

Iran and Christians

It is legal to be part of historical Christian communities (Armenian/Assyrian) in Iran, but it is illegal to convert to Christianity from Islam and highly restricted to practice Christianity in Farsi. Converts face severe persecution, including arrest, imprisonment, and risks associated with apostasy, forcing many to worship in clandestine house churches.

Converting from Islam to Christianity is considered apostasy and is illegal. Converts are frequently targeted, arrested, and accused of "acting against national security"

Because evangelism and worship outside approved, non-Persian languages are banned, Christians often form underground "house churches". These gatherings are regularly raided, and members face detention.

Even recognized Christians face discrimination in employment, education, and legal proceedings, often considered second-class citizens.

Producing, owning, or distributing Bibles in Farsi is illegal, making access to religious literature difficult.

Iran remains among the highest-risk countries globally for Christians, particularly for those who are not part of traditional ethnic minority groups.

Protestant evangelicals, particularly in the U.S., often view Iran through an apocalyptic lens, interpreting its hostility toward Israel as a sign of end-times prophecy. Many evangelical leaders strongly support a confrontational U.S.-Israel stance, framing the conflict as a necessary, biblically prophesied "holy war" or "crusade".

Some evangelical leaders, such as Franklin Graham, view political and military action against Iran under the Trump administration as a divine mission.

Other evangelicals focus on the persecution of Christians and converts within Iran, highlighting the closure of churches and restrictions on religious freedom, demanding the release of imprisoned believers.

Protestant Evangelicals

https://music.youtube.com/watch?v=_hnaoXiYRSg&si=HFgHdSeKg7PXtQyy

2Kings 6;20 And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see. And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. 21 And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I smite them? shall I smite them? 22 And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them: wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master. 23 And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel. Matt. 5:43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

<https://youtu.be/LRsYB3UXkDM?si=3Wr-3rgU26rZpcob>

<https://youtu.be/8UckSNkOzFA?si=6KoL8cmwJewIvn-8>

[Biblical Prophecy and Iran: How Some Christians See the War](#)

[Iran's exiled Christians watch events unfolding across Middle East with hope and fear- Detroit Catholic](#)

[Trump's Religious Advisers See Iran as a Holy War for End Times](#)

<https://youtu.be/NgAZNV4e1uc?si=M7Pzpq0Por7cNjFo>

But today in the religious world there are multitudes who, as they believe, are working for the establishment of the kingdom of Christ as an earthly and temporal dominion. They desire to make our Lord the ruler of the kingdoms of this world, the ruler in its courts and camps, its legislative halls, its palaces and market places. ***They expect Him to rule through legal enactments, enforced by human authority.*** Since Christ is not now here in person, they themselves will undertake to act in His stead, to execute” (what they conceive is) “the laws of His kingdom. The establishment of such a kingdom is what the Jews desired in the days of Christ. They would have received Jesus, had He been willing to establish a temporal dominion, to enforce what they regarded as the laws of God, and to make them the expositors of His will and the agents of His authority. But He said, “My kingdom is not of this world.” John 18:36. He would not accept the earthly throne. DA 509.2

Note: . . . There was a power from beneath moving agencies to bring about a change in the constitution and laws of our nation, which will bind the consciences of all those who keep the Bible Sabbath, plainly specified in the fourth commandment as the seventh day. 3SM 166.2;

Notwithstanding the widespread declension of faith and piety, there are true followers of Christ in these churches. Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth there will be among the people of the Lord such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. The Spirit and power of God will be poured out upon His children. At that time many will separate themselves from those churches in which the love of this world has supplanted love for God and His word. Many, both of ministers and people, will gladly accept those great truths which God has caused to be proclaimed at this time to prepare a people for the Lord's second coming. The enemy of souls desires to hinder this work; and before the time for such a movement shall come, he will endeavor to prevent it by introducing a counterfeit. In those churches which he can bring under his deceptive power he will make it appear that God's special blessing is poured out; there will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest. Multitudes will exult that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of another spirit. Under a religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over the Christian world. GC 464.1;

