

**KFIR**

# MIDDLE EAST UPDATE

Week of May 12, 2017



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Holy Ground Explorations



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# HEADLINES

PA Chairman Abbas and numerous other Palestinian Authority leaders have rejected the demands of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, US President Donald Trump, and many other governments and legislators to stop the payments of salaries to imprisoned terrorists.

Erdogan lashes 'racist' Israel, calls for Muslims to flood Temple Mount... Turkish president warns against moving US embassy to Jerusalem; slams mosque-muffling bill; Israel rejects his 'baseless slander',

The only real reason for this refusal to move the Embassy to Jerusalem is fear of the potential Islamic backlash, which means this sovereign American decision has become a hostage to Arab threats.





# TRUMP - MASADA

U.S. President Donald Trump's delegation was due to arrive in Israel on Friday to finalize the president's itinerary ahead of an official visit scheduled for May 22.

Trump is scheduled to visit the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem, as well as Masada, a Roman-era fortress in the Judean Desert, during his 26-hour stopover. Trump reportedly plans to give an address at Masada -- a site that symbolizes the Jews' unwavering spirit in the face of adversity. American officials have described Trump's speech as "warm and sympathetic toward Israel and the Jewish nation, whose people never yield."





# PA & TRUMP VISIT



US President Donald Trump will not pass by the grave of the late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat during his visit to Israel and the West Bank later this month, despite reported efforts by the Palestinian Authority to bring him by the site. According to a report Monday, the PA sought to hold a ceremony welcoming Trump at the Muqata'a compound in Ramallah, to which he would have arrived by way of the adjacent mausoleum housing Arafat's remains. Citing an unnamed PA official, the report said that the Palestinians intended to keep Trump and his entourage in the dark as to the plan to lead him through the grave site.





# THIS IS INTERESTING!



PA President Mahmoud Abbas met with Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Sochi resort in Western Russia on Thursday, and said that solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will be “impossible” without the participation of Moscow in the peace process.

“It is impossible to solve the Palestinian issue without Russia’s meaningful participation in the peace process. That is what we have been emphasizing at all international meetings,” Abbas said in his meeting with Putin, according to the official Russian State news agency Tass. Putin said Russia “will continue to give its full support to the resumption of direct dialogue between Palestinians and Israelis.”





# TIME FOR TRUTH

**"Bennett: We must tell Trump the 'truth' about peace process" by Ben Caspit:** "I am the only person in the government of Israel who ever made a business deal in general and a business deal in America in particular," said [Education Minister Naftali Bennett.] "I lived in the US for years. I know New York and the American business world... What I learned about dealmaking in America from this is to tell the truth, even if it is unpleasant. Don't bluff... and I am sure that Trump would be able to appreciate that. The truth is that there is no [feasible] deal. The maximum that we are willing to give and the minimum that they are willing to accept don't jive. As for saying that it's possible, creating hopes and then causing disappointments and, later, violence, I don't see who benefits from that. President Trump is talking about a deal? Let's talk about the real deal. The real deal is economic peace and expanded [Palestinian] autonomy... All the rest is an illusion, and it will be shattered." **[Al-Monitor]**





# YOUNG ISRAELIS

A majority of young Israeli Jews between ages 15-24 define themselves as right-wing, and a growing number of them are religious, a study published Thursday said.

Sixty-seven percent of Jewish youth define themselves as right-wing (or center-right), while just 16% consider themselves to be left-wing in findings from a survey of Israeli youth by the Macro Center for Political Economics and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, cited Thursday in a Yedioth Ahronoth report.

In a similar survey by the two organizations 19 years ago, 50% of respondents classified themselves as secular compared to 9% who referred to themselves as ultra-Orthodox. Those numbers moved to 40% and 15%, respectively, in this year's edition, demonstrating increased religious tendencies.





# STIPENDS FOR TERROR

On March 8, 2016, American Taylor Force was murdered along the Tel Aviv beach. Bashar Masalha stabbed Force and wounded 12 others, including a pregnant woman. Sadly, Force was not the first, and will likely not be the last, American victim of Palestinian Arab terror.

More sadly, and shocking, your US tax dollars indirectly motivate, and fund, such acts of terror against Americans, Israelis and others. The PA also pays monthly stipends for families of "martyrs," terrorists killed while attempting to murder others, and "salaries" to terrorists that are caught and imprisoned. While its nonsense that poverty motivates terror since there's poverty worldwide, but none with the culture of murder and "martyrdom" like the PA, providing such a stipend for one to go on a murderous terror spree is certainly an added perk. It's like getting a bonus at work for a job well done.

