



Global Watch Daily – March 15, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

The ongoing conflict in northern Israel continues to affect daily life. Health reporter Diana Bletter highlights how hospitals are maintaining emergency preparedness amid relentless missile attacks by Hezbollah and Iranian forces ([Times of Israel](#)). Meanwhile, Israeli forces were involved in a tragic incident in the West Bank, where a Palestinian couple and two of their children were killed. Reports from both [BBC News](#) and [Al Jazeera](#) provide details on the casualties and injuries sustained.

Iran has escalated tensions by firing seven additional missile salvos at Israel and launching attacks in the Gulf, prompting extensive retaliatory strikes by the IDF. The United States has responded with evacuations from Oman and Iraq, while Iran arrested individuals accused of collaborating with Israel ([Times of Israel](#); [JNS](#)). A missile fragment even struck the residence of the US consul general in Israel, underscoring the conflict's far-reaching impact.

Strategic shifts are evident as Israel adapts its military tactics, focusing on hyperlocal targeting within Iran to degrade the regime's military power, supported by intelligence from inside Tehran ([Long War Journal](#)). This phase follows significant US-Israeli strikes that have damaged key Iranian military infrastructure and personnel.

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

The United States has likely conducted over 30 airstrikes targeting Iran-backed militias across Iraq, aiming to disrupt Tehran-allied groups responsible for attacks on US forces ([Long War Journal](#)). Despite claims by Iranian-backed Iraqi militias of downing a US aircraft, official reports attribute the loss to a collision rather than hostile fire ([Long War Journal](#)).

The strategic importance of the Strait of Hormuz remains critical, with analyses emphasizing how the US can secure this vital shipping lane amidst ongoing regional tensions ([FDD](#)). Concurrently, US strikes on Kharg Island carry significant implications for Iran's military capabilities ([FDD](#)).



In West Africa, Nigerian and Ghanaian foreign ministers discussed regional security challenges, including Boko Haram and the role of US operations. Their dialogue highlighted the importance of local solutions supported indirectly by the US ([Chatham House](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Ugandan opposition leader Bobi Wine has traveled abroad after two months in hiding, amid conflicting reports about whether he is wanted by the military ([BBC News](#)). In Europe, Ukrainian President Zelensky accused EU allies of ‘blackmail’ over an oil pipeline dispute, warning that restoring Russian oil flow through Ukraine would undermine sanctions ([BBC News](#)).

North Korea’s recent rocket launches during US-South Korea military drills have heightened regional security concerns, with the tests observed by Kim Jong Un ([France24](#)). Meanwhile, Nigeria is positioning itself as a potential alternative oil supplier to the Middle East, inviting Gulf countries to consider partnerships ([France24](#)).

In Asia, expectations for Trump’s China trip have been tempered, with a focus on achievable deliverables to improve US-China relations ([The Diplomat](#)). Additionally, India’s growing role in semiconductor alliances is gaining attention amid strategic competition between China and the US ([The Diplomat](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

A major clinical trial has found that high doses of vitamin D3 do not reduce COVID-19 severity or hospital visits, but may slightly lower the risk of developing long COVID symptoms, offering new insights into post-viral conditions ([ScienceDaily](#)). Severe cases of COVID-19 or influenza may increase lung cancer risk years later due to chronic lung inflammation, although vaccination appears protective ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Research into medieval Danish burial practices reveals that even those with stigmatized diseases like leprosy were buried in prestigious spots near churches, indicating inclusive community treatment contrary to popular belief ([ScienceDaily](#)). Meanwhile, a new antibiotic called EVG7 shows promise in treating deadly gut infections without harming beneficial microbiomes ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Scientists have elucidated how the TRPM8 receptor detects cold temperatures and the cooling effect of menthol, advancing understanding of sensory biology and its potential therapeutic applications ([ScienceDaily](#)). Additionally, ancient DNA from a 4,000-year-old



sheep reveals clues about a prehistoric plague strain that spread widely without flea transmission ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 1.9 earthquake near Pāhala, Hawaii, and a magnitude 1.8 event west-northwest of Tyonek, Alaska, both recorded by USGS ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)). Another minor quake, magnitude 1.5, occurred near Cantwell, Alaska ([USGS](#)).

NASA citizen scientists have identified unexpectedly high rates of solar flares linked to long-lived active regions on the Sun's surface, improving understanding of solar magnetic activity ([NASA](#)). The Daily Minor Planet project has expanded its data sources to include observations from the Bok 2.3-meter telescope at Kitt Peak National Observatory ([NASA](#)).

A major winter storm is affecting the north-central United States, with severe weather expected from the Mid-South to the Ohio Valley, according to the National Weather Service ([weather.gov](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeologists in Upper Egypt have uncovered approximately 3,000 ostraca pottery fragments this season, bringing the total to around 43,000 from a single site—the largest known collection of inscribed pottery fragments in Egypt ([BiblePlaces](#)). The Israel Antiquities Authority has published findings from excavations at Jerusalem's Giv'at Shapira site, shedding light on historical artifacts and their contexts ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

The Israel Museum has relocated key archaeological artifacts to secure locations amid current war restrictions, while online exhibitions such as "The Girl Who Wrote" offer virtual access to cultural heritage. Excavations at Emesa (modern Homs, Syria) reveal the gradual transformation from pagan to Christian and Muslim dominance, highlighting the region's complex history ([BiblePlaces](#)).

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.