

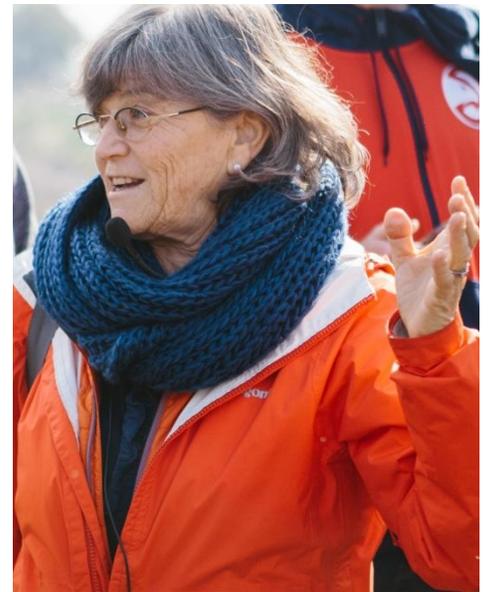


Dr. Clay Corvin teaching, January 2017 (it will be a good deal warmer in November), Dr. Jim Parker

NOBTS/PEF ISRAEL PILGRIMAGE, November 16-25, 2017
Only \$3395 (\$1795 for qualified NOBTS students)
Led by Dr. Clay Corvin and Dr. Jim Parker



Devotion and study led by NOBTS faculty and students



Guide Gilla Treibich, January 2017



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Day 1, Thursday, November 16: early-morning departure from New Orleans on the one-stop flight to Israel. Anyone wishing to fly from another airport please contact the tour organizers.

Day 2, Friday, November 17: morning arrival in Israel to meet our English-speaking guide. Board the deluxe coach and head up the Mediterranean seacoast to **Caesarea Maritime**, artificial harbor and city built by Herod the Great. A restored Roman theater, where proof of the historical existence of Pontius Pilate was found, is a highlight, along with a Crusader fortress and an aqueduct built by Herod the Great. Continue north to **Mt Carmel** and the Carmelite monastery *Muhraka* for a breathtaking view of the Jezreel valley from the spot where Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal. Drive through the Galilean hills to Nazareth, stopping at the precipice overlooking **Nazareth**, Jesus' boyhood home, at the spot where his neighbors assembled to hurl Him to His death for the supposed "blasphemy" of claiming to be Messiah. Check in for three nights at a lovely hotel situated right on the **Sea of Galilee**. Time for an orientation meeting and Bible study after dinner. Full breakfast and dinner are included each day in Israel throughout the tour.

Day 3, Saturday, November 18: be blessed by a sail on the **Sea of Galilee** in an enlarged version of the boats used by Jesus and His fishermen disciples--and see an actual boat from the time of Jesus as marine archaeologists raised it from the lake. See **Chorazin**, which Jesus cursed for its unbelief. At **Caesarea Philippi**, center of Roman might and pagan worship in Jesus' time, explore the ruins of Herod Agrippa's palace. In this setting, Jesus challenged His disciples then and now, "Who do men--and who do you--say that I am?" Caesarea Philippi is also where the headwaters of the **Jordan River** meet at the foot of **Mt Hermon**. Re-experience the words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount at the **Mt of Beatitudes** chapel. At **Capernaum**, where Jesus based His 18-month

Galilean ministry, stand within the foundations of the synagogue where He preached and healed and see the house of Peter's family where He stayed. **Tabgha's** ancient mosaic remembers the Miracle of Loaves and Fishes and recalls where the risen Jesus fed His disciples after a miraculous catch and gave Peter his commission to "feed my sheep."

Day 4, Sunday, November 19: walk the extensively-restored streets of **Bet Shean**, where the bodies of King Saul and his sons were hung by the Philistines. A Decapolis city in Jesus' day, Bet Shean was both destroyed and preserved by an earthquake—and archaeologists have now done a fantastic restoration. Nearby on the slopes of Mt Gilboa, visit **Bet Alpha**, an excavated sixth-century synagogue. Dip a hand in, perhaps lap the water of **Ein Harod**, the spring where the Lord had Gideon winnow his soldiers in unique fashion. Drive to **Megiddo**, the always strategic city in biblical history and biblical Armageddon (Rev. 16:16). Megiddo is the setting of a highly recommended historical novel, James Michener's *The Source*.

