



Global Watch Daily – November 23, 2025

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

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Israel & Jerusalem

Tehran has accused Israel and the United States of attempting to target Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in an effort to destabilize the country, reflecting ongoing tensions in the region ([Times of Israel](#)). In response to the failures experienced by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) during the October 7 attacks, the IDF chief has summoned top military commanders ahead of planned sanctions, signaling internal accountability measures ([Times of Israel](#)). A report has revealed that Hamas spent years mining the social media accounts of IDF troops to gather intelligence on Israeli bases and tank locations, demonstrating the evolving nature of warfare intelligence gathering ([Times of Israel](#)).

The ongoing conflict has deeply affected Israeli society, with a notable surge in religious practice among Israeli youth as the nation shifts politically to the right amid wartime conditions ([Israel365News](#)). Meanwhile, Israel has experienced an unprecedented heat wave that shattered 83-year temperature records, underscoring environmental challenges facing the region ([Israel365News](#)). In scientific developments, an Israeli-Ghanaian research breakthrough has challenged a core assumption of Darwinian evolutionary theory, highlighting ongoing debates in the scientific community ([Israel365News](#)).

The legacy of the Shoah remains poignant as a Holocaust survivor who hid from Hamas passed away at age 90, reminding the world of the enduring impact of past atrocities ([JNS](#)). The IDF recently conducted a targeted strike against a key Hezbollah terrorist figure in Beirut, continuing its efforts to counter hostile groups in the region ([JNS](#)). In a related development, the world's largest Muslim organization has pressured its leader to resign following the hosting of a pro-Israel guest, reflecting internal tensions within religious communities ([JNS](#)).

Diplomatic efforts continue as a Hamas delegation met in Cairo to discuss a potential ceasefire in Gaza, indicating ongoing attempts to negotiate an end to hostilities ([Al-Monitor](#)). Meanwhile, Turkey's President Erdogan praised a significant agreement with



Australia regarding the hosting of the COP31 climate summit, highlighting international cooperation on environmental issues ([Al-Monitor](#)). On the global stage, Canadian Prime Minister and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz discussed the situations in Ukraine and Gaza during the G20 summit, underscoring the interconnected nature of current conflicts ([Al-Monitor](#)).

Recent Israeli airstrikes across Gaza have resulted in the deaths of 22 Palestinians, according to medical and civil defense officials, reflecting the fragile and violent nature of the ceasefire in the region ([BBC](#)). Concurrently, Palestinians forcibly removed from West Bank refugee camps face uncertain futures as Israeli demolitions continue, highlighting ongoing humanitarian concerns ([BBC](#)). In a separate incident, an Indian fighter jet pilot was killed in a crash at the Dubai airshow, marking a tragic loss in the aviation community ([BBC](#)).

In preparation for potential military actions, the IDF issued an evacuation order for Tehran, signaling heightened alert and readiness for strikes ([Jerusalem Post](#)). Additionally, the Israeli Defense Ministry announced a military exercise scheduled for Highway 35 to enhance operational capabilities ([Jerusalem Post](#)). In related security developments, a Ukrainian drone attack forced the closure of Moscow's airport, demonstrating the ongoing conflict dynamics between Russia and Ukraine ([Jerusalem Post](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Clashes have erupted between Syrian government forces and the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, intensifying the complex conflict landscape in Syria ([Long War Journal](#)). The Israel Defense Forces reported that Palestinian terrorists have broken the ceasefire eight times between November 13 and 21 by firing on Israeli soldiers, indicating ongoing security challenges along the borders ([Long War Journal](#)). Meanwhile, Israeli Prime Minister and senior officials visited the Syrian buffer zone as peace talks between Israel and Syria remain stalled, reflecting the fragile state of regional diplomacy ([Long War Journal](#)).

In broader geopolitical developments, U.S. President Donald Trump has urged Ukraine to sign a peace deal to end the ongoing war with Russia, emphasizing the need for a diplomatic resolution ([Foundation for Defense of Democracies](#)). He also presented a detailed 28-point peace plan aimed at ending the Russia-Ukraine conflict, outlining various proposals for a ceasefire and political settlement ([Foundation for Defense of Democracies](#)). In a related matter, the United Kingdom's sale of Eurofighter jets to Turkey has been described as beneficial for industry but detrimental to strategic interests, highlighting



tensions between economic and security considerations ([Foundation for Defense of Democracies](#)).

