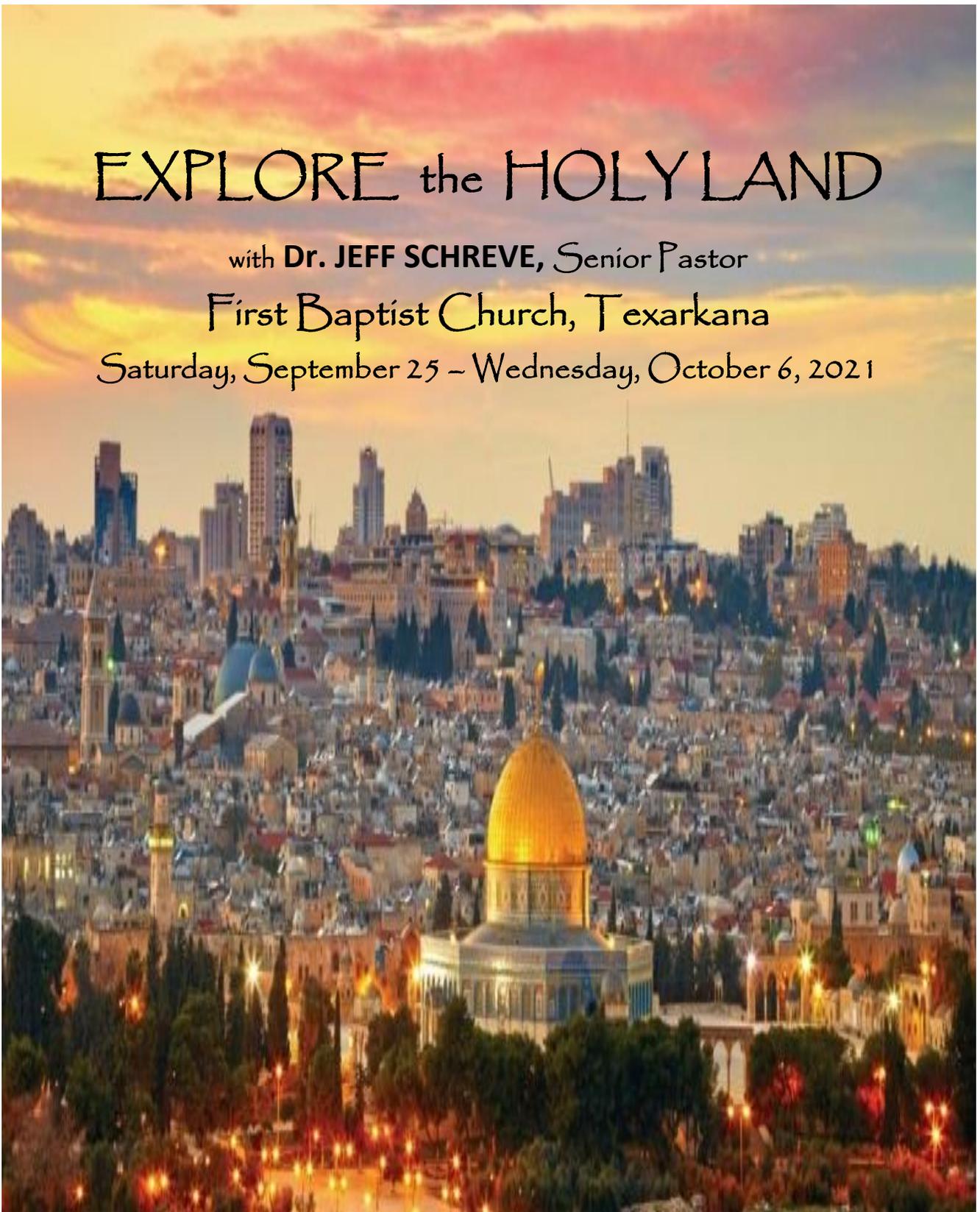


# EXPLORE the HOLY LAND

with **Dr. JEFF SCHREVE**, Senior Pastor

First Baptist Church, Texarkana

Saturday, September 25 – Wednesday, October 6, 2021



# DAILY TRIP ITINERARY

**SAT. SEP 25      TEXARKANA      DALLAS**

Our private charter motorcoach will depart Texarkana at 2:00P from First Baptist Church and arrive at our hotel near DFW Airport late afternoon. Dinner will be **on your own** at a restaurant near our hotel.

