

About the Study Trip...

- *All Lectures and Guided Experiences on Site
- *Biblical Leadership Presentations on Site
- *Swims and Hikes
- *Evening Reflections

For Further Information, Please Contact the Directors at:

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REGISTRATION FORM

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January 13, 2011

Dr. Widbin



Dear Students and Friends of REALIS,

REALIS and Alliance Theological Seminary invites you to an unparalleled experience in the world of the Bible. This is the fourth in a series of Israel trips sponsored by REALIS, featuring Alliance Seminary faculty instruction in an itinerary that moves chronologically through the Bible with site lectures, biblical leadership presentations, hikes, swims, and reflection/interaction occasions.

The trip is guided by Dr. Bryan Widbin. Widbin (Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible, Brandeis University) is licensed by the state of Israel and has served as a trainer of local guides there. He possesses unique skills for making this the most intellectually penetrating, spiritually invigorating experience available in Israel. Please consider expanding your knowledge of the Bible and its world and enhancing your call and gifts for ministry by joining us on this study trip. Contact REALIS right away!

Sergei Timchenko
President, REALIS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ACCOMMODATIONS: First-class hotels based on twin occupancy with bath. Hotel category determined through documentation published by O.H.R.G. Single-room supplement \$45 per night.

MEALS: The famous Israeli buffet breakfast and dinner daily throughout. Including a St. Peter's fish dinner. Extra charge for coffee, tea or other beverage not included in the menu of the day.

TIPS AND TAXES: Those normally appearing on hotel and restaurant bills as "service" are included, as are all governmental and local taxes on hotels and meals. Tips to guides, drivers and portage are included.

SIGHTSEEING: By modern motorcoach including services of English-speaking guides and entrance fees to places included in the itinerary.

NOT INCLUDED: Passport and visa fees, laundry, wines, liquors, mineral waters and after-dinner coffee or tea, meals not included in the itinerary, sightseeing or services other than those specifically mentioned.

TOUR PRICE: Based on tariffs and rates in effect on February 27, 2010, and subject to change without notice should there be a revision in rates prior to departure of tour.

DEPOSIT AND CANCELLATION: A deposit of \$150 per person is required to secure reservations, which sum will be applied to the price of the tour, balance to be paid in full not later than 6 weeks prior to departure of the tour. Reservations made within 30 days of departure are subject to \$25 late reservation charge. In event of cancellation, refund in full will be made up to 90 days prior to departure, excluding a \$50 administrative fee. For cancellations received 89 to 35 days prior to departure, refund in full will be made excluding a \$100 airline cancellation fee plus a \$50 administration fee. If cancellation is not received at this time, refund will be subject to a minimum 25 percent cancellation fee or an amount equal to the expenses to the tour operator, whichever is greater. All cancellations must be in writing to Maranatha Tours and will be in effect on the date of receipt by Maranatha Tours.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Round-trip economy class jet via El Al Israeli Airline or any other IATA member. Full payment due 45 days prior to commencement of travel. If passenger effects cancellation within 35 days of departure or after air tickets are written, whichever comes sooner, 100 percent of airfare will be forfeited by passenger. In the event 35 passengers do not book the tour within 90 days of departure, the agent reserves the right to cancel the tour. All airfares subject to government approval and change without notice.

RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY: Land arrangements including surface transportation: Maranatha Tours, Inc., and the participating Tour Operators operate the land tours offered under this program only as agents of the hotels, bus operators, sightseeing contractors and others which provide the actual land arrangements and are not liable for any act, omission, delay, injury, loss or damage or non-performance occurring in connection with these land arrangements. El Al Israeli Airline and other IATA carriers and other transportation companies whose services are featured in these tours are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by these companies when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the companies and the purchaser of these tours and/or passage.

CHANGE FEE: All changes not received in writing by Maranatha Tours at least 45 days prior to departure will incur a \$50 change fee per person for each revision.

LAND ARRANGEMENTS: The tour operator reserves the right to change the itinerary due to emergencies.

REALIS/VESOR
Triennial Study Trip to

Maranatha
Tours
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EL AL

ISRAEL

January 13-23, 2011

Sergei Timchenko, President
Dr. Andrei Puzynin, Translator
Dr. Bryan Widbin, Faculty/Guide
Dr. Martin Sanders, Faculty



VESOR Israel Study Trip
Faculty/Guide: Dr. Bryan Widbin;
Faculty: Dr. Martin Sanders
January 13-23, 2011

Jan 13 (Th) **Kiev/Tel Aviv.** Arrive in Tel Aviv from Kiev. Upon arrival in Tel Aviv, if time we visit the capital of Roman Palestine and birthplace of Gentile Christianity, **Caesarea Maritima**, on the coast (Leadership Presentation #1). Then we transfer to the Mediterranean coastal city of Netanya for our overnight at the **Blue Bay Hotel, Netanya.**

Jan 14 (F) **Netanya//Muhraqa/Megiddo/Nazareth/Nain.** This morning we move along the Mediterranean coast and then cut through Mount Carmel to ascend the summit where Elijah bested the prophets of Baal and Asherah and consider that event recorded in the book of Kings (Leadership Presentation #2). Then it is on to Solomon's store city of Megiddo for a look at city gates and walls, stables and a walk through a defensive water system from the days of Ahab. After lunch we move north through the Valley of Armageddon to the little Herodian town of Nazareth, where Jesus grew up. Briefly we stop then at the lower Galilean town of Nain where Jesus raised a widow's son from the dead. The Herodian cemetery is clearly visible for considering Luke's account of this event. Finally we cut through the hills to the Sea of Galilee and our port residence on the eastern coast. Overnight **Kibbutz Ein Gev.**

