

Inside the Revival That Redefined Ohio State Football

Islam's growing influence in American public life is no longer a fringe concern or a social media rumor. It is happening in politics, in key states like Texas, and across the digital landscape where young people form their worldview. CBN's latest report on the subject raises serious questions about where this trend is headed and what it means for Christians who care about the nation's future.

Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!

Christians are not called to fear, but to discern. Scripture speaks plainly about guarding truth, resisting deception and recognizing threats that undermine the freedom to live out our faith. As this report shows, the rise of political Islam in the United States is something Americans should be paying attention to.

1. Islam's Expansion Into American Politics

The first area of concern is political. As the CBN segment notes, "Twenty-four years after 9/11, a foreign-born Muslim will be sworn in as mayor of New York City." His election, the report suggests, may "inspire more Muslims to enter politics."

The question is not whether Muslims have the right to run for office. They do. The concern raised by youth culture and religion expert Alex McFarland is whether these political victories will be used to promote secular governance or advance Islam and Sharia law in American cities.

McFarland told CBN there is "a very real concern about the

encroachment of Islam and really the infiltration of Islamists into American government.” He added that this is not “Islamophobia” but “realism,” especially given what he describes as long-term ideological goals within segments of the Islamic world.

According to McFarland, Western leaders are “very naive to think that they do not desire a cultural infiltration and the ultimate bringing down of America.”

2. Islam’s Growing Footprint in Texas

The second area CBN highlights is Texas, where rumors and reports of new Islamic centers, mosque expansions and organized efforts to influence local culture have been circulating.

A viral video shared on X shows San Diego imam Shahid Umar Ibn Farooq stating, “Know this, that Islam will enter every house. Every house. Don’t worry about the Islamophobes. They can yap all they want. Their children will be Muslim.”

Farooq denies he intends to dominate or impose Sharia law and told interviewers he only wants to “spread faith.” McFarland strongly disputed that claim, saying, “Muslims are taught that they are at liberty to lie. It’s the doctrine that they can lie for the cause of Islam.”

He argues that when Islamists speak of spreading faith, the real goal is “further to weave Islam and Sharia concepts into American life to ultimately subjugate and bring down the great infidel. That’s us.”

McFarland even described interviewing workers involved in the

construction of a large Islamic center in Texas. According to him, some tradesmen refused the job until they were offered “as much as three times the going rate” to participate. He believes centers like this “are threatening the stabilization and the security of America.”

Texas lawmakers have taken notice. The state banned Sharia law in its cities, joining ten other states that have passed similar legislation. McFarland said, “It is not an overreaction. It’s very prudent.” He went further, suggesting that states “should use eminent domain to take back” centers that could become “jihadist terror cell incubators.”

3. Islam’s Digital and Cultural Push Among Young People

The third front McFarland identifies is social media, where Islamic activists are intentionally trying to shape the next generation.

Farooq has urged young Muslims to “flood social media with pro-Muslim posts” to advance Islam in the United States. McFarland warns that this is a deliberate strategy aimed at influencing young Americans and normalizing Islamic ideology in public discourse.

He emphasized that Christianity is the only force strong enough to resist ideological systems that seek to dominate. “Ultimately, the force that can hold at bay either the iron fist of Marxism or the iron sword of Sharia is Christianity,” he said.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

McFarland also referred to an article from The Atlantic stating that “the jihadists are the faithful Muslims” and that

moderate, westernized Muslims are considered “backsliders.” In his view, the popular claim that Islam is a religion of peace is “really naive.”

The Christian Obligation to Be Watchful

The interview is not a call to hatred or fear. Christians are commanded to love their neighbors, including Muslims, and to pray for all to come to the saving knowledge of Christ. McFarland made that clear, saying he prays “for the salvation of the Islamic world because that is really the ultimate hope.”

But love does not mean blindness. These developments carry long-term implications for the nation’s legal structure, civic identity and cultural stability.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

If Christians care about religious liberty, the Constitution and the mission Christ gave His people, then vigilance is not optional. It is necessary.

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*.

Temple Institute and Sanhedrin Release Official Statements on the Red Heifer

The July 1 burning of a red heifer in Samaria triggered a flood of speculation. Still, both the Temple Institute and the Sanhedrin have now clarified the central issue: the animal burned was not a qualified red heifer according to biblical standards. Their statements were issued to correct incorrect claims spreading across social media and to reset expectations about where Israel truly stands in the prophetic timeline.

Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!

The Temple Institute reminded the public that the requirements for a legitimate red heifer are stringent and that only a few scholars fully understand the details. They have been studying and preparing for years, but the July 1 animal did not meet the biblical criteria. The Sanhedrin echoed the same point in its own statement, emphasizing that no purification for Temple service was achieved through this ceremony.

Even so, the event is not meaningless. The heifer burned was one of the calves brought from Texas in 2022, raised at Shiloh, and prepared by a Kohen at a hidden location in Samaria. While not qualified, the ceremony reflects the broader national effort to train, prepare and restore the knowledge needed when a true biblically valid heifer finally emerges.

The clarification is the real headline. Israel is moving deliberately toward conditions described in Scripture, but this was not the moment of prophetic fulfillment. It was preparation, not completion.

That distinction matters. And it is precisely why the statements from the Temple Institute and the Sanhedrin deserve careful attention.

Here is the full statement released by the Temple Institute:

In light of incorrect information that has been published regarding the red heifer, the Temple Institute would like to announce:

1. For about ten years, the Temple Institute has been engaged in preparations for producing the ashes of the red heifer, both from an educational and practical perspective. The observance of these commandments, the raising of a red heifer according to Torah law and the production of kosher ashes for the purification of the ritually impure, is very complex and includes thousands (!) of details, which require great knowledge and skill in execution. Therefore, the process also includes a number of practical experiments and exercises.

2. About three months ago, a practice was held in the Samaritan mountains, in which a simulation of the making of the ashes of the red heifer was conducted.

3. Of course, ashes of the red heifer that are not made on the Mount of Olives while facing the site of the Holy Temple are completely invalid (Mishnah, Para 4:2; Rambam, Para Aduma 4:5). Therefore, we clarify that the simulation was only an exercise, part of a series of exercises that were and, with G-d's help, will continue to be conducted, before we are properly prepared to fulfill the mitzvah according to Torah requirements. The act was not kosher for additional reasons, including: a heifer was chosen for the exercise whose overall

color was red, but was, nevertheless, the most invalid and unkosher of the heifers in our possession. (Its tail was damaged and it had a defect). Likewise, the priestly garments worn by the kohen conducting the practice exercise were not consecrated. The purpose of the exercise was to improve our readiness for producing the ashes, and indeed, the exercise improved our understanding of the process, as well as the kohen's skill, and also revealed various weak points that we must deal with, such as the proper way to lead the heifer to its destination.

4. For this reason, the ashes were mostly left by us in place without any care on our part. We did collect samples of the ashes by people who are tamei met, (impure due to contact with a corpse), and are therefore rendered ineligible for performing this mitzvah, only for the purpose of checking whether the equipment we have is suitable for the task, and important lessons were learned in this regard as well. In any case, all of the ashes are completely ineligible.

5. Anyone who claims otherwise, that the heifer was kosher and the ashes produced from it are kosher for the purpose of purification, is mistaken and misleading, either intentionally or unintentionally.

6. There are currently four red heifers at the Shiloh site, some of which are owned by Rabbi Ariel, head of the Temple Institute. Their halachic status has not yet been definitively determined, and we are monitoring them.

7. The real red heifer will be made, G-d willing, when we have a kosher red heifer (according to the opinion of the rabbis of the Temple Institute and the rabbis they consult with), and when we are ready in all other aspects of the matter. This is a long process that requires patience and perseverance.

Here is the statement released by the Sanhedrin as reported by

Israel365 News:

We sat together as one court.

Questions have reached the Sanhedrin regarding red heifer ashes, and particularly regarding the recent exercises that was conducted. We hereby announce that we completely rely on the attached announcement from the Temple Institute.

And we address all Gentiles throughout the world with the following call:

We, the Sanhedrin, whose ancestors and families stood at Mount Sinai and witnessed the revelation of the Holy One, Blessed be He, to the entire world – generation after generation, we have studied the Torah that the Holy One, Blessed be He, gave us. And we know that the Holy One, Blessed be He, asks those who come into the world to accept upon themselves the Seven Noahide Commandments.

