do not have a single issue with Hezbollah as a form of militancy," and referred to Israeli settlers as the "Jewish KKK brigades." Critics have accused him of repeatedly crossing the line from political commentary into outright anti-Semitic rhetoric.

Piker's critics also point to his attacks on conservatives and Republicans. In one widely condemned moment, he said Republicans would "kill Rick Scott" if they truly cared about Medicare fraud, comments that resulted in a temporary Twitch suspension.

Despite repeated controversies, Piker remains one of the largest political streamers on Twitch, wielding enormous influence over younger audiences. Meanwhile, conservatives and Christians have increasingly accused major tech platforms of applying vastly different standards depending on ideology, particularly on issues surrounding gender identity, transgender activism involving children and biblical morality.

That double standard has become impossible to ignore. Platforms that aggressively police dissent against progressive orthodoxy continue providing enormous reach to figures openly praising terrorist-linked groups, attacking Israel and demonizing political opponents.

The rise in anti-Semitic rhetoric online mirrors a broader global trend that has exploded since the Oct. 7 Hamas terror attack against Israel. Jewish communities across Europe and America have faced escalating harassment, threats and violence while anti-Israel demonstrations have spread across universities, city streets and social media platforms.

This demonically driven hostility toward Israel carries profound biblical significance. Scripture repeatedly warns that in the last days, the nations of the world will turn

against Jerusalem and the Jewish people.

What once seemed unimaginable is rapidly becoming normalized in global culture. Rhetoric that openly demonizes Israel now draws applause in many corners of politics, entertainment and digital media. Figures with massive platforms continue shaping millions of minds with narratives steeped in anti-Westernism, anti-Americanism and hostility toward the Jewish state.

We are quite literally watching the spiritual battle lines form in real time.

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Pastor Greg Laurie: 'Time Is Running Out' as Revelation Signs Intensify

Memorial Day once stood as one of the few moments in American life where politics paused and the nation collectively honored those who gave their lives defending freedom. That sense of reverence is now being tested in a culture increasingly willing to mock nearly anything sacred, including the memory of fallen service members.

During a recent episode of his podcast, conservative

commentator Graham Allen blasted MMA fighter Sean Strickland and media personalities Candace Owens and Nick Fuentes over rhetoric surrounding Memorial Day that Allen said reflects growing contempt for patriotism and military sacrifice.

“This is a testament to the brain rot that people like Candace Owens, Nick Fuentes, all these people have done,” Allen said. “They have caused a brain rot in our society that now Memorial Day is a psy-op.”



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Allen pushed back against arguments reducing military sacrifice to political failures or controversial wars, saying America's honored war dead span generations and conflicts far beyond modern political debates.

“The Revolutionary War, Civil War, World War I, Vietnam, all of this,” Allen said while criticizing attempts to frame Memorial Day solely through the lens of Iraq-era politics.

He warned that an entire generation is being conditioned to view patriotism and remembrance with cynicism rather than gratitude.

“These people that have created this brain culture in our society to now say that Memorial Day is a scop,” Allen said. “They don't actually care about America. They don't actually care about our veterans. They don't actually care about those that have paid the ultimate price.”

Allen also condemned efforts to politicize Memorial Day after referencing a deleted Democratic National Committee social media post tying the holiday to political attacks over Iran policy.

“Memorial Day is supposed to be a sacred day that is not about politics,” Allen said.

The outrage surrounding the controversy points to something deeper happening inside American culture. A nation once rooted in faith, honor and shared moral foundations increasingly treats even sacrifice itself as disposable. The same culture that mocks patriotism now openly ridicules biblical truth, attacks Christian values and chips away at the spiritual foundations that once unified the country.

Yet Memorial Day still matters because the men and women buried beneath white crosses and weathered headstones were not fighting for internet outrage or political tribalism. Many believed they were defending their families, their freedoms and the Judeo-Christian values America was built upon.

Their sacrifice deserves more than cynicism. It deserves gratitude and reverence.

