

## GPC Tour 2017

### The Geopolitics of Israel: Biblical and Modern

Program subject to change – 08/09/2016

#### Day 1: Friday May 26 2017

- **Breakfast** and closure of GPC program
- **Drive up north**
- Lunch
- Walk where Jesus walked around the Sea of Galilee. Visit the **Mount of Beatitudes**, the place where Jesus delivered the famous Sermon on the Mount.
- Visit the **Tabgha Church**, known as the site of the Miracle of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes
- Journey to **Capernaum** (John 6:24) to visit the first century synagogue where Jesus preached and healed the epileptic boy (Matt. 4:13-17, Mark 9:14-29).
- Board a wooden sailing boat, fashioned after the ancient fishing vessels, for a **boat ride across the Sea of Galilee**. A time to worship, pray and reflect.
- Enjoy a **traditional Shabbat dinner** with explanations at Carolyn and Richard Hyde
- Overnight in **the Galilee**

#### Day 2: Saturday May 27 2017

- Time of **worship and prayer**
- Introduction to the program and **tour briefing**
- Visit **Gush Chalav**, a **Christian village on the border to Lebanon**. An introduction to the Aramaic Maronite Christian community in Israel. Learn about the recruitment of (Arab) Christians for the IDF and discuss the position of Christians in the Israeli society and the rest of the Middle East.
- Lunch
- Visit a **Kibbutz**, a collectively organized agricultural settlement, in the upper Galilee. Meet a Kibbutznik who will tell about life along the **Lebanese border**, some kilometers away from the area where Hezbollah, a militant Islamic movement, is in power.
- Meet **Israeli soldiers**, young guys that are responsible for Israel's safety on Israel's northern border with Lebanon. An on-site briefing regarding Israel's security challenges concerning the Iranian supported Hezbollah in Southern Lebanon.
- **Outlook from Mount Bental over Syria and see the old army trenches on top of the mountain. Time for prayer over Syria.**
- Dinner and overnight in **the Galilee**

#### Day 3: Sunday May 28 2017

- **Time of worship and prayer**
- Drive to Jerusalem
- Lunch
- A visit to the **Knesset**, the Israeli parliament. Discover the essence of the Israeli democracy and the role and responsibilities of the Knesset. The tour also relates to the principle art works in the Knesset building.
- Meeting with **Knesset Members** (later to be defined with whom)
- Halt at the big **Menorah** outside the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, picturing several biblical scenes. **Time for prayer** for the Israeli government lead by Prime Minister Netanyahu.
- Visit to the **Friends of Zion Museum**
- **Keynote speaker** (see list below)
- Dinner and overnight in **Jerusalem**

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#### Day 4: Monday May 29 2017

- Time of **worship and prayer**
- Drive to the tip of the **Mount of Olives**, known as the site from where Jesus ascended to heaven after His resurrection and enjoy the breath taking view of the Holy City of Jerusalem
- Tour the major sites of **Jerusalem's Old City**: Visit the colorful markets, the Via Dolorosa and the **Cardo**, an ancient Roman site now filled with shops brimming with Middle Eastern artistry
- Lunch
- Visit the **Garden Tomb**. This ancient cemetery is a moving site in which to recall the crucifixion and burial of Jesus. Spend time in these peaceful garden surroundings in prayer, song, fellowship and communion.
- **Dinner** in the hotel
- **Keynote speaker** (see list)
- Overnight in **Jerusalem**

#### Day 5: Tuesday May 30 2017

- Time of **worship and prayer**
- **Geopolitical tour through Jerusalem**. Have a panoramic view from the **Haas Promenade** and several strategic heights in the **Jerusalem Gilo Neighborhood**, to understand the geopolitical situation of Jerusalem. Pass the **Security Fence** and Wall separating Jerusalem from Bethlehem and enter Bethlehem.
- **Time for prayer** over Jerusalem from the Haas Promenade and prayer of Judea from the Gilo Viewpoints.
- Drive through the **city of Bethlehem**, where Jesus and David were born. Tour through the **Deheishe or Aida Refugee Camp**.
- Lunch
- Visit the CJCUC (**Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding and Cooperation**) in Efrat, or previously officially Efrata. The CJCUC is a unique center, established by orthodox Jews who want to recuperate and deepen Christian-Jewish relations.
- Discussion on Jewish landownership in Hebron. Visit **Old Hebron**. Walk at the same time in the footsteps of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joshua and King David. See the Tomb of Machpelah, where the patriarchs and matriarchs of the people of Israel are buried.
- Evaluation & closure
- Dinner and overnight in **Jerusalem**

#### Day 6: Wednesday May 31 2017

- Transfer to the airport on own
- Departures

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#### Keynote speakers:

- Meet with **Alan Baker**, an Israeli expert in international law and former ambassador of the state of Israel to Canada. He is the director of the Institute for Contemporary Affairs at the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs.
- **Bassem Eid**, is an analyst for Israeli TV and radio and former Palestinian human rights activist. His initial focus was on human rights violations committed by Israeli armed forces, but for many years has broadened his research to include human rights violations committed by the Palestinian Authority (PA), and the Palestinian armed forces on their own people.
- Learn about Israel as a Start-Up Nation and Jerusalem as a Start-Up Capital with **Hanan Brand**, who founded Made in JLM, an organization that connects and provides resources for the startup ecosystem in Jerusalem.
- Meeting with **Caroline Glick**. Caroline Glick is a US-born Israeli journalist, newspaper editor, and writer. She writes for Makor Rishon and is the deputy managing editor of The Jerusalem Post.
- Lecture & discussion with **Calev Myers**. Calev is the founder of the Jerusalem Institute of Justice, a human rights group in Israel
- Lecture in the hotel by **Chris Mitchell**, a journalist for CBN. Mitchell brings a Biblical and prophetic perspective to the daily news events from the Middle East that shape our world.
- Lecture about Israel's political situation by Abu Khaled Toameh, an Arab Israeli journalist, lecturer and documentary filmmaker and currently correspondent for the Jerusalem Post.
- Meeting with **Brigadier General (Res.) Yosef Kuperwasser**. He is the former Director General of the Israeli Ministry of Strategic Affairs. He was the head of the Analysis and Production Division of the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) Directorate of Military Intelligence (Aman) for five years until June 2006. In this capacity he was responsible for preparing Israel's national intelligence assessments and for early warning.
- Briefing by **Col. Ariye Shalicar**, Spokesmen of the Israel Defence Forces
- **Sondra Oster Baras**, Christian Friends of Israeli Communities
- meeting with **Michael Freud** of Shavei Israel, an organization that reaches out and assists Israel's Lost Tribes and "Hidden Jews" seeking to return to the Jewish people. Discover the miracles of aliyah, the return to Israel of the Jewish people.
- Etc. Etc.

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