The moment a person accepts upon themselves the Seven Noahide Commandments, they receive directly from the Holy One, Blessed be He, three amazing gifts:

- *They receive a portion of the soul.*
- *They receive a portion in the World to Come.*
- *They are called "Righteous Among the Nations."*

Anyone who invents something other than the Seven Noahide Commandments causes those who listen to him to sin, and this includes anyone who invents that the ashes from a red heifer exercise purify Gentiles, or heals Gentiles, or anything else – such a person is among the fraudsters and swindlers, and one must distance oneself from him and distance him.

So what does this clarification mean prophetically?

It means we are still in the preparatory phase. The

infrastructure, training, and priestly readiness are being constructed piece by piece. A fully qualified red heifer has not yet been burned. That reminder should heighten our discernment, not dampen it. It shows that Israel is steadily moving toward the conditions described by the prophets – but the final steps have not yet been taken.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

Jesus urged His followers to watch the signs without jumping to premature conclusions. The Temple Institute's correction helps us avoid that very mistake. The July 1 event was not the fulfillment. But it was another deliberate movement in that direction.

The world may shrug. The media may misinterpret. But Israel's own institutions are telling us something vital: the prophetic timeline is progressing, but the biblical requirements have yet to be met.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

And for believers who understand prophecy, that tension – “not yet, but drawing closer” – is precisely where Scripture said the world would be as the last days approach.

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*.

Apostasy Rising: America's Churches Are Abandoning the Truth at a Dangerous Hour

Scripture warns that in the last days many will “fall away” and embrace teachings that oppose God while still claiming His name (2 Thess. 2:3). The Bible describes a time when people will “not endure sound doctrine” and will gather teachers who tell them what they want to hear (2 Tim. 4:3–4). These warnings apply to those inside the church, not outside it. Signs of end-times apostasy include the rejection of biblical authority, the redefinition of sin and the elevation of personal desire above divine truth (Rom. 1:25). The cultural decay around us is directly tied to the theological collapse inside the American church.

That collapse was on full display this week. Several liberal Protestant and Jewish denominations declared transgenderism “holy” in a public statement meant to rebuke the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) for voting to bar transgender procedures in Catholic healthcare facilities. The Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Church (USA), the United Church of Christ, the Unitarian Universalist Association, Reform Judaism and others are now affirming a worldview that contradicts God’s design.

Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!

Their statement claims “our beloveds are created in the image of God, Holy and whole,” and argues that “there is a disgraceful misconception that all people of faith do not

affirm the full spectrum of gender, a great many of us do,” as reported by The Christian Post. Their message is that biblical distinctions between male and female no longer matter, and that identity should be shaped by feelings rather than by creation.

Scripture does not support this. Genesis states clearly that God “created them male and female” (Gen. 1:27). These categories are not flexible or interchangeable. They reflect intentional design. To call transgender identity “holy,” as these denominations do when they “proclaim the holiness of transgender, nonbinary and intersex people,” is to redefine holiness itself. Holiness in Scripture means alignment with God’s character and His commands (1 Peter 1:15–16). No biblical passage suggests that denying one’s biological reality honors God. Instead, the Bible repeatedly warns about exchanging truth for falsehood and placing human desire above the Creator (Rom. 1:24–28).

The statement goes further by suggesting that resisting transgender ideology is sinful. “When people of faith and conscience stay silent in the face of oppression, we are all made less whole,” it reads. It claims that speaking against transgender ideology “violates the sacred in its own name,” effectively labeling biblical teaching as immoral. This is precisely the inversion of truth Scripture warns about, a generation calling good evil and evil good (Isa. 5:20).

The statement’s lead author, the Rev. Sofía Betancourt of the Unitarian Universalist Association, comes from a belief system that long ago rejected core Christian doctrines such as the Trinity and original sin. Her academic focus includes womanist theology, Earth justice and anti-oppression activism, which reflects modern ideological frameworks rather than biblical

authority. When she and others declare transgender individuals to be “holy,” the term is no longer rooted in Scripture but in contemporary activism.

