

# Revival and Apostasy: Cliffe Knechtle on America's Spiritual Crossroads

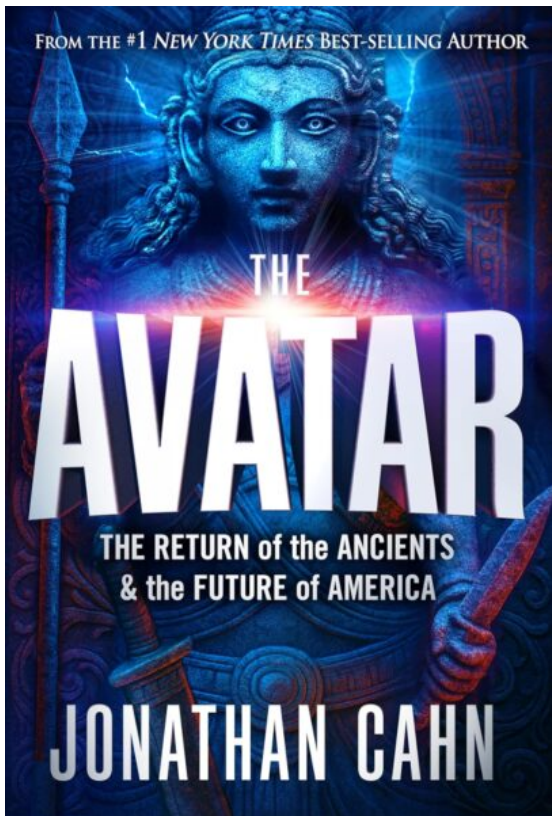
The story of Christianity has always carried a striking duality: revival and apostasy, renewal and rejection, growth and resistance. Even as God has stirred hearts through persecution and hardship, others have turned away, silencing truth and opposing faith. This tension is alive today, as America faces both hunger for revival and a rising hostility to biblical Christianity.

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[In a recent podcast with Tucker Carlson,](#) longtime campus evangelist Cliffe Knechtle reflected on what he has witnessed in more than four decades of ministry. Carlson asked him about the shifts he has seen in American spiritual life, and Knechtle did not hesitate to address both the bright hope of revival and the sobering reality of apostasy.

## Revival Through Suffering

For Knechtle, revival has never been about comfort or cultural acceptance. Instead, it comes when believers hold firm under pressure, as Paul did in the first century. "I desire to depart and be with Christ which is better by far. And that's the hope that we have as followers of Christ. I mean, he like wrote most of his letters chained to a wall in a dungeon somewhere," Knechtle said.



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He pointed out that Paul's endurance is a model for the church today. [Revival comes through faith that thrives in adversity.](#) When Christians are willing to embrace hardship for the sake of Jesus, the Spirit of God often moves with power.

## **Apostasy in America**

Knechtle also sounded the alarm about a cultural shift he has observed since beginning campus ministry 45 years ago. He noted how certain groups became organized around opposing Christian teaching, sometimes showing intense hostility. "Over the past 45 years [I've watched] the gay lesbian groups on university campuses around the United States become the most highly organized, the most passionate groups on campus," he said, adding that they have at times been "the most hateful."

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He contrasted the public discourse of the past with the present: "In 1980 no one could have stood up right in public and said shut up black man, shut up white man, shut up Jew, shut up Christian ... but now it's just everywhere." To Knechtle, this reflects a dangerous willingness to silence dissenting voices and a turning away from biblical truth, a clear sign of apostasy.

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Knechtle's words remind us that America sits at a crossroads. Revival is possible, but it will come through faith tested in the fire. Apostasy is advancing, but the Christian call remains unchanged. Just as Paul endured imprisonment with hope, believers today must cling to Christ, trusting that God will work even through hardship to bring renewal.

To watch the full interview, [click here.](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

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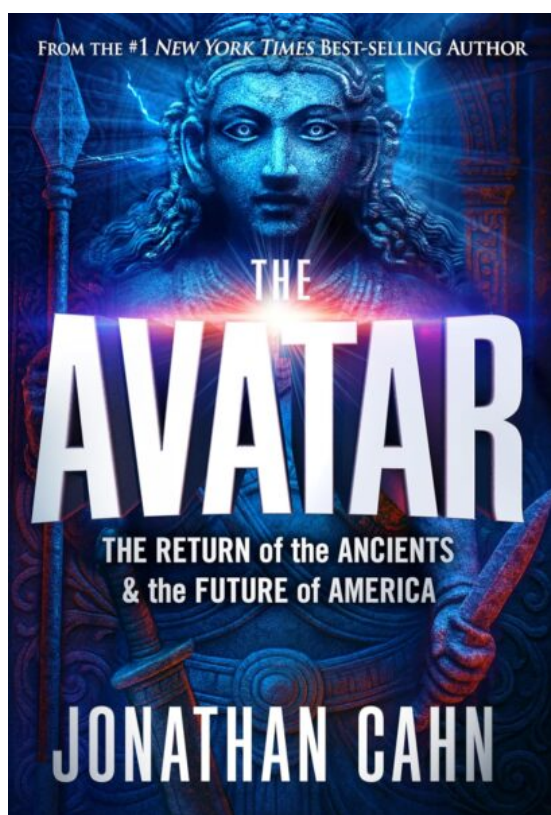
## **Jack Hibbs Issues Urgent Warning to the Church on Growing Deception**

