

There Will Be Wars

Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains."

Matthew 24: 4-8

Since the conflict in Iran erupted on February 28, 2026 for a Christian, watching the news can be a bit confusing. If we're not discerning, we can be pulled into the chaos and turmoil of the day. These are the times, trying as they may be, that we must turn to God's Word to provide the clarification and the only firm foundation we can rely on.

Many "Christians" will use God's Word to prophesy about what events of the day might mean. They use scripture, charismatically cherry-picking verses, completely out of context and mold it into false teaching to gain notoriety and lure the vulnerable. They prey on the endangered who are searching for meaning and hope amidst what appears (or what they portray) to be Armageddon. Additionally in the advent of social media, they garner "clicks," baiting non-discerning people into their fantasy world. Oh, lest we forget, they earn money from doing it.

Truth does not matter, facts are fluid, they create a truth and call it their own. Questioning that truth, even in the spirit of Christian love can evoke angry, defensive responses. Name shaming: bigot, homophobe, racist are very common when questioning the basis of their claims (of truth). Those words should activate your Biblical antennae.

What can discerning Christians do during these times of "wars" and "rumors of war?" First and foremost, stay rooted in the Bible, daily. Discipline yourself to a Bible reading program, engage in a doctrinally sound Bible study, attend church regularly, and partake of the Sacraments whenever the opportunity presents. Finally, pray. Pray for our men and women of the military, pray for our leaders, pray that all would come to know Jesus as their Savior. This foundation will keep you grounded when the wind swirls around you.

Where can we find sources of truth based on sound Biblical principals in an ever complex, chaotic world? I hope to share a few of these resources with you. I listen (podcasts/You-tube) for a lot of the media I consume, the days of turning on CBS news to listen to Walter Cronkite unfortunately are over. Main-stream and 24/7 cable news coverage have a few occasional pearls but by and large are NOT reliable sources for information. They are tainted by their political bias, once your antennae become tuned to it, it is obvious which "side" they are on.

Over time I have found that one day a source or a program can be reliable, and the next they go off the rails. Sometimes it is obvious, other times it is insidious. The devil is always on the prowl, so it is important to always keep your Biblical antennae up.

Wanting to understand the fallen world in which we live is difficult. It is important to remain engaged in the world we live as we fulfill the Great Commission. (Matt 28: 19-20) How we do that is like walking a tight rope. Here are a few sound resources that can provide you with the “news” of our day. Disclaimer, this is not an exhaustive list, and I welcome suggestions for sources you have found that have integrity. For each resource I have provided a link to get you to the appropriate website.

For national and worldly news:

- “The World and Everything In It.” A daily podcast delivering essential headlines, field reporting, interviews and expert analysis. It is a podcast supported by WORLD Radio, which provides sound journalism grounded in God’s Word. My dear sister and mentor, Kathie Wendland recommends and uses this source. <https://wng.org/podcasts/the-world-and-everything-in-it>
- International Correspondent on current world events: Frances Martel, her articles appear on Breitbart.com and she does a weekly briefing on Breitbart News Daily, a radio show on SiriusXM hosted by Mike Slater. <https://www.breitbart.com/author/frances-martel/>. I always walk away with a much clearer vision of what is happening in our world.
- “Victor Davis Hanson: In a few Words.” A daily podcast on the Daily Signal by VDH. He is a classicist and historian and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. He discusses current political and social events and ideas, layered in current and past cultural trends. <https://www.youtube.com/@DailySignal/podcasts>

Books that have stood the test of time and remain relevant (based in the Bible):

[Civil Government: God’s Other Kingdom](#) by Daniel M Deutschlander. Chapter 8, “Soldiers, War and Courts” is particularly appropriate at this time.

[End Times: Jesus is Coming Soon](#) by Thomas P Nass.

Podcasts/You-tube:

- “Men Who Understood the Times” is a weekly podcast and now on you-tube hosted by 3 men: 2 WELS pastors and 1 WELS high school teacher. They address topics of our current geopolitical world <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IkL2Ao5fG9o>. This episode is entitled “What should we do with Christian Zionism?” A very informative, timely subject which

clarifies a lot of what people are saying about the middle east and educates on what “Christian Zionism” is.

- “Christian History Almanac” is a 5-minute daily podcast consisting of stories from the past about the saints and sinners who have shaped the history of the church. This episode discusses “Podcasts and church history.”
<https://www.1517.org/podcast-overview/2026-03-11>
- “Let the Bird Fly!” A podcast hosted by 3 WELS pastors on various subjects and sermons. It is a podcast about “Living Freely in a World Given back to Us.” This episode is called “Words Matter: Hymns, Sermons and Prayers.”
<https://www.letthebirdfly.com/2026/01/27/lbfs8e361wordshymnsrmonsprayers/>
- “RWJ Daily: Raised with Jesus (WELS) A wonderful repository of sermons, recordings of Bible studies being led by various pastors, audio recordings of the plenary sessions from the 2026 WELS Lutheran Leadership Conference, preview of upcoming Sunday worship themes (including scripture readings, hymns, prayers, etc) led by 2 pastors, seminar recording of Dr. John Brug called “Bible Version and Translation” posted on 10/12/25, recordings of lectures (39 of them) on CFW Walther’s Law and Gospel, and more!
<https://www.raisedwithjesus.com/podcast/>

For additional studies:

- Consider enrolling and taking an on-line class through **Hillsdale College**. They have a curriculum full of wonderful religious and classical subjects. I have personally taken a few of their courses: CS Lewis: On Christianity and The Genesis Story: Reading Biblical Narratives. All the courses are free and available 24/7. <https://online.hillsdale.edu/>
- **1517.org** is a website full of Biblical resources, articles, books, podcasts and they have an academy where you can take a free course to advance your theological knowledge. <https://www.1517.org/academy>

Blessings to you all!

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