

God's Faithfulness



July 22 – August 4, 2023
Led by Tom Rutherford

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 center 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.



MissionValley
TRAVEL INC.



IMPORTANT

ALL DEPOSITS ARE DUE APRIL 14, 2023

FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE MAY 24, 2023

\$3,146 - Land Price

\$2,186 - Airfare Price

Group block from Orlando on UA has been booked.

For individual airfare please email tours@mvti.us

\$750 – Land & Air Deposit (due at registration)

(Direct Deposit or Check)

IF PAYING WITH CREDIT CARD (3.5% fee):

\$776.25 – Land & Air Deposit

Price is based on two persons sharing a double room.

****Land price is based on a group of 20 people or more****

Booking: Prices are good for **three weeks from the date they are quoted**. If not confirmed by the tour leader within three weeks, prices may have to be updated. In general, hotel prices cannot be guaranteed more than 6 months in advance. Shoresh reserves the right to amend prices of tours without prior notice in case of devaluations of the dollar, or in case of receiving new updated contract rates from suppliers

- Accommodation - Half-board (breakfast & dinner) in en-suite shared twin rooms, taxes & portage.
- Transportation - Bus and driver for touring and group transfers to and from airport.
- Guide - Licensed Christian/Messianic guide.
- Tips - Driver, Guide, Hotels.
- Guest Speakers - (if specified).
- Entrance fees - Historical sites, museums, parks, etc.
- Study Materials.
- Services of US Travel Agent – Mission Valley Travel

***Not Included:** Airfare, visas, Travel Insurance (mandatory, rates listed below); lunches & snacks; individual activities on free days; individual transfers to/from the airport apart from the main group; wheelchairs; discretionary gift for guide and driver; personal discretionary spending.

Single Supplement: **\$937** (additional single room cost, limited availability)

Approximate Travel Insurance Pricing for US residents:

Trip Cost (Covers Up To)	Age Up to 30	Age 31-59	Age 60-70	Age 71-75	Age 76-79	Age 80+
\$3000	\$176	\$199	\$282	\$352	\$418	\$550

***Travel Insurance Quote is APPROXIMATE.
Individual pricing is available upon request.***

ITINERARY

Day 1: Saturday, 22 July 2023

DEPARTURE FROM USA

Day 2: Sunday, 23 July 2023

ARRIVAL IN THE LAND OF PROMISE

We arrive at Ben Gurion Airport near **Tel Aviv**, where we will be met by our guide and bus driver for the trip. Depending on flight arrival time, there are several options for this day:

Afternoon or Evening Arrival: DINNER & REST

From the airport we will travel to our hotel on the **Mediterranean Coast**. Time permitting, we may have an opportunity to stroll on the beach or swim before dinner. Later we will have a brief meeting for introductions, some orientation, and prayer.

Overnight: Kfar Maccabiah Hotel, Mediterranean Coast



Day 3: Monday, 24 July

THE LIVES OF THE PATRIARCHS



We begin our journey by climbing up through the strategic lowlands into the **Mountains of Judea**, to the burial **Cave of the Patriarchs** in **Hebron**, where we will look at God's covenants with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Next 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).

Here we will visit a **Bedouin museum** where we examine their nomadic culture in order to shed light on the lives of Abraham and the Patriarchs. Time permitting, our last stop will be **Tel Arad**, a pre-Abrahamic major city and later an Israelite fortress. We conclude our day travelling through the **Judean Desert** to our spa hotel on the **Dead Sea**, where we can enjoy a float in the therapeutic mineral rich waters.

Overnight: Spa Hotel, Dead Sea

Day 4: Tuesday, 25 July

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 Masada we drive north to visit Qasr al-Yahud the traditional site of the Baptism of Jesus. Those who wish will be able to renew their vows at this time. Then we head to the beautiful subtropical oasis of **Ein Gedi**, where David hid from Saul. Depending on conditions, we can walk into the nature reserve and possibly to the waterfalls. 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. Time permitting, our last site will be **Qumran**, likely the home of the Essenes, a First Century Jewish sect which may have influenced early Christianity, and the site of the most exciting archaeological discovery ever made in Israel – the Dead Sea Scrolls.



Overnight: Spa Hotel, Dead Sea

Day 5: Wednesday, 26 July

SAMARIA: ANCIENT ISRAEL

Today we journey into the northern homeland of the Patriarchs, of the Israelites under Joshua, and later the breakaway Kingdom of Israel. We will visit the West Bank community of Nablus to see Jacob's Well, a two thousand year old well associated with Jacob and the story of the Samaritan woman. We will also spend time at the Church of St. Photina as we visit the well. Other sites we may visit include: **Mt. Gerazim** (the "Mount of Blessing" from Joshua's time), **Mt. Kebir** and **Alon Moreh** (scenic overlook and one of Abraham's campsites), and **Shiloh** (long-time location of the Tabernacle and the ark of the covenant). We will focus on our roots in the Old Testament, which are vital to our understanding of the New Testament.