Jan 15 (Sa) **Chorazin/Kursi/Capernaum/Boat Ride/Arbel hike.** This day begins with a first-hand look at life inside a Jewish fishing village from the days of Jesus at Chorazin. Before lunch, we visit the ruins of Capernaum, Jesus' base on the sea, where he resided with his disciples for an extended time in the home of Simon's mother-in-law. Finally, we board a

fishing boat for a cruise across the Sea of Galilee to Gergesa-Kursi, the site of the casting out of the demons into the swine herd (Leadership Presentation #3). This setting will give us opportunity to consider the "sea stories" in the Gospel narratives. The day concludes with a short hike through the plain of Gennesaret where Jesus conducted much of his healing ministry. Overnight **Kibbutz Ein Gev.**

Jan 16 (Su) **Beth Shean/Qumran/Jericho.** After a restful night's sleep we leave the Sea of Galilee region by way of Beth Shean (known as Scythopolis in Jesus' day) at the foot of Mount Gilboa. This decapolis city gives us the most complete picture available of Gentile Galilee during the time of Christ (Leadership Presentation #4). Lunch will find us in Jericho, that nemesis of Joshua. Then we're on to a first look at the Dead Sea, 1300ft. below sea level, and a stop at Qumran and the famous Dead Sea Scroll caves. Our day concludes with a visit to the famous Jericho, where Joshua led the invading Israelites against the city-states of Canaan.. Overnight **Jericho Resort Hotel.**

Jan 17 (M) **Ein Gedi Nature Hike/Masada/Swim in the Dead Sea/Dead Sea Overlook.** This day begins with a beautiful hike up the canyon where David hid out from Saul during his days as a renegade. We'll enjoy the spring that sustained David during these trying days. Then we motor to Masada where we board a cable car to the summit of this mountain fortress where Jewish Zealots stood to their final days against the 10th legion of Rome (Leadership Presentation #5). After lunch, we take a dip in the shallows of the Dead Sea and then consider the locations of Sodom and Gomorrah at the southern end of the Sea. Overnight at **Inbar Hotel, Arad.**

Jan 18 (T) **Arad/Beersheva/Lachish/Azeka/Jerusalem.** This morning we visit Arad, where rest the ruins of Solomon's fort and temple established during the latter days of his reign.

Then we motor north to Beersheba, city of Abraham and fortress city protecting the southwest flank of the kingdom of Judah. After lunch, it is on to the lowlands and Lachish, where we examine what's left of the attack of Sennacherib's Assyrian regulars on this strong point of King Hezekiah's kingdom. A short ride from here brings us to the Elah Valley where David fought Goliath (Leadership Presentation #6). And finally our day turns to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. And what a climax to this day as we ascend the mountains of Judah to the city of Jerusalem, home base now for us until the end of our trip. Overnight **Ritz Hotel, Jerusalem.**

Jan 19 (W) **City of David Archaeological Garden/Wailing Wall/Jewish Quarter/The Citadel.** This morning it's off to see the ramparts and building remains of Old Testament Israel's capital city built by David, Solomon, Hezekiah, and Herod the Great. This morning's activities include visits to the terraces of David's palace, Hezekiah's water system, and the sacred temple platform developed by Solomon and Herod, including the well-known "Wailing" Wall which formed the retaining buttress for the temple of Jesus' day. After lunch in the ancient Sadducean quarter of the Old City, we'll interact with an orthodox Jewish shopkeeper about his feelings about a coming Messiah and the nature of saving faith. A final stop pieces the day together at Herod's palace where the king entertained the Magi on their way to Bethlehem and Jesus was tried before Pilate. Overnight **Ritz Hotel, Jerusalem.**

Jan 20 (Th) **Israel Museum/Wohl Archaeological Museum/Southern Wall Excavations/Bethlehem.** Today we set perspective for the events of Jesus' life in and around Jerusalem by visiting a 1:50 scale model of Jerusalem from Jesus' day at the Israel Museum. Then we descend 10 feet below the streets of the Jewish Quarter, home to the Sadducees in Jesus day, and walk among the ruins of Jesus' Jerusalem. Then we'll walk down

to the temple area and to the Herodian street from the time of Jesus. We sit where he taught his disciples during those days before his death. After lunch, our day concludes in Bethlehem, birthplace of our Lord. There we'll visit the town square and give some time for shopping and experiencing this town on the edge of the Judean wilderness. Overnight **Ritz Hotel, Jerusalem.**

Jan 21 (F) **FREE DAY.** A free day for leisure, shopping and extra sites on your own. Be sure and join us at the end of the day at the Western Wall for the celebration of Sabbath! Overnight **Ritz Hotel, Jerusalem.**

Jan 22 (Sa) **Mount of Olives/Gethsemane/St. Peter in Gallicantu/Church of the Holy Sepulchre.** We begin this final climactic day of our tour on the historic Mount of Olives with a panoramic tracing of the events of passion week. We then stroll along to the Dominus Flevit church, built originally by the Byzantines to commemorate the event of Christ's weeping over Jerusalem. The agony of Christ takes on new meaning at the Garden of Gethsemane (Leadership Presentation #7) and the church of St. Peter in Gallicantu, built over the ruins of Caiaphas' house and courtyard. Then after lunch we walk the Via Dolorosa ("way of sorrows") from the site of the Roman trials before Pilate to Calvary and its tomb complex at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Finally, we gather for communion at the hotel for a meaningful time of final reflection together. Overnight **Ritz Hotel, Jerusalem.**

Jan 23 (Su) **Jerusalem/Tel Aviv/Kiev.** We transfer to the airport for our flight home better equipped for ministry with new understandings of the Word of God.