In contrast, the Catholic Church has drawn a moral line at a time when many Protestant bodies have surrendered it. The USCCB approved revisions to its Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services, reaffirming the teaching that “Catholic health care services must not perform interventions, whether surgical or chemical, that aim to transform the sexual characteristics of a human body into those of the opposite sex.” Bishop Robert Barron emphasized the serious nature of this decision, stating, “About the gender ideology, I think it’s very important the church makes a strong statement here.”

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

This matters. More than one in seven patients in America receives care at a Catholic hospital. The bishops’ vote signals that some Christian institutions still recognize the difference between compassion and compromise and refuse to abandon the truth of creation.

America’s decline did not begin in politics. It started in pulpits. When churches dilute Scripture to fit cultural expectations, the nation loses its moral foundation (Matt. 7:24–27). When pastors trade conviction for applause, society drifts into confusion and spiritual darkness (Gal. 1:10). And when denominations publicly declare the “holiness” of what God calls sin, they embody the very apostasy Scripture warns will rise before the return of Christ (1 Tim. 4:1).

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

There is still time for America to turn, but that time is not

unlimited. Our nation must return to the truth of God's Word. Our churches must reclaim biblical authority. Every believer must decide whether to follow culture or Christ (Josh. 24:15).

America must repent and return to the ways of God before judgment falls on this nation (2 Chron. 7:14).

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.

'The Chosen' Stars Reveal Why Season 6 Was Emotionally Devastating

Israel's brief reprieve from its multifront war has shifted global attention back to the Middle East's two most volatile flashpoints: Gaza and the West Bank. Politicians talk about cease-fires, rebuilding plans and diplomatic "solutions," yet Bible prophecy describes a far different outcome—one where Israel's borders expand, not contract.

Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!

Dr. Bill Salus argues that today's headlines are not random. They are aligning with ancient prophecies that outline exactly what will happen to these territories. And the evidence is

growing harder to ignore.

Israel Will Annex the West Bank – Because Scripture Says It Will

Despite U.S. resistance, UN resolutions, and international pressure, the prophets consistently state that Israel will take possession of territory far larger than anything currently on the table.

Obadiah 1:19–20 forecasts Israel capturing:

- **Samaria** (the West Bank)
- **Mount Esau** (southern Jordan)
- **Ephraim** (central Israel)
- **Canaanite territory up to Zarephath** (southern Lebanon)

Every modern “red line” of world diplomacy sits on land the prophets say Israel will ultimately own.

Gaza’s Future Is Not Urban Redevelopment – It’s Emptiness

Trump’s 20-point Gaza plan imagines international forces, billions in rebuilding money, and a path to Palestinian statehood. Yet the Bible’s description contradicts every element of that vision.

Zephaniah 2:4–7 predicts:

- Gaza will be forsaken
- No inhabitant will remain
- The coastline will become pastures
- The land will go to the remnant of Judah

Prophecy does not describe a rebuilt Palestinian capital. It

describes an abandoned coastline occupied by the Jewish people.

The Palestinian Identity and Its Prophetic Fate

If, as Salus argues, many Palestinians descend from Edom, then Scripture's prophecies about Edom directly apply.

Psalms 83 – “tents of Edom,” echoing the refugee conditions Palestinians have lived in since 1948.

Jeremiah 49:15 – Edom will be “small among the nations, despised among men.”

Obadiah 1:18 – The house of Esau becomes “stubble,” with no survivor remaining.

Prophecy repeatedly describes defeat, displacement, and diminishing national standing—an exact parallel to the modern Palestinian struggle.

Israel Will Take Territory in Jordan

The prophets broaden the picture even further.

Jeremiah 49:2 – Israel takes Rabbah of Ammon (modern Amman).

Zephaniah 2:8, 9 – Israel inherits Moab and Ammon, representing central and northern Jordan.

These passages forecast future Israeli victories east of the Jordan River that reshape the regional map.

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

The Final Map Is Already Written

Even Israel's future conquests before the Tribulation are only a fraction of the ultimate borders God promised Abraham.

Genesis 15:18 defines the full inheritance:

- From the river of Egypt (likely the Nile)
- To the Euphrates River in modern Iraq

This vast territory will not be realized until the Messiah returns and establishes His kingdom. But prophecy is clear that Israel will expand significantly before then.

The Bottom Line

The world views Gaza and the West Bank as bargaining chips. Scripture views them as Israel's guaranteed inheritance. Every modern political plan—whether Trump's Gaza initiative, UN resolutions or international pressure for a Palestinian state—collides with prophecies that outline a very different future.

