

# Trip of a Lifetime to Israel

\$4581 from JFK, optional Rome extension \$590

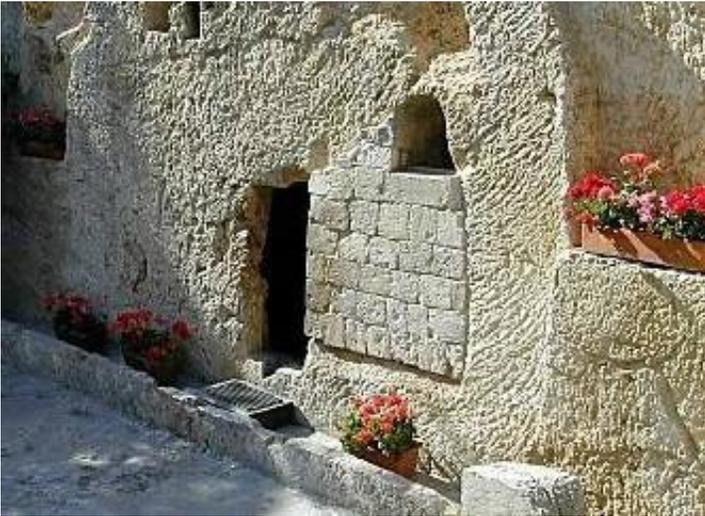
December 27, 2019 - January 6 or 9, 2020



Gethsemane olive tree roots from Jesus' time



Sunrise over the Sea of Galilee



Garden Tomb, Jerusalem

**Co-hosted by**

**Michael Luciano, Pastor  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Tour leader/Bible teacher**

**and**

**Billy W. Nelson, Registrar  
New York School of the Bible  
Tour coordinator**



Dead Sea as seen from cave where Dead Sea Scrolls discovered

# Calvary Baptist Church/NYSB: Trip of a Lifetime to Israel

\$4581 from JFK, optional Rome extension \$590  
Hosted by Rev. Michael Luciano and Billy Nelson  
December 27, 2019 - January 6 or 9, 2020

**DAY 1 – Friday, December 27:** Depart from New York on our flight to Tel Aviv. Meals and overnight on board. After dinner, relax and enjoy the on-board entertainment.

**DAY 2 – Saturday, December 28:** Arrive at Tel Aviv's **Ben Gurion Airport** and meet our guide who will welcome us to the Land of the Bible and escort us throughout our stay in Israel. **Israeli guides** are legendary for their knowledge and dedication. Ours will instruct us on the many sites we will visit and their relationship to the **religion, history, archaeology, culture, and modern life** in Israel. Our first site will be **Old Jaffa**, the traditional home of **Simon the Tanner**, where **Peter** received the vision and instruction from the Lord to take the Gospel to Cornelius, and from where **Jonah** sailed. Dinner and overnight in Tel Aviv.

**DAY 3 – Sunday, December 29:** Depart for the **Dead Sea**. We will stop at **Beer Sheva**, famous for being the birthplace of Isaac and Jacob. Proceed, if time permits, to **Arad** to see the partially reconstructed 5,000 year old Canaanite town. Arrive at our hotel next to the Dead Sea and enjoy a mud bath, spa treatments (cost is extra), or take a swim (rather a "float") in the Dead Sea. Dinner and overnight at the Dead Sea.

**DAY 4 – Monday, December 30:** Depart for **Masada**, overlooking the Dead Sea, where we ascend by cable car to visit the remnants of Herod's Palace and where from A.D. 70 to 73 the Zealots made their last stand against the Roman Legions. Proceed to **Ein Gedi**, fabled Spring of David, and then on to **Qumran** where the **Dead Sea Scrolls** were found in 1947. Overlooking the Jordan Valley and Jericho at "Genesis Land", enjoy a unique experience--camel ride. Later we go up to Jerusalem. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

**DAY 5 – Tuesday, December 31:** This morning we begin with a view of the **Old City** from the top of the **Mount of Olives**. Walk to the **Garden of Gethsemane**, the **Church of All Nations**, and

drive across the **Kidron Valley**. Enter the Old City through **Flower Gate** to the **Moslem Quarter**, visit the beautiful **Church of St. Anne** and the **Pool of Bethesda**, **Pilate's Judgment Hall**, and the **Ecce Homo Arch** (ecce homo is Latin for "Behold the man"). Then we visit the archaeological park at the **City of David**. Continue our visit to **Warren's Shaft** before heading to the **Gihon Spring** and the **Pool of Siloam** located where the Valley of Hinnom runs into the Kidron Valley. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight—with perhaps a rousing chorus of Auld Lang Syne.

