Special Message Israel-Hamas War October 12, 2023

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# Israel-Hamas War, 2023















## I. Think Biblically.

To think biblically is to think in terms of the God who revealed Himself in the Hebrew Scriptures:

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
The God of Moses and Joshua
The God of David
The God of the Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, and
the Twelve

What kind of God do the Hebrews have?

Creator of the heavens and the earth and all that is in them.

Ex. 20:8, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Ex. 20:9, "Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

Ex. 20:10, "but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.

Ex. 20:11, "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it." [NKJV]

#### Creator/creature Distinction

Isa. 55:8, "'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the LORD.

Isa. 55:9, "'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.'"

## **Omnipotent**

Psa. 89:13, "You have a mighty arm; Strong is Your hand, and high is Your right hand."

Isa. 48:13, "Indeed My hand has laid the foundation of the earth, and My right hand has stretched out the heavens; When I call to them, they stand up together."

Job 42:2, "I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You."

#### **Omniscient**

Psa. 139:1, "O LORD, You have searched me and known me.

Psa. 139:2, "You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.

Psa. 139:3, "You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways."

Gen. 16:13, "Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, You–Are–the–God–Who–Sees; for she said, 'Have I also here seen Him who sees me?' "

There is nothing impossible for God

There is nothing God has not known fully forever and ever.

God allows things to happen which we do not and probably cannot understand. Ex., Joseph

Gen. 50:20, "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."

Second, God gave humanity responsible choice. But they used it to disobey Him.

Gen. 2:17, "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Gen. 3:8, "And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Gen. 3:9, "Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, 'Where are you?'

Gen. 3:10, "So he said, 'I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

#### The Problem of Sin

Gen. 4:10, "And He said, 'What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground.

Gen. 4:11, "'So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand."

Gen. 4:23, "Then Lamech said to his wives: 'Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; Wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me.

Gen. 4:24, "'If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold.'"

#### The Problem of Sin

Gen. 6:5, "Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Gen. 6:7, "So the LORD said, 'I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them.' "

#### The Problem of Sin

Jer. 17:9, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it?

Jer. 17:10, "I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings."

#### Rebellion at the Tower of Babel

Gen. 11:8, "So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city.

Gen. 11:9, "Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth."

## The God of Abraham is the God Who Keeps His Promises

Gen. 12:1, "Now the LORD had said to Abram: 'Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you.

Gen. 12:2, "'I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; And you shall be a blessing!

Gen. 12:3, "I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Gen. 12:7, "Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, 'To your descendants I will give this land.' And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him."

## The God of Abraham is the God Who Keeps His Promises

<u>Gen. 15:13</u>, "Then He said to Abram: 'Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and <u>they will afflict them four hundred years</u>.

Gen. 15:14, "'And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.

Gen. 15:15, "'Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age.

Gen. 15:16, "'But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

## The God of Abraham is the God Who Keeps His Promise

Ex. 19:4, "'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself.

Ex. 19:5, "'Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.'"

## Promises of Blessing IF They Were Obedient:

Lev. 26:1, "You shall not make idols for yourselves; neither a carved image nor a sacred pillar shall you rear up for yourselves; nor shall you set up an engraved stone in your land, to bow down to it; for I am the LORD your God.

Lev. 26:2, "You shall keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary: I am the LORD.

Lev. 26:3, "If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them,

Lev. 26:4, "then I will give you rain in its season, the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit."

## Promises of Blessing IF They Were Obedient:

Lev. 26:11, "I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you.

Lev. 26:12, "I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people.

Lev. 26:13, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that you should not be their slaves; I have broken the bands of your yoke and made you walk upright."

## Promises of Judgment IF They Were Disobedient:

Lev. 26:14, "But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments,

Lev. 26:15, "and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant,

Lev. 26:16, "I also will do this to you: I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it."

<u>Lev. 26:27</u>, "And after all this, if you do not obey Me, but walk contrary to Me, <u>Lev. 26:28</u>, "then I also will walk contrary to you in fury; and I, even I, <u>will chastise you seven times for your sins</u>.

