



God's Faithfulness

*A Shores Study Tour hosted by Ray & Jill Lockhart
21 - 31 May, 2021*



We will travel through the land, from coast to desert to mountains, to visit the places where important Biblical events took place, and dig deep into the Scriptures in their original context to learn about God's faithfulness to His people, in the past, present, and future. Our tour includes sites from the Old and New Testaments as well as the history of modern Israel. In addition, we will learn about God's work amongst believers in the land today. Jesus will always be the centre of our studies, as we seek a better understanding of His ministry, His place among the Jewish people, and the application of His teachings in our lives.

Day 1: Friday, May 21

ARRIVAL IN THE LAND OF PROMISE

We arrive at Ben Gurion Airport near **Tel Aviv**, where our guide and bus driver for the trip will meet us. We will begin our tour with a trip to **Ein Kerem**, the traditional town of John the Baptist and visit the home of the Israeli evangelist, Rachel Netanel. We will then enter Jerusalem, the City of the Great King to our accommodations in Christ Church. This evening we will have a special Shabbat meal together at the Guesthouse.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 2: Saturday, May 22

IN THE STEPS OF JESUS - Crucifixion, Death, Burial and Resurrection

Today we focus on sites related to the Biblical passages concerning Jesus' last week in Jerusalem. Our goal is to understand why He was crucified, how He was buried, and what it meant to the Jewish people of the First Century that He was raised from the dead. We begin our day with a panoramic overview of Jerusalem from the **Mount of Olives**, the site of Jesus' ascension to heaven and His future second coming. After viewing a **tomb from the time of Jesus**, we will walk down the Mount of Olives to **Gethsemane**. Next we cross the **Kidron Valley** and enter the Old City through **Stephen's Gate**, stopping to examine the remains of the **Pool of Bethesda**. We continue on to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre**, the most likely site of the burial and resurrection of Jesus. We end our tour with a reflective time at a site that wonderfully illustrates Jesus' burial and resurrection, the peaceful **Garden Tomb**. This evening we will have a special wine and cheese event at the local Heritage Centre at Christ Church for a presentation and a time of fellowship.



Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 3: Sunday, May 23

WORSHIP AND RESTORATION OF HOPE

This morning we will have the opportunity to attend the worship service at Christ Church, the oldest protestant church in the Middle East. In the afternoon we study both a great tragedy and the wonder of the Lord's redemptive power. We will examine the systematic annihilation of six million Jews in the Nazi genocide, God coming to earth in the form of a man to save His people from their sins, and the loving witness of Christians committed to the Biblically prophesied physical restoration and spiritual rebirth of the Jewish people. At **Yad VaShem**, the Israel Memorial Museum to the Holocaust we examine the spiritual and theological roots of the most notorious genocide in history and the connection between the Church, Jesus and the Jewish people.



Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 4: Monday, May 24

JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF JESUS - The Temple at the Centre

Today will be devoted to learning about Jerusalem in Jesus' day, when the Temple in Jerusalem was the centre of Jewish life. We will study how worship was performed in the temple, the Sadducees and Jesus' attitude towards them, and generally enrich our insight into many important events in the gospels and book of Acts. We will make our way through the **Jewish Quarter** to the **Herodian Villas**, the palatial mansions that were the home to the Sadducees, the ruling priesthood at the time of Jesus. We will then visit the **Western Wall** place of prayer, Judaism's most holy site and then onto the excavations near the base of the Temple Mount and discuss Pentecost on the **Southern Steps** where Jesus walked. This evening we will have a special speaker share with us about their ministry in Jerusalem.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 5: Tuesday, May 25

BETHLEHEM AND FREE AFTERNOON IN JERUSALEM

This morning we take the short drive to **Bethlehem** the "**Shepherd's Fields**" where the angels heralded the advent of Messiah. The rest of the day is free for rest, reflection, shopping, or for the energetic, perhaps a walk on the walls of the Old City. *Shoresh will provide a list of interesting options for those who want to explore on their own.*

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

Day 6: Wednesday, May 26

THE LIVES OF THE PATRIARCHS

This morning we shall continue in the steps of the Patriarchs to the southern desert region called the **Negev** in the Bible (a name it still carries today). We begin the day with a visit to the burial site at the **Cave of the Patriarchs** in **Hebron**, where we will look at God's covenants with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Next we will visit **Tel Beersheva**, one of the most impressive and ancient fortified cities of the Kingdom of Judah. Time permitting we will visit the **Fountain of Tears**, which are unique sculptures created by Rick Weineke. We conclude our day at our spa hotel on the **Dead Sea**, where we can enjoy a float in the therapeutic mineral rich waters.