**SUN. SEP 26      DFW      MIAMI      TEL AVIV**

This morning we take a short transfer to our flight terminal at DFW where we will check-in and board our flight to Miami. In Miami, we'll connect to our nonstop overnight flight to Tel Aviv (aboard a 777) which will fly us over the Atlantic and across Europe with arrival in Israel the following day (Mon).

**Dinner              Breakfast**      (both on flight)

**MON. SEP 27      TEL AVIV      JERUSALEM**

Our arrival at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion International Airport is scheduled for 3:10P. After gathering our luggage and clearing customs and immigration, we'll meet Pilar, our expert Israeli tour guide who is a Messianic Jew. We'll board our deluxe motorcoaches with professional drivers for the short drive to the Holy City of Jerusalem where we will check-in to our first-class hotel, **The Dan Panorama Hotel Jerusalem**. This evening our group will enjoy a **welcome dinner** together at the hotel.

**Dinner              Breakfast**



**TUE. SEP 28 BEGIN TOURING the GALILEE**  
**Caesarea Mt Carmel Nazareth Megiddo Cana**

This morning after breakfast at the hotel, we begin our touring with a visit to **Caesarea Maritima**, a city built by Herod the Great to serve as his port. He also constructed a theater that held 3,500 which we will visit. We will also see the place where Paul was imprisoned.



Soon after we depart Caesarea, we'll view **Mt. Carmel**, 1,791 ft high – the spot where Elijah challenged 450 prophets of Baal to see who could first light the sacrifice on the altar by fire.

**The Galilee** (primarily the mountainous region of Israel) is one of the most beautiful parts of the country. Situated in the north of Israel, it's characterized by its lush landscape with agriculture, amazing natural landforms, historic sites and quaint rural villages.



**JEZREEL VALLEY: Israel's breadbasket**

The **Jezreel Valley** spreads north and east from Mount Carmel, providing convenient passage for international travelers in ancient times. The fertile alluvial soil makes this the country's breadbasket as well. The Bible speaks of the gathering of armies in this valley at the place of **Armageddon**.

North of the Jezreel Valley and nestled in a circle of cypress-studded hills, **Nazareth** was a relatively isolated village in the time of Jesus' youth with a population of less than two hundred. Today Nazareth is home to more than 60,000 Israeli Arabs and home to thousands of Jewish residents. While there, we will visit **Nazareth Village**, an open-air museum that reconstructs and reenacts village life in the Galilee during the time of Jesus.

We will visit **Megiddo**, in a strategic location astride the Megiddo Pass and inside the busy Jezreel Valley where the modern road follows the ancient one.

Nearby is the village of **Cana**, celebrated as the scene of Jesus' first miracle. It's actually the place of his first two public miracles in Galilee - the changing of water into wine and the remote healing of an official's son in Capernaum (19 miles away). Late this afternoon, we will arrive in Tiberias where we will check-in to our first-class hotel, **The Sofia Tiberias**, located on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

**Breakfast**

**Dinner**

### **WED. SEP 29 THE GALILEE**

***Boat trip on the Sea of Galilee Capernaum Mt of Beatitudes  
Tabgha Baptism in Jordan River***

Today we will enjoy several memorable highlights of our trip. We'll sail to Capernaum across the **Sea of Galilee** that Jesus calmed with His word. The highlight is when the captain cuts the motor and you're surrounded by landscapes sacred for thousands of years. In your wooden boat, resembling the ancient ones, you feel you've gone back to a time when people depended on wind and waves for their livelihood and their miracles. Here, Jesus walked on the water (John 6:19-21), calmed a storm (Matt. 8:23-26), and showed the disciples miraculous catches of fish (Luke 5:1-8; John 21:1-6).



While in **Capernaum**, the center of Jesus' activities during his ministry, we will visit the ruins of an ancient synagogue where Jesus most likely taught. We'll continue to the **Mount of Beatitudes**, site of the Sermon on the Mount, and also the site of the Miracle of the loaves and fish. This is a wonderful place for personal reflection and prayer.

**Tabgha - Church of the Multiplication** is believed to occupy the site where Christ performed his miracle with two fish and five loaves. This day could be one of the highlights of your life as you will have the choice to renew your vows to God. For those who choose, Pastor Schreve will baptize at this holy site on the bank of the **Jordan River**. It is the site where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. More than half a million tourists and pilgrims flock to the holy site each year, many to be baptized in its hallowed waters. There are 12 baptismal pools (visitors must purchase white baptismal robes in order to enter the pools), as well as changing rooms, hot showers and quiet prayer areas. Additional highlights include a waterfront promenade, a restaurant and a gift shop where it's possible to buy souvenirs including holy water and stones from the River Jordan.

