

# NEWS BYTES

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“Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him.” Tozer

## Weird Plagues Continue: A Billion Sea Creatures Cooked To Death By Extreme Heat



Did you know that a billion sea creatures were just wiped out on the west coast? And they did not die pleasantly. The historic "heat dome" that hit the Northwest like a freight train literally cooked them to death.

Needless to say, this is not normal. In fact, we have never, ever seen anything like this before. Weather patterns all over the planet are going absolutely nuts, and this is having a devastating impact on many highly vulnerable ecosystems.

I knew that the recent heat wave was really bad, but I didn't know that it had caused this much destruction. According to NPR, it is being estimated that the record high temperatures along the west coast killed at least a billion sea creatures...

With the Pacific region hitting record-setting temperatures in the last few weeks, a new study from Canada shows the heat waves' enormous impact on marine life: An estimated 1 billion sea creatures on the coast of Vancouver have died as a result of the heat, a researcher said.

It is hard for me to wrap my mind around a billion sudden deaths.

Why isn't the corporate media making a much bigger deal about this?

Can't they take a break from obsessing over the latest political scandals for just a little bit so that they can report on the things that really matter?

A billion deaths is an unimaginable loss, but Professor Christopher Harley says that the true death toll is probably even higher than that...

But that number is likely to be much higher, said professor Christopher Harley from the University of British Columbia.

"I've been working in the Pacific Northwest for most of the past 25 years, and I have not seen anything like this here," he said. "This is far more extensive than anything I've ever seen."

Harley is comparing a mussel trapped on the beach to "a toddler left in a car on a hot day". When the record heat came along, there was nothing that the mussels could do...

"A mussel on the shore in some ways is like a toddler left in a car on a hot day," Harley told the CBC. "They are stuck there until the parent comes back, or in this case, the tide comes back in, and there's very little they can do. They're at the mercy of the environment. And on Saturday, Sunday, Monday, during the heat wave, it just got so hot that the mussels, there was nothing they could do."

Millions upon millions of sea creatures were literally cooked to death, and the scene along the coast is nothing short of horrifying...

Dead mussels and clams coated rocks in the Pacific Northwest, their shells gaping open as if they had been boiled. Sea stars were baked to death. Sockeye salmon swam sluggishly in an overheated Washington river, prompting wildlife officials to truck them to cooler areas.

This is truly a disaster of biblical proportions.

When are people finally going to start waking up?

According to Harley, when he surveys the immense carnage along the coastline it "feels like one of those postapocalyptic movies"...

"It just feels like one of those postapocalyptic movies," said Christopher Harley, a marine biologist at the University of British Columbia who studies the effects of climate change on coastal marine ecosystems.

Of course we have witnessed a lot of bizarre "plagues" lately, haven't we?

Just last week, I wrote about how countless birds are suddenly dropping dead from a "mystery disease" in Washington D.C. and nine eastern states.

And last week I also wrote about the millions of grasshoppers that are relentlessly eating crops in seven western states. Colossal hordes of voracious grasshoppers are on a rampage, and some of the swarms are so large that they are actually being picked up on radar.

But don't worry.

We are being told that it is just a "coincidence" that so many bizarre things are happening all at once, and we are being assured that everything will go back to "normal" very soon.

You can believe that if you would like.

On top of everything else, now we are learning that "mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus" have been detected in six different states...

Mosquito bites are annoying at best, and, at worst, can lead to illnesses like malaria, Zika virus and West Nile virus. New reports show at least six states are detecting mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus -- and humans have contracted the disease in four of these places.

And in four of those states, there have already been confirmed cases of humans testing positive for the virus...

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois and Iowa have confirmed cases in humans.

In New York, officials informed residents on July 2 that two groups of mosquitoes tested positive for West Nile virus in Rockland County. No humans have been reported as contracting the disease in New York.

So let me get this straight.

Mosquitoes are testing positive for West Nile virus as far east as New York and as far west as Arizona, and this is the first that we are hearing about this?

What in the world is the corporate media doing? I just went to the front page of CNN, and I couldn't find a single story about this. But there were plenty of stories about how much they hate the things that Trump has been saying lately.

West Nile virus is nothing to mess around with. If you get infected, it can result in serious illness or even death. Sadly, instead of keeping us informed, the corporate media would rather rehash old political controversies over and over again.

Perhaps they think that is good for ratings, but the truth is that it should make us all sick to our stomachs.

A billion sea creatures have been wiped out, birds are suddenly dropping dead in vast numbers, millions of grasshoppers are eating our crops, and now mosquitoes are spreading a deadly virus all over the country. But if you rely on corporate media outlets for your news, you might not be aware that any of these things have happened.

This is just one reason why independent news sources are needed more than ever.

