

## Israeli Responsibility vs. Islamic Persecution

### THE LIE

A photo of an Israeli soldier destroying a Jesus statue is evidence of Jewish hostility towards Christians.

### THE TRUTH

The act depicted in the photo was swiftly condemned by the Israeli government and the global Jewish community—a sharp contrast to the silence of many Islamic governments and communities in the face of widespread persecution of Christians.

### BACKGROUND

- On April 19, 2026, a photo of an IDF soldier in southern Lebanon smashing a statue of Jesus with a sledgehammer spread rapidly across social media, sparking widespread outrage.
- Commentators such as Candace Owens immediately seized on the IDF soldier's actions to claim they prove Jews broadly disrespect Christianity and are hostile toward Christians. ([Candace Owens](#))

### TRUTH EXPLAINED

- **Israel's response shows accountability, not hostility.** The IDF immediately condemned the soldier's actions, launched a full investigation, vowed disciplinary measures against those involved, and stated it is working with the local community to restore the statue. ([IDF](#))
- **The Jewish community's swift reaction shows respect for Christians.** International Jewish leaders immediately denounced the incident as disgraceful and wrong. A petition condemning the act continues to circulate in Jewish communities worldwide. ([X](#))
- **Selective outrage and double standards.** Candace Owens and others who were quick to condemn this incident—swiftly addressed by the Israeli government and Jewish community—have remained largely silent about similar actions by Islamists. There was no comparable outrage, for example, when Islamists in Lebanon destroyed a Jesus statue in December 2025 in protest of Christmas hymns and carols. Nor is there outrage about the ongoing persecution and mass killing of Christians in many Muslim-majority countries, abuses that go unaddressed by Islamic communities and governments. ([SG News](#))
- **Widespread Christian persecution across Muslim-majority countries.** Islamist ideology and Sharia-based systems are major drivers of violence and discrimination against Christians in these nations — a pattern that has persisted for centuries. In Nigeria, for example, sustained Islamic attacks on Christians have prompted the Trump administration to deploy U.S. troops to help counter the violence, which the Nigerian government has failed to stop. ([Wikislam](#)), ([Open Doors](#)), ([Genocide Watch](#)), ([Fox News](#)), ([Global Christian Relief](#)), ([BBC](#))
- **Meanwhile, Christians thrive in Israel with full religious freedom.** Christians in Israel enjoy complete religious freedom. They worship openly, operate churches, schools, charities, and hospitals, publish religious materials, display crosses, ring church bells, and hold public processions. An estimated 1,000 Christian Israelis serve in the IDF, with some proudly wearing crosses on their uniforms. Surveys show that 84% of Christians in Israel report being satisfied with their lives. ([Honest Reporting](#)), ([Mission Network News](#)), ([Ynet News](#)), ([CBS](#))
- **Israel's Christian population is growing rapidly.** Israel is the only country in the Middle East where the indigenous Christian population is increasing. It has grown from approximately 34,000 in 1949 to roughly 184,000–185,000 today — more than a 400% increase. ([CBS](#))
- **Defenders of persecuting regimes reveal double standards.** Prominent voices like Tucker Carlson have praised Sharia-governed societies in Saudi Arabia and Qatar as stable and even “more advanced” than the West, while showing far less concern for the Christians suffering under those same systems. ([ITN](#))

## Israeli Responsibility vs. Islamic Persecution

### QUOTES

- “If you condemned this IDF soldier who shamefully destroyed a statue of Jesus and who is condemned by LITERALLY 100% of Israeli society but haven’t said a single word about Muslims butchering Christians around the world, well, I got news for you. You don’t care about Christianity. You have a Jew problem.” – Hillel Fuld
- “An IDF soldier in southern Lebanon took a sledgehammer to a statue of Jesus this week. The IDF confirmed it. The image went viral. And I am furious. Not because our enemies will use it against us – they will. Not because the world is watching – they are. I’m furious because it is wrong. Full stop. No asterisk. No ‘but.’ Wrong.” Rabbi Pesach Wolicki, Israel365

### TAKEAWAY

A misguided IDF soldier smashes a Jesus statue, and within hours the Israeli military condemns it, launches a full investigation, vows punishment, and works to restore the statue with the local Christian community—while Jewish leaders worldwide denounce the act as disgraceful. In stark contrast, the Muslim world remains largely silent as Christians face genocide in Islamic countries. Yet voices like Candace Owens rush to paint the incident as proof of Jewish hostility toward Christianity, while figures like Tucker Carlson praise the very Sharia regimes erasing Christian lives. The hypocrisy is glaring: Israel demands accountability for one mistake; the Muslim world offers none for systematic slaughter; and the loudest “defenders” of Christians reserve their outrage exclusively for Jews.