The Bible does not predict a two-state solution. It predicts an Israeli expansion that no government, coalition or global institution can prevent.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

Gaza will be emptied.

The West Bank will be annexed.

Jordan will lose territory.

And Israel will ultimately receive the full land God promised.

Leaders can debate borders all they want. The prophets have already settled them.

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.

Global Shock As Reports Surface of 'Sniper Safaris' Targeting Civilians and Children

Italian prosecutors are now digging into one of the most disturbing allegations to resurface from the Bosnian War. Claims have emerged that wealthy Westerners paid to shoot civilians, including children, for sport. It is the kind of accusation that forces society to confront what human beings are capable of when conscience dies, morality collapses and thrill replaces humanity.

The investigation, as reported by The Gateway Pundit, centers on what journalist Ezio Gavazzeni calls "sniper safaris," a grotesque form of murder tourism allegedly carried out during the 1992 to 1995 siege of Sarajevo. Prosecutors in Milan have launched a formal probe after Gavazzeni filed a complaint detailing accusations that "wealthy individuals from Western countries, including Italy, paid substantial fees" to join Bosnian Serb forces and open fire on civilians.

NEW: Italian prosecutors have launched an investigation into allegations that wealthy people from Western countries paid

upward of \$90,000 for "sniper safaris" where they would shoot civilians.

The complaint was filed by journalist Ezio Gavazzeni.

Gavazzeni claims the "sniper..."

– Collin Rugg (@CollinRugg) November 13, 2025

Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!

According to the reporting, participants allegedly paid up to €80,000, roughly \$90,000, for the “opportunity to fire at unarmed residents risking their lives in the besieged city.” The claims state that these so-called tourists paid extra to shoot children, a detail so dark and depraved it defies comprehension.

The allegations focus on the infamous Sniper Alley, a main Sarajevo boulevard that became one of the most dangerous places on earth during the siege. More than 11,000 people were killed in Sarajevo, including over 1,500 children. Gavazzeni makes it clear these acts were not tied to ideology or tribal hatred but to a hunger for blood. “We are talking about people who love guns who perhaps go to shooting ranges or on safaris in Africa,” he wrote, describing the mindset behind the killers.

The journalist says these murder tourists came from multiple countries, including the United States. BBC reporting notes that similar allegations surfaced before, but the evidence

Gavazzeni offers, including testimony from a Bosnian military intelligence officer, is now strong enough that Italian counterterrorism prosecutor Alessandro Gobbi is personally examining it. The Bosnian officer allegedly told investigators that his unit learned of the safaris in late 1993 and passed the information to Italy's Sismi military intelligence in early 1994. He says Sismi later responded with a chilling update: "We've put a stop to it and there won't be any more safaris." Within three months, the trips had reportedly ended.

Gavazzeni first encountered these claims through Italian media in the 1990s but revisited them after watching a 2022 documentary on the Bosnian War. His complaint is now backed by two international law specialists. The Bosnian Consulate in Milan has pledged to help uncover the truth, stating it is "impatient to discover the truth about such a cruel matter."

Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!

These allegations are not merely disturbing. They are a stark reminder of the kind of evil that emerges when humanity strips itself of all restraint. This is what happens when the conscience becomes a wasteland. This is what it looks like when sin is not just present but celebrated.

Christians often acknowledge that we live in a sin-cursed world. Not every wicked act is the direct prompting of Satan. Human flesh alone is capable of brutal, selfish destruction. But some acts reveal something deeper, something that perfectly mirrors the enemy who comes "to steal, kill and destroy."

What is being alleged in these sniper safaris is not ordinary wickedness. It is evil refined. It is moral rot distilled into pure brutality. The deliberate targeting of children for entertainment is not simply sin. It echoes the very character

of the one Scripture describes as a murderer from the beginning.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

If these accusations prove true, they stand as a chilling testimony of how far humanity can fall when disconnected from any sense of accountability to God or man. And they serve as a warning about what happens when sin is unchecked, unrestrained, and unrepentant, a descent into darkness that leaves a stain on history and on the human soul itself.

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.

**Jesus Stood His Ground:
Here's How You Can Do the
Same**