Lev. 26:29, "You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters.

Lev. 26:30, "I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and cast your carcasses on the lifeless forms of your idols; and My soul shall abhor you.

Lev. 26:31, "I will <u>lay your cities waste</u> and bring your sanctuaries to desolation, and I will not smell the fragrance of your sweet aromas.

Lev. 26:32, "I will bring the land to desolation, and your enemies who dwell in it shall be astonished at it.

Lev. 26:33, "I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you; your land shall be desolate and your cities waste.

Lev. 26:34, "Then the land shall enjoy its sabbaths as long as it lies desolate and you are in your enemies' land; then the land shall rest and enjoy its sabbaths."

<u>Deut. 30:1</u>, "Now it shall come to pass, when all these things come upon you, <u>the blessing and the curse</u> which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God drives you,

<u>Deut. 30:2</u>, "and <u>you return to the LORD your God</u> and <u>obey His voice</u>, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul,

Deut. 30:3, "that the LORD your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you."

#### Conclusion:

- 1. The Jewish people are still God's chosen people.
- 2. The Jewish people will never be driven off the face of the earth.
- 3. God is still using the Jewish people to bless the world.
- 4. If they are strong and drive out and defeat Hamas as ISIS was, then they will be blessing the entire Arab world, which does not want Hamas.

#### God's Work to Restore the Jewish People to their Land

- 1600-1800 British Restorationism
- 1797–1801 Napoleon's campaigns in the Middle East turn Europe's eyes to the Middle East
- 1800–1820 The beginning of Jewish eyes toward the Land Christians begin to look to Palestine to evangelize Jews
- 1840–1860 A mission established in Jerusalem: Christ Church Jewish leaders begin calling for a return without the Messiah
- 1840–1880 Increasing pogroms of antisemitism

\*Throughout the Ottoman period most of the Muslim rulers were not Arabs, thus no relation to the "Palestinian" Arabs.

The vast majority of the "Palestinian" people came in the early 20th century and were brought in as migrant workers.

But throughout the previous 2,000 years, there was always a Jewish presence.

## God's Work to Restore the Jewish People to Their Land

At the end of WWI, the British issued the Balfour Declaration. 1896 Theodore Herzl pushed for a Jewish state as the homeland of the Jews. Published *Der Judenstat* 

William Hechler, the Anglican Chaplain in Vienna, came to Herzl's aid.

## CHRISTIAN/POLITICAL

### The Balfour Declaration

The primary motivation was the religious beliefs of the War Cabinet about the Jewish people.

Though other factors were present, it is clear from the early statements of Balfour and others that neither gratitude to Weizmann, nor a desire for Jewish support for the war effort, imperial expansion, were the determinative factors.



Foreign Office,
November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country".

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Angu By

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Lloyd George, Welsh, Baptist

Arthur Balfour, Scot, Presbyterian

Arthur Henderson, Scottish Methodist lay preacher

George Barnes, Scot

Andrew Bonar Law, who from the age of 12 had lived in Scotland. Free Church of Scotland

