PROPHETIC TIMES

January 1998 — The Weekly Reader of World News — October 17, 2026

'It looks apocalyptic': Watch cyberattack turn hundreds of grocery coolers into saunas as U.S. military meltdown remains a mystery



October14, 2026 ***World Net Daily*** reported: "A cyberattack that cooked the food inside hundreds of European grocery coolers seemingly resembles an unexplained U.S. military commissary meltdown.

Attackers remotely pushed fridge and freezer temperatures at hundreds of French supermarkets as high as 122 degrees Fahrenheit overnight Sunday, Reuters reported. The incident resembles refrigeration outages that may have hit about a dozen U.S. military commissaries in August.

"Targeting equipment essential to the preservation of fresh products and to the food supply of the French people is of extreme gravity and is unprecedented. It is unacceptable," Coopérative U CEO Dominique Schelcher said in a Monday X post, confirming that his supermarket chain's stores were among those targeted in the attack.

The "large scale" attack that spoiled food and led to fires "[affected] connected refrigerators in several major food retailers across France," the Paris prosecutor's office said Monday, Reuters reported.

The National Cybersecurity Agency (ANSSI) of France, at the direction of Prime Minister Sébastien Lecournu, traced the attack to a Danfoss software vulnerability, Reuters reported. The cyberattack also reached stores in Belgium, Germany, Poland, Portugal and Spain, Felix Aime, a senior cyber threat. Danfoss, a Danish refrigeration company, said the compromised systems were running outdated firmware and previously urged customers to update older equipment, Reuters reported.

"We are working with affected customers to implement appropriate mitigation measures, including firmware updates where available, stronger network protections and removing direct internet exposure where applicable," Danfoss said in a statement to the Cooling Post. Around 500 stores were harmed by the attack based on reported incidents…"

At Jerusalem site holy to Jews and Muslims, a fragile status quo is being erased

October14, 2026 ***The Christian Science Monitor*** reported: "A barefoot, bearded man wrapped in a prayer shawl raises his voice to a crescendo. Dozens of Jewish worshippers surrounding him respond in a chorus of amens and praises of God in Aramaic, the ancient Jewish vernacular. Several bend down on their knees, then prostrate themselves face down on the ground. An Israeli police officer, one of a half-dozen standing guard around the group, fiddles on his phone.

Just a few years ago, this scene of Jewish worshippers praying openly and vocally atop Jerusalem's holiest of holy sites – known to Jews as the Temple Mount and to Muslims as the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound – would have been unthinkable. But under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hard-line government, long-standing restrictions on Jewish prayer at the contested shrine have evaporated.

This quiet shift in policy has tectonic potential. Previous rounds of violence have centered around real or perceived changes to the site's delicate balance. The shrine is the place where two ancient Jewish temples stood in antiquity, and it is considered by Jews to be the holiest spot on Earth. The Noble Sanctuary, or al-Haram al-Sharif as it's called in Arabic, is also Islam's third-holiest site, and home to the Al-Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem's iconic golden Dome of the Rock. For many Israelis and Palestinians, this location is ground zero in their long-running conflict

It has been at the spiritual epicenter of the recent war in Gaza, which began with the deadly Oct. 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel that Hamas called the "Al-Aqsa Flood," consciously alluding to the shrine. Some religious Jews have called for the construction of a "Third Temple" to replace the golden Dome of the Rock…"

The Houthis Are Building an Advanced Missile With Chinese Parts

October13, 2026 ***The Wall Street Journal*** reported: "Houthi militants are attempting to produce their own advanced medium-range ballistic missiles using Chinese-delivered parts, a new report shows, a technological advance that would raise the threat posed by the Iran-backed group.

The Houthis shipped in from a Chinese supplier a range of components needed to make a version of one of Iran's most powerful weapons, the Kheibar Shekan Iranian precision-guided missile, said the report by Conflict Armament Research, a group that works in conflict zones and reports on the use of weapons and their supply chains. The Houthi missile would have a range up to about 1,200 miles, putting all of Saudi Arabia and Israel within reach.