Overnight: David Spa Hotel, Dead Sea

Day 7: Thursday, May 27

THE JUDEAN DESERT - Seeking Refuge in the Wilderness



Our theme today is the wilderness and what it signified to the ancient Israelites. We begin our day at **Masada**, Herod the Great's magnificent fortress palace in the desert, and the site of the last stand of the Zealots, a Jewish revolutionary group at the time of Jesus. From here we drive to the beautiful subtropical oasis of **Ein Gedi**, where David hid from Saul. We may see some wildlife, including the furry rock badger and the graceful ibex. We will also discuss the temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness. After a possible brief visit to Jericho, we will drive through the **Mountains of Judea**, to the Galilee with a brief overlook of Nazareth on our way to our hotel on the Sea of Galilee.

Overnight: Sea of Galilee Hotel, Galilee

Day 8: Friday, May 28

Today we explore Northern Israel, one of the most beautiful regions of the country. We will seek to understand what the Jewish people of 2,000 years ago expected of the Messiah, and how that was fulfilled in Jesus. We begin by climbing up to the magnificent **Golan Heights**. We will visit a reconstructed Talmudic village at **Katzrin**, where we will take another close look at life in New Testament times and the use of everyday imagery in Scripture. Next we will travel by **Mt. Bental**, a lookout spot near the border with Syria and the area of the road to Damascus where the Apostle Paul met the Lord. Along the way we will pass Druze Villages and travelling along the lower slopes of **Mount Hermon** - Israel's highest mountain, and the most likely site of the Transfiguration, time permitting we will visit **Caesarea Philippi**, in the region where Peter made his famous confession that Jesus is the Messiah. Our final stop is the **Dan Nature Reserve**, where we see the incredible archaeological remains of the OT city of Dan, including the city gate from the time of Abraham, and consider ancient Israel's apostasy. We will also enjoy a pleasant walk by a stream and discuss the meaning of "living water" in the Hebrew Scriptures and Jesus' teaching.

Overnight: Sea of Galilee Hotel, Galilee

Day 9: Saturday, May 29

AROUND THE SEA OF GALILEE - Daily Life and Religion in the Time of Jesus

Our day will be spent visiting various sites around the Sea of Galilee as we try to picture daily life and religion in the First Century, and seek to better understand the miracles and teachings of Jesus in His original Jewish context. We will start our day at the **Mount of Beatitudes**, traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount, where we will consider the Kingdom of God in Jesus' teachings. Next we will arrive at **Capernaum**, the town where Jesus lived during the majority of His ministry. From here we will arrive to the newly excavated **Magdala** on the shores of the Galilee and have a short time of contemplation at the lake.



Later in the afternoon we will visit Kibbutz Ginosar to see the "**Jesus Boat**", a Galilean fishing boat from the First Century. From here we will set sail for a **boat ride on the Lake** to enjoy the views and some worship, prayer and reflective time. We will end the day with a time of communion at Beit Bracha.

Overnight: Sea of Galilee Hotel, Galilee

Day 10: Sunday, May 30

LIGHT TO THE NATIONS – Jews, Gentiles, and the Messiah



Today we begin our day travelling along the route of the ancient **Via Maris** to **Megiddo**, one of King Solomon's cities, and according the Book of Revelation possibly the assembly point for the armies marching to the battle of Armageddon. From here we hope to visit the home of local believers (Barhoums) to hear about their ministry and enjoy their hospitality. We end our day at the fabulous ruins of the Herodian city of **Caesarea Maritima**, the site of the conversion of Cornelius and the location from which Paul left the shores of Israel and set sail on his journey to Rome.

Overnight: Mediterra Hotel , Netanya, Meditarrean Coast

Day 11: Monday, May 26

DEPARTURE

Depending on our flight departure time, we may visit the northern homeland of the Patriarchs, of the Israelites under Joshua, and later the breakaway Kingdom of Israel. We hope to visit **Shiloh** (long-time location of the Tabernacle and the ark of the covenant). In the afternoon, we will drive to the airport for our flight home.

IMPORTANT - PLEASE NOTE:

- *Most days on this itinerary involve a regular amount of walking and/or climbing. Therefore this trip cannot generally accommodate those who have significant difficulty with climbing stairs or walking a half a mile at a time. Please be in contact with the trip leaders if you have any concerns about this.*
- *Itinerary and accommodation subject to change if conditions necessitate.*
- *It is mandatory for each participant to have travel insurance to cover medical costs or trip cancellations.*