## Archaeologists Uncover City Wall from First Temple Times that Protected Ancient Jerusalem

Julie Stahl : Jul 14, 2021 [CBN News](#)

*"The city wall protected Jerusalem from a number of attacks during the reign of the kings of Judah, until the arrival of the Babylonians who managed to break through it and conquer the city..." -Dr. Filip Vukosavović of the Ancient Jerusalem Research Center and Dr. Joe Uziel and Ortal Chalaf on behalf of the IAA*



The section of the wall that was exposed. Photo: Koby Harati, City of David

[[CBN News](#)] Archaeologists excavating in the City of David National Park in Jerusalem have uncovered the remains of the city wall from First Temple times. (*Screengrab image: City of David /via CBN News*)

The revelation comes just days ahead Tisha B'Av—the ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av—when Jews around the world mark the destruction of both the First and Second Temples as well as other tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people.

The excavations, conducted by the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA), revealed a section of the city wall that would have protected Jerusalem for 150-200 years from sometime in the 8th century BC until the city was breached by the Babylonians and the Temple destroyed in 586 BC.

"The city wall protected Jerusalem from a number of attacks during the reign of the kings of Judah, until the arrival of the Babylonians who managed to break through it and conquer the city," said excavation directors, Dr. Filip Vukosavović of the Ancient Jerusalem Research Center and Dr. Joe Uziel and Ortal Chalaf on behalf of the IAA.

"The remains of the ruins can be seen in the archaeological excavations. However, not everything was destroyed, and parts of the walls, which stood and protected the city for decades and more, remain standing to this day," they added.

The newly exposed section that was exposed was probably more than eight feet tall and some 16 feet wide. It connects two other sections that were previously excavated.

British archaeologist Kathleen Kenyon uncovered a section of the wall on the northern part of the eastern slope in the 1960s and dated it to the Kingdom of Judah. About 10 years later, archaeologist Yigal Shiloh uncovered a long stretch of the wall on the southern part of the slope.

For decades, archaeologists searched for the missing link, leading some to believe that the other two monumental structures were not the remains of the wall of Jerusalem. Now, archaeologists believe this new discovery connects the earlier sections and indicates that this was indeed the eastern section of the wall around ancient Jerusalem.

In **2 Kings 25:10**, the Bible describes the conquest of the city: *"The whole Babylonian army under the commander of the imperial guard broke down the walls around Jerusalem."*

But archaeologists say they apparently did not break down the wall on the eastern slope, probably because of the steep climb up from the Kidron Valley.

Near the wall, archaeologists found a Babylonian stamp seal made of stone and depicting a figure standing before two Babylonian gods. They also found a bulla (clay seal impression) bearing the Judean personal name, "Tsafan."

## **Yellowstone rattled by swarm of more than 140 earthquakes in past day, geologists say**

**BY MADDIE CAPRON**

JULY 16, 2021

An earthquake swarm centered under Yellowstone Lake is shaking Yellowstone National Park, USGS said. *NPS/NEAL HERBERT*

A swarm of more than 141 earthquakes is rattling Yellowstone National Park, geologists said.

The U.S. Geological Survey said Friday that an ongoing earthquake swarm that began at 5:52 p.m. Thursday is centered beneath Yellowstone Lake. There have been 40 earthquakes bigger than a magnitude 2, and two have been above a 3.0 magnitude, USGS said.

In the past day, there have been 10 earthquakes with a 2.5 magnitude or greater, according to USGS. The largest was a 3.1-magnitude quake that shook beneath Yellowstone Lake at 8:12 a.m. Mountain Time.

The earthquake swarm is nothing to worry about, geologists said.

“Earthquake sequences like these are common and account for roughly 50% of the total seismicity in the Yellowstone region,” USGS said on Twitter. “This swarm is similar to one that occurred in about the same place during December 2020.”

Some people, however, still worry earthquakes in Yellowstone are a sign that the “supervolcano” that lies beneath the park will soon erupt, which could have regional and global consequences.

“Such a giant eruption would have regional effects such as falling ash and short-term (years to decades) changes to global climate,” USGS said on its website. “Those parts of the surrounding states of Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming that are closest to Yellowstone would be affected by pyroclastic flows, while other places in the United States would be impacted by falling ash (the amount of ash would decrease with distance from the eruption site).”

The USGS doesn’t think an eruption at Yellowstone is likely for thousands of years. Even with the current swarm, the alert level at the Yellowstone Volcano Observatory is green, which is normal.

Earthquakes in Yellowstone typically happen in swarms, according to the park. Swarms happen in many places where there is volcanic activity and occur for a number of reasons. The most common is when water gets into faults in the Earth’s crust, according to USGS.

## Europe

# 'It's terrifying': Merkel shaken as flood deaths rise to 188 in Europe

Ralph Brock Romana Fuessel

- German death toll climbs to 157
- Bavaria becomes latest region to be hit by floods
- No time to prepare, district administrator says
- Belgian fatalities reach 31, rescue workers continue clean-up

BERCHTESGADEN/BISCHOFSWIESEN, Germany, July 18 (Reuters) - German Chancellor Angela Merkel described the flooding that has devastated parts of Europe as "terrifying" on Sunday after the death toll across the region rose to 188 and a district of Bavaria was battered by the extreme weather.

