

The Teacher & The Preacher

Israel Study Tour

Led by Pastor Dave McGarrah & Harold Berman

October 14 - 25, 2018

Itinerary
(As of December 3 - Subject to Change)

Sunday October 14 **DEPARTURE FROM USA**

- 10:50 PM departure from Newark International Airport on United Airlines flight #90

Monday October 15 **WELCOME TO ISRAEL**

- 4:20 PM arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport in Israel.
- Head to Israel's modern metropolis **Tel Aviv** to check-in at our hotel.
- **Welcome to Israel Dinner**

Overnight: Grand Beach Hotel, *Tel Aviv-Jaffa*

Tuesday October 16 **BEGINNINGS**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Pack bus and depart hotel
- Dramatic reenactment at **Independence Hall** in Tel Aviv where David Ben Gurion declared the establishment of the State of Israel in May 1948, *which many see as fulfillment of Biblical prophecies.*
- Travel north along the Mediterranean Sea to **Caesarea** with its ancient Roman theater and remains of the palace where **St. Paul** was arraigned before being sent to Rome for trial. (*Acts 24*).
- Lunch on your own
- Continue to the Roman era Galilean capital **Tzippori** with its magnificent synagogue & mosaics, where we will examine the development of **Rabbinic Judaism** and the complicated relationship between Jewish and Pagan Roman civilizations which continues to resonate today. *This is where Rav Yehudah Hanasi compiled the Mishnah (the first part of the Talmud) 1,800 years ago.*
- Check-in and have dinner at our Guest House on the shores of the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee).

Overnight: Nof Ginosar Kibbutz Hotel, *Sea of Galilee*

Wednesday October 17 **GALILEE OF FAITH**

- Breakfast at hotel
- Explore the **Ministry of Jesus** at the Sea of Galilee.
- See the 2,000 year **old Sea of Galilee fishing boat** found by members of Kibbutz Ginosar
- **Sail the Sea of Galilee** (*Kinneret*) as the disciples of Jesus did.
- Visit **Capernaum** the home base of Jesus' ministry including the site of the synagogue where Jesus taught and the church at what might have been Peter's house. (*John 6*).
- At **Mt of Beatitudes** remember the **Sermon on the Mount teachings.** (*Matt 5*)
- Lunch on your own
- Explore the narrow alleyways and synagogues of **Tzfat** – the city of the Jewish mystics - and learn how the mystical and spiritual traditions that emerged here 500 years ago continue to impact the Jewish world.
- Meet a **Kabalistic artist** in his studio; learn about Kabbalah via the lens of art.
- Time on your own to shop to explore the galleries and shops of Tzfat

- Dinner at the Guest House.
- Evening Jewish & Israeli folk songs **"Sing Along" with Allan Rabinowitz**

Overnight: Nof Ginosar Kibbutz Hotel, *Sea of Galilee*

Thursday October 18 **LAND OF BORDERS**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Delve into the complex security and water issues on the **Golan Heights**,
- Start at the headwaters of the Jordan River at **Tel Dan**, which also incorporates the **Biblical city of Dan and "Abraham's Gate"** *Learn about the rebellion of the Northern Kingdom of Israel against God and the Davidic monarchy. (1 Kings 12).* Tel Dan is at the foot of **Mt. Hermon**, where some remember the **Transfiguration**. (*Matthew 17, Mark 9, Luke 9:, 2 Peter 1*)
- See Israel's border with **Syria** to better understand the security situation
- Lunch on your own
- Visit and stand in solidarity with **Israeli soldiers** guarding Israel's northern border and learn about life on a border Kibbutz.
- Return to our guest house for dinner.
- Meet a **kibbutz member** and learn about daily life on a Kibbutz

Overnight: Nof Ginosar Kibbutz Hotel, *Sea of Galilee*

Friday October 19 **LIVING WATERS**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Pack bus and depart hotel
- Head to the **Jordan River**, associated with the baptism of Jesus by John (*Mark 1, Math 3, Luke 3*) **Those who wish to may be baptized** (*additional cost*)
- Stop at ancient **Bet Shean** where the bodies of **King Saul & his son Jonathan** were hung by the Philistines (*1 Sam 6*) & which was a major city in the 2nd Temple Period during the Ministry of Jesus.
- Lunch on own
- Continue south via the **Jordan River Valley** – *understand why this area plays a central role in Israel's security planning.* Meet local residents and have a briefing regarding the security challenges of living in this area at Israel's border with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.
- Ascend to **Jerusalem** - celebrate our arrival with the magnificent views from **Mt. Scopus**
- Check-in at our hotel
- Join thousands at the Kotel (Western Wall) for evening prayer services **welcoming the Sabbath** with song and dance (weather permitting)
- Return to the hotel for **Friday night Sabbath dinner**.