Day 5, Monday, November 20: explore the north Mediterranean coast of Israel, focusing particularly on **Acre** (aka Akko), situated on Israel's only true natural port and thus a thriving heart of commerce in biblical times—and last holdout of the Crusader Kings who had attempted to cast out the Muslim invaders but were finally driven into the sea. Back inland, marvel at intricate and lovely mosaics (including "The Mona Lisa of the Galilee") and a 1500-year-old synagogue in the ancient city of **Sepphoris**, which some believe carpenter Joseph and his young son apprentice helped construct.

Day 6, Tuesday, November 21: head south along the Jordan Valley, stopping first at the banks of **Bethabara**, thought by many to be where Jesus was immersed by John the Baptist. Crossing the lunar landscape of the Judean wilderness, come to **Qumran** on the shores of the Dead Sea, where the

Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered. Ascend by cable car to **Masada**, the fortress-palace built by Herod the Great overlooking the Dead Sea, where zealous Jews resisted Rome after the 70 AD destruction of the Temple. View the date palm oasis of **En Gedi** where David spared King Saul. Then it's "Up to Jerusalem," perhaps singing a Song of Ascent like Psalm 122: "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD'" to Jerusalem, the Holy City. Our deluxe hotel for the rest of the tour is within walking distance of the Jaffa Gate into the Old City, the Ben Yehuda pedestrian shopping mall, and the colorful outdoor Mahane Yehuda spice, fruit, and vegetable market.

Day 7, Wednesday, November 22: starting from the summit of the **Mt of Olives**, walk down the Palm Sunday path where Jesus rode the donkey and heard the hosannas from the crowds. Stop at **Dominus Flevit** where "Jesus wept" and view the Eastern or Golden Gate through which Messiah rode. At the bottom of the hill, in the **Garden of Gethsemane**, surrounded by olive trees still sprouting from roots dating to Jesus' time, pray as He did for strength to face the ultimate tests of life.

Orient yourself to Jerusalem in Jesus' time by studying the incredibly-detailed, large-scale outdoor model of The Holy City at the **Israel Museum**, where you will also view actual scrolls and artifacts discovered in the Dead Sea caves of Qumran.

Travel through **Shepherds' Fields** to **Bethlehem** and to the oldest-continually serving church in the world, the 4th century Church of the Nativity, where a silver star marks the traditional spot of Jesus' birth.

Day 8, Thursday, November 23: give thanks today as you pray at the **Kotel** or Western (Wailing) Wall, leaving scrolls of your prayers in the giant stones remaining from the Temple, from where Jewish tradition says prayers go most-directly to heaven. Actually go *under* the Temple area exploring the famous **Rabbi's Tunnel**. Up on **Temple Mount**, Muslim mosques squatting where Solomon and Herod the Great built the First and Second Temples cannot prevent Christians from standing at the Pinnacle of the Temple where Jesus was victorious over Satan's tempting.

Pray for loved ones at the healing **Pools of**

Bethesda, then marvel at the acoustics as you sing in the **Church of St. Anne**. Stand on the pavement where Jesus was tormented by the soldiers in the **Judgment Hall of Pilate**. Walk the narrow streets of the Old City, still very like they were on the day when Jesus carried His cross on the Via Dolorosa. See remains of the original 4th century **Church of the Holy Sepulcher** in the **Russian Orthodox Church**, adjoining the current structure guarding traditional sites of Calvary and Empty Tomb. See the actual steps up which Jesus was dragged from the Garden of Gethsemane to his first imprisonment in the **House of Caiaphas**, high priest, where Peter denied His Lord thrice before the cock crew.

Time during the day for lunch on your own in **The Jewish Quarter** with shopping in the Old City bazaar and the restored shopping street called **The Cardo** or "The Heart" of Roman Jerusalem.

Day 9, Friday, November 24: check out of the hotel and depart for a service of Holy Communion at **The Garden Tomb**, a lovely site overlooking a hillside nature has carved into what many see as a skull, Golgotha, and setting of an empty tomb from which the stone has been rolled away. Outside the city, explore **Herodian**, the artificial mountain that was Herod the Great's palace and recently-discovered tomb. **Yad Vashem**, the Holocaust Museum, is a contrasting study of the evil humankind can do and the strength of faith that can allow men and women to become victors over evil. In the **Valley of Elah** riverbed, pick up five smooth stones, as did David before confronting evil in the form of Goliath. Farewell dinner in biblical **Joppa** then to the airport for the flight home, arriving back in the USA on **Day 10, Saturday, November 25**.

