



Global Watch Daily – March 13, 2026

Global Watch Daily – March 13, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Israeli Defense Minister Katz has issued a stern warning to Lebanon, threatening to destroy infrastructure as the “price” for Lebanon’s failure to disarm Hezbollah, following rocket attacks that injured civilians and Israeli strikes on key crossings used by Iran-backed terror groups ([Times of Israel](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Meanwhile, amid regional conflict and internal unrest, Iran’s national soccer team prepares for the World Cup, underscoring the unavoidable intersection of politics and sports in the Middle East ([JNS](#); [Al Jazeera](#)).

Tragically, four U.S. service members lost their lives when a KC-135 refueling aircraft crashed in Iraq; the military confirmed the crash was not caused by hostile fire, and rescue efforts are ongoing ([BBC News](#); [JNS](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Iran-backed militias continue to destabilize the region, with a new group claiming responsibility for attacks in Belgium and Greece, signaling Tehran’s expanding influence in Europe. At the same time, Iranian drones and missile barrages have targeted critical infrastructure across the Arab world, including airports and residential areas, further escalating tensions ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#)).

Russia’s cooperation with Iran in drone warfare against the U.S. and its allies contrasts with Ukraine’s defensive efforts, highlighting complex geopolitical dynamics. The new Iranian Supreme Leader has issued his first statement, reaffirming Tehran’s commitment to regional militancy. In West Africa, Nigerian and Ghanaian foreign ministers emphasize local security solutions while advocating for a supportive U.S. role in combating Boko Haram and regional instability ([FDD](#); [Chatham House](#)).

The conflict in Lebanon intensifies as the IDF escalates strikes against Hezbollah, which remains defiant and loyal to Iran’s leadership, indicating a protracted and complex



struggle ahead ([Long War Journal](#); [Times of Israel](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Recent tragic losses include four crew members killed in a U.S. refueling plane crash in Iraq, underscoring ongoing military risks in the region. In India, the Supreme Court rejected a petition for menstrual leave, sparking debate over women's workplace rights. Meanwhile, Cuba reports recent talks with the U.S. aimed at resolving longstanding differences, even as the energy blockade remains in place ([BBC News](#); [France24](#)).

Cultural highlights include the return of Tuareg music pioneers Tinariwen, who are releasing a new album celebrating their enduring legacy. On the diplomatic front, analysis of former President Trump's China trip suggests that expectations should be tempered and focused on achievable outcomes. Additionally, India is carving out a strategic advantage in semiconductor alliances amid intensifying China-U.S. competition ([France24](#); [The Diplomat](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

New research indicates that severe COVID-19 or influenza infections can increase the risk of lung cancer years later by causing chronic lung inflammation, although vaccination may prevent these changes. Historical studies reveal that medieval Danish communities did not ostracize those with diseases like leprosy, as evidenced by their burial in prestigious graves near churches ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

A novel "super antibiotic" named EVG7 shows promise for treating deadly gut infections such as *Clostridioides difficile* without harming beneficial bacteria in the microbiome. Additionally, scientists have uncovered the molecular basis of mint's cooling sensation and identified a critical protein in malaria parasites that could lead to new treatments ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Ancient DNA analysis has revealed the presence of plague bacteria in a 4,000-year-old sheep, shedding light on early plague transmission before flea-borne spread was possible. This discovery helps explain the widespread nature of ancient plagues across Eurasia ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens



Recent seismic activity includes multiple minor earthquakes in California near San Ramon and The Geysers, with magnitudes ranging from 0.7 to 2.8 and shallow depths, indicating ongoing tectonic activity ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)).

In the Philippines, Mayon volcano erupted, sending lava and pyroclastic flows down its flanks and prompting evacuations in nearby communities. NASA continues to develop the Low Boom Flight Demonstrator project, aimed at enabling quieter supersonic commercial flights over land, potentially transforming aviation noise standards ([NASA](#); [NASA](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

The Israel Museum is preparing to reopen exhibitions such as “The Girl Who Wrote” once war restrictions lift, while offering online activities for children during closures. Recent archaeological discoveries include rare half-shekel coins from the First Jewish Revolt and Crusader swords found off the coast of Dor, with significant artifacts being relocated to secure locations for preservation ([BiblePlaces](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

Excavations in Emesa (modern Homs, Syria) reveal the gradual transformation from a pagan city to Christian, then Muslim, dominance, highlighting the region’s complex religious history. The Great Isaiah Scroll is now on display in its entirety, providing invaluable insights into biblical texts and history ([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.