Apostasy & Religious Developments

Maria Stephan, an advocate for faithful, nonviolent resistance, has recently shared insights on the power of peaceful activism rooted in the Christian faith, emphasizing the role of steadfastness in the face of injustice ([Religion News Service](#)). In humanitarian efforts, the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey has donated \$1 million to provide medical treatment for Palestinian children, demonstrating Christian compassion across conflict lines ([Religion News Service](#)). However, Orthodox Christian clergy visits with U.S. officials have drawn accusations of Russian influence, illustrating the complex interplay of religion and geopolitics ([Religion News Service](#)).

In the realm of Christian music, the current number one Christian artist has been noted for lacking a soulful presence, sparking discussion about the role of authenticity in worship music ([Christianity Today](#)). Meanwhile, reflections on longevity and spiritual theology have been highlighted through the prayers of a 103-year-old theologian, offering a perspective on faith across a lifetime ([Christianity Today](#)). The Gospel Coalition has published articles addressing the purpose of longevity and practical Christian living, contributing to ongoing discipleship conversations ([The Gospel Coalition](#)).

Concerns about the future of Christian communities are underscored by reports of persecution, including the abduction of more than 300 students and staff in Nigeria, prompting calls for international action from the International Criminal Court president ([International Christian Concern](#)). Additionally, U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee subcommittees condemned sham elections scheduled in Myanmar, highlighting ongoing struggles for democracy and religious freedom ([International Christian Concern](#)). In Pakistan, a priest has been instrumental in rescuing Christian slaves, demonstrating courageous ministry amid persecution ([International Christian Concern](#)).

Biotechnology & Genetic Engineering

Recent scientific advances include the discovery of a hidden microglia switch that helps protect the brain from Alzheimer's disease, offering hope for future treatments ([ScienceDaily](#)). Researchers have developed new nasal nanodrops that wipe out brain tumors in mice, marking a significant step forward in cancer therapy ([ScienceDaily](#)). Stem cell therapy has also shown promise in helping patients with age-related macular



degeneration regain sight, advancing regenerative medicine ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Innovations in antimicrobial treatments include the development of thymol-loaded nanoemulsions that exhibit enhanced activity against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, a dangerous antibiotic-resistant bacterium ([Nature](#)). Additionally, new methods to support the similarity of therapeutic proteins using high-throughput dynamic light scattering have been optimized, improving drug development processes ([Nature](#)). Advances in vaccine technology include electroporation and lipid nanoparticle-mediated delivery of plasmid DNA encoding H5N1 influenza hemagglutinin, which supports protection against highly pathogenic avian influenza ([Nature](#)).

Environmental health concerns remain, as kidney cancer cases have spiked in a particular town, raising questions about exposure to forever chemicals and prompting investigations into causation ([STAT News](#)). Public health discussions continue in North Dakota, where efforts are underway to foster healthy conversations about vaccines amid ongoing debates ([STAT News](#)). Notably, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. confirmed that he ordered changes to the CDC website regarding vaccines and autism, reflecting the contentious nature of vaccine discourse ([STAT News](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Scientific research into infectious diseases has uncovered a tiny ancient virus that reveals secrets potentially valuable for combating antibiotic-resistant superbugs, offering new avenues for medical intervention ([ScienceDaily](#)). Studies of blood from Long COVID patients have identified unusual microscopic structures, advancing understanding of this complex post-viral syndrome ([ScienceDaily](#)). Historical analysis has shown how a 14th-century story misled the world about the Black Death, providing insight into the evolution of epidemiological knowledge ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Public health authorities in Europe have released comprehensive reports on zoonotic influenza for 2023, monitoring the transmission of influenza viruses from animals to humans ([ECDC](#)). Additionally, communicable disease threat reports for mid-October 2025 and avian influenza overviews for June to September 2025 have been published, tracking ongoing infectious disease trends ([ECDC](#)) ([ECDC](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens



Seismic activity has been recorded globally, including several minor earthquakes near The Geysers in California and Gardendale, Texas, reflecting ongoing tectonic movements ([USGS](#)) ([USGS](#)) ([USGS](#)). Volcanic activity continues with eruptions reported at several volcanoes, including Santiaguito, Fuego, Semeru, Ibu, Reventador, Sakurajima, and Nevado del Ruiz, with a recent ash advisory issued for Ibu volcano ([VolcanoDiscovery](#)) ([VolcanoDiscovery](#)).

