



Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg

IN THE STEPS OF PAUL AND REVELATION, A NEW TESTAMENT JOURNEY

JANUARY 5-20, 2011

DR. RICHARD P. CARLSON AND DR. MARK VITALIS HOFFMAN



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Wed., January 5 Depart USA

Depart from Dulles Airport this evening for the flight to Turkey.

Thu., January 6 Arrival Izmir – Kusadasi

This afternoon, arrive in the modern day city of Izmir—the ancient city of Smyrna. Transfer from the airport to Kusadasi, for dinner and overnight at the Korumar Deluxe Hotel.

Fri., January 7 Kusadasi / Ephesus / Kusadasi

Drive to Ephesus. Here history truly comes to life; walk towards the ancient harbor past architectural masterpieces like the Magnesian Gate and the Library of Celsus before arriving at the Great Amphitheater where Paul spoke to the Ephesians. Also visit the St. John Basilica and spend time at a nearby rug factory. Drive to the town of Balat to visit the ancient city of Miletus. Return to Kusadasi for dinner and overnight.



Sat., January 8 Kusadasi – Pamukkale

Drive to the village of Geyre to visit Aphrodisias, once a beautiful city dedicated to Aphrodite, the goddess of beauty. Visit the Aphrodisias Museum to see some of the relief pans and sculptures recovered from the excavations of Sebasteion, a grandiose temple complex dedicated to Aphrodite and the Julio-Claudian emperors. Continue to Pamukkale to visit the remains of ancient Laodicea. Drive to the remains of the ancient city of Hierapolis and see the unique limestone formations of Pamukkale. Dinner and overnight in Pamukkale at the Richard Thermal Hotel.

Sun., January 9 Pamukkale / Philadelphia / Sardis / Izmir



Begin the day in Philadelphia, one of the seven churches. Drive to Sardis, the most picturesque of the seven churches mentioned in Revelation. John told the Christians of Sardis that the letter to them in Revelation was from “the One who holds the seven spirits of God, the seven stars.” He admonished them to “wake up and put some strength into what is left.” Continue to Izmir for a short tour of Smyrna. Dinner and overnight at the Anemon Hotel in Izmir.

Mon., January 10 Pergamon / Canakkale



Drive to Pergamon to see the Homonym Church, the Acropolis, and the Asclepius, one of the foremost medical centers of Classical times. Also see the Red Basilica and the site of the Church of Pergamon. Continue to Canakkale for dinner and overnight at the Akol Hotel.

Tue., January 11 Istanbul

This morning begins with a visit of ancient Troy. The epic struggle of the *Iliad* is based on its 4000 year history. Many remember Helen of Troy and the Trojan Horse that allowed the Greeks to win the Trojan War. Continue to Istanbul for a first glimpse of the city which joins east and west. Dinner and overnight at the Crystal Hotel.

Wed., January 12 Istanbul Tour



After breakfast, depart for a full day tour of Istanbul. Visit the Church of St. Sophia, the oldest Christian Basilica where the ecumenical councils were held, the Hippodrome of old Constantinople and the Blue Mosque. In the afternoon, visit the Topkapi Palace; the Sultan's former residence with its incredible collections of jewels and china. Spend the rest of the day at the Grand Bazaar, one of the largest covered markets in the world. Dinner and overnight in Istanbul.

Thu., January 13 Turkish/Greek Borders / Komotini

Depart Istanbul this morning, crossing the Greek border to Komotini, an agricultural market center for tobacco, grain and livestock. Dinner and overnight in Komotini at the Arcadia Hotel.

Fri., January 14 Philippi – Thessaloniki

Visit Philippi where Paul delivered his first sermon in Europe, sowing the seeds of Christianity. Here Paul baptized a "certain woman named Lydia" the first Christian convert in Europe. The Roman forum, completely excavated, is from after Paul's time. Among the ruins, located on the rocky ledge above the town's main road is the prison where Paul and Silas were thrown. Dinner and overnight in Thessaloniki at the Copsis Hotel.



Sat., January 15 Thessaloniki – Kalambaka

The morning is dedicated to the city of Thessaloniki. Paul preached in Thessaloniki during the winters of 49 and 50 AD. He later wrote two epistles to the ancient Thessalonians. See the ramparts of the city and the triumphal Arch of Galerius—the beginning of the Via Egnatia, once a strategic artery of the Roman Empire. Also see the House of Jason and the Roman Agora where Paul preached. Visit St. Demetrios Church with its valuable mosaics and frescoes and drive to the upper town for a marvelous view of the city. The site where the monastery of Vlatados was built is believed to be the location where Jason's house once stood and where Paul was accommodated during his visit to Thessaloniki. Depart Thessaloniki this afternoon for Meteora. Overnight in Kalambaka at the Divani Meteora Hotel.

Sun., January 16 Meteora / Delphi

Visit the Meteora Monasteries, set among striking scenery and perched on top of huge rocks, they seem to be suspended in mid-air. These ageless monasteries house exquisite specimens of Byzantine art. Continue to Delphi for dinner and overnight at the Anemolia Hotel.