\*Edward Montagu, Jewish

Edward Carson, Irish, Irish Presbyterian

Jan Christian Smuts, Cape Colony, Dutch Calvinist

Alfred Milner, German born

\*Lord George Curzon, Anglican

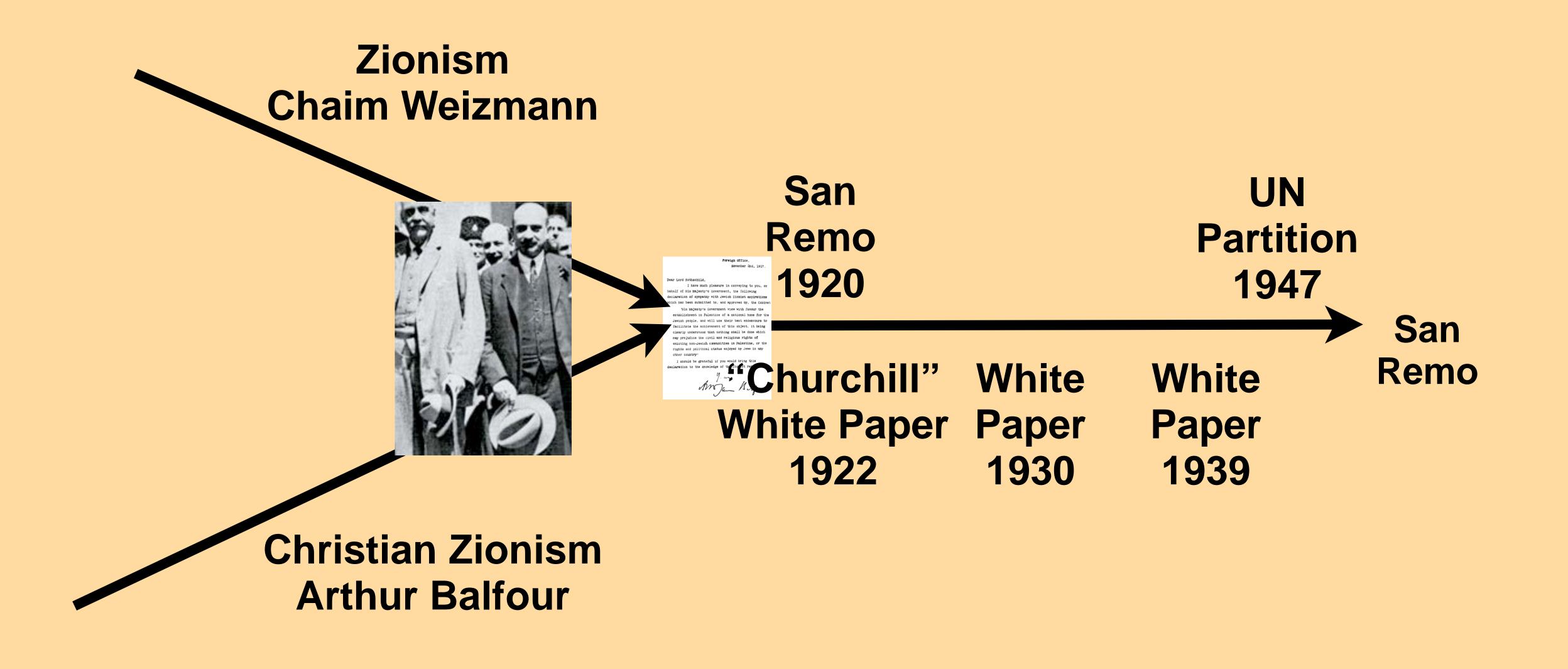
# The Council of the League of Nations British Mandate Preamble