In space exploration news, NASA has awarded contracts for the supply of liquid hydrogen, a critical component for future missions ([NASA](#)). The agency also celebrates a decade of student involvement in growing food for space missions through the Growing Beyond Earth program, highlighting educational engagement in space science ([NASA](#)). Additionally, the Hubble Space Telescope has captured images of a puzzling galaxy, contributing to ongoing astronomical research ([NASA](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

The European Union has ruled out imposing restrictions on Ukraine's army, rejecting proposals linked to a peace plan put forward by former U.S. President Donald Trump, signaling continued support for Ukraine's defense capabilities ([Politico](#)). Trump has stated that his Ukraine peace plan is not his final offer, following warnings from EU leaders that the deal requires further work ([Politico](#)). Meanwhile, the European Union has managed to salvage a climate agreement at COP30, despite it being described as unconvincing by some observers, reflecting the challenges of international climate diplomacy ([Politico](#)).

In the Middle East, Israeli military airstrikes against Hamas militants have strained the fragile Gaza ceasefire, continuing the cycle of violence in the region ([France24](#)). Israel's strikes on Gaza represent the latest test of the ceasefire's durability ([France24](#)). Palestinian students bound for Canada remain trapped in administrative limbo, highlighting difficulties faced by civilians amid conflict ([France24](#)).

Peace talks between Ukraine and Russia are underway, with the United States asserting it authored the peace plan, while signaling room for negotiation despite denying accusations of pushing a Russian "wish list" ([France24](#)) ([France24](#)). In Bosnia, the autonomous Serb Republic has voted for a new president following the removal of Milorad Dodik, marking a significant political development in the Balkans ([France24](#)).

Security incidents include the arrest of seven individuals in India following the cracking of an \$800,000 bank heist, reflecting ongoing law enforcement efforts ([BBC](#)). Additionally,



families in the UK are fighting to regain custody of children taken after what they describe as biased parenting tests, raising concerns about social services' practices ([BBC](#)). Nigeria has suffered one of its worst mass abductions with 315 people taken from a school, underscoring ongoing security crises in parts of Africa ([BBC](#)).

In political analysis, Bihar's recent election has been critiqued as not representing a win for women in democracy, highlighting challenges in gender representation ([The Diplomat](#)). China's expanding influence is evident in its AI initiatives in the Persian Gulf region and its strategic use of Brazil to reshape power dynamics in the Americas, reflecting shifting geopolitical landscapes ([The Diplomat](#)) ([The Diplomat](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeological discoveries continue to shed light on ancient Israel's history. An Assyrian inscription dating from the First Temple period was recently uncovered, providing valuable insight into the region's past ([City of David - News in Antiquities](#)). Excavations in the City of David have also revealed the largest dam in ancient Israel, illustrating advanced water management techniques of the time ([City of David - News in Antiquities](#)).

A rare gold coin belonging to Egyptian Queen Berenice II was discovered in the City of David, highlighting the historical connections between Israel and neighboring civilizations ([City of David - News in Antiquities](#)). Additionally, a rare coin from the Year Four Revolt was found in Jerusalem, symbolizing the city's enduring significance in Jewish history and the struggle for redemption ([City of David - News in Antiquities](#)).

Reflection

The current developments in Israel and the broader Middle East reveal a region marked by ongoing conflict, political tension, and spiritual awakening. The surge in religious practice among Israeli youth amid war, alongside the discovery of ancient artifacts, reminds us of the deep historical and spiritual roots that define Jerusalem and its people. Meanwhile, the fragile ceasefire in Gaza and the persistent violence underscore the urgent need for peace and reconciliation in a land long troubled by strife.

Global geopolitical shifts, including the stalled peace talks in Syria and Ukraine, as well as China's expanding influence, highlight the complexity of international relations today. The persecution of Christians and humanitarian crises, such as the mass abductions in Nigeria and the plight of Palestinian children, call for prayerful attention and compassionate



action. Advances in biotechnology and public health offer hope for healing, yet they also challenge us to consider the ethical dimensions of scientific progress in a world fraught with uncertainty.

As we observe signs in the heavens and natural events on earth, we are reminded of God's sovereignty over all creation. The discoveries of ancient inscriptions and coins in Jerusalem connect us to the biblical narrative, encouraging faithfulness amid trials. In these turbulent times, Christians are called to stand firm in prayer, discernment, and courageous witness, trusting in God's ultimate plan for redemption and peace.

- Pray for the peace and security of Israel, that God would protect Jerusalem and its people.
- Lift up the persecuted church worldwide, asking for strength and deliverance for believers facing hardship.
- Seek God's guidance for Christian discernment, faithfulness, and courage amid global uncertainty and conflict.