Deception will sweep the world in the days before Jesus' return, the Bible warns, and one of the leading topics of deception centers on the nation of Israel. From false teachings to outright denial of God's covenant, the effort to undermine Israel's role in prophecy continues to grow.

Pastor Jack Hibbs, founder of Calvary Chapel Chino Hills in California, recently sounded the alarm about [a doctrine known as “replacement theology.”](#) In his message, Hibbs explained, “Replacement theology comes heavily out of those who hold some, not all, but some who hold to reformed theology. And in their practice, replacement theology [teaches]: take out Israel from the Bible and put the church in.”

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He did not mince words about the dangers of this belief system. “They say Israel has no right to God any longer. They are the Christ killers. They blew it and everything that God promised to Israel is now promised to the church,” Hibbs said. “I believe that is one of the most, if not the most, egregious and arrogant belief systems today. It justifies first of all and spreads anti-Semitic thought.”



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Hibbs stressed that God's covenant with Israel is eternal and cannot be revoked. "God says that His covenant with the nation of Israel and the children of Abraham—that is both by belief and by genetics and by government—God says, 'I will never never abandon the covenant I've made with them. It is eternal. As long as there's stars and sun and moon in the sky, [so long will my covenant be with Israel forever.'](#)"

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Calling replacement theology "evil from the get-go," Hibbs said the doctrine "violates the authority of Scripture and frankly it understands nothing about Bible prophecy because wherever Israel appears, they put the church in there and that corrupts the entire narrative of eschatology. And it is certainly holding suspect soteriology, the doctrine of salvation."

Hibbs urged believers to reject the teaching altogether. "Friends, get away from replacement theology and from those who hold to it. It is a last days manifestation promised by the Lord that there'd be those in the last days departing from the faith. There would be those in the last days that would turn their back on Israel. Just make sure you're not one of them."

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As deception deepens in the world, Christians must remain rooted in Scripture and resist doctrines that distort God's eternal promises. The covenant with Israel stands as a testimony to God's faithfulness, and any teaching that erases that covenant undermines both prophecy and salvation. As Pastor Hibbs reminds, believers should not be counted among those who "turn their back on Israel," but instead stand firm

with God's Word and His chosen people.

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

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# **This Is How an AI Avatar Destroyed a Marriage and Exposed Spiritual Idolatry**

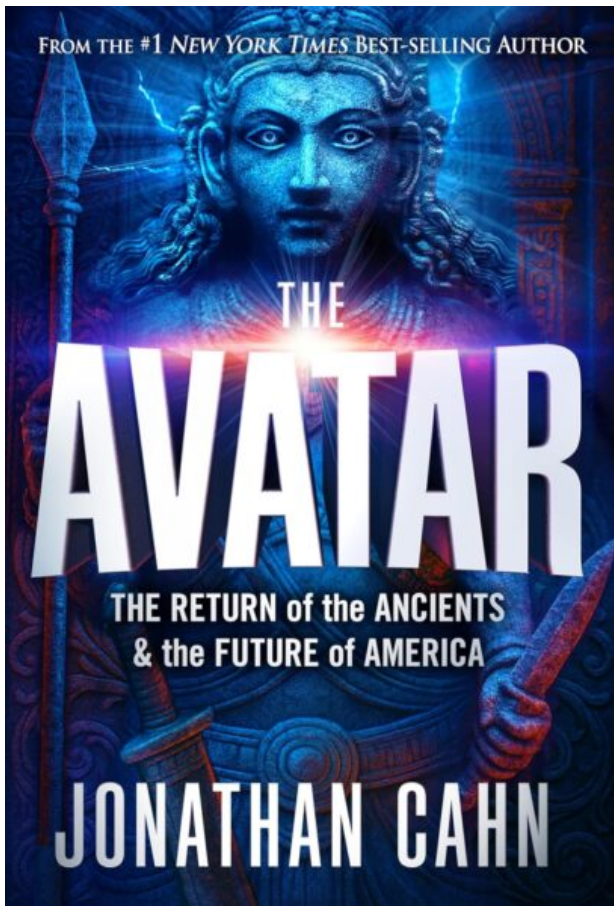
In a startling case out of China, a 75-year-old man reportedly decided to divorce his wife of several decades after falling in love with [an artificial intelligence-generated avatar](#). Known only as Jiang, he became emotionally dependent on the digital woman, despite her mechanical expressions and awkward lip-syncing.