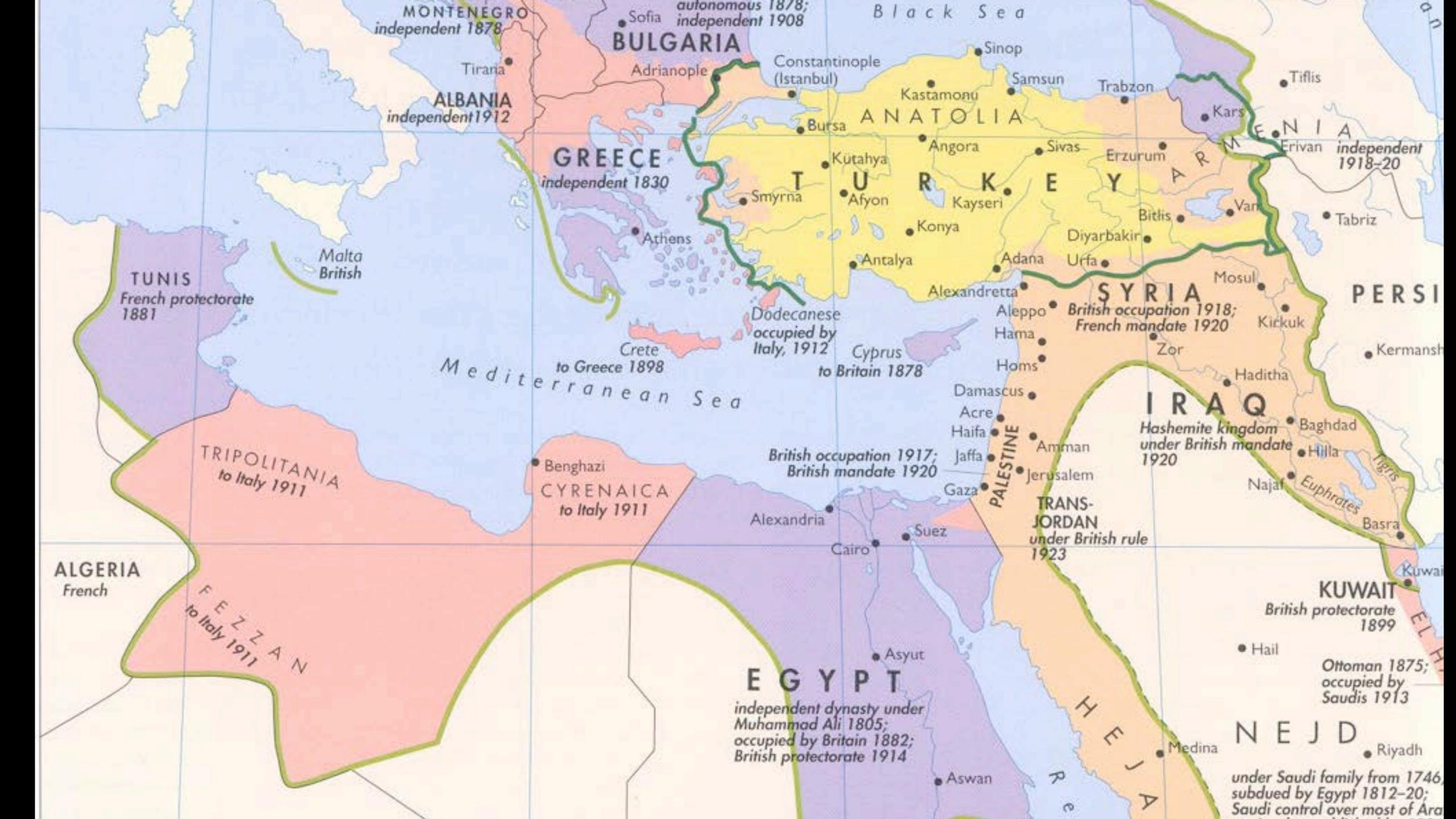
Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have agreed, for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, to entrust to a Mandatory selected by the said Powers the administration of the territory of Palestine, which formerly belonged to the Turkish Empire, within such boundaries as may be fixed by them; and

Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have also agreed that the Mandatory should be responsible for putting into effect the declaration originally made on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1917, by the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and adopted by the said Powers, in favor of the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing should be done which might prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing nonJewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country:

