

Teachers/Guides:
 Pastor Rick Geortzen
 Guide: Naomi van der Wald
 Teacher: Doug Bookman

Grace Bible Church of Hutchinson KS
Study Trip to Israel
 Friday, March 18 – Sunday, March 27, 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 13	March 14	March 15	March 16	March 17	March 18	March 19
				Optional Early Departure Date ¹	Depart for Israel by the flight of your choice and arrangement. ²	<u>Arrive</u> <u>Ben Gurion Airport,</u> <u>Tel Aviv, Israel</u> Make your way to our hotel in Netanya, on the shore of the Mediterranean ³ Introductions & Preview ⁴ (after evening meal) ON: Blue Bay, Netanya
March 20	March 21	March 22	March 23	March 24	March 25	March 26
<u>Coastal Plains &</u> <u>Jezreel Valley⁵</u> Caesarea Maritima Mt Carmel (Muhraka) 2 nd Temple Tomb Megiddo Jezreel Ein Harod Nazareth Illit Horns of Hattim Route Mt Arbel ON: Nof Ginnosar	<u>Northern Galilee⁶</u> Chorazim Huleh Valley Hazor [drive-by] Dan Caesarea Philippi Nimrod's Fortress Golan Heights/Quinetra Ginosar ON: Nof Ginnosar	<u>Sea of Galilee⁷</u> Mt of Beatitudes Capernaum Boat ride Tabgha Yardenit (baptism) Beth-Shan Jericho Qumran En-Gedi [overlook] Dead Sea Swim ON: Dead Sea Hotel	<u>Jordan Rift⁸</u> Masada <small>[up the cable-car; down the ramp]</small> Arad [drive-by] Lachish [drive-by] Beth Shemesh Ajalon Overlook <small>[Canada Park]</small> Nebi Samwil Mt of Olives ON: Gloria Hotel <small>(inside Jaffa Gate, Jerusalem)</small>	<u>Jerusalem: Intro & NT</u> 2 nd Temple Model Shrine of the Book Haas Promenade Western Wall Southern Excavations Temple Mount <small>[b/w 12:30 – 2:00 pm]</small> St Anne's/Bethesda Via Dolorosa Holy Sepulcher PM: Western Wall Tunnel ON: Gloria Hotel	<u>Jerusalem:</u> <u>Old City / OT</u> Ariel Center <small>(1st Temple Jerusalem)</small> Hezekiah's Broad Wall City of David Area G/Warren's Shaft Hezekiah's Tunnel Afternoon: Free to explore & shop Afternoon visit to Western Wall ON: Gloria Hotel	<u>Jesus' Final Hours</u> Upper room Walk to Gethsemane Christ Church Gordon's Calvary Afternoon Free Farewell Dinner ⁹ Depart for airport – time to be determined
March 27	March 28	March 29	March 30	March 31	April 1	April 2
Dep. Tel Aviv ¹⁰ by the flight of your choice and arrangement.				Telephone #s: Blue Bay – Netanya 9-860-0100 Nof Ginnosar 4-670-0320 Gloria Hotel 2-628-2431 Gloria Hotel Fax 2-628-2401 Mobile (Bookman) Mobile (Guide)	From the USA, precede with 011-972- 9-860-0100 4-670-0320 2-628-2431 2-628-2401	

¹The group will gather at the Blue Bay Hotel in Netanya on Saturday, March 19. However, if you would like to have a day to recoup, you are welcome to arrive a day (or more, for that matter) early. The hotel will be alerted that some travelers may choose to arrive early, but you must make those arrangements yourself. The contact information for the Blue Bay Hotel is as follows:

Address: 37 Hamelachim St, Netanya 42228 Israel

Website: www.blue-bay.co.il

E-Mail: click on the "Contact Us" button on the hotel's home-page

The Blue Bay Hotel is on the shore of the Mediterranean (the beach is a few minutes walk away), and offers a full slate of amenities. It is situated just north of the very nice and modern town of Netanya, but it is a bit of a walk to shops and restaurants. (Taxis are available and reasonable.) The price of a regular room for Saturday night is built into the cost of the trip; if you choose to arrive early or to upgrade the room, you will need to cover the additional charge.

²Arrival in Israel on Saturday will mean departing the US on Friday. Select any carrier you like, but be careful to schedule your arrival sometime on Saturday, March 19. The earlier you arrive, the more time you will have to gather yourself before we start out on Monday morning.

³ The easiest way to reach the Blue Bay Hotel in Netanya is by shuttle or by taxi.

- Taxis are readily available at the airport, and will drop you at the door of the hotel. You need to budget in about \$40 for the trip. To secure a taxi, after passing customs and picking up your luggage, proceed through the Greeters Hall and exit at Gate #3; find the dispatcher's station and ask for a taxi to the Blue Bay Hotel in Netanya. (Have the address available, though it will probably not be necessary.)
- The commuter service is very reasonable and direct. You will need to contact the company by e-mail and make arrangements. A driver will greet you at the Greeters Hall and take you directly to the hotel. The cost will be under \$20/person.

Please note that the cost of getting to the hotel is not covered in the cost of the trip, so you will have to pay for this yourself. If you have a group of 3 or more, it might be just as reasonable to secure an individual taxi. Please do not be intimidated by this, as it is very simple and entirely dependable. I have arranged the trip this way in order to keep your cost at a minimum.

Even at that, it might be wise to travel with a cell phone which is useable in Israel. On the other hand, if you do not have a mobile phone, it will not be hard to find a phone to use. The tour guide will be carrying a cell phone and will be accessible at any time. If a plane is delayed or missed, he should be notified as soon as possible. It will not be difficult to make arrangements to get the traveler to the group, regardless of what delay might occur.

⁴We will regularly gather in the evenings to review and to preview the region we will be exploring the next day.

⁵ This will be a busy day. We will start early and go fairly steady throughout the day, covering a lot of ground and a lot of Bible. It will be important to be well refreshed and alert for the day.

⁶ This day will not be as demanding, but it will be exciting. Notice that we will return to Nof Ginnosar for a 2nd night, which means we will not have to pack & load the luggage on this morning.

⁷ This will be a pleasant and exciting day around (and on) the Sea of Galilee, but after lunch we will have a long drive down the rift to the region of the Dead Sea.

⁸ This will be the most demanding day of the trip in terms of ground we are covering – to the top of Masada, down the siege ramp, and all the way back to Jerusalem on the western side of the central hills (i.e., through the Shephelah). We will attack Masada first thing in the morning (allowing the intrepid to walk the Snake Path), and we will have to treat some important sites with less respect than they are due (in terms of the time we can give them). But this route will enable us to see – however hurriedly in some instances – the entire land in the course of our stay.

⁹ We would like to gather on this evening for a farewell dinner together, so it would be best if you could schedule your departure late on Saturday or early on Sunday. (Remember that you will have to be at the airport 3 hours before departure, and it will take about an hour to get to the airport.) Several airlines have very late departures – around midnight or shortly thereafter (which would mean departure from the hotel around 8 pm). Others leave early in the morning – around 8 am. Your room will be available to you as late as you need it. Once we know the various departure times, we will work with the hotel to arrange for a sherut taxi to pick you up at the time appropriate to your departure time. Don't be at all intimidated by this, as this is standard procedure for hotels in Jerusalem, and the ride will be directly from the hotel to the departure gate at Ben Gurion Airport.

¹⁰ Again, it will be your responsibility to get to the airport. However, this will be quite simple. There is a group taxi service from Jerusalem to the airport (*sherut*, or shared) which is quite reasonable, can be arranged for by the front desk at the hotel. It will cost \$15-20/person.