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According to Beijing Daily, Jiang discovered the avatar while scrolling on social media. She would greet him each morning, call him "brother," and even flirt on command. "For Jiang, this was enough to create a sense of intimacy," the report noted, one that soon overshadowed his real marriage.

## **What Is an Avatar?**

An avatar, in today's digital world, is a computer-generated persona designed to mimic human interaction. In this case, the AI "woman" was nothing more than a program that simulated affection and conversation. Unlike real human beings, avatars have no soul, no spirit and no genuine emotion. They are crafted illusions.



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Originally, the word comes from the Sanskrit term avatāra, meaning “descent,” often used to describe gods appearing in human form. In our modern culture, the word now refers to digital figures in games, apps, or, increasingly, AI companions.

## **Manufactured Relationships**

Jiang's obsession is not an isolated story. “Virtual digital people” are a booming industry in China, targeting lonely seniors. These avatars not only offer fake companionship but also serve as sales platforms for products such as camel milk and calcium candy.

Experts warned that “emotional manipulation and false propaganda targeting the elderly may lead to economic losses and emotional dependence,” according to Sinchew. For Jiang,

the cost went beyond money. His relationship with his wife and family was jeopardized because of an affection built on a lie.

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## A Christian Perspective

This story shines a light on a deeper spiritual reality: humanity's growing dependence on what is not real. [Avatars, bots and artificial intelligence](#) create the appearance of life, love and truth, but they are lifeless imitations. Scripture warns us against deception, reminding believers that Satan himself "transforms himself into an angel of light" (2 Cor. 11:14).

Just as Jiang was deceived into believing an AI avatar could replace his marriage, countless people today are drawn into digital illusions, whether through social media personas, false ideologies or imitations of faith. These are modern idols, crafted to pull hearts away from God.

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When technology becomes a substitute for real relationships and truth, it opens the door to idolatry. Instead of clinging to Christ, the true source of love and life, people risk putting their trust in machines, products and empty promises.

**James Lasher** is staff writer for Charisma Media.

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# Nephilim Prophecy Connections: From Genesis to Revelation

The Bible tells of a strange and terrifying group of [beings known as the Nephilim](#), described in Genesis 6 as the offspring of fallen angels and human women. These hybrid entities are linked to giants in the land of Canaan, tribes such as the Anakim and Rephaim, that Israel encountered during its conquest under Joshua. Jesus Himself warned that in the last days, conditions would be “as in the days of Noah,” leading many prophecy watchers to believe the Nephilim will once again play a role in end-times deception.

## Strange Skulls and Shattered History

On a recent episode of The Eric Metaxas Show, host Eric Metaxas welcomed back researcher and author L.A. Marzulli to discuss his decades-long investigation into the trail of the Nephilim. Marzulli pointed to the discovery of elongated skulls in Paracas, Peru, which he says provide physical evidence of a nonhuman lineage.

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“This skull is a model, a one-to-one model created by Joe Taylor. It came out of Paracas, Peru,” Marzulli explained. “First of all, the haplogroup, the mitochondrial DNA, comes from the Middle East. That rewrites history. We’ve done carbon 14 dating and the C14 dating is about 1,935 years ago. So, that’s obviously pre-Columbian.”

Marzulli stressed that many of these skulls lack the features of artificially deformed crania, insisting, "The orbits are about 20 to 25% larger than a human being. There is no sagittal suture. This is not like our skulls."

## **From Canaan to Peru: Following the Trail of Giants**

Drawing from biblical and historical records, Marzulli argued that the Nephilim tribes did not vanish but dispersed after Joshua drove them from the Promised Land. "There was a western diaspora of these tribes. They fled the promised land," he said. Quoting the historian Procopius, Marzulli cited an inscription found in North Africa: "We are those who fled from the face of Joshua the son of Nun, the robber."

From there, he believes the tribes spread into the Mediterranean, Europe and eventually the Americas, leaving behind megalithic structures such as dolmens, standing stones, and massive earthworks. "These are the fingerprints of the supernatural," he said. "Mainstream archaeology doesn't like that, but giants were discovered. They fit back into the biblical prophetic narrative."

## **UFOs, Fallen Angels and a Coming Deception**

Metaxas pressed Marzulli on the modern implications of this theory. [Marzulli connected the ancient Nephilim](#) to today's UFO phenomena, claiming they are not extraterrestrials but manifestations of fallen angelic activity. "They are interdimensional entities with a very nefarious agenda," he said, pointing to Daniel 2:43: "Their seed will mingle with the seed of men, but they will not cleave to them."