**Sofia Tiberias**

**Breakfast**

**Lunch** (St. Peter's Fish)

**Dinner**

## **THU. SEP 30      UPPER GALILEE**

**Tel Dan    Caesarea Philippi    Golan Heights    Mt. Bental**

Today we drive to the **Upper Galilee** and visit **Tel Dan**, a nature reserve and the source of the Dan and Jordan Rivers. It is an impressive archaeological site with unique remains of the Canaanite and Israelite cities and a Biblical high place.



At **Caesarea Philippi**, Jesus turned to his disciples and asked them who the multitudes thought He was. They responded that some thought he was John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.



Then Jesus asked them who they thought He was, and Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God" (Matt. 16:15-16). Jesus blessed Peter and revealed to them "upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt. 16:18)

We will visit the **Golan Heights**, referred to as “Bashan;” the word “Golan” derives from the biblical city of “Golan in Bashan” (Deut. 4:43, Josh. 21:27). This area was assigned to the tribe of Manasseh (Josh. 13:29-31). **Mt. Bental** is only 40 minutes from Tiberias and overlooks Syria; a great place to visit if you are curious about the Arab-Israeli conflict or want to take in an amazing view!



**Sofia Tiberias**

**Breakfast**

**Dinner**

**FRI. OCT 1**

**BEIT SHE'AN**

**JERUSALEM**



This morning, we drive south from Tiberias to visit **Beit She'an**. There we will view the excavations of one of the largest Roman cities in the world. It's strategic position in the fertile Beit She'an Valley made it one of the major cities in the land of Israel. The area was settled about 6,000 years ago. It has remained continually inhabited since then.

Extensive excavation of a large mound has revealed over 20 layers of remains from ancient civilizations. Canaanite temples pre-date Egyptian occupation of the region followed by Israelite rule and the Philistines during the Old Testament period. This former Roman metropolis was home to 30,000 to 40,000 citizens and covered approximately 370 acres.

Beit She'an appears in the Bible several times and is famous as the site where King Saul and his sons hung from the city walls. The city remained a significant metropolis during the reign of King David and King Solomon.

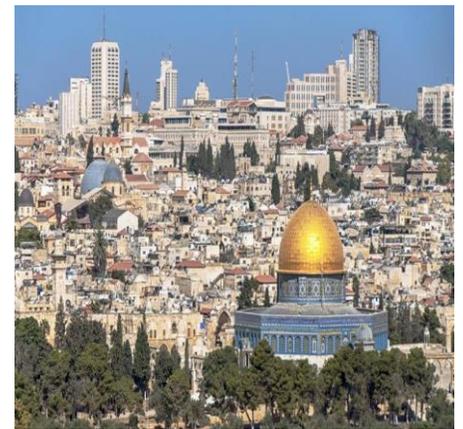


Our drive then takes us through the desert beside the banks of the **Jordan River** along Israel's border with Jordan, then you will observe first-hand the beautiful drive up to the Holy City of **Jerusalem**. There will be time to view and take pictures of the city from **Mt. Scopus** before we continue to our hotel for check-in.

**Dan Panorama Hotel Jerusalem**

**Breakfast**

**Dinner**



## **SAT. OCT 2      OLD CITY of JERUSALEM**

***City of David    Mount Zion    Caiaphas' House***  
***Western Wall    Temple***

This morning we will drive to the **Jewish Quarter**, one of four traditional quarters of the Old City of Jerusalem. This 28 acre area lies in the southeastern sector of the walled city, and stretches from the Zion Gate in the south, along the Armenian Quarter on the west, up to the Street of the Chain in the north and extends to the Western Wall and the Temple Mount in the east. In the early 20th century, the Jewish population of the quarter reached 19,000 and is now inhabited by 2,000 residents.

The **Cardo** was Jerusalem's main street 1500 years ago. In its day, the Cardo was an exceptionally wide colonnaded street running through the heart (or cardo) of the city on a north-south axis. Today the Cardo is one of the key attractions in the Jewish Quarter. A section of the Cardo has been reactivated as a shopping street, full of arts and various special goods.