**DAY 6 – Wednesday, January 1:** We begin the day with a visit to the **Israel Museum** and continue on to the miniature **model of Jerusalem** as it was in the 2nd Temple period (circa A.D. 68). Visit the reconstructed **Jewish Quarter**, walk through the **Cardo**, the original Roman street, and see the amazing Israelite wall. Proceed to view the **Burnt House**, remaining from the fire in A.D. 70 which destroyed Jerusalem. See the important excavations taking place at the **Western Wall** and the **Southern Temple Staircase**.

**DAY 7 – Thursday, January 2:** Today we will visit the **Temple Mount**. Walk along the **Via Dolorosa**, into the **Christian Quarter**. Proceed to the **Church of the Holy Sepulcher**, possible site of Calvary and the tomb. End the afternoon at **Golgotha (Gordon's Calvary)** and the **Garden's Empty Tomb**. Special time is planned for worship, communion, meditation, and inspiration. Dinner and overnight in Jerusalem.

**DAY 8 – Friday, January 3:** Drive along the **Jordan Valley** to **Beit She'an** to see the expansive excavations taking place at this ancient Roman city. It's on to **Megiddo**, inspiration for James Michener's "The Source", and prophesied site of **Armageddon**. Archaeological digs reveal 20 layers of civilization, including fortifications of **King Solomon** and the water tunnel of King Ahab. Megiddo provides a magnificent view of the fertile Jezreel Valley, at the crossroads of the ancient **Via Maris**. Continue through the rolling hills of the Galilee to **Nazareth** and visit a 1st-century village

reconstructed at **Nazareth Village**. We arrive in **Tiberias** for dinner and overnight at our hotel overlooking the Sea of Galilee.

**DAY 9 – Saturday, January 4:** We begin the day with a visit to the site of **Magdala** to see the newly recovered remains of the synagogue where Jesus would have visited and taught. Next we visit the site of the Sermon on the Mount, the **Mount of Beatitudes**. Proceed up north to **Caesarea Phillip** (Banias Spring) where Peter confessed Jesus is the Christ and where Jesus decided to return to Jerusalem. Next we visit **Tel Dan**, a Canaanite town where Joshua led the Israelites over 3,000 years ago. Today the *tel* is part of the Tel Dan Nature Reserve. Many springs form the Dan River, one of the three principal sources of the Jordan River. Proceed to the **Jordon River** for a baptismal service for those who wish at Yardenit. Dinner and overnight in Tiberias.

**DAY 10 – Sunday, January 5:** This day is worth the trip! We are now literally walking in the footsteps of Jesus. **We will take a most memorable boat ride on the Sea of Galilee**, in a replica of ancient wooden boats used in Jesus' day. We will see the remains of a 1st-century boat on display at Nof Ginosar. We walk into old **Capernaum** with the ancient synagogue and then on to **Tabgha** where Peter is restored for his earlier three denials. Then we travel to **Mount Carmel** where Elijah triumphed over the prophets of Baal. We end our visit at **Caesarea Maritima** where the Gospel first comes to the Gentiles, when Peter brings the Good News to the Roman centurion, Cornelius. From this port city, Paul sailed in and out for his missionary tours. Here Paul appealed to Caesar. We will see the Roman theater, Herod's palace, and the aqueduct. We end the day and complete our Israel tour at a deluxe hotel in Tel Aviv with a **farewell dinner**. Each tour participant will receive a **Certificate of Pilgrimage**.