Overnight: Prima Kings Hotel, *Jerusalem*

Saturday October 20 **SABBATH PEACE IN JERUSALEM**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Option to attend prayer services at one of Jerusalem's many synagogues or take time to explore the city on your own
- Lunch on your own
- Session at the hotel with **Khaled Abu Toameh**, former Arab Affairs Correspondent for the Jerusalem Post. *Can Israel and the Palestinian Authority Make Peace?*
- Dinner at the hotel and **Havdallah** ceremony marking the end of Shabbat
- Head to the **Tower of David** Museum for the **Night Spectacular Sound & Light Show**

Additional Options on your own: *The Israel Museum is open from 10 AM – 5 PM and the Tower of David Museum is open from 10 AM – 2 PM.*

Overnight: Prima Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Sunday October 21 JERUSALEM THE HOLY THROUGH THE AGES

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Step back 3,000 years to the days of **King David** and to the days of the **First Temple** at the City of David, (*the original Jerusalem*) and get an update on the latest archeological finds - which might include the palace of King David. This is also the area where water systems were built thousands of years ago by **King Hezekiah** to secure the water supply of Jerusalem from invading armies! (*I Chronicles 11; II Chronicles 32; II Kings 20*) and the **Pool of Siloam** where Jesus healed the blind man (*John 9*).
- Private prayer and contemplation time at the **Kotel** (Western Wall) which, as a remnant of the retaining wall of the Second Temple has become a magnet for the prayers of Jews and others.
- Session with the **Kempinskis** at the **Shorashim** Biblical Shop and Learning Center which has become a center for interfaith engagement.
- Lunch on your own
- Visit the Old City's fascinating **Temple Institute** Educational Center where Biblical prophecy and instruction is a daily guide to life.
- Explore the restored **Jewish Quarter** which was destroyed and depopulated of Jews by the Arabs in 1948 and rebuilt after Israel's victory in the 1967 Six Day War.
- Return to the hotel for dinner.

Overnight: Prima Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday October 22 TO THE TEMPLE

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Explore the centrality of the Temple experience in Jewish society and traditions, stepping back 2,000 years to the days of the **Second Temple** and the **Ministry of Jesus**.
- We'll start with an early morning visit to the **Temple Mount** (*depending on security situation*)
- Continue to the **Davidson Southern Temple Mount** Archeological Park where we will climb the original steps that pilgrims used to ascend and descend from the Temple.
- Lunch and shopping time on your own in the Old City
- At the **Kotel Tunnels** (which run along the length of western wall of the Temple Mount), continue learning about the Temple experience
- Continue to the Old City's Christian Quarter and to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**, traditional site of the crucifixion, burial and resurrection of Jesus
- Return to the hotel for dinner

Overnight: Prima Kings Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday October 23 WHAT PRICE FREEDOM

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Early departure from the hotel to the Dead Sea area
- Cable car up to the fortress of **Masada** where the last Jewish freedom fighters faced the mighty Roman Empire 2,000 years ago. *Tour atop the mountain as we address the troubling issues presented by the Masada story.*
- Head to the "lowest place on earth" for a **float in the Dead Sea (weather permitting)** and lunch.
- View the **Ein Gedi Oasis** where young **David hid from King Saul** 3,000 years ago. (*I Sam 24*)
- Stop at **Qumran**, where many of the texts known as the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. *These texts date from the 3rd century BCE to the 1st century CE and provide insight into the diverse Jewish society of those centuries and the shared backdrop of early Christianity and post Temple Judaism*

- On the way back to Jerusalem, stop in Maaleh Adumim for a home hospitality program with **Ethiopian Jewish Immigrants** and hear the remarkable stories of their long trek home from Africa
- Return to the hotel for dinner

Overnight: Prima Kings Hotel, *Jerusalem*

Wednesday October 24 **FROM OUT OF THE CRUCIBLE**

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Guest speaker at the hotel
- Pack bus and depart hotel
- Stand in solemn remembrance at the **Yad Vashem** Holocaust Memorial Center including the history museum, Avenue of the Righteous of the Nations and the Children's Memorial.
- After Yad Vashem, we'll celebrate the vibrancy of life in Israel by exploring and having lunch and shopping time on your own at the famous bustling open-air **Machaneh Yehudah Market**.
- Continue to the **Garden Tomb** for communion and to remember the Crucifixion and Resurrection in a beautiful garden setting which calls to mind the place of the skull (Golgotha). (*Matt 27*)
- Explore Mt. **Zion**, traditional site of **David's Tomb** and the **Upper Room** location of **The Last Supper** and the **Pentecost**. (*Luke 22, Acts 2*)
- **Summary session and Farewell Dinner**
- **Head to Ben Gurion International Airport for United Airlines flight #91 departing at 11:10 PM**

Thursday October 25 **SHALOM**

- 4:20 AM arrival at Newark International Airport

- Listed activities and speakers are subject to availability.
- Program will be staffed by a Keshet Israel Tour Educator
- Underlined meals are included in the package price.
- This itinerary is proprietary to Keshet and is intended for the promotion of and to inform those considering joining this Keshet trip. It is not to be transmitted to any other party without prior authorization from Keshet



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