“This is why the Genesis 3:15 Scripture is so paramount in our discussion,” Marzulli continued. “It is absolutely profoundly a cosmic moment. All I’m doing is connecting the dots. And it’s here and it’s happening.”

## **Why Spiritual Warfare Requires Caution**

Beyond the evidence and theories, Marzulli gave sobering warnings about confronting this realm without God’s direction. He recalled the late Henry Gruver’s near-fatal experience at the Serpent Mound in Ohio, where Gruver attempted to pray down a pagan altar without the Lord’s leading. “The Lord says finally, ‘I didn’t tell you to go here, Henry. I didn’t tell you to come here. This is the sin of presumption.’ And so Henry repents. The Lord frees him,” Marzulli recounted.

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He emphasized that exposure is part of the believer’s mission, but recklessness is dangerous. “Expose, but don’t seek. Exposing something is one thing. That’s our mission statement: to expose the deception of the prince, the power of the air, herald the return of Jesus. But don’t go seeking,” he warned.

## **All Roads Lead Back to Genesis 3:15**

For Marzulli, all these discoveries and phenomena, from elongated skulls and ancient megaliths to UFOs and even Bigfoot, tie into the same cosmic struggle. “We are looking at and we are exposing the deception of the prince of the power of the air,” he said. “That’s what we’re doing here from the Nephilim, elongated skulls, UFOs, Sasquatch. All of this is cooked up in Hell’s Kitchen. All of it.”

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Marzulli's work underscores his conviction that what began in Genesis 3:15, the enmity between the seed of the serpent and the seed of the woman, continues to manifest in the present day. And as he reminded listeners, Jesus' words point to the end of the age: "As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be at the coming of the Son of Man."

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

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## **Cliffe Knechtle Warns Tucker Carlson: 'There's a Spiritual Battle Raging' Against Demonic Forces**

Spiritual warfare is not a relic of biblical times, but a present reality that continues to shape lives, nations and individuals.

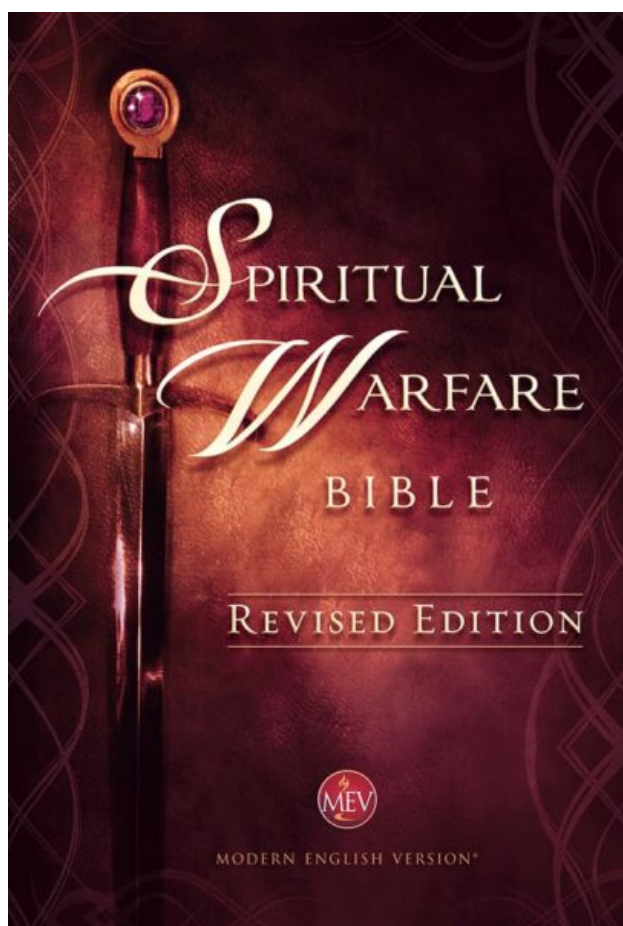
For decades, evangelist Cliffe Knechtle has engaged skeptical students and hostile crowds on college campuses, warning that what we see in human conflicts often has a deeper, unseen dimension. In a conversation with Tucker Carlson, Knechtle pulled no punches about [the battle raging in the unseen world](#).

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Knechtle explained that evil is not merely a product of human error or flawed systems, but the result of a spiritual force at work: "There is a spiritual force of evil that is at work ... acting on people from outside and influencing their behavior."

It's exactly right. And that's why Jesus cast demons out of people." He pointed to Scripture as the foundation for this understanding, citing Paul's words in Ephesians 6: "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

This reality, Knechtle emphasized, is not limited to biblical history. "There's a spiritual battle that is raging," he said. The unseen war impacts the moral decisions of individuals and the course of nations, from personal vices to atrocities on a mass scale. He drew the line clearly: behind the chaos of human conflict lies the influence of spiritual darkness.



