

From San Remo to October 7: Why Peace Never Came

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Summary

For decades, the international community has claimed that peace in the Middle East depends on the creation of a Palestinian state. But what if that peace was already offered—again and again—and turned down every time? In this powerful episode, Sandy walks through five historic opportunities where Palestinian leaders were offered statehood, beginning with the San Remo Resolution in 1920 and ending with the tragic turning point of October 7, 2023.

Key Scripture

Psalm 120:7 – "I am for peace; but when I speak, they are for war."

Main Themes

1. Historical Foundation for a Jewish State

- The 1920 San Remo Conference and 1922 League of Nations mandate recognized the Jewish historical connection to the land and established legal rights for a homeland in Palestine.
- Several Arab nations (Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon) were created from the same territorial framework.

2. Five Major Peace Offers Rejected

- 1937 Peel Commission: Proposed first two-state solution. Jews accepted. Arabs rejected it outright.
- 1947 UN Partition Plan: Jews again accepted. Arabs again rejected and launched war.
- 1967 Post-Six Day War: After gaining land, Israel offered peace. Arab leaders responded with the Khartoum "Three No's": no peace, no recognition, no negotiations.
- 2000 Camp David Summit: Arafat rejects nearly complete statehood offer, then launches Second Intifada.
- 2008 Olmert-Abbas Talks: Generous land, capital, and compensation package. Abbas walks away, ending negotiations.

3. Patterns of Rejection

- Peace offers consistently rejected by Arab leadership, not because of land boundaries, but because of Israel's existence.
- Neighboring Arab nations contributed to Palestinian statelessness by refusing citizenship and suppressing sovereignty efforts.

4. October 7, 2023: The End of the Illusion

- The Hamas-led massacre symbolized the death of a two-state illusion.
- Israel's posture has shifted: peace cannot be made with those who don't desire peace.

Discussion Questions

- How does understanding Hamas's ideological foundation change the conversation about Gaza?
- In what ways has propaganda shaped Western perceptions of Hamas?
- What responsibility does the global community bear for unintentionally funding terror?
- How can believers respond with both truth and compassion?

Reflection Point--

Peace is only possible when both sides want peace. What are the spiritual and geopolitical implications of negotiating with a partner who does not recognize your right to exist?

If this episode stirred your interest, continue the journey with the next episode of <u>Israel Unveiled</u>. Share this study with others and invite them into the story of Israel's prophetic destiny.

Shalom and be blessed!