



Global Watch Daily – October 23, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says the Israel Defense Forces will apply its “aggressive” refugee-camp model in Hebron, evacuating residents and conducting house-to-house searches. The planned operation comes amid heightened tensions in the occupied West Bank and four days before Israel’s general election. Mobile polling teams are also reaching soldiers deployed in Lebanon and Gaza, with armed escorts and safeguards for ballot secrecy, a military source told JNS. ([JNS](#); [BBC News](#); [JNS](#))

The Houthi movement has carried out a series of attacks targeting airports and other sites in Saudi Arabia. Meanwhile, Israel’s election is widely viewed as one of the most consequential in the country’s history, with implications beyond its borders. ([BBC News](#); [BBC News](#); [Al Jazeera](#))

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Federal agents arrested a 17-year-old Texas teenager accused of plotting to assassinate Republican Representative Keith Self at a veterans’ fundraiser as part of an Islamic State-inspired terrorist plot. The suspect was arrested after allegedly acquiring a firearm. Elsewhere, Iran says it has reached an agreement with Iraq to expel Iranian Kurdish opposition groups, as the Kurdistan Workers’ Party withdraws from positions in northern Iraq. Pakistani forces and the Taliban have exchanged heavy fire along their border while Russia, European countries, and China press for dialogue and action against terrorist groups operating from Afghanistan. ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#))

Lebanon has revoked the operating license of Bank Saderat Iran amid United States pressure to disrupt Hezbollah’s financial networks. The bank has a documented history of channeling Iranian funds to Hezbollah, though it remains unclear whether Lebanese authorities have closed its branches or begun liquidation proceedings. ([Long War Journal](#))



Armed men identifying themselves as Hezbollah supporters reportedly surrounded Lebanese security personnel during an October 16 raid on a pharmaceutical warehouse near Beirut's southern suburbs. Hezbollah later accused the officers of violating an agreed security-coordination procedure. ([Long War Journal](#))

Hussain al-Abdallah, Hezbollah's new head of its Liaison and Coordination Unit, succeeded Wafiq Safa and reportedly sought the return of explosives seized by Lebanese security forces in early October. Abdallah has spent more than two decades in Hezbollah's southern security apparatus. ([Long War Journal](#))

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Brazil's annual inflation rate exceeded the target ceiling in early October, adding to economic pressure ahead of Sunday's presidential runoff. In several markets, exports of low-value parcels are declining as importing countries tighten tax rules. In Canada's lumber-producing heartland, a provincial election is testing the effectiveness of using U.S. President Donald Trump as a political foil, even in areas heavily affected by his tariffs. ([Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#))

France is bracing for another day of unrest as the government seeks to prevent further disorder. ([Bloomberg](#))

AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System

Agility Robotics, the company co-founded out of a robotics lab at Oregon State University in 2015, has just launched Digit 5. It's designed to be the first humanoid robot that can safely and economically do useful work at scale, allowing us to bring tens of thousands of humanoid workers into the real world ([IEEE Spectrum](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Research on dental implant infections suggests that the implants themselves may help sustain inflammation. Bacteria can corrode titanium and release microscopic particles that affect immune cells, triggering tissue-damaging responses. Other findings describe specialized immune cells that can recognize and attack small-cell lung cancer, even when tumors evade other defenses. Scientists have also observed virus-like particles assembling through a step-by-step process, identifying a molecular turning point that accelerates the formation of complex structures. ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#))



A study found that excess RNA, including messenger RNA, can disrupt mitochondria without relying on immune activity. Researchers have also identified a natural compound that targets *Clostridioides difficile* while sparing beneficial gut microbes, a finding that could inform treatments for recurrent infections. Laboratory experiments further suggest that common sweeteners can affect gut bacteria, with some medication combinations producing pronounced effects; one sweetener paired with a widely prescribed antidepressant reduced beneficial bacteria and microbial diversity. ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#))

Researchers reported a breakthrough that could help guide new treatments for liver disease and potentially other serious conditions. ([ScienceDaily](#))

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

The U.S. Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 1.2 earthquake near Cobb, California, and a magnitude 5.7 earthquake near Leni, Italy. ([USGS](#); [USGS](#))

The U.S. Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 7.0 earthquake near Nagqu, China. A green forest-fire alert was also issued for Indonesia. ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#))

Middle Eastern Artifacts

A report published October 21 includes a plan of the graves documented in the archaeological study. ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#))

A BiblePlaces newsletter explains why its author undertook a new history of ancient Israel. Archaeologists have also uncovered a roughly 1,000-foot section of the Lower Aqueduct between Bethlehem and Jerusalem, a waterway used from about 100 BC until roughly a century ago. The roundup also notes a seal impression discovered near the Temple Mount. ([BiblePlaces](#); [BiblePlaces](#))