

About Biblical Israel Ministries & Tours

Biblical Israel Ministries & Tours is a ministry developed out of a deep passion to help people begin an exciting new journey with God! The primary purpose of the ministry is to teach a “**3-dimensional understanding**” of the physical settings, the culture, and context of the Bible in a life-transforming way.

The two-fold purpose of *Biblical Israel Ministries & Tours*:

❖ Offer highly biblical and in-depth study tours to Israel and other lands of the Bible

Trips are designed for individuals, churches, schools, colleges, and seminaries. Each trip has an *informational* (knowledge about the world of the Bible) and *formational* (inspiring one’s walk of faith with Christ) orientation. Dr. DeLancey leads 6-10 tours a year, giving many options for people to join. Exclusive trips for churches, schools, and organizations can also be scheduled (*Imagine Tours & Travel* handles each and every tour – www.ittworld.com).

❖ Provide multimedia “*Bringing the Bible to Life*” seminars for both the church and classroom setting.

Teaching includes historical geography, biblical archaeology, the culture and customs of the Bible, and the Hebraic background of Jesus. Formats for teaching include church seminars, conferences, and guest preaching. Guest lecturing for schools, colleges, and seminaries is also available.

About Dr. John DeLancey, Director

- ❖ **Education:** Cedarville College (B.A.), Jerusalem University College (one-year *archaeological & historical geography student*), Westminster Seminary (M. Div.), Trinity Seminary (D. Min.), North Park Seminary (Post-graduate studies)
- ❖ **Excavations:** City of David, Kh. Nisya, Abel Beit Macaah, and Gezer
- ❖ **Experience:** 25 years of teaching “physical settings” of the Bible. He has lead 55+ study tours of Israel and other lands of the Bible.

What Sets Us Apart

- ❖ **Unique Teaching of the World of the Bible:** Every tour to Israel as well as every teaching encounter in the church/classroom is grounded in the historical authenticity of the Bible. Our ministry is uniquely focused on providing a unique kind of “*biblical education*” that brings to life the background, the land, and the images of the biblical text.
- ❖ **3-D Perspective:** Most 21st century “western” followers of Christ have a limited “1-dimensional” view of the Bible. In contrast, a “3-dimensional” view of the Bible unfolds when the student of the Word begins to see the Bible through the *lens* of the land and world of the Bible. It is this “3-D” perspective that brings a renewed enthusiasm in understanding God’s Word!
- ❖ **Pastor-Led Tours & Teaching:** A pastor for 26 years, Dr. DeLancey displays a *pastor’s touch* while leading tours. Times of teaching, devotion, worship, and quiet reflection are an intentional part of every Israel trip. He writes his own itineraries that will take you to many “*off-the-beaten-path*” biblical sites not visited by most groups. Our trips are not your average “touristy” tour but rather are much more extensive.
- ❖ **An “Informational” as well as a “Formational” Focus:** The goal of studying the Bible in the context of the “*playing board*” (e.g. “land”) of the Bible is not only to discover the archaeological, geographical, and cultural context of the Bible. Our goal is also to inspire and deepen your walk of faith with God. Ultimately, our ministry is about helping you grow as a *talmidim* (disciple/follower) of Christ!
- ❖ **Connecting the Dots:** The whole encounter with the Bible in its context will create many eye opening “*a-ha moments*.” Experiencing Israel in person with us will help you *connect the dots* between the stories and narratives of the Bible. You will begin to read God’s Word in “living color,” not just in “black and white!”
- ❖ **Seminars & Classes:** Our “*Bringing the Bible to Life*” seminars for your church or school is a way to bring the biblical land of Israel directly to your sanctuary of classroom! The *physical settings* of the Bible are shared in enlightening ways!