Imprisoned terrorists' "salaries" can range from \$364 to \$3,120 a month, increasing with the length of the prison term. A stipend to the family of a married civilian "martyr" with two kids starts at about \$2500 a year. [The PA cumulatively allocates more than \\$303 million \(in 2016\) for this, representing about 7% of its annual budget.](#)





# COMING ATTRACTIONS

In Theaters May 23

A CBN Documentaries Film

## **IN OUR HANDS**

The Battle for Jerusalem

From the creators of *The Hope* and *Made in Israel* comes a CBN Documentaries Film, *In Our Hands: The Battle for Jerusalem*, which marks the 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War and commemorates this historic battle. For centuries, their nation had been in exile. For a generation, they had been without access to their ancestral city. For six days, surrounded by enemies, Israel stood alone ... and changed history. In May of 1967, Arab nations joined together with a stated goal to wipe Israel off the map. Less than 20 years after reforming as a nation, Israel was on the verge of extinction. Yet six days in early June 1967 changed history forever.

*In Our Hands* tells the story of Israel's 55th Paratrooper Brigade and how Israel's Defense Forces risked everything for the sake of their homeland. With firsthand interviews and historical reenactments, this powerful docudrama focuses on the commitment and sacrifice of the soldiers who reunited Jerusalem.





# RAND PAUL - QUOTE

Quote of the Week:

Good Question ...

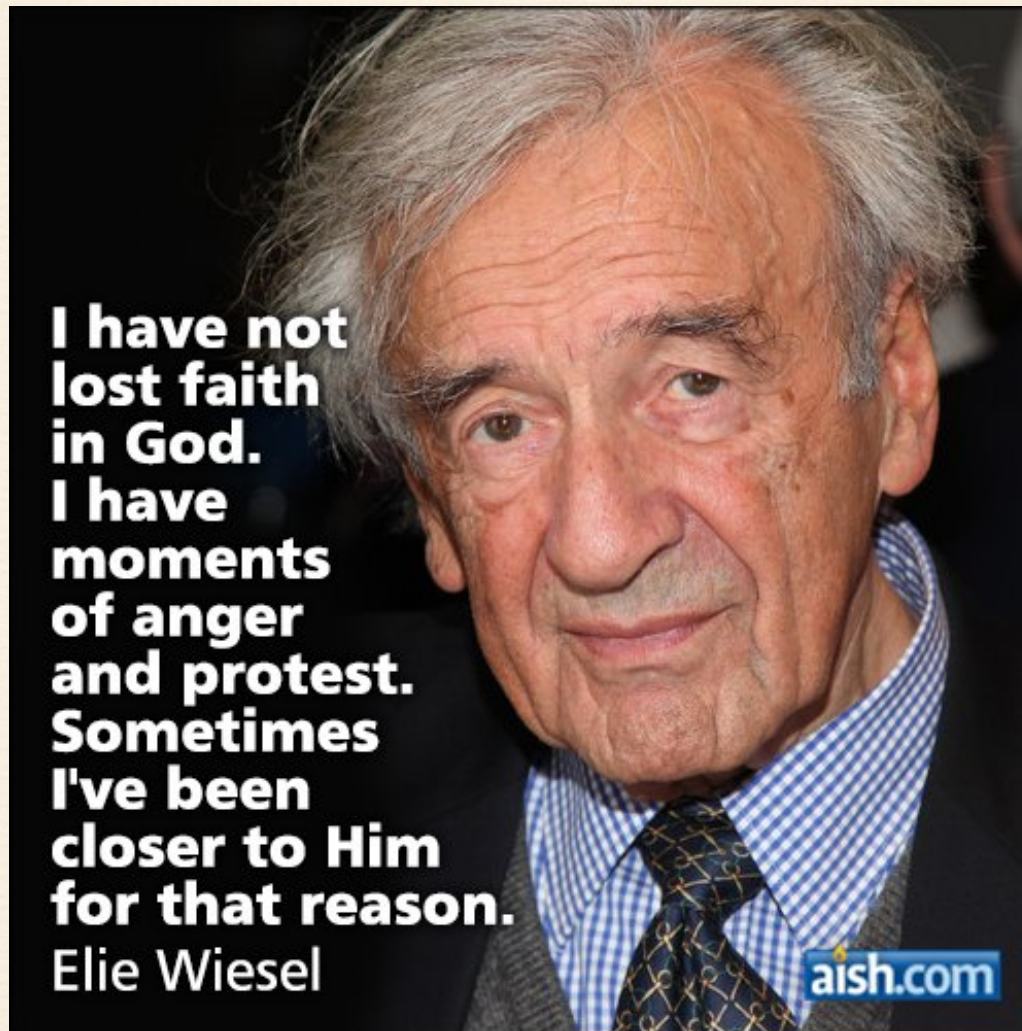
"Senator Rand Paul has said again and again: "Why do we give billions of dollars a year to countries that hate us".