Mon., January 17

Delphi / Athens



Visit Delphi, the center of the Ancient world, the "omphalos" (navel) of the earth. Its prestige extended far beyond the boundaries of the Hellenic world. On the slopes of Mount Parnassus, in a landscape of unparalleled beauty and majesty, lie the ruins of the Sanctuary of Apollo Pythios. Continue to Athens for dinner and overnight at the Golden City Hotel.

Tue., January 18

Athens

A full day of touring in Athens. Visit the Acropolis, Agora, and Mars Hill. At the Acropolis see the ruins of the Parthenon, Erechtheum and Propylae. Ascend Mars Hill and view the Agora (ancient market place) where Paul spoke to the ancient Athenians. See the House of Parliament, the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Presidential Palace, Hadrian's Arch and the Panathenaic Stadium. Dinner and overnight in Athens.



Wed., January 19

Corinth / Mycenae

Drive to Ancient Corinth, where under the shadow of the towering Acropolis, Paul preached and lived for two years. The vigorous and mostly Gentile church he founded here in 50AD caused him much grief and prompted him to write at least four letters to them. Visit the ruins of the ancient city where Paul worked with Aquila and Priscilla. See the remains of first century shops, the agora where Paul's trial by Gallio took place, the Fountain of Peirene, the Temple of Apollo and the Bema (raised platform or judgment seat). Continue to Mycenae, the city "rich in gold," and visit the Lions Gate, the Cyclopean Walls and the Royal Tombs. Return to Athens for dinner and overnight.

Thu., January 20

Depart

Depart this morning from Athens for the return flight to the United States.

For further information, contact:

Dr. Richard P. Carlson
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg
61 Seminary Ridge
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Tel: (717) 334-6286 ext. 2143
E-mail: rcarlson@ltsj.edu

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124 East Main Street, 4th Floor
Ephrata, PA 17522
Tel: (800) 418-2929, ext. 81307 Fax: (717) 733-1009
E-mail: lindyw@mtstravel.com

Tour Price: \$3,289, based on sharing a double room

Single Room Supplement: \$565

Optional Travel Protection Insurance: \$190
(non-refundable)

This tour price reflects special group rates. Deposits received after September 30, 2010, will likely incur additional charges due to supplier contract terms.

Space is limited and will be offered on a first-come basis.

Tour Price includes:

- Round-trip air fare from Washington/Dulles International Airport
- Accommodations in three- & four-star hotels
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Services of experienced, English-speaking licensed guides
- Airport transfers in Turkey and Greece
- Sightseeing and entrance fees
- Service charges and local taxes
- Tips to guides, driver and hotel staff
- Airline taxes and fuel surcharges (currently \$451; subject to change)

Your Tour Hosts:

Richard P. Carlson,
Glatfelter Professor of Biblical Studies



The Rev. Dr. Carlson holds a B.A. from Concordia College, a M.Div. from Wartburg Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia. His field of study and teaching is in the New Testament with his goal in the classroom and in his own research of bringing the message of scripture to people's lives in ways which are both revelatory and relevant. Dr. Carlson served pastorates in Minnesota before coming to Gettysburg in 1990.

Mark Vitalis Hoffman,
Associate Professor of Biblical Studies



Rev. Dr. Vitalis Hoffman holds a B.A. from the University of Illinois, M.Div. from Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary, and a M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. from Yale University. Prior to coming to Gettysburg in 2002, Dr. Hoffman served parishes in Minnesota and North Dakota for fourteen years. His parish and academic positions reflect his commitment to expressing how Scripture is not simply a resource for scholarly reflection but a life source for Christians and for the Church.

Tour Features and Conditions

Please read all Tour Features and Conditions carefully.
Payment of tour deposit constitutes acceptance of these conditions.

Air Transportation: Air transportation is restricted to the services of any IATA carrier, in economy class based on nonrefundable fare. Travelers are responsible to provide their names as they appear in their passport. Ticketing will be made 30-45 days prior to departure, after which there will be a charge for name corrections. Tour price includes current airline taxes and fuel surcharges of \$451, which are subject to change until ticketed. *Tour participants are responsible for any increase in airline taxes or fuel surcharges imposed by the airline.*

Accommodations: Based on two or more persons sharing a room in accommodations listed in itinerary, or similar. Single rooms are subject to availability at an additional charge of \$550. *If a passenger cannot supply a roommate, the passenger is responsible for the additional charge.*

Meals: In-flight meals and snacks are served according to airline policy. Breakfast dinner will be provided daily. Opportunity will be given for participants to purchase lunches on their own. Beverages with dinners are not included.

Transfers and Baggage: Transfers between airports and hotels upon arrival and departure are included in the tour price, including handling of one medium-sized suitcase per person, not exceeding 62 dimensional inches (length plus width plus height) or weighing more than a maximum of 50 pounds. *Due to limited luggage storage space on motorcoaches, it is important that each person bring only ONE piece of checked baggage. In addition, a flight bag or overnight case may be taken, which must be handled by the passenger at all times. Baggage allowance is subject to change according to airline policy.*

Sightseeing and Entrance Fees: Are included as indicated in itinerary, using private motorcoach or other conveyance, with local guides where necessary.

