

TROUBLE IN THE HOLY LAND

Radical alternative 'road map' proposed

Israeli leader urges recognition of Jordan as 'true Palestinian state'

Note from pastor Kevin follows this article.

An Israeli cabinet member who calls the U.S.-backed "road map" a disaster for Israel is proposing an alternative path to peace that recognizes Jordan as the true Palestinian state and Israeli sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza.

Minister of Tourism Benny Elon, who voted against the road map Sunday, will explain his peace plan at a press conference tomorrow morning at the Knesset building in Jerusalem.

Elon contends not one of the fundamental issues of the conflict is addressed by the road map.

"The refugee problem, the right of return and permanent borders all aren't addressed, but my plan clearly addresses these issues," he said in a statement.



Benny Elon

"We want peace," he said, "but a peace which entails an end to violence and an end to the Arab Israeli conflict – not peace which encourages the Palestinians to continue with violence and terrorism."

Elon argues Jordan is the true Palestinian state, pointing out about 70 percent of its citizens consider themselves Palestinians. After World War I, he notes, the British Mandate of Palestine included present day Israel, the West Bank, Gaza and Jordan. But the original territory was divided in 1922 when the British gave about three-fourths of it – the land east of the Jordan River – to King Abdullah, great-grandfather of present-day Jordanian King Abdullah.

On Sunday, the Israeli cabinet, by a 12-7 vote with four abstentions, gave conditional approval to the road map after contentious debate.

The road map is a phased plan drafted by the U.S., European Union, United Nations and Russia that requires the Palestinian Authority in

the first stage to implement administrative reforms and fight terror. The plan calls eventually for a Palestinian state followed by a final-status agreement addressing issues such as borders, Jerusalem and refugees.

Elon entitled his plan, "The Right Road To Peace, In the Wake of the War in Iraq - A Historic Opportunity for a Regional Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict."

Six major points addressed in the Elon plan include:

- Dissolution of the Palestinian Authority.
- A firm end to Palestinian terrorism by expelling terrorists, collecting weapons and dismantling terror-hotbed refugee camps.
- The international community will recognize the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as the sole representative of the Palestinians and provide it economic assistance to enable absorption of a limited number of refugees.
- Israel will become sovereign over Judea, Samaria and Gaza, and the Arabs living there will be Jordanian citizens living as residents of Israel.
- The exchange of Jewish and Arab populations begun in 1948 will be completed, and the international community will assist with rehabilitation of refugees in their new countries.
- Israel and Jordan-Palestine will declare the conflict ended and will work together as neighbors.

Elon, leader of the Moledet Party, is the political successor of late tourism minister Rehavam Zeevi, who was assassinated last year by Palestinian gunmen.

Editor's note: The March issue of WND's acclaimed Whistleblower magazine, titled "[MIDEAST REVOLUTION](#)," takes readers on an amazing trip to the future of the Middle East -- including an in-depth look at Benny Elon's plan to make Jordan the Mideast's Palestinian state.

Note from Pastor Kevin: The Prophet Zechariah prophesied that in the last days the nations would be in turmoil over the city of Jerusalem:

Zech 12:2-3 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of

drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. ³"And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it. (NKJ)

Imagine how absurd this prophecy must have seemed from the time the Jewish temple was destroyed in 70 AD and the Jews were scattered to all the nations, until 1967 when the Jews miraculously regained control of the city for the first time in 1900 years. During all this time, Jerusalem was a meaningless city on the world scene.

Until 1948, it was preposterous to even believe that the Jews would return to the land or that the nation of Israel would be established in one day, as the prophet Isaiah foretold:

Isa 66:8-9 Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion was in labor, she gave birth to her children. ⁹Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?" says the LORD. "Shall I who cause delivery shut up the womb?" says your God.

The modern Jewish nation was born in one day (May 15, 1948), exactly as the 2700-year-old prophecy predicted it would. Now the nations are in turmoil over the status of Jerusalem, just as the prophets foretold. Forces they cannot see nor understand are pushing the world leaders to come up with solutions. Some, like the plan above, seem to be pushing the world toward the brink of another all-out Middle-East war.

President Bush is also coming up with a desperate roadmap to show "evenhandedness" toward the Arabs by giving them Jewish land, which he and his European partners are extorting from the Jewish people through threats of sanctions and cutoff of military aid. President Bush believes the lie that Arab nations will support his plans to bring democracy to the Muslim world if he will in exchange give the Palestinians some of the land that God gave to the Jews by irrevocable promise (Gen 15), and giving them a divided portion of what the Bible calls the city of God (Jerusalem – Psalm 48). Those who divide the land of God for gain should heed the warning of the prophet Joel:

Joel 3:2-3 I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My land. ³They have cast lots for My people, have given a boy as payment for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they may drink. (NKJ)

*From the article above and many like it coming out of the world's Capitols, we can see that the pressure is building, and the eruption is soon to come. The Christian who has the light of God's Word can know how it all ends. Jesus is in control and these events are no surprise to Him. God is allowing man to do their plotting, but they are doing so in vain. **Jesus will soon return and be King of all the Earth.***

Ps 2:1-6 Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? ²The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, ³"Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us." ⁴He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the LORD shall hold them in derision. ⁵Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure: ⁶"Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion." (NKJ)