



Global Watch Daily – January 22, 2026

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A concise summary of significant developments in Israel and the world through a grounded Christian worldview.

Israel & Jerusalem

Arab society organized a nationwide strike to protest police failures in curbing violent crime, with the movement spreading from northern towns to many Arab communities. The mayor of Sakhnin accused the Prime Minister of indifference, while far-right politician Ben Gvir derided the protests, alleging that leaders are supporting criminals ([Times of Israel](#)). Meanwhile, Zamir pledged during his visit to strengthen border towns in Judea and Samaria, including a tour of the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron, emphasizing the government's commitment to these sensitive areas ([JNS](#)).

The IDF issued an evacuation order for Tehran ahead of planned strikes, signaling heightened military tensions in the region ([Jerusalem Post](#)). Additionally, the rapid retreat of Kurdish-led forces has reshaped northeastern Syria, marking the largest territorial change since Assad's fall and affecting regional security dynamics ([BBC News](#)).

In other news, Club Brugge fans were jailed in Kazakhstan for impersonating Borat during a UEFA Champions League match, highlighting cultural sensitivities in international sports events ([Al Jazeera](#)). Australia observed a national day of mourning for the recent Hanukkah massacre, with Prime Minister Albanese expressing profound sorrow for failing to prevent the Bondi Beach attack, demonstrating global solidarity and remembrance ([Times of Israel](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

The US Treasury sanctioned seven entities linked to Hamas's covert support network, continuing efforts to disrupt terrorist financing through NGOs and sham charities ([Long War Journal](#)). Concurrently, US forces completed their withdrawal from Ain al-Assad Airbase in Iraq, transferring up to 7,000 Islamic State detainees from Syria to Iraq amid Syrian government advances against Kurdish-led forces ([Long War Journal](#)).

Syrian President Ahmad al-Sharaa addressed the Kurdish people, cautioning them against believing claims of harm from the Syrian government, reflecting the complex dynamics of



Syria's agreement with the Syrian Democratic Forces ([FDD](#)). Meanwhile, President Trump's Board of Peace initiative continues to provoke debate, with critics misunderstanding its straightforward mission to reshape global peace efforts ([FDD](#)).

Chatham House Director Bronwen Maddox warned that the current superpower competition signals the end of the Western alliance, highlighting a revolutionary shift in US foreign policy under President Trump that rejects foundational principles and international law ([Chatham House](#)). Analyses also focus on US actions in Greenland, Venezuela, and Iran, emphasizing the reshaping of the new world order and the challenges posed to NATO and European interests ([Chatham House](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

An ex-intelligence officer in Austria faces espionage charges for allegedly passing information to Russian agents, underscoring ongoing concerns about Russian intelligence activities in Europe ([BBC News](#)). Meanwhile, Denmark and Greenland have firmly rejected any relinquishment of sovereignty over Greenland despite US interest, maintaining the island's strategic importance ([BBC News](#)).

France's media landscape is dominated by a mix of public and private entities, with a dozen billionaires owning most private outlets, raising questions about editorial independence and media credibility ([France24](#)). Efforts are underway to recover stolen jewels from the Louvre, involving international cooperation and expert teams tracing lost artworks to their rightful owners ([France24](#)).

Vietnam's Communist Party voted to cut short its 14th National Congress, reflecting broad consensus to reappoint Party chief To Lam for a second term ([The Diplomat](#)). A recent boating tragedy in Indonesia, resulting in the drowning of four Spanish nationals near Komodo National Park, highlights ongoing challenges in maritime safety as the country seeks to expand tourism beyond Bali ([The Diplomat](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Scientists have identified nasal cells as a critical first line of defense against the common cold, with a rapid antiviral response preventing symptoms by blocking rhinovirus early ([ScienceDaily](#)). In parallel, researchers are engineering fully synthetic bacteriophages to combat antibiotic-resistant bacteria such as *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, utilizing advanced genetic assembly techniques ([ScienceDaily](#)).



Micro-doses of THC show promise in reducing long-term side effects of HIV treatment by lowering inflammation and improving gut health without causing intoxication, potentially offering a novel therapeutic approach ([ScienceDaily](#)). Additionally, chronic wounds may resist healing due to bacteria releasing harmful molecules that overwhelm skin cells, but antioxidant treatments could restore healing capacity ([ScienceDaily](#)).

A global DNA study of E. coli strains from diabetic foot infections reveals diverse antibiotic resistance genes, explaining the severity and treatment challenges of these infections ([ScienceDaily](#)). Moreover, viruses sent to the International Space Station evolved differently in microgravity, providing insights that may enhance phage therapies against drug-resistant infections ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 1.3 earthquake near Indio, California, and a magnitude 2.8 quake near Clam Gulch, Alaska, as reported by the USGS, highlighting ongoing tectonic movements in the United States ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)).

NASA's AI model ExoMiner++ continues to analyze TESS data, validating new exoplanets and advancing the search for worlds beyond our solar system ([NASA](#)). Meanwhile, intense winter storms have buried Kamchatka in snow, demonstrating the power of seasonal weather patterns in far eastern Russia ([NASA](#)).

A major winter storm is forecast to bring heavy snow and ice impacts across the north-central United States, accompanied by dangerously cold temperatures, according to the National Weather Service ([weather.gov](#)). Additionally, a minor magnitude 0.2 earthquake was recorded near Cobb, California, indicating continuous seismic activity in the region ([USGS](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Excavations at El Kabri in 1954, directed by E. Anati, revealed significant archaeological findings southeast of Kibbutz Kabri, contributing to the understanding of the region's ancient history ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#)). Similarly, the Bet She'an "Shikun Dalet" excavation in 1955, documented by Nehemya Zori, provides valuable insights into settlement patterns ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

The extensive salvage excavations at Khirbat 'Amra in the Be'er Sheva Valley, conducted in 1993–1994 by Gil Tahal, uncovered architectural remains spanning from the Hellenistic



to Early Islamic periods, enhancing knowledge of the area's historical development ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#)). Additionally, the study of 152 subterranean complexes at ancient Maresha offers a comprehensive view of the Hellenistic city's underground structures and geological context ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

Reflection

We should interpret these developments soberly, resisting both panic and apathy while attending to what is true. Our aim is prayerful discernment—grounding convictions in Scripture and keeping watch with steadiness and hope.