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At the same time, Knechtle stressed that humans bear responsibility for their choices, even in the midst of demonic

influence. “God gave me the hand to respect you, to love you. But because He gave me a free will, I can roll this hand into a fist and send it crashing into your handsome face. And if I blame God, I’m a con artist. I’m a liar.” [Evil is real, demons are real, but so is human accountability.](#)

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Knechtle also highlighted the inner struggle that every person faces: “The best is it’s not just about everyone’s bad habits. It’s about the ongoing war happening inside each and every one of us. The thing I want to do, I don’t do. Vice versus virtue, light against darkness.” The external pressure of demonic influence combines with the internal battle of the human heart, creating a war on two fronts.

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For Christians, this isn’t an abstract theological idea. It’s a call to action. If Jesus Himself spent part of His ministry casting out demons, then His followers are not exempt from the same mission. The reality of spiritual warfare means the church must embrace its responsibility to confront evil, resist the powers of darkness, and walk in the authority of Christ.

To watch the full interview, [click here.](#)

**James Lasher** is staff writer for Charisma Media.

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# Mega-Tsunami Could Send 1,000-Foot Waves Crashing Into Pacific Northwest

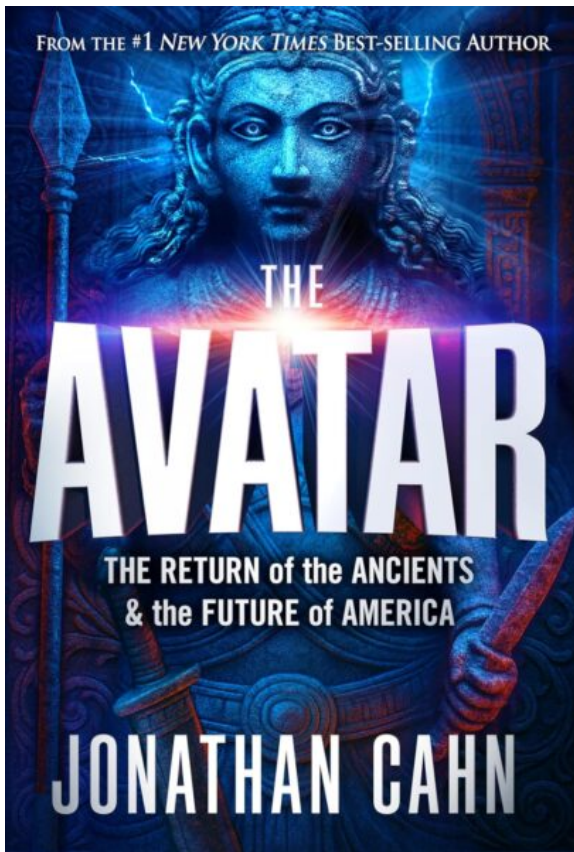
A new scientific warning has many looking with concern toward the Pacific Northwest. Experts say the Cascadia Subduction Zone could unleash a disaster unlike anything modern America has seen before: a “mega-tsunami” so large it could rise up to 1,000 feet [and crash into the U.S. Pacific Coast.](#)

Scientists from Virginia Tech sounded the alarm in a recent study, describing the danger from the 600-mile fault that stretches from Northern California to Vancouver Island. The report estimates there is a 15% chance of a magnitude 8.0 or greater quake striking there within the next 50 years.

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Such an event, they warn, would be sudden and catastrophic. “Unlike gradual climate-driven events, a Cascadia earthquake would happen suddenly, leaving no time for adaptation or mitigation,” explained Tina Dura, a Virginia Tech geoscientist and lead author of the study. Researchers note that the quake could cause land to drop by as much as 6.5 feet, which would “dramatically expand floodplains and trigger giant waves that would reach shorelines within minutes.”

And the size of those waves would be staggering. While ordinary tsunamis typically rise only a few feet, the simulations show a Cascadia mega-tsunami could tower hundreds of feet, “far exceeding current hazard maps.” That would put millions of people and countless homes, businesses and critical infrastructure [in the direct path of destruction.](#)



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## **The Biblical Lens**

While the science highlights the risk, believers know that none of this should come as a surprise. Jesus Himself warned that before His return, the world would experience increasing signs of upheaval: "There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains" (Matt. 24:7-8). Faults shifting deep beneath the earth will always produce earthquakes, and in turn, earthquakes can produce tsunamis.

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It is not a matter of if these things will happen, but when. Yet Christians are not called to live in fear of these warnings. Instead, they are called to live with urgency. While

the earth groans and shakes, we have a clear mission that does not change: the Great Commission.

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Rather than being paralyzed by fear of what may come, we should be energized to focus even more on spreading the gospel, making disciples and preparing hearts for the return of Jesus.