Merkel promised swift financial aid after visiting one of the areas worst affected by the record rainfall and floods that have killed at least 157 in Germany alone in recent days, in the country's worst natural disaster in almost six decades.

She also said governments would have to get better and faster in their efforts to tackle the impact of climate change only days after Europe outlined a package of steps towards "net zero" emissions by the middle of the century.

"It is terrifying," she told residents of the small town of Adenau in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate. "The German language can barely describe the devastation that's taken place."

As efforts continued to track down missing people, the devastation continued on Sunday when a district of Bavaria, southern Germany, was hit by flash floods that killed at least one person.

Roads were turned into rivers, some vehicles were swept away and swathes of land buried under thick mud in Berchtesgadener Land. Hundreds of rescue workers were searching for survivors in the district, which borders Austria.

"We were not prepared for this," said Berchtesgadener Land district administrator Bernhard Kern, adding that the situation had deteriorated "drastically" late on Saturday, leaving little time for emergency services to act.

About 110 people have been killed in the worst-hit Ahrweiler district south of Cologne. More bodies are expected to be found there as the flood waters recede, police say.

The European floods, which began on Wednesday, have mainly hit the German states of Rhineland Palatinate, North Rhine-Westphalia as well as parts of Belgium. Entire communities have been cut off, without power or communications.

In North Rhine-Westphalia at least 46 people have died. The death toll in Belgium climbed to 31 on Sunday.

## AID UP, POWER DOWN

The scale of the floods mean they could shake up Germany's general election in September next year.

North Rhine-Westphalia state premier Armin Laschet, the CDU party's candidate to replace Merkel, apologised for laughing in the background while German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier spoke to media after visiting the devastated town of Erftstadt.

The German government will be readying more than 300 million euros (\$354 million) in immediate relief and billions of euros to fix collapsed houses, streets and bridges, Finance Minister Olaf Scholz told weekly newspaper Bild am Sonntag.

"There is huge damage and that much is clear: those who lost their businesses, their houses, cannot stem the losses alone."

There could also be a 10,000 euro short-term payment for businesses affected by the impact of the floods as well as the COVID-19 pandemic, Economy Minister Peter Altmaier told the paper.

Scientists, who have long said that climate change will lead to heavier downpours, said it would still take several weeks to determine its role in these relentless rainfalls. [read more](#)

Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo said the link with climate change was clear.

In Belgium, which will hold a national day of mourning on Tuesday, 163 people are still missing or unreachable. The crisis centre said water levels were falling and a huge clean-up operation was underway. The military was sent in to the eastern town of Pepinster, where a dozen buildings have collapsed, to search for any further victims.

About 37,000 households were without electricity and Belgian authorities said the supply of clean drinking water was also a major concern.

## BRIDGES BATTERED

Emergency services officials in the Netherlands said the situation had somewhat stabilised in the southern part of Limburg province, where tens of thousands were evacuated in recent days, although the northern part was still on high alert.

"In the north they are tensely monitoring the dykes and whether they will hold," Jos Teeuwen of the regional water authority told a press conference on Sunday.

In southern Limburg, authorities are still concerned about the safety of traffic infrastructure such as roads and bridges battered by the high water.

The Netherlands has so far only reported property damage from the flooding and no dead or missing people.

In Hallein, an Austrian town near Salzburg, powerful flood waters tore through the town centre on Saturday evening as the Kothbach river burst its banks, but no injuries were reported.

Many areas of Salzburg province and neighbouring provinces remain on alert, with rains set to continue on Sunday. Western Tyrol province reported that water levels in some areas were at highs not seen for more than 30 years.

Parts of Switzerland remained on flood alert, though the threat posed by some of the most at-risk bodies of water like Lake Lucerne and Bern's Aare river has eased.

## 1,679 Jews pray on Temple Mount during Tisha B'Av

***PM allows Jews to continue to visit Temple Mount; Islamic Movement and United Arab List protest: 'Temple Mount is under Islamic ownership.'***

Hezki Baruch , Jul 18 , 2021 4:11 PM

More than 1,600 Jewish visitors ascended the Temple Mount Sunday for prayers marking the Tisha B'Av fast day, drawing the ire of the Islamic Movement in Israel, and its political representatives in the Knesset.

According to the Bayadenu organization, which organized mass visits to the holy site, a total of 1,679 Jews visited the Temple Mount as of Sunday afternoon, a 42% increase over last year's Tisha B'Av fast.

The United Arab List, a coalition partner which represents the Southern Islamic Movement in Israel, condemned the Jewish prayers on the Temple Mount, warning Jewish worshippers on the holy site could cause Arab riots and ultimately spark a "religious war".

"We warn settlers and Knesset Members against trying to break into the Al Aqsa Mosque, and warn of [possible] serious disruptions of order which could lead to a regional religious war," UAL said in a statement Sunday.

The UAL also claimed the Temple Mount, which it referred to as a “mosque courtyard”, is under “full Islamic ownership”.

“We will not accept prayers and the singing of the Hatikva [Israeli national anthem] in the mosque courtyard, all 35.6 acres of which is under full Islamic ownership.”