



## ISRAEL 2009

“EXPLORING OUR HEBRAIC ROOTS”  
NOVEMBER 19 – 28, 2009

Join Dr. LaSalle and CoPastor Portia Vaughn for Israel 2009, *Exploring our Hebraic Roots*. Pastor LaSalle and CoPastor Portia have visited Israel over 30 times and are renowned for their in-depth understanding of the Hebraic culture and history impacting our Christian heritage. They will lead you on tours of the various Biblical sites and places throughout Israel that serve as reminders of the Hebraic heritage of our faith as well as providing a visual understanding of how our early Christian and Jewish church fathers lived during Biblical times.

This 10-day trip/7-night trip will be special as we will celebrate Thanksgiving in Jerusalem, the City of David.

### **ITINERARY**

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Depart San Antonio for our transatlantic flight to Israel.

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Arrive in Tel Aviv and be transferred to our hotel for a welcome dinner and overnight. Our hotel, The David Intercontinental, is a 5-star property located within walking distance to the beach and other attractions. We will have the evening to relax and explore Tel Aviv. (Dinner)

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 – CAESAREA, TIBERIAS

Check out of the hotel and board our luxury touring coaches for our journey to Caesarea and Tiberias. We will stop first to visit the Roman ruins at Caesarea by the sea, a large port city built by Herod the Great to honor Roman Caesar Augustus. Caesarea became the heart of Roman rule in this region. Significant ruins you will see at Caesarea include a theater, a hippodrome, a luxurious bathhouse, and the remains of what used to be a vast aqueduct system that reached from Mt. Carmel to Caesarea.

Pastor Vaughn will share a special teaching in the theater, a tradition he has done on every tour he has led to Israel.

We will depart Caesarea for Mt. Carmel, where Elijah challenged King Ahab and the prophets of Baal. Next, we travel through the Jezreel Valley to Megiddo, the Armageddon Battlefield, where archaeologists have unearthed 20 levels of civilization.

We continue our drive to Sephoris, the most important city in Galilee during the first 4 centuries AD before driving on to Nazareth, a town in the hill country of Galilee where Jesus grew to manhood. We make another short stop in Cana in Galilee where Jesus performed his first miracle at the wedding feast.

From there we will travel to Capernaum. Capernaum is where Jesus preached, and his disciples, Peter, Andrew, and perhaps others, made their homes. Along the way, we will stop for a lunch of St. Peter's fish at a local restaurant. This fish is found in that region, and could be the type of fish used to feed the multitudes by Jesus. The contemporary church at Tabga celebrates the Miracle of the Multiplication, which is symbolized by a beautiful mosaic floor in front of the ancient altar depicting two fish and a basket filled with loaves of bread.

After Capernaum, we will depart for Tiberias and check-in at our hotel, the Sheraton Tiberias. The Sheraton is a 5-star hotel situated on the banks of the Sea of Galilee. We will have dinner and worship and afterwards you will be free to explore Tiberias. (Breakfast, Dinner)

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Arise early for breakfast and afterwards, we will take a private boat across the Sea of Galilee. See the Genosar Boat, a Galilee fishing boat from approximately the 1st century AD. The boat was preserved in the muddy sediment of the lake floor and was revealed in 1986 when drought caused the lake to recede to record low levels. Spend time in the gift shop to buy tallits and other Jewish and Christian articles.



From there we travel to the Mount of the Beatitudes, the site of the Sermon on the Mount and the Miracle of the Fishes. Explore the beautiful gardens surrounding the church and take in the view of the Galilee region. We will be blessed with a teaching from CoPastor Portia Vaughn in the amphitheater.

Afterwards, we will travel to the Upper Galilee to visit the ruins of the prehistoric settlement at Tel Dan, once a thriving Canaanite community and the northern limit of the Promised Land. We continue on to the Golan Heights, a majestic plateau overlooking Israel's northern **Galilee** region and site of fierce armored battles during the 1967 Six Day War and 1973 Yom Kippur War, for a better understanding of its strategic significance to Israel. From there we visit the **Ancient city of Safed** (Tzfat in Hebrew), home of **Kabbalah**, or Jewish mysticism, and tour of the ancient synagogues and artists' quarter.

We then proceed to Banias to see the sources of the Jordan River. Then walk to Caesarea Philippi, the Biblical name for Banias. It is believed to be the place where Jesus designated Peter as "the rock" on which the church would be built. We then will travel to Kibbutz Hagoshrim for your own baptism ceremony on the banks of the Jordan River. Pastor Vaughn will step into the Jordan River where he will baptize you as a witness of your faith. Every baptized pilgrim will get a towel, a robe, and a special certificate of baptism.



