

Fair Witness calls for cool heads to prevail in Israel and Palestine

“And do this because you know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed” (Romans 13:11)

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In the aftermath of President Donald Trump’s recent statement on Jerusalem, Christians for Fair Witness on the Middle East (“Fair Witness”) calls for cool heads to prevail in both Israel and Palestine.

No American president should try to impose his or her own solution on issues of sovereignty, borders and Jerusalem. Nor does any American president have the authority to do so. These are matters only the Israelis and Palestinians can determine for themselves.

Perhaps then, what some are calling a peace process-ending crisis, is really an opportunity for the parties to take their futures into their own hands.

Fair Witness suggests that indeed this is “the time” and calls upon both Israelis and Palestinians to refuse to allow any and all unhelpful proclamations by outsiders to distract or sway them. Now is the time for both Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Abbas to stop making excuses and to start demonstrating statesmanship and leadership. They can do this by beginning the hard work of making the mutual compromises necessary for a just final status agreement and the possibility of a lasting peace.

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