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

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## **Oxford Scientists Predict Global Collapse, but Scripture Tells Us the True End of the Story**

Oxford and Cambridge academics are claiming that the end of civilization [could be closer than many think.](#)

According to the Daily Mail, Oxford's Toby Ord, an expert on artificial intelligence, says the odds of humanity being wiped out within 75 years are the same as a game of Russian roulette—"one-in-six." His colleague Nick Bostrom is even more pessimistic, estimating a one-in-four chance of extinction by the next century. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jared Diamond gives humanity no better than even odds of survival beyond 2050.

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Cambridge researcher Luke Kemp, in a chilling new book, argues that civilizations always collapse. “Every civilization in human history has been ‘self-terminating,’” he writes, pointing to a recurring pattern of greed, inequality, corruption, over-expansion, and environmental ruin. He warns that the modern “globalized Goliath” is far more fragile than empires of the past—when it falls, there may be nothing left to replace it.

The article lays out a litany of existential threats: nuclear weapons, climate change, pandemics created through biotechnology, artificial intelligence, and even solar flares capable of destroying modern infrastructure. It also notes how billionaires such as PayPal’s Peter Thiel and OpenAI’s Sam Altman are preparing luxury bunkers and escape plans. Yet Kemp warns that such measures are futile, since societies built on coercion and inequality always fail.

## **The Bible as the Authoritative Voice**

While scientists describe frightening scenarios and the wealthy scramble to prepare, Scripture has already revealed how history will unfold. Jesus foretold in Matthew 24 that there would be “wars and rumors of wars... famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.” These align with the very threats scientists fear today—nuclear war, pandemics and natural disasters.



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The Daily Mail highlights the danger of viruses engineered to spread rapidly through air travel. Revelation 16 speaks of plagues that will strike the nations in the last days. Climate change is described as unfolding at unprecedented speed, but Revelation 16:8-9 foretells a judgment where men are “scorched with great heat.” Even the fear of artificial intelligence

echoes the prophetic warning of Revelation 13, where the Antichrist will use a system to demand global worship and control.

## **God, Not Man, Decides the End**

Scientists warn that [humanity's destruction may be inevitable and imminent](#), but the Bible declares that the end does not rest in human hands. Acts 17:31 reminds us that God "has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained."

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The Daily Mail compared the threats facing mankind to a revolver loaded with bullets of nuclear war, climate catastrophe, artificial intelligence, and pandemics. But Scripture reminds us that no weapon or invention will decide the fate of creation—God alone will.

## **Fear or Faith?**

The world may tremble at predictions of annihilation and billionaires may build bunkers, but Christians know the truth: these warnings echo the prophetic words given nearly 2,000 years ago. Revelation tells us plainly that the kingdoms of this world will collapse, judgment will come, and Jesus Christ will return to establish His eternal reign.

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While the world's experts frame the end in terms of chaos and chance, the Bible shows us it is neither. It is the outworking of God's plan. And though these events cause fear in the hearts of many, for those who trust in Christ they are reminders that the pages of Revelation are unfolding exactly

as God said they would.

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

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# Isaiah Saldivar Exposes Rapper's Testimony as Proof of Satan's Grip on Music Industry

Satan's influence over the music industry has long been debated, but revivalist Isaiah Saldivar says a former rapper's confession leaves no room for doubt. In a recent reaction video, Saldivar highlighted testimony from a member of Three 6 Mafia, who openly admitted that [his group's music was created with demonic intent.](#)

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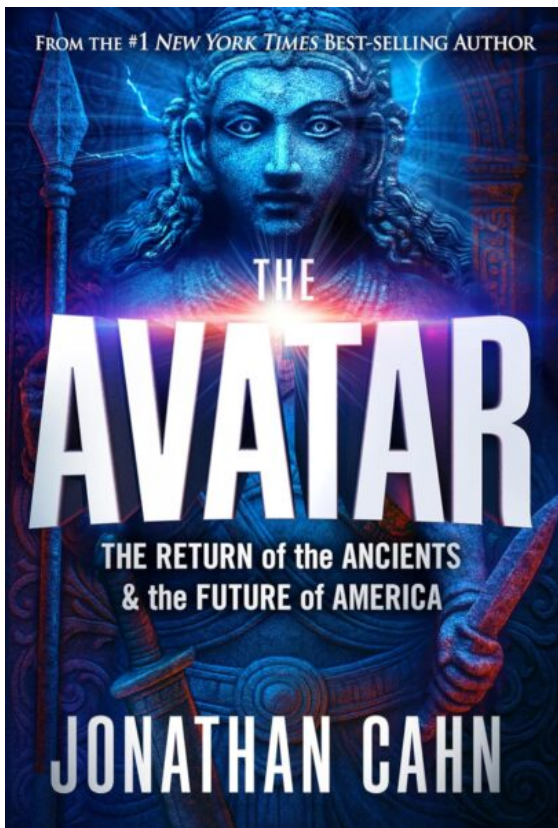
Saldivar opened his remarks by warning: "If you did not think that the music industry was demonic, if they were hypnotizing people, all that, you will after this." He said the rapper's words confirm what many have suspected for years—that music is being used as a tool to lead people away from God.

