

# **Jesse Watters Says Faith Grew From Loss as Fox News Hosts Begin Daily Bible Study**

The Temple Mount sits at the center of biblical prophecy, sacred history and future expectation. Scripture identifies it as the site of the First and Second Temples and foretells a Third Temple that will play a central role in the last days. Each archaeological discovery connected to the Mount adds weight to that biblical narrative. A newly uncovered menorah pendant does precisely that.

## **A Historic Find in the Shadow of the Temple Mount**

Archaeologists have uncovered a rare 1,300- to 1,400-year-old lead pendant engraved with a seven-branched menorah, found beneath the southwestern corner of the Temple Mount near the City of David.

“We’re talking about a little pendant... found in the southwestern corner of the Temple Mount Jerusalem,” Israeli tour guide Yoav Rotem said on CBN News. “This little pendant of a menorah... was someone was wearing for sure a Jew.”

The artifact dates to the Late Byzantine period, a time when Jews were officially banned from residing in Jerusalem.



## **Exceptionally Rare and Archaeologically Unmatched**

The Israel Antiquities Authority says the pendant is extraordinarily rare.

“Research has identified pendants of glass and other metals decorated with a menorah, but we know of only one other pendant in the world bearing the symbol of the menorah, made of lead,” said IAA researchers Yuval Baruch, Filip Vukosavović, Esther Rakow-Mellet and Shulamit Terem.

The pendant is decorated identically on both sides, reinforcing its role as a deliberate expression of Jewish identity.

## **Proof Jews Never Stopped Coming to Jerusalem**

Despite imperial bans, the evidence is unmistakable.

“This is maybe the game changer,” Rotem said. “It’s actually showing us maybe a Jew who visited Jerusalem or was living in Jerusalem back then.”

IAA researcher Yuval Baruch said the pendant proves that Jews continued traveling to Jerusalem even when forbidden. Wearing it under such conditions, he said, “is not only the essence of a personal commitment to one’s religious faith ... but it also attests that during periods when imperial edicts were issued prohibiting Jews from residing in the city, they did not stop coming there!”

The use of lead further supports its significance. “There is a strong basis to this contention, because lead was considered a common and particularly popular material for making amulets at that time,” Baruch added.



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## **The Menorah as a Declaration of Faith and**

# Identity

The menorah predates the Star of David as Judaism's primary symbol, rooted in the Tabernacle and the Temple itself.

"Right before the second temple was destroyed, we start seeing it in archaeology as the main and almost the ultimate emblem of saying, 'Hey, I am a Jew,'" Rotem explained.

He said the pendant carries that same message forward. "It's saying, 'I am a Jew. I'm here in my homeland, in my holy city, next to the place where the temple will rebuild.'"

## Archaeology, Prophecy and What Comes Next

The pendant is now on public display during Hanukkah, a season centered on the rededication of the Temple and the triumph of light. That timing is hard to ignore.

As discoveries like this continue to emerge around the Temple Mount, they reinforce what the Bible has stated all along: Jewish connection to this site never ended. With growing interest among Jews to worship once again on the Temple Mount and increasing archaeological confirmation beneath its surface, the convergence of history and prophecy is becoming impossible to dismiss.

Each artifact pulled from the ground strengthens the case that the Bible is not only spiritually authoritative, but historically reliable and prophetically precise.

**James Lasher**, a seasoned writer and editor at Charisma Media, combines faith and storytelling with a background in journalism from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and 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*.

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# Ancient Fresco Reveals Roman-Era Image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd

Archaeologists have uncovered a rare early Christian fresco depicting Jesus in Turkey, a discovery experts say sheds new light on how Christ was portrayed during the Roman era and underscores the deep historical roots of Christian belief.

The fresco, found in an underground tomb near Iznik, was discovered in August and is being hailed as “one of the most important finds from Anatolia’s early Christian era,” as reported by The New York Post. Iznik is the ancient city of Nicaea, where the Nicene Creed, a foundational statement of Christian faith, was adopted in A.D. 325.



AP: The artwork portraying Jesus is regarded as one of the most well-preserved examples of early Christian art ever found in Anatolia.

The artwork dates back to the third century, when Christians were still persecuted under Roman rule. It depicts a youthful, clean-shaven Jesus dressed in a toga and carrying a goat on His shoulders, an image known as the “Good Shepherd.”

According to researchers cited by The Associated Press, it is a rare example of Jesus being portrayed with Roman attributes in Anatolia.

The lead archaeologist on the project stated that the fresco may be the “only example of its kind in Anatolia,” underscoring its historical and theological significance for understanding early Christian art and identity.



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The discovery has taken on added significance following a recent visit to Iznik by Pope Leo XIV, who traveled to the site during his first overseas trip as pontiff to mark the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea.

While there, Eastern and Western Christian leaders gathered to pray and recite the Nicene Creed together, which the pope described as being "of fundamental importance in the journey that Christians are making toward full communion."

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## **Harbinger in the Storm? Statue of Liberty Replica Comes Crashing Down**

A towering replica of the Statue of Liberty collapsed during a violent storm in southern Brazil, sending debris crashing into a car park as high winds battered the region. The dramatic incident unfolded in the city of Guaíba, where severe weather left widespread damage but, remarkably, no injuries.

In video footage circulating online, "an 110ft replica of the

Statue of Liberty came crashing down in Brazil after being struck by powerful winds,” as reported by Daily Mail. The outlet noted that “footage shows how the statue started leaning to one side as a storm tore through the city of Guaíba on Monday before it toppled into a car park and smashed into pieces.”

*WATCH: Replica of the Statue of Liberty topples due to strong winds in Guaíba, Brazil*

*– BNO News Live (@BNODesk) December 15, 2025*

Local authorities said the collapse occurred around “3 p.m. yesterday at the height of the storm that ripped through the entire state of Rio Grande do Sul in southern Brazil.” Cars were seen pulling away moments before the fall, and officials confirmed that “no injuries were reported.”

The statue had been installed in the parking lot of a retail megastore and stood roughly 110 feet tall. Store officials said “only the upper section of the statue, which measured around 78ft, was damaged.” By comparison, “the original Statue of Liberty in New York City stands at around 305ft.”

Following the collapse, “the car park was immediately cordoned off to protect customers and staff,” according to authorities. The megastore’s operator said the replica had been in place since 2020 and “had the required certification,” adding that “specialist teams had been sent in to remove debris.”



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Guaíba Mayor Marcelo Maranata praised emergency crews for their swift response, saying local teams worked alongside state civil defense officials to secure the area and prevent

further damage.

The collapse came amid extreme weather across Rio Grande do Sul, where the region experienced “wind gusts of up to 90 kilometres per hour.” Officials had issued “a severe weather warning for strong winds and heavy rain” hours earlier. Elsewhere in the state, storms caused power cuts, damaged roofs, fallen trees and flooding in nearby towns, including Lajeado.

As images of the fallen symbol spread, the incident has prompted broader reflection beyond the storm itself—begging the question of whether this striking collapse could be a harbinger of things to come for Brazil, a nation grappling with allegations of corrupt, rogue judges and rising authoritarianism at the highest levels of government.

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## **New Data Reveals Troubling Trends in Netflix's Children's Programming**