



## Global Watch Daily – March 20, 2026

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

### **Israel & Jerusalem**

Efforts to rebuild Gaza depend on Hamas fully disarming, according to UN envoy Mladenov, while Hamas remains noncommittal, awaiting the outcomes of Israeli and US actions against Iran ([Times of Israel](#)). Meanwhile, the US military has significantly degraded Iran's missile and drone capabilities, signaling an escalation in the conflict ([JNS](#)).

In Australia, Prime Minister Albanese faced protests over his pro-Israel stance during a mosque visit, highlighting tensions within Muslim communities ([Times of Israel](#)). The US Justice Department has seized Iranian-linked websites spreading terrorist propaganda targeting Israelis, underscoring ongoing cyber warfare efforts ([JNS](#)).

Iranians marked Nowruz under the shadow of conflict, expressing unease as the war impacts traditional celebrations ([BBC News](#)).

### **Wars & Security (Israel and Region)**

Iranian drones and missiles have targeted critical infrastructure and US bases across the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia and the UAE, continuing a pattern of regional aggression ([Long War Journal](#)). Iranian-backed militias in Iraq have escalated attacks on US and foreign diplomatic sites, though some factions signal possible pauses while others vow to continue ([Long War Journal](#)).

Recent strikes have killed top Iranian security official Ali Larijani, and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu claims Iran no longer has uranium enrichment capabilities, marking significant developments in the conflict ([FDD](#); [FDD](#)).

The West Bloomfield terror attack in the US reveals Hezbollah connections within the Lebanese Shiite community, highlighting ongoing security concerns beyond the Middle East ([Long War Journal](#)).

### **Global Macro & Geopolitics**



Hungarian Prime Minister Orbán faces accusations of disloyalty after vetoing Ukraine loan funds, citing the need to repair a Russian oil pipeline first ([BBC News](#)). Meanwhile, migrant deaths surge in the US amid strict immigration policies, with a Mexican teenager recently dying in custody ([BBC News](#)).

Palestinians in the West Bank face exploitation and danger as legal work permits in Israel have drastically decreased following the October 7 attacks, forcing many into illegal routes ([France24](#)).

Donald Trump employs “online diplomacy” on Truth Social to defend his Iran war policies, while European leaders debate flexible partnerships post-Brexit, emphasizing pragmatic ties in security and economy ([France24](#); [Chatham House](#)).

Singapore’s 2026 budget reflects fiscal prudence amid global oil market volatility, while Southeast Asia’s railway expansion presents opportunities amid China’s regional dominance ([The Diplomat](#); [The Diplomat](#)).

## **Pestilence & Global Health**

Scientists have discovered tiny rocket-like engines inside malaria parasites that may aid their survival, opening new avenues for drug development and micro-robotics ([ScienceDaily](#)). DNA origami vaccines, which use folded DNA nanostructures, show promise for stronger and more stable immune responses beyond current mRNA technology ([ScienceDaily](#)).

MIT researchers have identified the gut protein intelectin-2, which traps and kills harmful bacteria, enhancing gut defense and potentially combating antibiotic-resistant microbes ([ScienceDaily](#)). A clinical trial found that vitamin D supplements do not reduce COVID severity but may slightly lower the risk of long COVID ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Severe COVID or flu infections can increase lung cancer risk years later due to chronic lung inflammation, although vaccination appears protective ([ScienceDaily](#)). Studies of medieval Danish burials reveal that even those with stigmatized diseases like leprosy were buried in prestigious graves near churches, indicating inclusive community treatment ([ScienceDaily](#)).

## **Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens**



Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 4.4 earthquake near Japan’s Bonin Islands and smaller quakes in California, reflecting ongoing tectonic movements ([USGS](#); [USGS](#); [USGS](#)).

Hawaiian volcano Kīlauea continues its eruption with episodes of high lava fountains and ash dispersal, while NASA documents the presence of American bald eagles at Kennedy Space Center, symbolizing natural resilience ([NASA](#); [NASA](#)).

Weather forecasts indicate heat in the Southwest US, fire weather risks in the Central US, and impacts from a Kona low in Hawaii, highlighting diverse climatic challenges ([weather.gov](#)).

### **Middle Eastern Artifacts**

Archaeologists in Upper Egypt have uncovered approximately 3,000 ostraca pottery fragments this season, bringing the total to about 43,000—the largest collection from a single site in Egypt ([BiblePlaces](#)).

The Israel Museum plans to open an exhibition titled “The Girl Who Wrote” once war restrictions lift, with online activities available in the meantime; Purim celebrations are observed in light of current events ([BiblePlaces](#); [Times of Israel](#)).

### **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.