

# The Roots of Faith



March 22 – April 5, 2023

Jordan Extension Dates:

April 5 – April 8, 2023

Led by:

Theresa Newell

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*We will trace the life of Jesus from his home in Galilee to Jerusalem, giving particular attention to the First Century Jewish context in which Jesus lived. Our goal is a better understanding of Jesus' ministry and a better application of His teachings for us today.*



MissionValley  
TRAVEL INC.



**\*IMPORTANT\***

**ALL DEPOSITS ARE DUE DECEMBER 12, 2022**

**FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE JANUARY 21, 2023**

**\$3,340** - Land Price

**\$904** – Single Supplement Fee

Website will be updated once airfare group block is confirmed.

For individual airfare email [tours@mvti.us](mailto:tours@mvti.us)

**\$920** – Extended Jordan Tour Price

**\$221** – Extended Jordan Tour Single Supplement Fee

**\$750** – Land and Air Deposit (due at registration)  
(Direct Deposit or Check)

IF PAYING WITH CREDIT CARD (3.5% fee):

**\$776.25** – Land and Air Deposit

Price is based on two persons sharing a double room.

***\*Land price is based on a group of 30 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: **\$904** (additional single room cost, limited availability)

Additional Single Supplement for Jordan Extension: **\$221**

### **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+
<b>\$3500</b>	<b>\$187</b>	<b>\$219</b>	<b>\$309</b>	<b>\$386</b>	<b>\$480</b>	<b>\$634</b>

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

# ITINERARY

## Day 1 Wednesday, 22 March 2023

### DEPARTURE FROM USA

## Day 2 Thursday, 23 March

### 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** or **Judean Hills**. 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: Leonardo Hotel, Ashkelon



## Day 3 Friday, 24 March

### IN THE DESERT WITH THE PATRIARCHS

This morning we will travel to the **Valley of Elah**, the location of the battle between David and Goliath. We continue our journey 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 visit **Tel Beersheva**, one of the most impressive and ancient fortified cities of the Kingdom of Judah. Our next stop is a **Bedouin**



**museum** where we examine their nomadic culture to shed light on the lives of Abraham and the Patriarchs. We conclude our day traveling through the **Wilderness of Paran** to a spectacular view over the **Ramon Crater** where we discuss the importance of Moses and the Exodus from Egypt in Jewish religious thinking and its influence on Jesus and the Gospels.

Overnight: Ramon Suites, Mitzpe Ramon, Central Negev

## Day 4 Saturday, 25 March

### OUT OF EGYPT INTO THE WILDERNESS

This morning we will be traveling through the **Wilderness of Zin** where Moses struck the rock in disobedience. We will visit the ancient caravan city of **Avdat** to discover how the ancient Nabateans made the desert bloom. We will take a short hike to a beautiful oasis in the **Zin Canyon**. We will then visit the **home of David Ben Gurion**, founder of Israel, at **Kibbutz Sde Boker**. As Ben Gurion is often called a prophet, we will take time to discuss the nature of biblical prophecy and the role of a prophet in the biblical period and today. We will have a short **camel ride** before dinner at our

Dead Sea hotel. Overnight: Daniel Spa Hotel, Dead Sea

### Day 5 Sunday, 26 March

#### 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 last stand of the Zealots, a Jewish revolutionary group at the time of Jesus. From Masada we drive north 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. 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: Daniel Spa Hotel, Dead Sea

### Day 6 Monday, 27 March

#### THE JORDAN VALLEY – “In the World But Not of It”

Today we leave the desert and journey north up the spectacular **Syrian African Rift Valley** to the Sea of Galilee. We will study the cultural tensions that existed at the time of Jesus, both between Greco-Roman culture and Jewish culture (and later the early church), and also between the Jewish religious establishment of the day and various spiritual reformers. Passing by the region of **Jericho** – the oldest and lowest city on earth, we come to the **Jordan River**, where we will discuss the ministry of John the Baptist and his relationship with Jesus. Passing near the base of **Mt. Gilboa**, Our final stop of the day will be the Biblical city of **Beit Shean** to examine the visually impressive excavations of its Roman-Byzantine period when it was one the ten Hellenistic cities of the Decapolis. From here we continue to our hotel near the **Sea of Galilee**.