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Persia Rising: What Ted Cruz's Iran Warning Reveals About Ezekiel's Prophetic

Timeline

The Middle East is shaking under the weight of history, prophecy and war. Missiles fly across ancient battlefields. Iran's military infrastructure burns. Arab nations move toward normalization with Israel. Global leaders scramble to negotiate peace in the very region the Bible says will become the epicenter of the last days.

On a recent episode of the Verdict with Ted Cruz podcast, Sen. Ted Cruz described President Trump's military campaign against Iran as "the single most consequential decision of President Trump's presidency."

The reason reaches far beyond geopolitics.

This is the reshaping of Persia before the eyes of the world.

Cruz laid out four objectives behind the military operation against Iran:

- Prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons
- Destroy Iran's missile capabilities
- Neutralize Iran's navy and threats to the Strait of Hormuz
- Cripple Iran's terror infrastructure funding Hamas, Hezbollah and the Houthis

Then came the staggering assessment of what the strikes accomplished.

"The missiles are almost entirely gone," Cruz said. "The missile manufacturing capability is almost entirely gone. Not only that, the drones are almost entirely gone and drone manufacturing is almost entirely gone. Not only that, the air force is in rubble ... and the navy is sunk on the bottom of the ocean."

He added: "Iran spent 47 years building a military and in 39 days, the United States military utterly and completely eliminated it."

The modern world calls the nation Iran.

The Bible calls it Persia.



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And Persia stands at the center of end times prophecy.

In Ezekiel 38, Persia joins the Gog-Magog coalition that marches against Israel in the final prophetic age. Scripture specifically names Persia alongside a northern alliance that launches a massive assault against God's covenant land.

That means Persia survives.

The current regime may collapse. The ayatollahs may fall. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps may shatter. The military machine may lie in ruins.

Persia remains. A transformed Persia. A renewed Persia. A Persia preparing for its prophetic role in the Gog-Magog war.

Cruz openly stated his desired outcome.

"The outcome I would like to see is regime collapse," he said. "Not to have Iran governed by Islamist radicals who chant death to America."

That statement carries prophetic weight because the Gog-Magog coalition does not require the current Islamist structure to remain intact. Persia enters the prophetic battlefield in some form regardless of who governs it.

At the same time Iran weakens, another prophetic puzzle piece moves into place: peace.

Cruz repeatedly pointed to expanding the Abraham Accords as one of the most important developments in the region.

“If the president is able to bring the Arabs and Israelis into the Abraham Accords, into peace agreements, into normalizations, into trade and commerce ... that would truly be an historic milestone,” Cruz said.

That development sends shockwaves through the prophetic landscape.

Scripture describes a coming period where the world embraces peace and security before sudden destruction erupts during the Great Tribulation. The Bible describes a deceptive calm before global chaos breaks loose.

Now the world watches:

- Arab nations moving toward normalization with Israel
- Persia being militarily reshaped
- Global pressure surrounding Jerusalem
- The Strait of Hormuz becoming a flashpoint for global commerce
- Massive diplomatic pushes for Middle East peace

The prophetic map is forming in real time.

For decades, prophecy teachers warned the Middle East would become the center of world attention in the final days. That reality now dominates global headlines every single day.

The astonishing part is not merely the destruction of Iran’s military capabilities.

The astonishing part is that Persia remains on the board exactly where Scripture said it would be thousands of years ago.

Empires rose and fell. Borders changed. Kings died.

Civilizations disappeared.

Persia stayed.

Now the ancient prophetic power once again stands at the center of a rapidly transforming Middle East while Israel rises into unprecedented prominence on the world stage.

The alliances are shifting.

The war drums are sounding.

The stage is being set for the next chapter of biblical prophecy.

To watch the full podcast episode, click here (Editor's Note: Crude topic matter).