God has called His church in this day, as He called ancient Israel, to stand as a light in the earth. By the mighty cleaver of truth, the messages of the first, second, and third angels, He has separated them from the churches and from the world to bring them into a sacred nearness to Himself. *He has made them the depositaries of His law and has committed to them the great truths of prophecy for this time*. Like the holy oracles committed to ancient Israel, these are a sacred trust to be communicated to the world. The three angels of Revelation 14 represent the people who accept the light of God's messages and go forth as His agents to sound the warning throughout the length and breadth of the earth. Christ declares to His followers: "Ye are the light of the world." To every soul that accepts Jesus the cross of Calvary speaks: "Behold the worth of the soul: 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.'" *Nothing is to be permitted to hinder this work*. It is the all-important work for time; it is to be far-reaching as eternity. The love that Jesus manifested for the souls of men in the sacrifice which He made for their redemption, will actuate all His followers. {5T 455.2}

When the voice of God turns the captivity of His people, there is a *terrible awakening of those who have lost all in the great conflict of life*. While probation

continued they were blinded by Satan's deceptions, and they justified their course of sin. The rich prided themselves upon their superiority to those who were less favored; but they had obtained their riches by *violation of the law of God*. They had neglected to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to deal justly, and to love mercy. They had sought to exalt themselves and to *obtain the homage of their fellow* creatures. Now they are stripped of all that made them great and are left destitute and defenseless. They look with terror upon the destruction of the idols which they preferred before their Maker. They have sold their souls for earthly riches and enjoyments, and have not sought to become rich toward God. The result is, their lives are a failure; their pleasures are now turned to gall, their treasures to corruption. The gain of a lifetime is swept away in a moment. **The rich bemoan the destruction of their grand houses**, the scattering of their gold and silver. But their lamentations are silenced by the fear that they themselves are to perish with their idols. GC 654.1

The world see the very class whom they have mocked and derided, and desired to exterminate, pass unharmed through pestilence, tempest, and earthquake. He who is to the transgressors of His law a devouring fire, is to His people a safe pavilion. GC 654.3

The minister who has sacrificed truth to gain the favor of men now discerns the character and influence of his teachings. It is apparent that the omniscient eye was following him as he stood in the desk, as he walked the streets, as he mingled with men in the various scenes of life. Every emotion of the soul, every line written, every word uttered, every act that led men to rest in a refuge of falsehood, has been scattering seed; and now, in the wretched, lost souls around him, he beholds the harvest. GC 654.4

Ministers and people see that they have not sustained the right relation to God. They see that they have rebelled against *the Author of all just and righteous law*. The setting aside of the *divine precepts* gave rise to thousands of springs of evil, discord, hatred, iniquity, until the earth became one vast field of strife, one sink of corruption. This is the view that now appears to those who rejected truth and chose to cherish error. No language can express the longing which the disobedient and disloyal feel for that which they have lost forever--eternal life. Men whom the world has worshiped for their talents and eloquence now see these things in their true light. They realize what they have forfeited by transgression, and they fall at the feet of those whose fidelity they have despised and derided, and confess that God has loved them. GC 655.3

The people see that they have been deluded. They accuse one another of having led them to destruction; but **all unite in heaping their bitterest condemnation upon the ministers.** Unfaithful pastors have prophesied smooth things;” *you knew and didn’t tell us* “they have led their hearers to make void the law of God and to persecute those who would keep it holy.” These persecuted are the saints “Now, in their despair, **these teachers confess before the world their work of deception.** The multitudes are filled with fury. "We are lost!" they cry, "and you are the cause of our ruin;" and they turn upon the **false shepherds.** The very ones that once admired them most will pronounce the most dreadful curses upon them. The very hands that once crowned them with laurels will be raised for their destruction. **The swords which were to slay God's people” the death decree noted as causing the 3rd plague** “are now employed to destroy their enemies. Everywhere there is strife and bloodshed. GC 655.4

World council of churches and National council of churches

The [World Council of Churches \(WCC\)](#) has **consistently condemned military attacks against Iran by Israel and the US**, expressing grave concern over escalating violence in the Middle East. The WCC calls for immediate de-escalation, adherence to international law, and diplomatic solutions, emphasizing the risk to civilian lives and regional stability. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)]

Key actions and positions by the WCC regarding Iran include:

- **Condemnation of Military Action:** The WCC has described military attacks on Iranian territory as unlawful acts that violate sovereignty and threaten a wider regional war.

The National Council of Churches (NCC) **strongly opposes U.S. military aggression against Iran, advocating for diplomatic solutions and immediate de-escalation to prevent war**. The NCC prioritizes humanitarian aid, urges a return to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) nuclear deal, and warns that violence against Iran further destabilizes the region. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#)]

Key Positions and Actions:

- **Opposition to War:** The NCC condemns unauthorized military actions and advocates against war funding, urging Congress to seek peace, diplomacy, and humanitarian aid instead.