Overnight: Ma'agan Holiday Resort, Sea of Galilee



### Day 7 Tuesday, 28 March

#### 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. We will then visit the ancient Magdala, home of Mary Magdalan and recently excavated. 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: Ma'agan Holiday Resort, Sea of Galilee

### Day 8 Wednesday, 29 March

#### 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**. 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. We will stop for a brief tour at a local olive oil factory (Olea Essence). Next we will travel along the lower slopes of **Mount Hermon** – Israel's highest mountain, and the most likely site of the Transfiguration. Weather and conditions permitting, 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: Ma'agan Holiday Resort, Sea of Galilee

### Day 9 Thursday, 30 March

#### 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 an overlook of **Nazareth**, Jesus’ boyhood home and place of His early ministry. We continue along the route of the ancient **Via Maris** to the spectacular remains of **Sepphoris**



where we will examine Jesus’ relationship to Elijah and His first miracle. 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. At the end of the day we will make the final ascent to **Jerusalem** – the City of the Great King. After dinner we will be treated to a short stroll for a **rooftop panorama of the Old City** and talk with the Director of Shoresh Study Tours.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

### Day 10 Friday, 31 March

#### RESTORATION OF HOPE – A Garland Instead of Ashes

Today 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. 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. 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. This evening we will expand our understanding of the role of the Lamb of God by celebrating a **Jewish Passover Seder meal** together, making Biblical connections to the “last supper” that Jesus shared with his disciples.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

### Day 11 Saturday, 1 April

#### 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, Old City, Jerusalem

### Day 12 Sunday, 2 April

#### WORSHIP SERVICES AND FREE DAY IN JERUSALEM

This morning we will have the option of attending the worship services at Christ Church, the oldest protestant church in the Middle East. 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 13 Monday, 3 April

#### 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, Old City, Jerusalem

### Day 14 Tuesday, 4 April

#### THE CITY OF DAVID

After breakfast we will head to the **Citadel ("Tower of David") Museum** where we will enjoy breathtaking views overlooking Jerusalem and the fascinating historical geography of the Old City. We will spend the rest of the day at the place where it all began – the **City of David**. Here we will learn about King David's conquest of the Jebusite city, and walk through **Hezekiah's Tunnel** to the **Pool of Siloam**.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

### Day 15 Wednesday, 5 April

#### TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

##### Early Morning Departure: Straight Home

For those not going to Jordan, we say farewell to Jerusalem and descend through the mountains of Judea to the airport on the coastal plain to catch the flight home.

**Please register online via e-registration.**

<https://shoresh.mvti.net/Newell-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.*

## OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO JORDAN

### DAY 15 Wednesday, 5 April

#### NORTHERN JORDAN & THE DESERT HIGHWAY

After an early breakfast, we will cross the border at Allenby Bridge and begin our journey in northern Jordan. Our first stop will be the ruins of Pella, where early Messianic Jews fled during the war with Rome in the First Century. Next we travel south to the ancient city of Jerash, which boasts an unbroken chain of human occupation dating back more than 6,500 years. One of the ten Roman Decapolis cities, it is generally acknowledged to be one of the best-preserved Roman provincial towns in the world. Continuing to the mountains overlooking the Dead Sea, we come to Machaerus, the location of the imprisonment and execution of John the Baptist. Later in the afternoon we will arrive at our hotel near the entrance to the mysterious rose-red city of Petra.

Overnight: Petra Moon Hotel, Petra, Jordan

### Day 16 Thursday, 6 April

#### DESERT TRADERS

Today is devoted to exploring Petra, where we'll discuss the mysteries of the Nabataean traders and their strategic location along the silk and spice trade routes between the east and west. We enter the city through the Siq, a narrow slit in the mountains, with walls towering 80 meters on each side. We will spend the whole day walking around the twists and turns of this magnificent gorge city, including the infamous Treasury tomb from the first century.

Overnight: Petra Moon Hotel, Petra, Jordan

### Day 17 Friday, 7 April

#### THE DESERT HIGHWAY II

Saying goodbye to Petra, we turn north up the Desert Highway parallel to the Israelites' route when they made their wilderness journey from Egypt to the Promised Land. We stop first at the magnificent Crusader castle of Karak, built on the location of the ancient Moabite capital, Kir Hareseth. We continue to Madaba, known as the City of Mosaics dating to the Byzantine and Umayyad eras and home to the famous 6th century mosaic map of Jerusalem and the Holy Land. We will have a brief stop at Mt. Nebo, burial site of Moses overlooking the Jordan Valley, before crossing back into Israel.

Overnight: Christ Church Guesthouse, Old City, Jerusalem

### Day 18 Saturday, 8 April

#### TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

##### Early Morning Departure: Straight Home

We say farewell to Jerusalem and descend through the mountains of Judea to the airport on the coastal plain to catch the flight home.