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Christian Lifeguard Punished for Removing Pride Flag Is Headed to Trial After Being

Told His 'Religious Beliefs Don't Matter'

Remember that part in the Bible where it says Christians must enthusiastically support sodomy at their jobs, because it's loving their neighbors? Neither do I, but that hasn't stopped both Los Angeles County and the media from painting it that way.

Now, a lifeguard who says he was punished for not displaying the rainbow flag at his station is suing the county and several supervisors after being suspended 15 days without pay for taking down several flags.

According to Fox News, Captain Jeffrey Little, who has spent over 20 years in the L.A. County Fire Department's Lifeguard Division, is suing based on religious discrimination regarding the flags.

In his suit, filed in 2024, Little said that both the county and fire department supervisors adopted and enforced a policy beginning in 2023 that required the Progress Pride flag – that's the one that mixes the rainbow LGBT flag and a separate chevron for transgender people (part of LGBT already, but why let the facts get in our way?) – to be flown throughout the month of June in recognition of "pride month."

"Little, a devout Christian, argued the policy conflicted with his religious beliefs about marriage and sexuality and sought a religious accommodation exempting him from personally raising the flag or ensuring subordinates raised it. Little said the county initially granted this accommodation before revoking it just two days later," Fox News reported Monday.



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In the suit, Little also alleged Lifeguard Division Chief Fernando Boiteux told him that his "religious beliefs don't matter" when it comes to exemptions to the policy. I understand that comprehending the religious protections in the Constitution isn't, like, necessary to save drowning people (or to facilitate the saving of drowning people), but it would be nice if he's in any position of power, and ignorance doesn't make him any more correct. (Also, given that this is Los Angeles County, I can only assume this boss probably isn't too good at facilitating saving drowning people, either. I have my reasons.)

"Little says he is not asking the county to end its Pride flag policy but is seeking a permanent religious accommodation exempting him from personally raising the flag or directing others to do so, along with damages and removal of disciplinary findings from his personnel file," Fox News reported. And, after a federal ruling, he'll be headed into court with Los Angeles County and several of his supervisors.

A court agreed, saying in a May 8 decision that allowed the case to go forward that "the court found it plausible to infer the county did not engage in good faith efforts to accommodate the employee, which was sufficient to survive the county's motion to dismiss."

"At the end of the day, the law requires favored treatment for religious beliefs and the county's message to him and to others like him that their religious beliefs don't matter clearly is unconstitutional and discriminatory," said Paul Jonna of the Thomas More Society, Little's attorney.

Jonna "told Fox News Digital that Little took down the flags under the belief he was acting within the accommodation granted by the county and with the understanding that some stations were not required to fly the Pride flag because they lacked sufficient clasps under the county's own flag policy. Jonna said other Pride flags had previously been removed from

stations earlier that month for the same reason.”

But have sincere religious beliefs and refuse to abandon them to get a government job? Sorry – that’s not for you. At least, not if you’re a Christian.

Ask how this is being covered in the legacy media, and you couldn’t do better summing it up than this sentence from the Los Angeles Times in June of 2024:

It’s too bad, but probably inevitable, that the Progress Pride flag has become a battleground in the culture war. And it’s too bad that Little didn’t try just a little harder to love his neighbor.

I’m not sure where this definition of love – forced abnegation of religious principles – would be foisted upon any other form of orthodox religious belief. (Judaism, alas, might be joining Christianity in this department, and for even more pernicious reasons.) But it seems to be prevalent among pretty much everyone who doesn’t seem to realize the First Amendment not only was meant to protect Christians, but it still protects them, too

However, watching this crowd try to split the cultural baby would be fun: Can you imagine the chaos in the state offices if this guy had been a Muslim and they had to figure out who to kowtow to more, the LGBT crowd or the Muslim crowd?

And that’s the good news about discovery in this case as it goes forward: We’ll very possibly find out, in very explicit detail, on emails and texts, exactly what they thought about Christian values compared to other worldviews. Nice work, Los Angeles.

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Jan Markell and Billy Crone Sound Alarm on AI, Israel and the Rapid Rise of End Times Prophecy