

Released Israeli Hostages Describe Starvation, Depression and Torture by Hamas During '60 Minutes' Interview

Returned hostages Keith Siegel, Tal Shoham and Yarden Bibas were recently interviewed on the CBS News program "60 Minutes." For Bibas, it was his first interview since his release from Hamas captivity in Gaza.

Bibas, whose wife Shiri and two young sons were murdered by Hamas during captivity, gave his first interview to an American network, hoping that former U.S. President Donald Trump would listen and take action to help secure the release of the remaining hostages.

"If you could say something to President Trump, what would you say?" show host Lesley Stahl asked Bibas.

"Please stop, stop this war, and help bring all the hostages back," Bibas responded.

When asked if he believes Trump can help, Bibas answered, "I know he can help."

/**/

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

"I am here because of Trump. I am here only because of him," he emphasized. "I think he's the only one who can stop this war again. He has to convince Netanyahu to convince Hamas. I think he can do it."

Bibas wore a t-shirt with the images of his best friends from childhood – David Cunio, and David's younger brother, Ariel, who are still being held hostage in Gaza.

He told Stahl that he does not believe the renewed fighting will bring the hostages back.

Bibas described being held underground during the Israeli ground campaign and the bombings over the course of the war.

"It's scary. You don't know when [the Israeli strikes] it's going to happen. And when it happens, you're afraid for your life," Bibas said. "The whole earth would move – like an earthquake, but underground, so everything could collapse any moment."

Bibas was captured and held separately from his wife, Shiri, and two sons, Ariel and Kfir. He was forced to record a video while Hamas terrorists told him that they had been killed in an airstrike.

After his release from captivity, Yarden, who had spent months uncertain whether his family was still alive, was devastated to learn the truth: his family had been murdered by Hamas.

"They were all murdered in cold blood, bare hands," Bibas explained. "They [Hamas] used to tell me, 'Oh, doesn't matter. You'll get a new wife. Get new kids. Better wife. Better kids.'"

Yarden also expressed his concern for Cunio and his brother Ariel, especially since the fighting resumed.

"They're both still in captivity, and I don't know if they have enough food, enough water, especially now when the war is back on," Bibas said.

Bibas and Cunio have been best friends since the first grade.

"We did everything together," he remarked. "He was with me in

every big thing in my life. He was in my wedding.”

“Now I’m having probably the hardest thing I have to move [through] with my life, and David is not with me,” Bibas lamented.

“I lost my wife and kids. Sharon [David Cunio’s wife] must not lose her husband,” Bibas stated.

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

In addition to Bibas, Keith and Aviva Siegel also spoke to “60 Minutes.”

/**/

The Siegels were living on Kibbutz Kfar Aza, near the border with Gaza, when they were kidnapped from their home on Oct. 7, 2023. They were kidnapped into Gaza and held together for 51 days until Aviva was released during the hostage-ceasefire deal at the end of November 2023.

“We were driven into Gaza and then taken into a tunnel, feeling in danger, feeling life-threatened, terrorists around us with weapons,” Keith said.

He described witnessing abuse and torture during his captivity.

“I witnessed a young woman who was being tortured by the terrorists. I mean literal torture, not just in the figurative sense.”

“I saw sexual assault with female hostages,” Keith continued, stating that Hamas terrorists forced him to watch.

He also noted that the treatment of the remaining hostages worsened after the first ceasefire ended.

"The terrorists became very mean and very cruel and very violent, much more so. They were beating me and starving me," he shared.

When asked whether his starvation was intentional deprivation or due to a general lack of food, Keith said he was deliberately starved.

"They would often eat in front of me and not offer me food," he explained.

Siegel described how he was only given half a bucket of water per month to bathe with, and how the terrorists shaved his head to humiliate him.

"I think they thought it, it amused them, or, you know, humiliated [us]," he said. "I felt humiliated."

Former Israeli hostage Tal Shoham, who was held together with hostages Evyatar David and Guy Gilboa-Dalal, spoke about his time in captivity with them.

He detailed daily beatings, cramped conditions in the tunnels, and meager rations of food.

"You can eat only one [piece of] bread every day, and have like 200 ml of water every day, and you will stay alive," Shoham said.

He explained that one of the Hamas guards told them they could stay alive for up to five years on such paltry amounts.

"The main guard, he actually said, 'I can bring you this kind of amount of food and you will survive and you will keep like that for five years and you won't die,'" he related.

Shoham, David, and Gilboa-Dalal discovered that one of the guards liked to have back massages, which they used to barter for better food rations.

Shoham noted that both of the young men struggled with depression during their captivity and even discussed suicide with him.

“They told me more than once, ‘Why stay alive now?’ I mean, why not just take their own life with their own hands and finish it and get released from it,” he recounted.

“They are not children, but from time to time, I felt like a father to them,” Shoham shared.

“They are children,” said the father of Guy Gilboa-Dalal.

“I really fear that they are now alone,” Shoham fretted.

Like Bibas, Shoham and the families of David and Gilboa-Dalal said they agreed to the 60 Minutes interview because “maybe someone would hear it and he will save our sons.”

This article originally appeared on ALL ISRAEL NEWS, and is reposted with permission.

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

UPDATE: Earthquake Leaves Myanmar in Ruins, Calls for Global Aid Intensify

The stories coming out of Myanmar and Thailand are nothing short of heart-wrenching. A powerful 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck the two nations last Friday, leaving more than 2,000 people dead and thousands more injured or missing.

Among the tragic accounts: a monastery crushed with 200 Buddhist monks inside; a preschool flattened with 50 children and their teachers trapped beneath the rubble. This isn't just a natural disaster, it's a human catastrophe layered upon years of political instability, war and suffering.