We will visit the **City of David** archeological site, then to **Mount Zion** for a visit to the **Tomb of David** and the **Upper Room** where we remember the Last Supper and the Fire of Pentecost. Mount Zion is a hill just outside the western wall of the Old City. The term Mount Zion has been used in the Bible for the **City of David** (2 Sam. 5:7, 1 Chron. 11:5; 1 Kings 8:1, 2 Chron. 5:2) and for the **Temple Mount**.

We will also see **Caiaphas' House** (St. Peter of Gallicantu), and the condemned cell where Jesus was

held. Appreciate the modern chapels with lovely paintings and be sure to see the outside steps where Jesus walked to this place, which is built over the house of Caiaphas, the high priest. This is where Peter denied Christ three times before the cock crowed.

The **Herodian Quarter** was the quarter of the priests, the wealthy and important residents of Jerusalem, where the houses of the priests who served in the Second Temple were discovered, containing beautiful mosaics, warehouses, and ritual immersion baths – all in one place. The site is underground. Herod's Palace in Jerusalem was built in the 1st century BC by Herod I. The towers have been found in the present Citadel courtyard. The camp of the Tenth Legion was in the area of the palace ruins, a camp which covered the entire Western Hill.





We will visit the **Western Wall**, the **Temple** area and the colorful bazaars. We will stand on the very steps that Jesus walked to enter the Temple and will see where 3,000 were baptized in one day. The Western Wall is also known as the **Wailing Wall**. When Rome destroyed the Second Temple in 70 AD, the Western Wall was the only outer wall that remained standing.

The **Southern Steps of the Temple**, known to Christians as the “Teaching Steps”, are at the southern end of the Temple Mount and believed to be where Jesus would often teach when he was in Jerusalem. These steps led to the Hulda Gates which were the primary entrance to the Temple Mount in the time of Christ.

**Dan Panorama Hotel Jerusalem**

**Breakfast**

**Dinner**

**SUN. OCT 3**

**MASADA**

**EIN GEDI**

**QUMRAN**

**DEAD SEA**

Today is an exciting day as we will visit 4 historically important sites. First to **Masada**, a rugged natural fortress of majestic beauty, in the Judaeen Desert overlooking the Dead Sea. Masada was Herod's royal citadel and later the last outpost of Zealots during the Jewish Revolt. The citadel was the site of the most dramatic and symbolic act in Jewish history, where rebels chose mass suicide rather than submit to Roman capture.





**Ein Gedi** is the largest oasis along the western shore of the Dead Sea near the Caves of Qumran. Also known as Tel Goren, the springs here have allowed nearly continuous inhabitation of the site. The area was allotted to the tribe of Judah and was famous in the time of Solomon. (Josh 15:62).

The **Dead Sea**, unlike the Sea of Galilee to the north, does not figure prominently in the biblical narratives. Its most important role was as a geographical barrier, blocking traffic to Judah from the east. **Qumran** is an archaeological site in the West Bank located on a plateau near the Dead Sea. **The Dead Sea Scrolls** were discovered in 11 caves there from 1947 – 1956.



**Dan Panorama Hotel Jerusalem**

**Breakfast**

**Dinner**

**MON. OCT 4 NEW JERUSALEM**

*Knesset Israel Museum Yad VaShem Memorial*



This morning on our way to the Israel Museum, we will view the **Knesset**, Israel's unicameral parliament which is the country's legislative body. The Knesset took its name and fixed its membership at 120 from the representative Jewish council convened in Jerusalem by Ezra and Nehemiah in the 5th century BC.



The **Israel Museum** was founded in 1965 as Israel's national museum. **The Shrine of the Book** is a wing of the museum which houses manuscripts from the Dead Sea Scrolls. The **2<sup>nd</sup> Temple Period Model** is also located in the museum.