We then return to Tiberias, with a stop at the Caprice Diamond Factory where you will have a chance to purchase that very special diamond or other precious stones.

Afterwards, we return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, Dinner)

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23 - DEAD SEA

After breakfast, we will checkout and begin our journey to the Dead Sea. Along the way we will stop first at Mt. Tabor and visit the Church of the Transfiguration. Enjoy an outstanding view of the Jezreel Valley where the battle of Deborah and the Midianites took place.

From there we will make a stop at Beth Shean. The city is mentioned a number of times in the Bible. The fall of King Saul to the Philistines at Gilboa is recorded as saying: "*The next day,*



*when the Philistines came to strip the dead, they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. They cut off his head and stripped off his armor, and they sent messengers throughout the land of the Philistines to proclaim the news in the temple of their idols and among their people. They put his armor in the temple of the Ashtoreths and fastened his body to the wall of Beth Shean" [1 Samuel 31:8-10].*

We will then drive to the Dead Sea for dinner and overnight. Our hotel, ISROTEL, is one of the Dead Sea's best 5-star hotels. (Breakfast, Dinner)

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Enjoy a free morning at the Isrotel spa or take a swim in the Dead Sea. Afterwards, we will check out and leave for Masada. You will be able to take a cable car ride to the top of Masada to visit the restored Roman palaces, store houses, synagogues and bath house, which witnessed the Jewish resistance to the Romans approximately 2,000 years ago.

Descend by cable car, drive along the Dead Sea to Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found in 1947.

We will then begin our journey to the City of Lights and one of the most beautiful cities in the world, JERUSALEM, for dinner and overnight. Our hotel, INBAL, is located within walking distance of Jerusalem's historical and religious sites. The hotel's design uniquely incorporates Jerusalem stone in both its interior and exterior. The Inbal offers a high level of comfort and service. (Breakfast, Dinner)



#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

We will drive to the Mount of Olives for an awe inspiring, panoramic view of Jerusalem and then proceed to the Garden of Gethsemane. We will leave there and head into the Old City, entering through the Lion Gate into the Christian Quarter. You will be able to see the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus healed the blind man, and St. Anne's Church, which is famous for its acoustics. We will then proceed to the Way of the Cross, the Via Dolorosa, and will stop to visit the Monastery of the Sisters of Zion, the Floor of the Lithostrothos of the Ecce Ommo Arch (Behold the Man), and visit the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

In the afternoon, we will visit Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. A special Yizkor Service (Remembrance) will be held at the Valley of the Communities with a local Jewish Cantor. Continue to the Shrine of the Book and the exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Model of Jerusalem from the days of Jesus. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, Dinner)

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 – THANKSGIVING DAY

We will drive to Caiaphas House, chief priest of the Jews, where we will explore the dungeon where Jesus was held prior to his trial. Afterwards, we will visit King David's Tomb and the Room of the Last Supper. We will then enter the Jewish Quarter on our way to the Western Wall, the holiest site in all Judaism. Here stands the only visible remains of Herod's splendid Second Temple where Jesus walked and taught. After some personal time of prayer and thanksgiving at the Western Wall, we will explore the Rabbinical Tunnel, a tunnel underneath the Old City and along the Western Wall where you can see the construction of the Temple Mount. We will then visit the Davidson Center to experience a multi-media presentation of Jerusalem during the days of Jesus.





Our last stop of the day will be at the Garden Tomb where we will see what many consider the place of Jesus' burial and resurrection. We will then take communion and then return to the hotel for our special Thanksgiving dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, Dinner)

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

After breakfast and checking out, we will begin the morning with free time for shopping on Ben Yehuda Street. In the early afternoon, we will drive to Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, to visit the Church of the Nativity, the oldest church in the Holy Land still in use. From there, we will visit Yad Hashmona Biblical Village. This unique Biblical Village was inaugurated in the year 2000 and was established with the assistance of the Swiss Beth Shalom society and the Israeli Antiquities Authority. Fig, pomegranate, almond, date-palm, olive and other trees, as well as grape vines are planted all around the compound, bringing to mind the parables and symbols of the Old and New Testaments. We will have an early dinner and then depart to the airport.

We will arrive at the airport to check in, clear security and immigration, and await our flight back to the U.S.

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Arrive in the U.S. and after clearing U.S. Customs and Immigration, connect to your flight to San Antonio or your final destination.