The devastation has compounded the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Myanmar, as reported by the Associated Press.

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

Relief efforts have been slowed by everything from destroyed roads and fuel shortages to a lack of heavy machinery. In some places, desperate locals are digging through debris with their bare hands under punishing heat.

Entire towns have been flattened. Mosques collapsed during Friday prayers, killing hundreds more. And even now, many remote areas remain unreachable, meaning the death toll will likely climb higher in the days ahead.

/**/

What makes this tragedy even more painful is that Myanmar was already in crisis. Civil war had displaced over 3 million people before the quake struck. Aid organizations were struggling to provide food, medicine and shelter amid armed conflict and limited access.

Now, with over 10,000 buildings damaged or destroyed, hospitals in ruins and monsoon season around the corner, the need for immediate international support is overwhelming.

Nations like India, China, Russia and several Western countries have stepped in with aid, but the road to recovery will be long and steep. Survivors are sleeping outdoors, terrified of aftershocks and searching for loved ones buried beneath concrete.

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

In nearby Bangkok, the earthquake claimed lives as well, including 18 people at a collapsed construction site, with dozens still missing.

In moments like this, we're reminded how fragile life is, and how important it is to stand in solidarity with those who are hurting.

Please take a moment to pray for the people of Myanmar. Pray for those who've lost loved ones, for the children and families left homeless and for the rescuers still searching through the rubble. They need hope, healing and help, and they need it now.

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

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Disney's 'Christian Character' Is Just Bait, and Many Are Falling for It

Yes, you read that right, Disney just introduced its "first ever Christian character." But before you celebrate, you might want to take a closer look at what's really going on.

In a recent video, content creator Taylor Alesia doesn't hold back in calling out what she believes is spiritual deception

in disguise. “Don’t get too excited like I did,” she says, “because in this video we’re going to expose what’s really going on here.”

Alesia’s concerns center around the new Disney+ series Win or Lose, which opens with a Christian character named Lori. At first glance, the episode seems faith-friendly. Lori prays, saying, “Dear heavenly Father, please give me strength. I have faith but sometimes the doubt creeps in. I promise I’ll be good and I, uh, won’t do that thing again. Not sure where you stand on it, but I won’t do it.”

Sounds promising, right? Even Alesia admits, “This actually seems like a really good episode... that I can get on board with.”

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

But then the mood takes a sharp turn.

“What a switch,” she says, describing the scene that followed. “We hear some heaven-like music... and it cuts to—what do you know—tarot cards.” She continues, “You can clearly see this mother using tarot cards at the table.”

Alesia was stunned. “My jaw was on the floor.”

For her, this wasn’t just a creative misstep. It was a red flag.

“This is darkness with a little bit of Jesus sprinkled on top of it,” she warns. “This is designed for those that are lukewarm, for those that do not know biblical knowledge... and who is this show designed for? It’s designed for children.”

/**/

That’s the heart of her concern—that parents will see a Christian character and assume the content is safe. But Alesia

believes this is part of a broader trend. “As of late, this seems to be the devil’s bait—calling something light that isn’t.”

There are a few moments in the episode that push back on new age ideas. When Lori’s mom offers her a crystal, Lori replies, “No worries. I don’t need your rocks, Mom, because I rock.” Alesia said she appreciated the intent, but adds, “A better response would be, ‘I don’t need your rocks because I know the One who created the rocks.’”

And it doesn’t end there. Alesia also pointed out that Win or Lose originally included a character named Kai, who was reportedly intended to be transgender before Disney removed that identity from the show. While some might see that as a win for conservative viewers, Alesia isn’t convinced. “It’s still there. It’s just hidden... and to be honest, it’s not hidden that well.”

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

She also flagged the final episode’s inclusion of a same-sex love interest as further proof of the show’s conflicting messages. “The very first episode of this show was a Christian episode, and the very last one is the complete opposite of the Bible.”

For Alesia, this isn’t about nitpicking cartoons. It’s about spiritual warfare. “This new age stuff and this witchcraft stuff is really what our war is against... the devil is doing everything he can to influence children and adults to dabble with the new age, including Christians.”

Alesia urges Christians to pay attention and not take things at face value. “Discernment is going to be one of the most fundamental tools that Christians need the closer we get to Christ’s return,” she says.

In other words, don't just celebrate representation. Look deeper. Not everything with a cross on it is pointing to Christ.

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

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Are We Living in the Last Days? Jonathan Cahn's Chilling Prophetic Insights

These are big claims, no doubt. They challenge both mainstream science and much of the comfortable theology we've settled into. But we live in a world increasingly shaped by technology, and as ancient questions resurface through modern discoveries, it's worth considering: what if the stories were true—not just in metaphor, but in history?

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

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Exposing the Top 4 Myths About Deliverance

Say the word deliverance, and even the most spiritually mature believers can freeze behind a quizzical look. Is that still a thing? Do people really do that? If it really is real... do I need it? Is this something God has for me that I haven't been obedient about paying attention?

Good news, yes, it's real, and yes, these misconceptions can be unpacked and replaced with understanding and action.

Click [here](#) to debunk some of the most common misunderstandings about deliverance!

Debunking Deliverance: Top 4 Misconceptions That Could Be Hurting Your Faith

Say the word deliverance, and even the most spiritually mature believers can freeze behind a quizzical look. Is that still a thing? Do people really do that? If it really is real... do I need it? Is this something God has for me that I haven't been obedient about paying attention?

/**/

Good news, yes, it's real, and yes, these misconceptions can be unpacked and replaced with understanding and action.

Click [here](#) to debunk some of the most common misunderstandings about deliverance!