We will have an extensive tour of the **Yad Vashem**

**Memorial**, Israel's official memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. It is dedicated to preserving the memory of the dead; honoring Jews who fought against their Nazi oppressors and Gentiles who selflessly aided Jews in need. Established in 1953, Yad Vashem is on the western slope of Mount Herzl, also known as the Mount of Remembrance



**Dan Panorama Hotel Jerusalem**

**Breakfast**

**Dinner**

## **TUE. OCT 5            HOLY CITY of JERUSALEM**

***Mount of Olives   Garden of Gethsemane   Via Dolorosa   Garden Tomb***

Jesus often traveled over the Mount of Olives on the 40-minute walk from the Temple to Bethany. He also went there to pray or to rest. He went down the mount on His triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, weeping on His way over the city's future destruction (Luke 19:29-44). In a major address to his disciples on the mount, he foretold his Second Coming (Matt. 24:27-31). He prayed there with His disciples the night before He was arrested (Matt. 26:30-56). Jesus ascended into heaven from there as well. (Acts 1:1-12)

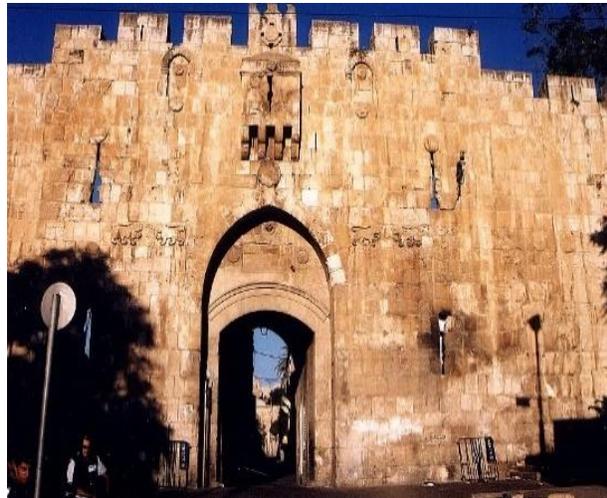




Near the foot of the **Mount of Olives**, we will pray at the **Garden of Gethsemane** and worship nearby in the **Church of the Agony**, built over the rock on which Jesus is believed to have prayed in agony before he was betrayed by Judas Iscariot and arrested.

About 100 meters north of the church is the **Grotto of Gethsemane**, where Jesus and his disciples often camped at night. In this natural grotto, it is believed, the disciples slept while Jesus prayed. Near the grotto is the **Tomb of Mary**, where Christian tradition holds that the Mother of Jesus was buried after she “fell asleep” in death.

Later, we will enter the **Old City** via **Lion’s Gate**, also known as **St. Stephen's Gate** (one of 7 open gates in the Old Wall of Jerusalem). It is located on the eastern wall and marks the beginning of the traditional Christian observance of the last walk of Jesus from prison to His crucifixion. We will walk the **Via Dolorosa** (the Way of Sorrow), which will take us to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**.



Via Dolorosa is a street in Old Jerusalem, believed to be the path that Jesus walked, carrying his cross, on the way to his crucifixion. The route begins at **Antonia Fortress** and continues to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. The route is 650 yards long and is marked by 9 stations of the Cross (plus 5 stations in the church). Antonia Fortress is where Jesus Christ went before Pilate, where He was flogged and crowned with thorns as the soldiers played the king’s game with Him...where He was given the cross.



We will have the opportunity to sing praises to God in the **Church of St. Anne**, a beautiful 12th century Crusader church erected over the traditional site of the birthplace of Anne, mother of Mary, which will bring you closer to the glory of His presence.

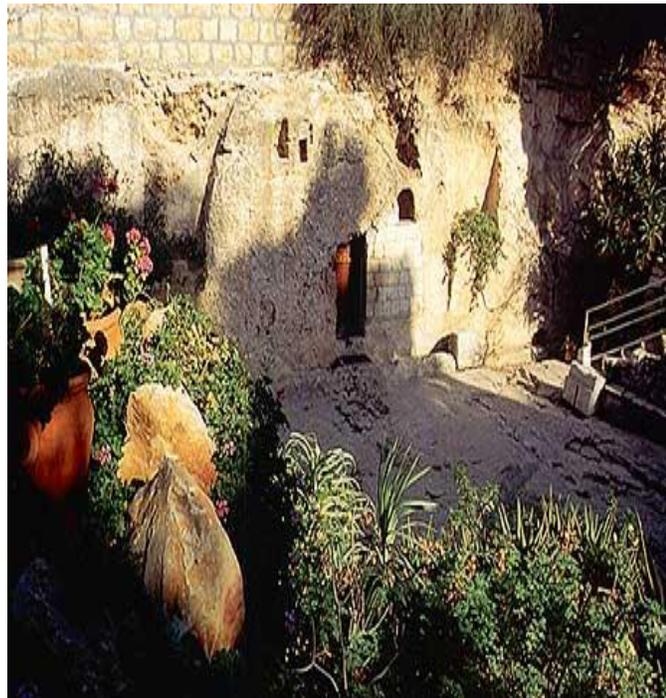
Nearby, we will stand beside the **Pool of Bethesda** where Jesus touched the lame man and commanded him to take up his pallet and walk. This is among the most famous of Jesus' miracles and is recounted in the Gospel of John, where Jesus heals the paralytic at the Bethesda Pool (*John 5:2-9*).

