



Global Watch Daily – March 8, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Israel continues its military campaign with strikes across Iran and Lebanon amid ongoing conflict, while the Assembly of Experts reportedly reached consensus on Iran's next supreme leader without holding a formal meeting ([Times of Israel](#); [BBC News](#)).

On International Women's Day, President Herzog honored female firefighters and emergency workers, advocating for increased female leadership in Israel. Meanwhile, women journalists in Gaza continue to face severe risks while reporting on the conflict ([JNS](#) ; [Al Jazeera](#)).

Racist harassment against Arab-Israeli journalist Lucy Aharish has resulted in a lawsuit against a Likud activist, underscoring ongoing societal tensions within Israel. Since the start of the 'Roaring Lion' operation, nearly 2,000 people have been evacuated to hospitals, many suffering light to moderate injuries ([Times of Israel](#); [JNS](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Following attacks on its territory, Israel has resumed full-scale conflict with Hezbollah, striking over 500 targets in Lebanon and issuing evacuation orders, marking the official end of the 2024 ceasefire agreement ([Long War Journal](#); [France24](#)).

Iran and its proxy militias continue missile and drone attacks targeting energy infrastructure, US bases, and Gulf capitals. In response to regional instability, Australia has designated Hizb ut Tahrir as a hate group under new legislation ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Strategic cooperation between the US and Israel has led to operational successes against Iran, though a unified definition of victory remains elusive, complicating long-term goals. Meanwhile, political voices caution against simplistic comparisons of Iran to Venezuela ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#)).



Global Macro & Geopolitics

UK Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper responded firmly to President Trump's criticism of the UK's approach to the Iran conflict, highlighting diplomatic tensions. Meanwhile, an explosion at the US embassy in Oslo caused minor damage but no injuries ([BBC News](#); [BBC News](#)).

Images from the week capture the ongoing war in the Middle East alongside global cultural events such as Purim celebrations in Israel, Holi in India, and the Paralympic Games in Milan-Cortina, illustrating the contrast between conflict and the persistence of life ([France24](#); [France24](#)).

US and Israeli strikes on Iran serve as a stark reminder to China of the realities of power projection, challenging Beijing's strategy of influence without military presence and underscoring the risks of misperception in global geopolitics ([The Diplomat](#); [The Diplomat](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Scientists have uncovered a 4,000-year-old strain of plague in an ancient sheep, revealing how early pandemics spread across Eurasia without flea transmission and deepening understanding of ancient disease dynamics ([ScienceDaily](#)).

New discoveries identify Aurora-related kinase 1 (ARK1) as a critical protein essential for malaria parasite replication, offering promising targets for future treatments. Similarly, researchers have found a bacterial kill switch involving viral proteins that disable MurJ, a key bacterial cell wall protein, potentially revolutionizing antibiotic strategies ([ScienceDaily](#) ; [ScienceDaily](#)).

Vaccination advances include findings that the shingles vaccine may slow biological aging and reduce inflammation in older adults. Additionally, a universal nasal spray vaccine developed at Stanford shows potential to protect against COVID, flu, pneumonia, and allergens by enhancing lung immune defenses ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Innovative cancer treatments are emerging as scientists engineer bacteria to invade and consume tumors from within, exploiting low-oxygen tumor cores and programmed genetic responses to effectively target cancer cells ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens



Recent seismic activity includes multiple earthquakes in California, with magnitudes ranging from 1.0 to 2.9, occurring near Lake Henshaw, The Geysers, and Susanville, reflecting ongoing tectonic movements in the region ([USGS](#); [USGS](#); [USGS](#)).

NASA continues to advance aeronautics research with updated solicitations and upcoming resupply missions to the International Space Station. Meanwhile, weather patterns across the US exhibit active spring-like conditions, signaling dynamic atmospheric changes ([NASA](#) ; [weather.gov](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

The Israel Antiquities Authority has published detailed studies of artifacts from Jerusalem's Giv'at Shapira site, illuminating the region's rich archaeological heritage. Meanwhile, the Israel Museum prepares to open "The Girl Who Wrote" exhibition once war restrictions are lifted, offering cultural engagement despite current challenges ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#) ; [BiblePlaces](#)).

Significant archaeological artifacts have been relocated to secure locations amid ongoing conflict. Excavations in Emesa (modern Homs, Syria) reveal the gradual transformation from pagan to Christian and then Muslim dominance, highlighting the complex historical layers of the Levant ([BiblePlaces](#); [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.