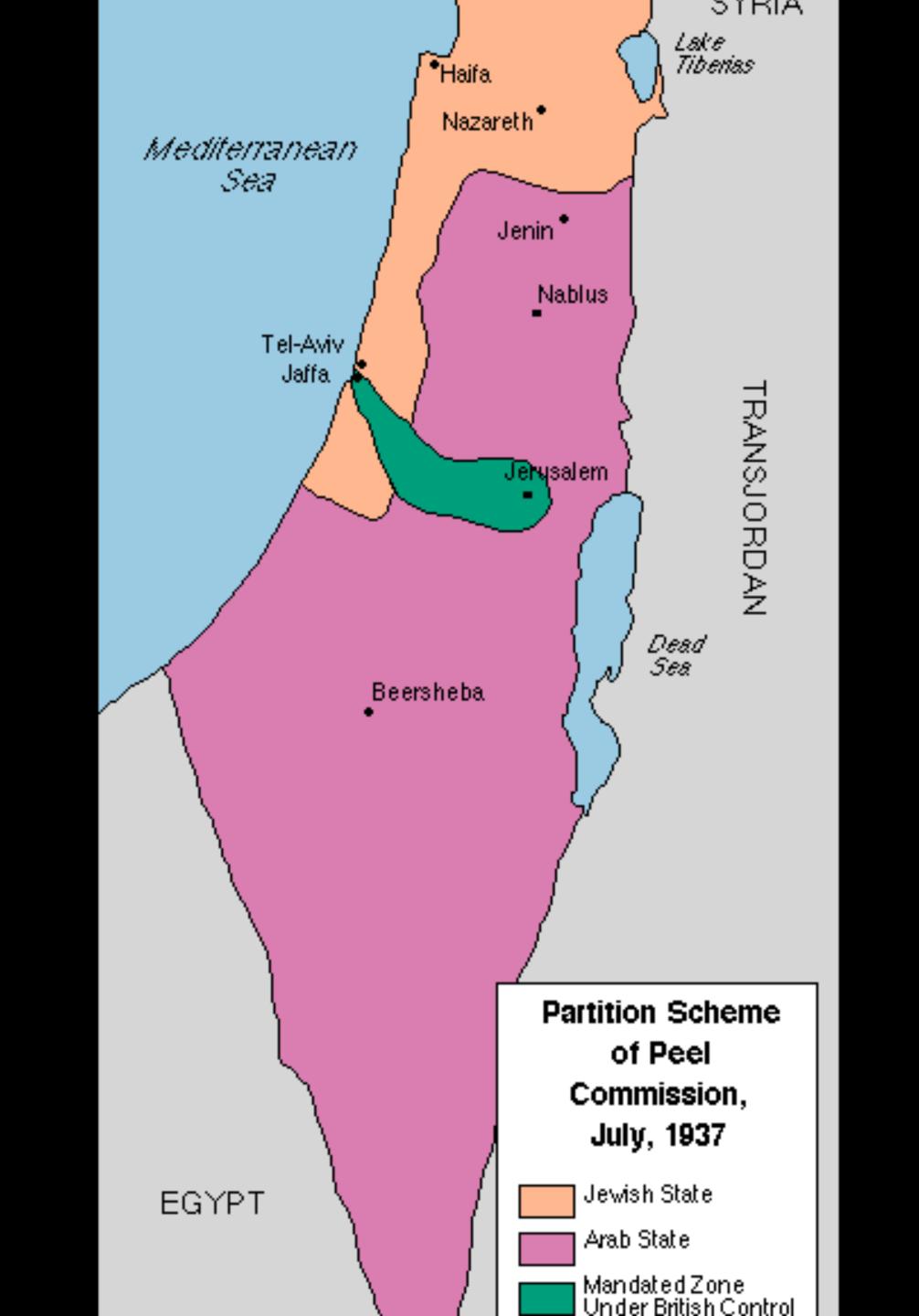
## Article 2 of the Mandate for Palestine

ARTICLE 2. The Mandatory shall be responsible for placing the country under such political, administrative and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish national home, as laid down in the preamble, and the development of self-governing institutions, and also for safeguarding the civil and religious rights of all the inhabitants of Palestine, irrespective of race and religion.









## https://www.icrc.org/en/contact#media-contacts

Something we can do. Contact the International Red Cross (IRC) and demand that they visit the Israeli hostages who include the elderly, women, children, and infants. Reports of rape, torture, abuse, and brutality are rampant. Demand that the IRC does its job.

#### **Another idea:**

Sites are being prepared now for contributions to the survivors of the kibbutzim.