THE LAND OF ISRAEL: PAST AND PRESENT STUDY TOUR
With Pastor Brent Cunningham and Dr. James Lindsay
Wednesday, March 7-Monday, March 19, 2018

Part One: Pre-Trip Class; January 28-March 4, 2018
Part Two: Travel in Israel; Wednesday, March 7-Monday, March 19, 2018
Travel dates coincide with PSD and CSU spring breaks

Price  $4600.00 per person  (Price is based on two people sharing a twin/double room)
Single room rate is an additional $1050.00 per person.

Please visit www.timberlinechurch.org/israeltipinfo for online registration and passport signup information. Online registration needs to be completed by December 11, 2017 to ensure current pricing package.

INSTRUCTORS:
Pastor Brent Cunningham (Timberline Church)
Dr. James Lindsay (Professor of Middle East History, CSU; jel1451@gmail.com)
Yonatan Weiss (Our Intrepid Israeli Guide)
This tour explores the diverse physical geography, rich material culture, and complex history of the land of Israel. Our primary focus will be Ancient Israel (Old Testament), post-biblical Judaism, and the life and ministry of Jesus (New Testament). We will also examine the history of the Land of Israel during the Roman, Byzantine, Islamic, and Crusader periods as well as the present day.

This is a physically demanding study tour. We will be walking 5-8 miles each day on rocky archaeological sites, rough stone roads, steep hiking trails, etc. Be sure to pack comfortable shoes! A highlight will be an invigorating sunrise hike up Masada. Those who prefer not to do the hike may take the cable car to the top of Masada after sunrise and meet the group there.

**PART ONE: PRE-TRIP CLASS**

**RECOMMENDED READINGS:**


Good historical maps for the Old Testament and New Testament materials. The narrative text for each chapter is quite readable and provides an excellent overview of the history of ancient Israel and the New Testament era under the Roman Empire.


A very readable, accessible, and even-handed history of modern Israel.

Additional articles and book chapters will be distributed during class.

**Week 1, January 28:** Physical geography and material culture in the Ancient Israelite, Hellenistic, and early Roman periods, with special attention to sites we will visit.

**Week 2, February 4:** Ancient Israelite, Hellenistic, and early Roman periods.

**Week 3, February 11:** Ancient Israelite, Hellenistic, and early Roman periods.

**Week 4, February 18:** The Holy Land: From Constantine to the Islamic Conquest.

**Week 5, February 25:** The Holy Land in the Crusader Period.

**Week 6, March 4:** The Establishment of the State of Israel and the Arab-Israeli Conflict.

*Recordings of all classes will be available online for travelers who are unable to attend.

**PART TWO: TRAVEL ITINERARY IN ISRAEL**

**Day 1. Wednesday, March 7—Depart for Israel**

Depart from Denver around 2:20pm
Day 2. Thursday, March 8—Arrival in Israel and Walking Tour of Jaffa
Arrival in Israel around 4:20pm. Walking tour of Jaffa, Dinner at Haj Kahil. Overnight: Tel Aviv

Jaffa

Day 3. Friday, March 9—The Mediterranean, Megiddo, and Mount Carmel
Independence Hall, Caesarea, Megiddo, Mt. Carmel and Elijah’s Cave. Overnight: Akko

Caesarea
Day 4. Saturday, March 10—The Jezreel Valley and the Lower Galilee
Crusader sites in Akko, Zippori, Mt. Tabor and Church of the Transfiguration, the Mt. Arbel. Overnight: Tiberias

Akko
Timberline Israel Group at Zippori (2017)

Mount Tabor
Mt. Arbel and the Sea of Galilee

Day 5. Sunday, March 11—The Upper Galilee and the Golan Heights
Tel Dan, Caesarea Philippi, Golan Heights. Overnight: Tiberias

Caesarea Philippi
Day 6. Monday, March 12—Jesus’ Ministry and the Sea of Galilee
Magdala, Jesus Boat Museum, Mt. of Beatitudes, Tabgha, Capernaum, Boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and Dinner at Decks. Overnight: Tiberias
Day 7. Tuesday, March 13—The Jordan Valley and Baptisms in the Jordan
Beit Shean, Jordan Valley, Baptisms at Qasr al-Yahud. Overnight: Dead Sea
Day 8. Wednesday, March 14—Masada and the Dead Sea
Masada, Ein Gedi, Dead Sea Experience, Monastery of St. George, Ascent to Jerusalem.
Overnight: Jerusalem

Masada

Sunrise at Masada
Day 9. Thursday, March 15—The Israel Museum and the City of David

Israel Museum, City of David Excavations, Hezekiah’s Tunnel, Davidson Center, Western Wall Tunnels. Overnight: Jerusalem

Scale Model of Jerusalem in the Herodian Period, Israel Museum
Day 10. Friday, March 16— The Garden Tomb, Yad Vashem, and Shabbat of a Lifetime
Garden Tomb, Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum, Mahane Yehuda, Kabbalat Shabbat at Western Wall, Shabbat of a Lifetime Dinner. Overnight: Jerusalem
Day 11. Saturday, March 17—The Mount of Olives and the Old City
Churches of Mt. of Olives: Dominus Flevit, Gethsemane; Via Dolorosa, Church of the Redeemer, Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Dormition Abbey, Upper Room, King David’s Tomb. Overnight: Jerusalem
Day 12. Sunday, March 18—Ein Karem, the Hills of Western Judea, and Departure for Denver
Ein Karem, Beit Guvrin, Dinner in the hills west of Jerusalem. Late-Night Departure for U.S. around 10:10pm.