Overnight: Sea of Galilee

Day 6: Thursday, 27 July

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 the day at **Chorazin**, the well-preserved ruins of a typical Galilean village, where we study village life, Jewish religion, and the Pharisees. Our next stop will be the **Mount of Beatitudes**, traditional site of the Sermon on the Mount, where we will consider the Kingdom of God in Jesus' teachings. After a short walk or drive down the hill we will arrive at **Capernaum**, the town where Jesus lived during the majority of His ministry. At lovely **Tabgha**, which commemorates the multiplication of loaves and fish, and where Jesus met the disciples after the resurrection, we will enjoy a contemplative time on the shore of 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. After dinner we will meet with a local believer.

Overnight: Sea of Galilee



Day 7: Friday, 28 July

NORTHERN ISRAEL – “Who Do Men Say That I Am?”

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**. In the morning 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 along the lower slopes of **Mount Hermon** – Israel's highest mountain, and the most likely site of the Transfiguration. Our next stop is **Caesarea Philippi**, in the region where Peter made his famous confession that Jesus is the Messiah. Along the way we will pass **Druze Villages** before coming to **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. 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

Day 8: Saturday, 29 July

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

Today we travel west and then down the coast, visiting a number of Biblical sites that testify to God's faithfulness to His word, past, present, and future. Our first visit of the day will be ancient **Nazareth**, Jesus' boyhood home and place of His early ministry. We continue along the route of the ancient **Via Maris** to



Megiddo, one of King Solomon's cities, and according to the Book of Revelation possibly the assembly point for the armies marching to the battle of Armageddon. We then travel to **Mount Carmel**, with a spectacular view over the North of Israel, near the spot where Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal. We complete 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: Christ Church Guesthouse Jerusalem

Day 9: Sunday, 30 July

THE RESTORATION OF HOPE – A Garland Instead of Ashes

We will start the day by worshipping at Christ Church, the oldest protestant church in the Middle East. We will then 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. After breakfast, we will enjoy a tour of the **Christ Church Heritage Centre** to learn about CMJ's 200-year history of ministry to the Jewish people. Next, we travel to **Yad VaShem**, the Israel Memorial Museum to the Holocaust. Here 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 Jerusalem

Day 10: Monday, 31 July

JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF JESUS – The Temple at the Center

Today will be devoted to learning about Jerusalem in Jesus' day, when the Temple in Jerusalem was the center 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. An early start will take us up to the **Temple Mount**



(conditions permitting), where we'll consider some of Jesus' activities there, as well as the claims of Islam. After a visit to the **Western Wall** place of prayer, Judaism's most holy site, we will take a trip to the subterranean **Western Wall Tunnels** to walk at what was street level in the time of Jesus. We then make our way through the **Jewish Quarter** of the Old City to see the **Herodian Villas**, the palatial mansions that were the home to the Sadducees, the ruling priesthood at the time of Jesus. We complete our day at the excavations near the base of the Temple Mount and discuss Pentecost on the **Southern Steps** where Jesus walked. Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse Jerusalem

Day 11: Tuesday, 1 August

FREE DAY IN JERUSALEM

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 Jerusalem

Day 12: Wednesday, 2 August

THE BIRTH OF JESUS – Ein Karem and Bethlehem

After breakfast we take a short drive to Ein Karem. The biblical account of Mary meeting Elizabeth (the mother of John the Baptist) is believed to have taken place in Ein Karem. While there we will visit the Church of the Visitation. From here we take the short drive to **Bethlehem**, where we will visit the **Church of the Nativity**, which marks the probable site of the birth of Jesus, and the "**Shepherd's Fields**" where the angels heralded the advent of Messiah. We will have the opportunity to do some shopping in Bethlehem before returning to the Old City where more shopping is available.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse Jerusalem

Day 13: Thursday, 3 August

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 overlook 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**. From here we walk 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**.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse Jerusalem

(For those groups with a late night flight, rooms will be held until departure for the airport.)

Day 14: Friday, 4 August

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Depending on flight departure time, there are several options for this day.

Flight Itinerary

<i>Date</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Time</i>
Sat 22 July	Orlando – Chicago – Tel Aviv Yafo	UA1828/ UA140	4:15PM – 5:20PM
Fri 4 August	Tel Aviv Yafo – Newark – Orlando	UA085/ UA1695	12:00PM – 10:08PM

Please register online via e-registration.

<https://shoresh.mvti.net/ChurchMessiah-2023>

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.*