Iran used the Kheibar Shekan—a cheap, mobile, precision weapon first displayed in Tehran in 2022—against American bases with some success during the war with the U.S. last spring, The Wall Street Journal has previously reported. The Houthis have amped up attacks on Saudi Arabia in recent weeks in a bid to break a Riyadh-led blockade…"

Fewer than half of Americans believe in virgin birth, study finds

October12, 2026 ***christianitytoday.com*** reported: "Fewer than half of Americans now believe the birth of Jesus was a miracle stemming from the supernatural conception of Mary by the Holy Spirit, according to new research from the American Bible Society.

In the seventh chapter of its 16th annual State of the Bible report released Thursday, the American Bible Society highlights the experiences of Americans with the supernatural, including beliefs in God, Heaven, Hell, Satan, angels and demons. The data included responses from 2,649 Americans collected from Jan. 8 to 27.

Overall, 171 million Americans, about 62% of U.S. adults, believe in the supernatural, ABS said. While more than half of Americans, 53%, still believe in the miracle of Jesus' resurrection, only 49% believe the virgin birth is at least probably true. This is the first time a major national survey has recorded belief in the virgin birth dropping below 50%.

In 2017, data from the Pew Research Center showed that 66% of Americans believed Jesus was born to a virgin. That share declined from 73% in 2014. The 2017 survey was based on 1,503 phone interviews and used different question wording than the ABS survey. ABS researchers also found that only 44% of Americans in general believe in the biblical parting of the Red Sea.

When broken down by levels of belief in God, the report shows that practicing Christians still overwhelmingly believe these miracles to be true. Some 97% of practicing Christians still believe in the virgin birth; 99% believe in the resurrection of Jesus; and 92% believe God miraculously parted the Red Sea for the Israelites. Still, ABS found that a majority of Americans report believing in God, with only about one in eight saying they do not. Just over 50% of Americans also stated that they believe Satan, Hell and demons exist…"

The Plague? One Accident Could Spark the Next Pandemic



October 9, 2026 ***breitbart.com*** reported: "The following content is sponsored by The Wellness Company. No, you're not dreaming. You haven't been transported back to the Middle Ages, and this isn't the plot of a Hollywood blockbuster. This is real: reports of a potential outbreak of pneumonic plague in Russia are raising fresh concerns about the threat of a disease many thought belonged to history books.

According to Axios: The White House is monitoring a suspected outbreak of pneumonic plague in Russia, raising immediate concerns for scientists, researchers and health officials worldwide. Why it matters: Pneumonic plague is the most dangerous form of plague and can spread between people through respiratory droplets. Without treatment, it is nearly always fatal, but antibiotics can be highly effective when started quickly.

The backstory on this potential plague outbreak is almost too insane to believe: A 28-year-old technician at Russia's Irkutsk Anti-Plague Institute is dead, nearly 200 people are under medical observation, and five hospitals in the region have been reportedly slammed shut for quarantine, while the Kremlin's health agency insists this is nothing but "pneumonia of unknown origin." …

While it is absolutely too early to know, one of the most frightening possibilities was raised by Dr. Peter McCullough that this vial of pneumonic plague could have been bioengineered: "If the Russians have manipulated the bacteria to have other features making culture identification difficult or resistant to antibiotics, then this case could be "patient zero" for another deadly biolab leak."

That's right the next pandemic could just be one accidentally dropped test tube away. This isn't the 1300s—we have treatments. Yes, the plague killed between 25 and 50 million people in the 1300s in Europe, but the good news is that this isn't the 1300s. We have treatments that can save lives.

The plague is caused by bacteria, and prompt antibiotic treatment can cure the infection. That makes recognizing the illness and getting appropriate care quickly essential. The World Health Organization (WHO) describes the pneumonic plague as the "most virulent form of the plague." It affects the lungs and can progress rapidly..."

Compiled by L. Jim Tuck
Minister
jim_tuck@ucg.org