Those going back to the USA after Israel will head to the airport with assistance to check in for the flight arriving back at JFK January 6. Those venturing on to Rome spend the night at the Tel Aviv hotel.

**Day 11 – Monday, January 6:** Transfer to the airport for the flight to Rome, non-stop, arriving early afternoon. Meet your deluxe coach and escort for the trip to your 4-star hotel, The Victoria, a Calvary/NYSB favorite, for three nights. After

checking in, your tour hosts will assist you in getting oriented to the pleasant hotel neighborhood, where you will be able to find dinner on your own at a local restaurant. Breakfast is included each day at the hotel.

**Day 12 – Tuesday, January 7:** After breakfast, today's morning excursion explores **Ancient Rome** with the highlights a guided tour of the **Imperial Forum** and the great **Coliseum**. The afternoon explores the palaces, piazzas, and fountains of Baroque Rome, named after the richly-ornamented 17<sup>th</sup>-century architectural style of many of Rome's most spectacular buildings, plazas, and fountains--such as **Piazza Navona**, **Trevi Fountain** (famous for the "Three Coins" song and tradition of a coin in the fountain to guarantee a return visit) and the **Spanish Steps**. Also, while not baroque, see the **Pantheon**, ancient Roman temple to the gods, now a Christian marvel with open air dome (and great ice cream nearby).

**Day 13 – Wednesday, January 8:** Morning guided tour of **The Vatican Museum**, with its acres of archaeological and artistic wonders, concluding with the **Sistine Chapel** with Michelangelo's famous ceiling. Then to **St Peter's Cathedral**, built over the grave of St Peter, highlighted by Michelangelo's **Pieta** sculpture of Mary holding the temporarily lifeless body of her son the crucified Jesus and **Bernini's Altar**. Afternoon free for your own exploration of Rome, with the tour hosts assisting those who want to visit catacombs.

**Day 14 – Thursday, January 9:** Mid-morning flight back to JFK, arriving early afternoon the same day . . . with hearts and minds filled with a swirl of impressions and memories of Israel, the Holy Land, and the city of Rome.

**Registration Details on Back Page**



# Terms and Conditions

**U.S. passport** valid through July, 2020, is required; anyone with non-U.S. passport, please contact tour operator.

**Payment schedule:** \$400 deposit by check or cash required to guarantee a place on the tour. Second payment of \$1600 is due July 1. Final payment is due November 1.

## **Tour price includes . . .**

**Air transportation**, currently scheduled on Alitalia, the Italian national airline, may 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. Frequent flyer miles or credit card points cannot be used to purchase or upgrade air tickets; however, if you arrange your own airfare, deduct \$1380 from the brochure price.

**Accommodations** in superior hotels with private bath. Extra cost for anyone staying in a single room \$1064 Israel, \$165 Rome.

**Meals** Israel daily buffet breakfast in hotels and dinner daily either in hotels or nearby restaurants. Rome daily breakfast only.

**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** wines, liquors, bottled water, coffee or tea not part of 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).

**Cancellation policy:** No cancellation penalty before June 15. Written cancellations received June 15-July 31 subject to a \$400 penalty. Written cancellations received August 1-October 31 subject to a 25% cancellation fee of the total tour price. Written cancellations received November 1-30 subject to a 50% cancellation fee of the total tour price. No refunds for cancellations November 30 and after. 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 the purchase of travel insurance*, to cover both health care and cancellation penalties; information on travel insurance available on written request.

**Brochure price** based on minimum 21 passengers in Israel and Rome. Price also based on Israel and Italy VAT policy and currency/US Dollar exchange rates as of April 1, 2019.

**Responsibility:** Rev. Michael Luciano, Billy Nelson, Calvary Baptist Church, New York School of the Bible, 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 reserves 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 comfort, 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 \$400 per person check to "Escorted Travel Concepts" and mail to New York School of the Bible, ATTN: Billy Nelson, 123 W 57th Street, New York NY10019  
For more information, contact Billy Nelson at 212-975-0170 x 123 or [nysb@cbcnyc.org](mailto:nysb@cbcnyc.org)



Rome Panorama