

- Testimonies -

My time in Israel can hardly be summarized in words. I went in 2010 and still struggle to-day to communicate how it affected me. Walking where Jesus walked, seeing amazing biblical sites, gaining deeper revelations into God’s divine plan, and experiencing intensely moving Bible studies led by Dr. Jim, truly opened my mind and heart to accepting and embracing God’s love and believing in all His truths and promises, not just for me, but for my loved ones and all mankind. If you’ve never really fathomed how much God loves you and desires for you to simply abide in Him, you will after this trip!

— **Dori Canady** (Strong Tower Bible Church | Franklin, Tennessee)



I could never have fathomed how life-changing this pilgrimage to Israel would be for me. From the pre-trip preparation classes to setting my feet in the Holy Land, the core of who I am has changed completely. God has shown me how purposeful He is, how faithful He is and how concerned He is for His people. This pilgrimage has given me new insights, greater understanding, a desire to read, study and ponder God’s Word more AND the tools in which to do so.

— **Michelle Discavage** (Melonie Park Church | Lubbock, Texas)



Dietrich Bonhoeffer once said, “There is meaning in every journey that is unknown to the traveler”. So true as this was so much more than a “trip” with a destination. I hardly have words to express how this Biblical study program has changed my life, my view of Scripture and my view of God! Psalm 84:5 (NLT) says, “What joy for those whose strength comes from the Lord, who have set their minds on pilgrimage to Jerusalem”. I have indeed returned home from Israel, but my pilgrimage continues with Him, towards Him, for Him.

— **Robin Warden** (Strong Tower Bible Church | Spring Hill, Tennessee)

Unbelievable. Words cannot really describe the experience and the impact of this trip. I believe I will be forever changed not only by what we saw but by what we learned as we traveled throughout the nation of Israel. As I study God’s Word now it is with new eyes and understanding. The names of people and places that I once took little notice of now carry a new significance and I realize even more that God is so purposeful in all that He does. I am so thankful that God allowed us the opportunity to go. It was truly the trip of a lifetime.

— **Rev. Larry Mize** (Pastor of Worship, Mount Zion Baptist Church | Snellville, Georgia)

As I began praying about going to Israel, it became very clear that the Lord was opening doors financially as well as taking care of my family needs while I would be away. Every detail worked out and it was a miracle! My journey started as a faith journey and ended as a faith journey. God opened my eyes and heart in many areas. The Bible came ALIVE to me! And more than that, I gained a deeper and richer understanding of God’s purpose, plan and love for us!

— **Sheryl Griffin** (Strong Tower Bible Church | Franklin, Tennessee)

My wife and I first went to Israel in 1997. The experience was so satisfying and dynamic that I came home saying I never needed to go again. But in 2010 we felt strongly impressed by the Lord to go to Israel with the first ever STBC Israel Team. I am SO thankful to God to have made that trip! It totally changed my life and took me to greater depths and heights of worship, appreciation and understanding of God’s redemptive purposes and how Israel sits in the middle of that glorious story. Now I am at a place where I will make many more trips back to Israel because I can’t get enough!”

— **Pastor Chris Williamson** (Senior Pastor, Strong Tower Bible Church | Franklin, Tennessee)



My trip to Israel has enriched my life. Scripture is now alive to me in a new way. For instance, I don’t just read about Jesus walking on water – I see, smell, hear and feel the Sea of Galilee because I have sat on its shore at sunset with the waves covering my feet on the sand. As wonderful as off of this is, the even greater gift of my time in Israel was the teaching. Dr. Martin’s approach of interpreting Scripture through the cultural lens in which it was written has forever changed the way I approach Bible study. God’s Word is deeper, richer and even more beautiful to me now.

— **Sherri Gragg** (The People’s Church | Franklin, Tennessee)



Israel Biblical Study Program/Trip

Strong Tower Bible Church/Williamson Christian College

- 14 days total | 2 travel days, 12 in country -



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Israel Biblical Study Program/Trip

* Israel Trip Itinerary -

**Price, schedules, housing and itinerary are subject to change without notice due to the devaluation of the dollar and political uncertainties.