Tips and Taxes: Service charges and taxes on accommodations are included. Tips to guides, drivers, and hotel staff are included. Tips for personal services are not included and are at tour member's own expense.

Not Included: Passport fee, travel protection insurance, and expenses of a purely personal nature are not included. Transportation from your home to Washington/Dulles International Airport and return is not included.

Deposit and Payment: Reservations may be secured upon payment of a deposit of \$500 per person. You will be invoiced for final payment, which is due November 19, 2010.

MTS Cancellation Conditions: Refund of full deposit (less \$100 administrative fee) will be made up to September 30, 2010. If cancellation occurs between October 1 and December 6, 2010, the fee is \$500 plus unrecoverable airline, hotel and tour operator payments. There is no refund after December 6, 2010, or for unused tour services.

Protect Your Investment: MTS TRAVEL strongly recommends purchasing this primary insurance coverage. If you purchase the protection plan upon enrollment with your

deposit, any restriction on pre-existing conditions is waived. If protection plan is purchased after the deposit is received, all coverage is subject to exclusion of pre-existing conditions. Certain conditions, exclusions and limitations apply as set out in the Evidence of Coverage and Confirmation of Coverage, which you will receive upon receipt of deposit. You will have ten days to review coverage and cancel your policy.

Following is a brief description of coverage:

- This protection plan will cover you for cancellation fees if you need to cancel because of death, injury or illness to you, your traveling companion or your immediate family member.
- Medical Evacuation: \$250,000
- Medical Expenses: \$25,000
- Baggage loss/delay: \$1,500/\$250

A valid passport is required. If you do not have a passport, you should apply for one immediately. Information on obtaining a passport will be provided upon receipt of deposit. If you now have a passport, please verify that it is valid until July 21, 2011. *A visa for Turkey is required, and can be acquired upon arrival in Turkey for a fee of \$20 per person. This must be paid individually and is not included in the tour price.* No visa is required for Greece.

All rates and fares are based on current information and are subject to change. Rates are based on a minimum of 40 persons traveling together.

Deviations: Any individual making a change in travel arrangements apart from this group program will be charged a service fee of \$100 per person, plus any additional air or land costs incurred.

The itinerary as outlined is an indication of sequence and sites to be included in the tour program. However, the tour operator reserves the right to alter or change the itinerary and/or the sites included should it be deemed necessary due to local conditions, time restrictions, or other circumstances.

In the ever-changing world situation, MTS TRAVEL recommends personal monitoring of news about your destination. For the latest country information from the U.S. Dept. of State, please visit www.mtstravel.com and click "U.S. State Department Travel Warnings" in the middle of our home page.

Guests with disabilities or dietary restrictions should inquire in advance about whether their needs can be accommodated.

Responsibility

Menno Travel Service, Inc., D/B/AMTS TRAVEL, with its officers and staff act only as agents for the various companies whose accommodations are utilized. They assume no responsibility or liability in connection with the services of any train, vessel, carriage, automobile, airplane or other conveyance, which will be used either wholly or in part. Neither will they be responsible for any act, error, omission, or any injury, loss, accident, or any delays, which may be occasioned by reason of, defect in any vehicle or through neglect or default of any company or persons engaged in the conveying of passengers. The steamer, airplane services or that of any other conveyance, sickness, accident, weather, strikes, war, quarantine or other causes and all such losses or expenses must be borne by the passenger. Prices and schedules appearing in this brochure are based on current schedules and tariff rates and are subject to change without notice. The tour operator reserves the right to modify the itinerary where deemed necessary or caused by changes in air schedules. The airlines and/or other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not aboard their plane or conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and purchaser of tours and/or the passenger.

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Reservation Form
In the Steps of Paul and Revelation, A New Testament Journey
January 5–20, 2011
hosted by Dr. Richard P. Carlson and Dr. Mark Vitalis

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**To be assured of reservations, please complete and mail this registration form to
MTS TRAVEL, 124 E. Main St., 4th Fl., Ephrata, PA 17522, along with your deposit of \$500 per person.**

**Please reserve space as follows:
Enclosed is my deposit check of \$_____ (\$500 per person.)
Please make check payable to MTS TRAVEL, or complete credit card information below.**

(Please Print)

Name 1 (as it appears on passport): _____ Name 2 (as it appears on passport): _____

Nickname for name badge: _____ Nickname for name badge: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

Birthdate: _____ Birthdate: _____

Phone: (evening) _____ (days) _____ Fax: _____

Room Type: Twin/Double Single Rooming With: _____

Travel Protection Insurance—Check One:

- I/we wish to be covered by cancellation insurance.
(Include \$190 per person with your deposit check. The \$190 is not refundable.)
 I/we do NOT wish to be covered by the cancellation insurance.

Credit Card Information:

Please Charge: My Deposit of \$_____ + \$_____ Travel Insurance = \$_____ Total Charge
 Mastercard Visa Discover American Express

Name as it appears on card (printed): _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____ Security Code: _____

Name as it appears on card (printed): Signature: _____

I have read the Tour Features and Conditions for this tour and agree to the terms listed therein.