Day 13. Monday, March 19—Home Sweet Home
Arrival in Denver around 9:05am

Billed Expenses ($4600.00) Based on Double Occupancy Include:
Flight from Denver, travel insurance, overhead costs, in-country costs: 4-star hotel accommodations, breakfasts, dinners (Saturday evening dinner will be on your own), transportation, fully licensed English-speaking Israeli guide throughout, national park and museum admissions, gratuities for guide and driver, etc.

Additional Expenses:
- Lunches (10 at $15.00-$25.00 per day)
- Saturday evening dinner ($25.00-$50.00)
- Passport, spending money, transportation to and from DIA, etc. Passports must be valid until at least September 18, 2018 (six months after date of departure from Israel).

A place has been reserved for the first 30 persons to complete the on-line registration form and submit a non-refundable deposit of $250.00. A waiting list will be created for any persons beyond the first 30 based on the date the application is completed and a re-fundable $250.00 deposit is submitted. A minimum of 20 travelers need to complete their [online registration] by December 11, 2017, to make this trip viable.
United Air Lines Flight Information:
Wednesday, March 7, 2018: Denver to Newark (UA 1209). Depart 2:20pm; Arrive 8:10pm.
Wednesday, March 7, 2018: Newark to Tel Aviv (UA 90). Depart 11:30pm; Arrive 4:20pm on
Thursday, March 8, 2018.
Sunday, March 18, 2018: Tel Aviv to Newark (UA 91). Depart 10:10pm; Arrive 4:35am on
Monday, March 19, 2018: Newark to Denver (UA 1819). Depart 6:35am; Arrive 9:05am.

FAQ Regarding Travel to Israel

Israel's Time Zone
Israel is nine hours ahead of Mountain Time. This means evenings in Israel are equivalent to the
morning/afternoon in North America. Mornings in Israel are equivalent to late night in North
America.

Using Your Home Cell Phone Abroad
If you plan to use your cell phone with an international plan for calls or for data usage, contact
your cell phone carrier. You will want to make sure you understand all the potential charges
before you travel. If you plan to bring your home cell phone but do not want to incur fees, be
sure to disable the Data Enabled or Data Roaming option on your phone—you will still be able
to use WiFi over your phone.

Israeli Cell Phones, SIM Cards & Mi-Fi Rentals
Stay connected from Israel without paying sky-high international roaming fees or relying on
spotty wi-fi access. Take advantage of discounted rates at www.israelicellphones.com for these
mobile services:
- Cell Phone Rental or SIM Card
- Mi-Fi Hot Spot
- Data SIM Card
- High Speed USB Modem
- Local Phone Number

Place your order at least 7-10 in advance at www.israelicellphones.com. Deliveries may be made
to your home address or arrival location in Israel.

Money Matters
The Israeli currency is the shekel (NIS). The US Dollar is equal to roughly 3.60 Israeli shekels.
Since the exchange rate fluctuates daily, we recommend going to www.xe.com for an updated
exchange rate closer to departure.

Shekels come in various denominations, and it's worth noting that shekel coins come in higher
values than is common in North America. Watch your coins carefully!

You can exchange your home currency for shekels prior to departure, on arrival at Ben Gurion
Airport, or you can use an ATM to withdraw shekels all over Israel. Exchanging your home
currency during the trip itself will not be convenient. You will be subject to non-advantageous exchange rates at hotels.

If you choose to use your personal ATM card or credit card, keep in mind the following advice:

• If your ATM card has a Visa, MasterCard, Star, Cirrus, or Maestro logo imprint, there should not be a problem withdrawing money. Other ATM network cards may work, but we encourage you to check with your local bank if you have any doubts. ATM machines have instructions in several languages including English. The money withdrawn will be in shekels.

• Major credit cards like VISA and MasterCard are accepted throughout Israel. We advise that you contact your bank to inform them you are traveling abroad and using your cards to make purchases to ensure fraud alerts and holds are not placed on your accounts.

• Check with your bank for exact fees charged when using ATM and credit cards. Some credit card companies, such as Capital One, do not charge foreign transaction fees.

• Bring your bank’s contact information and place it in a separate, secure location in the unlikely event your wallet or purse is lost or stolen.

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