We complete our memorable final afternoon in Israel by visiting the **Garden Tomb**, a rock-cut tomb unearthed in 1867, believed by many to be the garden and sepulcher of Joseph of Arimathea, and therefore a possible site of the **resurrection of Jesus**. Here Pastor Jeff will lead us as we observe a truly meaningful **Lord's Supper**.

This evening a Farewell Dinner together before our short transfer to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv for our flight home.

**Breakfast**

**Dinner**



**WED. OCT 6 TEL AVIV NEW YORK DFW TEXARKANA**

Our early morning flight from Tel Aviv is scheduled to depart at 12:30A bound for New York's JFK Airport. Upon arrival at JFK we will collect our luggage, clear customs and connect to our nonstop flight to DFW – our arrival is scheduled for 10:45A the same morning we left (we gain 8 hours on the flight home). A private motorcoach will transfer us from DFW to Texarkana, where we should arrive by mid-afternoon.



**Breakfast**

**Lunch** (both on flight)

***Circumstances, weather, religious ceremonies, and other factors may cause us to revise this detailed daily itinerary although we will visit and include everything listed therein.***

**FINANCIAL DETAILS:**

Deluxe 12-day tour price is **\$4,875.00.** per person, double occupancy (two to a room).

Single Supplement is an additional **\$810.00.** per person (one in a room). Due at final payment.

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

Initial Deposit - due at sign-up                      \$ 700.00 per person

Final Payment – due Jul. 27, 2021            \$ 4,175.00 per person

**\*\*CANCELLATION PENALTIES\*\*** *(see next page for cancellation insurance information)*

- More than 60 days prior to departure (Jul 27 or earlier)                      **No Penalty**
- From 60 to 32 days prior to departure (Jul 28 - Aug 27)                      **\$1,750.00 Penalty**
- From 31 days (Aug 26) to the day of departure                                      **No Refund**

**TRIP INCLUSIONS:**

- Flights currently booked are with American Airlines from DFW roundtrip to Tel Aviv via Miami and return via JFK.
- First class hotel accommodations – 9 nights.
- All meals noted in itinerary – breakfast daily, dinner daily and one lunch.
- Guided tours and entrances as noted in the itinerary above.
- Airport transfers from Texarkana to Dallas and return.
- Baggage handling and portorage throughout the trip.
- All air taxes, hotel taxes and fuel surcharges.
- Whisper headphones throughout (enables good communication with guide).

**Not Included:**

- Lunches (except a Peter Fish lunch is included in Tiberias).
- Tips to hotels, guides and drivers not included (figure approx. \$100 pp).

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\***: Due to the strict Cancellation Penalties for this trip (noted above), we recommend that participants consider purchasing CANCELLATION INSURANCE.

### **CANCELLATION INSURANCE**

- For those who want **trip cancellation protection for reasons caused specifically and only by Covid-19 or similar viruses**, we can offer that specific coverage for \$195. pp, due at final payment (July 27). This coverage will guarantee you a full refund for cancelling your trip for any reasons caused by Covid-19 or similar viruses, except for air travel. See below...
  - Coverage examples would be Israel or the U.S. closing their borders prior to or during our trip due to viruses and/or our tour company (Sar-El Tours) or any of our pre-paid hotels closing due to current or new viruses.
  
- **Regarding air costs**, in case of trip cancellation for any reason, the cost of your AA air ticket (approx. \$950 per person) will be credited back to you in the original name on the ticket. (Your AA air credit must be used within 365 days of cancellation).
  
- If you want any additional travel insurance coverage, we recommend that you contact **Insuremytrip.com**. Examples of other travel related insurances would be Emergency Evacuation Insurance, Baggage Insurance, Life Insurance, Accident Insurance, Trip Cancellation Insurance for things other than Covid viruses.

**HOTELS:**

**Sofia Hotel, Tiberias**



**Dan Panorama Hotel,  
Jerusalem**