Registration details on back page!

Weather in Israel is great in November, the beginning of fall having broken the summer heat. Expect mostly sunny skies with daytime high temperatures in the upper 60's in Jerusalem, 70's in Galilee, 80's at the Dead Sea. Showers are possible around the Sea of Galilee, so a good-quality travel umbrella or poncho might come in handy. Shorts and sleeveless garments are not recommended, not being allowed at religious sites.

Terms and Conditions

U.S. passport valid through June, 2018, is required; anyone with non-U.S. passport, please contact tour operator.

Payment schedule: \$500 deposit required to guarantee a place on the tour. Second payment of \$700 is due April 1. Third payment of \$595 is due June 1 (final payment for qualified NOBTS students). Fourth non-student payment of \$700 due August 1, and the final payment of \$900 for non-students is due October 1. Use of credit cards: please note that an additional and non-refundable 2.5% credit card transaction fee will be added to the amount charged for any payment toward the total tour cost.

Tour price includes . . .

Air transportation, currently scheduled on United, can be on any scheduled airline, economy class. Cancellations after the air tickets have been issued are subject to a cancellation penalty as imposed by the airline. Current air taxes and fees are included but may change up or down till tickets are issued. Please note: frequent flyer miles or credit card points cannot be used to purchase or upgrade air tickets; however, if you arrange your own airfare, deduct \$1400 from the brochure price.

Accommodations in superior and deluxe hotels with private bath. Extra cost for anyone staying in a single room \$532.

Meals daily buffet breakfast in hotels and dinner daily either in hotels or restaurants.

Sightseeing as specified in the itinerary, including entrance fees and services of English-speaking guide.

One regular-sized suitcase per person, maximum 50 pounds, is currently allowed free of charge plus one airline approved "under-seat" bag. Tour organizers accept no liability for loss or damage to any baggage.

All tips to guide, driver, hotel and restaurant personnel, and porters are included.

Tour price does not include beverages not part of normal menu; sightseeing or services not specifically mentioned or noted as optional; baggage charges that may be implemented by airlines (none apply at time of printing).



Muslim-occupied Temple Mount with Dome of the Rock above the Western Wall of Solomon's Temple

Cancellation policy: Full refund minus \$200 administration fee if written cancellation is received through March 31. Refund, minus a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of 90% of the total tour price if written cancellation is received between April 1 and September 30. No refunds for cancellations after September 30. In addition to not receiving a refund of the \$1795 paid for the tour, scholarship students will be required to reimburse the \$1600 scholarship after September 30. No refund made for missed services while on tour. *In addition to the above cancellation fees*, airline tickets are not refundable once issued. *We recommend purchase of travel insurance to protect against cancellation penalties and to provide health insurance*, information available on request. Please note: Healthcare/Medical Costs due to international travel are not covered by basic Medicare.

Brochure price based on minimum 42 passengers, Israel VAT policy, and shekel/dollar exchange rate as of February 1, 2017.

Responsibility: Dr Jim Parker, Dr Clay Corvin, Blanca Phillips, NOBTS/PEF, Ronald L. Cansler dba Escorted Travel Concepts, LLC, and their agents act only in the capacity of agents in all matters, and as such, are not responsible for any damages, expense, or inconvenience caused by late plane arrival or departure or by any change of schedule or other condition, nor the loss of or damage to any person or property from any cause whatsoever. The sponsoring organization has the right to withdraw the tour at any time, or make changes in the published itinerary whenever in their sole judgment conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the convenience or safety of the tour. Services of any regularly-scheduled jet carrier may be used on this tour. *Payment of deposit by tour participants indicates acceptance of above terms and conditions.*

To register, make out \$500 per person check to "NOBTS—Israel November" and mail to Israel November, Attn: Blanca Phillips, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., Box 98, New Orleans, LA 70126

For info/assistance contact Blanca Phillips at travelprograms@nobts.edu, 504-816-8441