#### TOUR INCLUDES:

- \* Round-trip, economy air from San Antonio to Tel Aviv with Delta Airlines.
- \* 7 nights of accommodations at the listed hotels with Israeli breakfast and dinner daily.
- \* Transfers to/from the airport in Israel.
- \* 9 days of tours in private, air-conditioned bus with a licensed, English-speaking guide.
- \* All entrance fees as per itinerary.
- \* Private boat across the Sea of Galilee.
- \* Portage at airport and hotels.
- \* Service and local taxes.

#### TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Fees for obtaining passports or visas, excess baggage charges, inoculations, travel, accident or baggage insurance; lunch; airport departure taxes that are not included in the airline ticket; fuel surcharges, optional tours; custom duties; any items of a personal nature, such as phone calls, faxes or room service; tips for bus driver, tour guides, and hotel staff for services such as room service, spa treatments, gym usage, or other services purchased separately.

#### PASSPORT & VISA REQUIREMENTS:

For entry into Israel, and re-entry into the United States, U.S. citizens must carry a valid U.S. passport (must have at least 6 months of validity past your scheduled return date). Non-U.S. citizens, at a minimum, must be in possession of a valid passport and may be required to obtain a VISA prior to entry into Israel. All visitors are subject to the laws and regulations of that country.



#### PRICES AND PAYMENT DATES:

- Adult (two per room): \$3,495
  - Adult (single room): \$4,475
  - Children (2-11) sharing with 1 adult \$3,345
  - Children (2-11) sharing with two adults \$2895
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- 1 OCTOBER 2008: \$ 500 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT DUE
  - 1 JULY 2009: FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

##### **Pricing**

- The price of the tour is based on two individuals sharing per room unless the single room price is paid.
- The price of the tour is based on a minimum of 40 participants. If, due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of NLCC and our travel providers/suppliers increase the price, NLCC will adjust the price accordingly.
- Price of the airfare portion of the tour is subject to change until the airline ticket has been issued.
- Should a single traveler wish to share a room with another traveler, and NLCC is unable to match him/her with a roommate, the single room supplement will apply.
- Should the number of participants, 90 days prior to departure, be lower than the published minimum number of participants to operate the tour, the price will be adjusted accordingly, or the tour will be cancelled.

##### **Cancellation and Refunds:**

- The deposit is non-refundable.
- For cancellation up to 90 days prior to departure, the full cost of the deposit will be forfeited.
- For cancellation of 89 to 45 days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 50% of the tour cost will apply.
- For cancellation of 44 to 15 days prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 75% of the tour cost will apply.
- For cancellation of 14 days and less prior to departure, a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost will apply.

##### **Responsibility and Liability**

Purchaser and/or Traveler acknowledges that the New Life Christian Center (hereafter referred to as NLCC) and its affiliates, travel consultants and/or agencies (hereafter referred to as Suppliers) are acting solely as the arranger for this tour in all matters pertaining to hotels, accommodations, airlines, bus companies, ship lines, restaurants, and as such, is not liable in the event of any failure by any person or company to render services to be provided on the tour. Neither NLCC or any of its affiliates, travel consultants, Suppliers, and/or subsidiaries shall be or become liable or responsible for any accident, loss, delay, omission, injury, nonperformance, and/or damage resulting from acts of God, acts of governments or other authorities, wars declared or not declared, climatic conditions, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, pilferage, sickness, epidemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, defaults, delays, cancellation of or changes in itinerary, or for any loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passport, visas or other documents associated with this tour. By embarking upon this tour, the Traveler



voluntarily assumes all risks, and is advised to obtain appropriate insurance coverage against them. Traveler's booking shall constitute consent to the above and engaging arrangements on his/her behalf, and agrees that restitution or damages, if any are claimed, shall be sought directly from the operators (hotels, airlines, ship lines, bus companies, restaurants) and not NLCC. The Passenger contract in use by the airline concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the purchaser and/or passenger of the ticket or tour.

**Insurance**

NLCC recommends Travelers purchase travel insurance, which is commercially available. At a minimum, the insurance should include the following coverage: Accidental death and disability, major Medical, Emergency medical evacuation, loss of personal effects, and trip cancellation. This insurance should be purchased within 7 days of paying your deposit.

**Alterations**

NLCC reserves the right to change the itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances, including air schedule changes or surface transportation changes, security matters and/or events beyond its control make such alterations necessary. In all cases, NLCC will strive to maintain the content of the tour. NLCC reserves the right to change the hotels listed on the tour for others of similar quality.

**Severability**

This is the entire agreement of the parties and it may be amended only by written agreement signed by NLCC. and the client. If any part of this agreement is held unenforceable by a court of law, the rest of this agreement will nevertheless remain in force and effect.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER AT 210.679.6050 OR VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [www.christiancenter.com](http://www.christiancenter.com).