Personally, I have never forgotten how on 9/11 the Palestinians were dancing in the streets of Gaza and the West Bank, while burning the US and Israeli flags. I say no to a terrorist state called Palestine!" - a FaceBook posting





# QUOTE OF THE WEEK



**I have not  
lost faith  
in God.  
I have  
moments  
of anger  
and protest.  
Sometimes  
I've been  
closer to Him  
for that reason.  
Elie Wiesel**





# HGE - UPCOMING FALL TOURS

Israel - Off The Beaten Path  
with Petra Extension (optional)



Israel - NOV 12-20 / Petra - Nov 20-24, 2017



*Thus says the LORD: "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good and walk in it, and find rest for your souls..." Jer. 6:16*

There are many paths in Israel. OFF THE BEATEN PATH will take in paths not found on "traditc tours - yet they are important paths, ones that should be seen to take in the full breadth of Israe Dan & Sharon Stolebarger and guide, Jane Ben-Ari as we give you a totally different type of expe Included will be a geo-political Jeep Tour on the Golan Heights - see for yourselves what is truly happening along this strategic border of Israel.



## OFF THE BEATEN PATH ITINERARY

**DAY 1:** Overnight in Tel Aviv right on the Mediterranean Sea.

**DAY 2 - 4:** Travel to Jerusalem where we will be staying inside the walls of the Old City for three nights. While in Jerusalem, visit **OLD SYNAGOGUE TOUR, RABBINICAL TUNNELS, TEMPLE INSTITUTE, BURNT HOUSE, JERICO** with **ST. GEORGE'S MONASTERY** and **FRIENDS OF ZION MUSEUM**. Also planned is an incredible landscape of the Judean desert on a fully guided **JEEP TOUR**.

**DAY 5 - 7:** Travel to the Galilee where we will stay for three nights at a kibbutz hotel right on the shores of the Sea, away from the hustle and bustle of Tiberias. Our time in the north includes: **TSIPORI, NAZARETH VILLAGE, CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION, MT. ARBEL** (with an option to hike up), **MAGDALA, GAMLA** (with hike to the synagogue) and **MT. BENTAL**. On Shabbat, we will have a Shabbat Service at our hotel. In addition, while in the Golan Heights, we will take a geo-political **JEEP TOUR** to hear and see for ourselves exactly what is happening on this strategic border.

**DAY 8:** We travel to **JAFFA** for one night. En route, visit the grottoes at **ROSH HANIKRA** and the **VALLEY OF ELAH**.

**DAY 9:** Before bidding farewell to Israel, we will enjoy a leisurely morning, a tour of **JAFFA**, as well as a **FAREWELL DINNER**. Those departing will be taken to the airport.

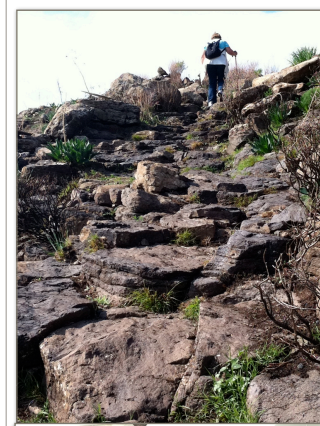
## BEATEN PATH INCLUSIONS:

**Pricing:** \$2995 LAND ONLY per person double occupancy

## PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- ⊗ Hotels: 1 night Tel Aviv, 3 nights Jerusalem, 3 nights Tiberias, 1 night Jaffa
- ⊗ Meals: Breakfast daily, 4 Lunches, 5 Dinners
- ⊗ All Sightseeing and Entrance Fees including two JEEP TOURS
- ⊗ Gratuities for Guide and Driver
- ⊗ Baggage handling for one piece of checked luggage per person
- ⊗ All ground transportation

See Registration Form for complete pricing and the Terms & Conditions for the "fine print."







## **PETRA EXTENSION** (optional): Nov. 21-24, 2017 (1 night Jaffa; 2 nights Eilat, 1 night Petra)\*

Israel is the land where it all began and **PETRA** just may be the land where the "end" may be centered. It's one thing to see all the sites where prophecy has taken place and has been fulfilled, but then there are the places where the fulfillment is yet to come. During the Tribulation period, God will provide a refuge for His people...many believe that Petra is that place.

Also included is a visit to the replica **TABERNACLE at TIMNA** where you will learn more in 30 minutes about the Tabernacle than you probably have learned in a decade. All this plus the resort city at the southernmost tip of Israel, **EILAT**, where at night you can see the lights of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel and Egypt, all at the same time. Add to this an overnight in Petra where our hotel is located right across the street from the entrance. This extension is not often offered so take advantage of this departure date.

\*NOTE: Those staying on for Petra will spend Nov. 20th in Jaffa before beginning the Petra extension on Nov. 21st.

For complete brochure information:

<http://holygroundexplorations.com/israel-tours/israel-off-the-beaten-path-tour-petra-extension/>







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**YouTube** - Weekly ME Update -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3ZuVTJAfG0STUFQjWwnz3A>

**KFIR PRAYER ROOM** - [www.facebook.com/groups/kfirprayergroup/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/kfirprayergroup/)

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