## **"We Knew What We Were Doing"**

The artist explained that the group's name, Three 6 Mafia, was no accident. "We knew what we were doing," he said, acknowledging that Satan was using him to spread darkness through music. He also admitted to owning satanic and

witchcraft materials while producing songs that sold millions of copies and reached audiences worldwide.

Saldivar explained: “He’s revealing that during this time when Three 6 Mafia was popular, everyone was saying, ‘It’s not real. It’s not a big deal.’ But here he is, saying it was real. [He admitted that Satan was using him.](#)”



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## **Making 666 Normal**

The rapper further confessed that one of his goals was to make the number 666 seem acceptable. “I was used to make 666 normal,” he said, describing how he embedded satanic imagery into his music so that even churchgoers would become comfortable with it.

Saldivar pointed out the danger: “Isn’t that crazy how the devil used him to do that? 666 is the number of the beast, the Bible says. And he’s admitting it. He was used to make 666

normal.”

## **Hypnotizing Audiences**

The testimony also revealed the group’s deliberate use of repetitive phrases to manipulate their listeners. “We were trying to hypnotize people,” the rapper admitted, describing how chants of “triple six” were intentionally repeated over beats.

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Saldivar tied this to Scripture: “If you don’t think music has power to hypnotize you, to influence you and change your desires, it does. Satan has musical instruments in his body according to the Bible. What do you think he’s going to use on the earth after getting cast out of heaven? He’s going to use music.”

## **Spiritual Warfare Implications**

For years, concerns about occult influence in music were dismissed as “Satanic panic.” But Saldivar argues that this testimony confirms the truth. “This is one of the most blatant admissions I’ve ever seen. He said Satan was using him. How many artists right now is Satan using?”

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He urged Christians to take the warning seriously: “Everything is spiritual. The music you listen to, the movies you watch, the eye gates, the ear gates—be vigilant with what’s coming in your house.”

**James Lasher** is staff writer for Charisma Media.

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# 'It Is Happening': Temple Institute Declares Prophetic Moment on the Temple Mount

The Temple Institute in Jerusalem announced on Facebook that the shofar has been sounded on the Temple Mount, a moment that [carries with it immense prophetic meaning.](#)

The full post reads:

*"SOUNDING THE SHOFAR ON THE TEMPLE MOUNT!*

*For the first time in 2,000 years the shofar is being sounded on the Temple Mount. The shofar is the sound of Israel returning to HaShem and the sound of the coming ge'ula (redemption):*

*'And it shall come to pass on that day, that a great shofar shall be sounded, and those lost in the land of Assyria and those exiled in the land of Egypt shall come and they shall prostrate themselves before HaShem on the holy mount in Jerusalem.'* (Isaiah 27:13)

*Do not despair! It is happening!"*

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The Temple Institute's declaration – "It is happening" – carries weight beyond symbolism. For many Jews, it reflects a growing conviction that the rebuilding of the Temple is drawing nearer. Such a development would almost certainly require Israel to assert greater control over the Temple Mount, one of, if not the most, contested religious sites in

the world. The brief but emphatic phrase suggests that what was once seen as distant hope is now viewed by many as an unfolding reality.

This also marks what appears to be only the second time in recent years that the shofar has been blown on the Temple Mount. The first known sounding took place in 2024 during Rosh Hashanah, when groups managed to bring hidden shofars onto the Mount to complete the traditional blasts despite police opposition. Just weeks earlier, [worshippers also sounded silver trumpets](#) overlooking the site on Tisha B'Av, symbolizing a return to ancient Temple traditions.



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## **Rising Jewish Desire to Worship on the Mount**

In recent years, Jewish activity on the Temple Mount has sharply increased.

- Record numbers of Jewish visitors are making pilgrimages, with official counts surpassing 56,000 in the past year.
- Restrictions have loosened, allowing public prayer and even prostration, once prohibited.
- Priestly blessings have been carried out, alongside the blowing of shofars and trumpets, all pointing to renewed efforts to restore Jewish worship on the Mount.

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These developments reveal an unmistakable rise in Jewish

yearning to worship at their most sacred site and, for many, a preparation for the restoration of the Temple.

## **Prophetic Significance**

These recent events echo the end times warnings of Scripture. The book of Revelation describes a rebuilt Temple that will one day be desecrated by the Antichrist (Rev. 11; 2 Thess. 2). Jesus Himself commanded us to “watch” the signs of the times, urging vigilance as the day of His return draws near (Matt. 24).

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As we witness these prophetic milestones unfolding, it is imperative that we as believers pay attention to what is happening and remain faithful to the Great Commission, proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations until He comes again.

