

**KFIR**

# MIDDLE EAST UPDATE

Week of May 26, 2017



Dan Stolebarger  
Holy Ground Explorations



[holygroundexplorations.com](http://holygroundexplorations.com)

# JERUSALEM UNIFICATION

Fifty years ago we returned to the heart of our capital and our country, and 50 years ago we did not conquer it, rather we liberated it," Netanyahu



'Jerusalem has been eulogized before, but it rose from the ashes.' At ceremony marking 50 years since Jerusalem's unification, President Reuven Rivlin says, "Sometimes I hear talk of the 'Jerusalem problem.' Jerusalem is not a problem. Jerusalem is the solution", "

# HEADLINES

**"The Temple Mount and the Western Wall will always remain under Israeli sovereignty,** but despite the courageous and unique relationship with Jerusalem, there are those who attempt to deny our undeniable bond with it and who brazenly portray us as foreigners in our own land in our own capital." Bibi Netanyahu

**Palestinian citizens were left underwhelmed by the Trump-Abbas meeting,** saying the speeches did not offer anything new. Indeed, the lackluster nature of the confab was consistent with Trump's pro-Israel strategy, explained the head of the Republican party in Israel, Marc Zell. "It is clear that the Palestinians are no longer the central issue." Now, meeting them is a just necessary part of the cosmetics of negotiations."

Speaking in Riyadh, U.S. president says groups such as **Hamas and Hezbollah** are responsible for countless deaths, "generations of vanished dreams" • If the faiths join together, "peace in this world is possible, including between Israelis and Palestinians," Trump says.



# TRUMP'S COMMENTS

The terrorists and extremists and those who give them aid and comfort must be driven out from our society forever. This wicked ideology must be obliterated. And I mean completely obliterated, and the innocent life must be protected. All innocent lives. Life must be protected."

Trump also reaffirmed his commitment to reaching a peace agreement and said he intends "to do everything I can to achieve that goal."

"Abbas assures me he is ready to work toward that goal in good faith and Prime Minister [Benjamin] Netanyahu has promised the same. I look forward to working with these leaders toward a lasting peace," Trump said.

Mixed Message?

## **Standing next to Abbas, Trump blasts Palestinian terror-funding**

In a joint press conference Tuesday with Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas, President Trump said, **"Peace can never take root in an environment where violence is tolerated, funded and even rewarded."**



# PMW

**Who should the world believe? What Abbas told Trump today, or what Palestinian leaders tell their people regularly? Abbas to Trump in Bethlehem: "... two-state solution along the borders of 1967, the state of Palestine with its capital as East Jerusalem living alongside Israel in peace and security."**

PLO leader: **"Everyone knows our goal is to liberate all of the land of Palestine"**, Palestinian National Council member Khaled Mismar: "The revolution broke out in 1965 (i.e., first Fatah terror attack) in order to liberate all of the land of Palestine (i.e., all of Israel), but circumstances didn't permit it... We have fought, and we have withstood everything, all the plots, but we will realize our goal. True, we agreed to receive only 20 or 22 percent of Palestine (i.e., West Bank and Gaza Strip), but a right is never lost as long as someone demands it.[Official PA TV, *Topic of the Day*, May 15, 2017]

**Just in** - Abbas hid from Trump that his PA and Fatah had just honored 44 terrorists involved in the murders of 440 people, in the one month surrounding their first meeting. Honored by PA and Fatah in one month: 14 Suicide bombers and other murderers, 16 Bomb builders and terror attack planners, 14 Terrorists involved in terror attacks

**PMW**  
Palwatch.org

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Palestinian National Council member  
Khaled Mismar

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# GOD MENTIONED 9x's!

Addressing political leaders from Arab and Muslim countries, **Trump mentioned "God" a whopping nine times.** The theme of his speech was the joint need to combat terrorism, but it was infused with a spiritual message. "Religious leaders must make this absolutely clear: Barbarism will deliver you no glory – piety to evil will bring you no dignity," he warned. "If you choose the path of terror, your life will be empty, your life will be brief, and your soul will be condemned." For "many centuries," Christians, Muslims and Jews have been living "side by side" in the Middle East, Trump went on. "We must practice tolerance and respect for each other once again – and make this region a place where every man and woman, no matter their faith or ethnicity, can enjoy a life of dignity and hope."

**Losers vs Monster debated as well!**



# TRUMP BRINGS MESSAGE OF LOVE

***Trump conveyed “the warmest greetings from your friend and ally, all of the people in the United States” at the welcoming ceremony at Ben Gurion Airport.***

“On my first trip overseas as president, I have come to this sacred and ancient land to reaffirm the unbreakable bond between the United States and the State of Israel,” Trump stated at a welcoming ceremony hosted by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Reuven Rivlin.

**“I am deeply grateful for your invitation and am very, very honored to be with you,” Trump said. “We love Israel, we respect Israel and I send your people the warmest greetings from your friend and ally, all of the people in the United States of America.”**

“It is wonderful to be here in Israel,” he continued. “In this land so rich in history, Israel has built one of the world’s great civilizations, a strong, resilient, determined and prosperous nation.”

“It is also a nation forged in the commitment that we will never allow the horrors and atrocities of the last century to be repeated,” he added, on obvious reference to the Holocaust.