This itinerary is based on the best possible use of time management, keeping in mind the complexities of Jerusalem traffic, the current political climate, and opening hours in regards to Jewish, Christian and Muslim holidays.



Class at the Valley of Elah (David & Goliath)



Arbel Cliffs overlooking Magdala & Capernaum



2010 Team (boatride & class on Sea of Galilee)



2011 Team (Rabbinical teaching steps, Temple Mt.)



Team having class looking out at Sea of Galilee



Wilderness of Zin— Israelites wandered 40 yrs. here

Day 1—Depart USA

Day 2 - Arrive Tel Aviv (Ben Gurion Airport). Transfer to hotel.

Day 3- Theme: Ancient Jerusalem - Full day field trip: Explore ancient Jerusalem of Abraham through Nehemiah including the Temple Mount excavations, City of David excavations, Western Wall, Kidron and Hinnom Valley.

Day 4- Theme: The House of David - Full day field trip: Our morning travels take us to Hebron to visit the Machpelah and discuss the burial site of the Patriarchs and early capital of David. We then continue to the Herodium, “Shepherd’s Field” and Bethlehem as we focus on the birth of Jesus in fulfillment of the promises to David.

Day 5- Theme: Palm Sunday, Passover, and Trials - Full day field trip: A morning walk over the Mount of Olives from Bethany to the Kidron Valley will provide the context for understanding the raising of Lazarus and Palm Sunday. The afternoon journey will concentrate on the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord as we visit the Holy Sepulcher, Golgatha and Garden Tomb.

Day 6 - Theme: Joshua and the Conquest - Full day field trip: Our travels will take us to Jericho, Shiloh, Jacob’s Well and Mount Gerizim as we study Joshua’s entrance into the Promised Land.

Day 7 - Theme: The Exodus - Full day field trip: An investigation of the biblical events and places in the Negev and Wilderness of Zin which were significant to the Exodus.

Day 8 - Theme: Joshua, Judges and Kings - Full day field trip: An investigation of the biblical events and places in the Shephelah of Judah which were significant to Joshua, Judges and Kings. Special emphasis will be placed on biblical activities which occurred at Jericho, Gibeon, Bet-Shemesh (Samson) and Valley of Elah (David & Goliath).

Day 9 - Theme: The Place of Refuge - Full day field trip: The Wilderness of Judah functions as a place of defense and refuge. Visits to Masada, En Gedi, and Qumran will be primary focus of the day. Transfer to the Sea of Galilee for dinner and overnight – Ein Gev.

Day 10 - Theme: The Northern Regions - Full day field trip: Biblical events which occurred in the Golan Heights and Upper Galilee regions will be discussed as we examine such places as Gamla, Caesarea Philippi and Dan. Dinner and overnight – Ein Gev.

Day 11 - Theme: Galilee of the Nations - Full day field trip: Our travels will take us through the Jezreel Valley to sites including Beth Shan, Mount Gilboa (Gideon), Mount Moreh (Elisha) and Mount Tabor (Deborah) and Nazareth. Dinner and overnight – Ein Gev.

Day 12 - Theme: Jesus and the Sea of Galilee - Full day field trip: Taking the boat across the Sea of Galilee will set the stage as we prepare for a thorough understanding of the sites and activities related to ministry of Jesus around the Sea – Capernaum, Chorazin, Magdala and Arbel Cliffs will be visited. Dinner and overnight – Ein Gev.

Day 13 - Theme: The International Coastal Highway - Full day field trip: A full day investigation of biblical events significant to the International Coastal Highway. Specific points of inquiry will be at Megiddo and Caesarea Maritima. Dinner and transfer to Ben Gurion Airport for return flight to the USA.

Day 14 - Arrive in the USA