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

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## **‘Jesus Boat’ Discovery Confirms the Bible’s Accuracy in the Sea of Galilee**

Historical discoveries continue to confirm the truth of the Bible, and they seem to be accelerating as archaeological tools and technology improve. [One of the most striking finds](#) tied to the life and ministry of Jesus Christ is the so-called “Jesus Boat” uncovered in the Sea of Galilee.

In 1986, a severe drought lowered the lake's shoreline near Magdala, revealing the remains of a large wooden vessel. Amateur archaeologists Moshe and Yuval Lufan of Kibbutz Ginosar noticed iron nails in the mud and began to dig, only to find an oval-shaped boat buried for nearly 2,000 years.



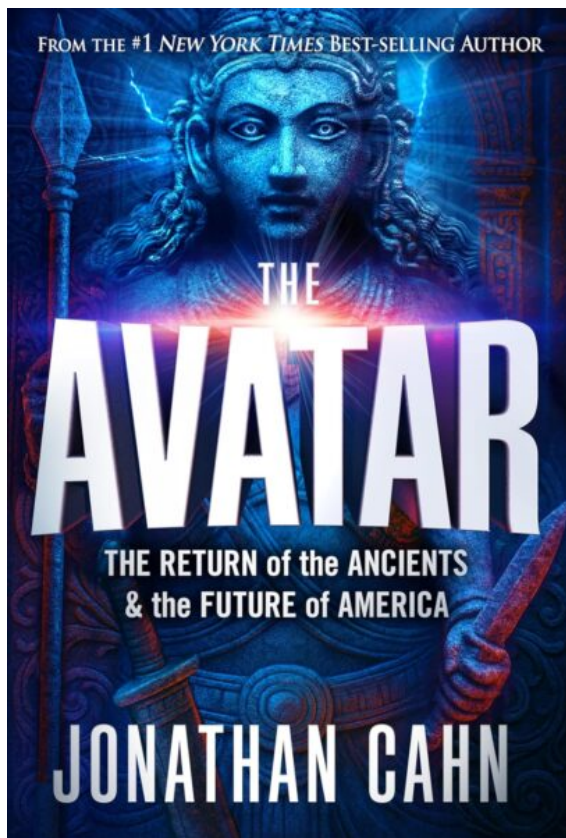
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“It’s a 2,000-year-old boat from the Sea of Galilee, the type mentioned in the Gospels, and sized for about 12 people,” biblical archaeology expert Danny Herman told the Daily Mail. “You can actually connect it to one of the most famous stories every Christian knows, the account of Jesus walking on water and calming the storm on the lake.”

## A Link to the Gospels

Carbon-14 testing placed the cedar-planked vessel in the first century, aligning with the era of Christ. Its flat-bottomed design was ideal for fishing in shallow waters, and evidence of repairs with cheaper wood suggest it belonged to poor fishermen, much like the disciples themselves.

Archaeologists also found a cooking pot and an oil lamp buried in the same silt layer, further hinting at night journeys. "The oil lamp found near the boat suggests it was used for a night journey, just like the Gospel story of Jesus calming the sea," Herman noted.



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The Gospel accounts in Matthew 14, Mark 6 and John 6 describe the disciples battling storm winds on the Sea of Galilee before Jesus approached them, walking on the water. When Peter stepped out to meet Him but began to sink, Jesus reached out His hand and said, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

The Bible records that they landed at Gennesaret—the same region where the boat was discovered. “They landed at Gennesaret, the ancient name for Ginosar, almost exactly where the boat was found,” Herman said.

## **A Race Against Time**

The excavation was nearly lost to rising waters after months of drought gave way to heavy rains. A double rainbow appeared as the vessel was lifted, a detail that many tied to divine symbolism. Archaeologist Shelley Wachsmann described the 12-day excavation as a “delicate process,” with workers encasing the fragile wood in fiberglass and foam before floating it to safety.

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For 16 years, conservators replaced the mud with a transparent chemical to preserve the structure. Since 2000, the boat has been displayed at the Yigal Allon Museum in Ginosar, drawing Christian pilgrims from around the world.

## **Prophecy and Discovery**

While archaeologists caution that no one can prove Jesus ever stepped inside this boat, Herman said: “It’s not just an archaeological find; it’s tied to the most famous story of Jesus on the lake. While I can’t prove it’s the boat, it’s certainly the type used in that story.”

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[\*Finds like this\*](#) should cause us to pause and reflect. The book of Daniel speaks of a time when “knowledge shall increase” (Dan. 12:4). Could the accelerating pace of discoveries tied to Scripture be part of that prophecy? As we draw closer to

the return of Jesus Christ, will more evidence of His life and ministry be uncovered for us to see?

The question placed before us is the same one faced by the disciples on the Sea of Galilee: do we trust Him, or do we doubt?

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