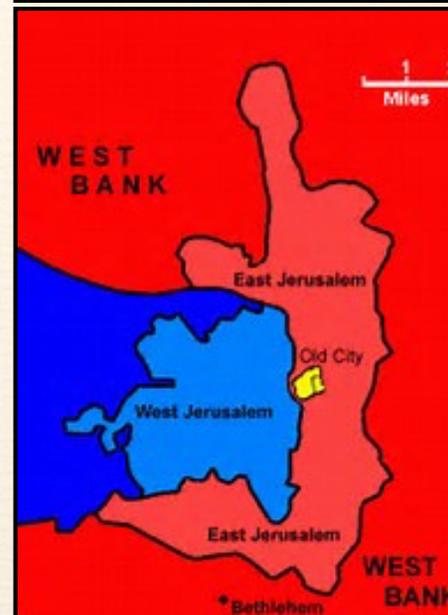
**Trump received a standing ovation from the audience – which included Republican mega donor Sheldon Adelson – when he proclaimed: “Iran’s leaders routinely call for Israel’s destruction. Not with Donald J. Trump. Believe me.”**



# UNCONVENTIONAL PEACE PLAN

**Trump made it clear to Abbas that he would like to see Saudi Arabia and other Arab states -- presumably in the Persian Gulf -- begin normalizing ties before the Israelis and Palestinians reach a deal.** Trump also reportedly said that Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt and various nations in the gulf were ready to accept this template in principle. According to the Palestinian official, the normalization of ties will be largely symbolic. **Namely, Saudi Arabia and other Arab and Muslim states will recognize the State of Israel and its right to exist but they would not sign peace treaties or open embassies in Israel.**

**The Palestinian official said Abbas responded by saying the Palestinians were vehemently opposed to such a move.** The official also said that "Abbas has long feared such a plan, since he believes that a thaw in relations between Israel and other states with the full support of Washington, Amman and Cairo, would not help resolve the Palestinian issue, only dim the prospects of a just settlement. In the short time Trump has been in office we have learned that we should expect the unexpected."



I have a growing concern about the so-called Green Line. Keep in mind the Golan and most of the Holy Sites of Jerusalem will fall into the hands of the PA or Syria



# EYES WIDE OPEN!

## **PRESSURE IS ON -- "US said pushing Israel to transfer parts of West Bank to PA administrative rule" by Alexander Fulbright:**

"Despite a series of economic incentives approved on Sunday by the Israeli cabinet, the US wants to see greater concessions to the Palestinian Authority and views the recent measures as insufficient, Channel 10 reported Wednesday.

Specifically they have asked for areas in the northern West Bank to be transferred from Area C to Area B, according to the report... The Prime Minister's Office later denied the Channel 10 report." [\[Tol\]](#) • Naftali Bannett: "The era in which we treat the Land of Israel as a mere piece of real estate - that era is over." [\[INN\]](#)



# QUOTE OF THE WEEK

While Trump enthused about the possibilities for peace during his brief stay in Israel this week, he made no mention of a two-state solution or an independent Palestinian state.



## PA'S STANCE ON MOVING THE EMBASSY

"We believe that moving the US embassy to Jerusalem would mean the end of the peace process," said Saeb Erekat, second-in-command of the Palestine Authority

# SELAH

For almost two thousand years, Europe and most of the world had been conditioned to treat Jewish people with disdain. They were considered sub-human by many. But where was the church? Why was there little to no outcry? How could the church praise the dead Jewish people of the Bible and hate the Jewish people currently living in the same towns and villages? How could they claim to love the Jewish Messiah Jesus and despise His brethren.

Tragically, only a handful of Righteous Gentiles like Corrie ten Boom or Oskar Schindler could be found 70 years ago. But what about today? A new wave of war, economic turmoil, anti-Semitism and Islamic terror is sweeping across the globe. **Who will stand with them?**  
(EZRA & MTI)

I am currently looking to schedule my Summer Speaking Schedule and would like am looking for Churches, Home Groups or any interested Group to come and present options regarding what can be done in our day! Please contact me if you would be interested in hosting an informational night about Israel.

Shalom

Dan Stolebarger

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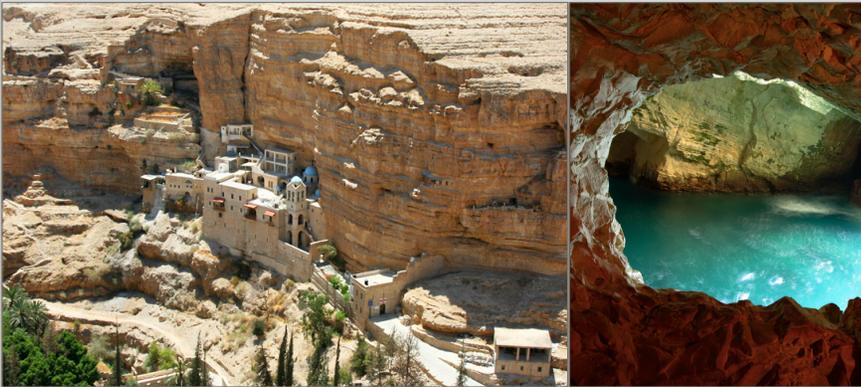


# HGE - UPCOMING FALL TOURS

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.



**HOLY  
GROUND  
TOURS**

## 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.

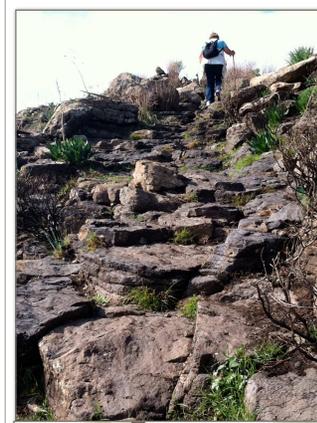
## BEATEN PATH INCLUSIONS:

**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>

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