Join Christians Broadcasting Hope

JOURNEYS OF PAUL IN GREECE & TURKEY

May 11 - 23, 2022

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Cenchreae (Acts 18: 12-18). Overnight in Athens. Stayed awhile in Corinth before leaving for Syria from the port at Gallio facing charges brought by the Jews that were dropped. Paul among the ruins and stand on the Bema where Paul stood before the Archaeological Museum, the Market Place and Temples. Walk began the church at Corinth to whom Paul wrote two epistles. Visit well hearing Paul, believed and were baptized (Acts 18:8); thus, of the synagogue believed in the Lord, and many Corinthians as much people in this city” (Acts 18: 10). Here, Crispus, the chief ruler with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city” (Acts 18: 10). Here, Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue believed in the Lord, and many Corinthians as well hearing Paul, believed and were baptized (Acts 18:8); thus, began the church at Corinth to whom Paul wrote two epistles. Visit the Archaeological Museum, the Market Place and Temples. Walk among the ruins and stand on the Bema where Paul stood before Gallio facing charges brought by the Jews that were dropped. Paul stayed awhile in Corinth before leaving for Syria from the port at Cenchreae (Acts 18: 12-15). Lydia was the first Christian to be baptized on European soil. Visit the place where this event is remembered and see a crypt dating from the Roman period, which is thought to have served as a prison for the apostle Paul. See the famous Acropolis, the Market Place, the Basilica, and the Theater. Dinner and overnight in Komotini.

May 17 – To ISTANBUL
This morning, you’ll rise early for our travel to the border crossing and entry into Turkey. You’ll visit the famous Blue Mosque, with its six minarets and sparkling interior. Walk through St. Sophia (Hagia Sophia) that, for 1000 years, was the largest church in Christendom. Built by Justinian (532-537 AD), the church has 107 columns; fossil imbedded white marble floors and beautiful glass mosaics. Today, it is the Museum of Byzantine Art. Catch a whiff of cinnamon, cloves, thyme and other exotic spices as you explore the Grand Bazaar. Over 4000 shops sell everything from herbs to gold. Check in to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

May 18 – ISTANBUL
You’ll visit the Topkapi Palace, once home to royal Sultans. Inside, you’ll see the fabled jewels of the Treasury, delicate displays of Chinese porcelain in the Kitchen Quarters and the provocative Harem Quarters. Enjoy the afternoon on your own to explore Istanbul. An optional Bosporus Cruise will be available for those who wish to see the city from the Straits.

May 19 – NICAEA and CANAKKALE
Visit the lakeside town of Iznik, known in Byzantine times as Nicaea and site of two ecumenical church councils. The ancient name is associated with the Nicene Creed that many Christians can recite from memory. You will see the ancient walls and sites associated with the town’s Christian heritage: the ruins of the Basilica of St. Sophia, the Baptistry, and the Christian Tombs on the outskirts of town. Continue on to Canakkale for dinner and overnight.

May 20 - PERGAMUM, THYATIRA, and SARDIS
The most favored of the Seven Churches was Pergamum and the church was praised for its forbearance during hard times (Rev. 2:12-17). Rome executed the first Christians here. Towering 1000 feet above the town is the fabled Acropolis. As you pass through the Royal Gates, you will enter one of the great centers of classic ITINERARY

May 11 – Departure from USA
Your pilgrimage begins as you depart the USA on your overnight, international flight.

May 12 – Arrival in GREECE
You will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

May 13 – ATHENS
Enjoy the architectural splendors of the ancient city of Athens as you follow your guide to the world renowned Acropolis, the Propylaea, the Parthenon, and the Erechtheum. View Mars Hill where the apostle Paul stood and said, “I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you” (Acts 17:23). See the Agora, the ancient market place and center of the Athenian public life. Here the apostle Paul preached “Jesus and the Resurrection” (Acts 17:18) to the skeptical Athenians. Enjoy the afternoon to wander and explore on your own.

May 14 – Athens on Own Day
Today is yours to explore on your own in Athens. Breakfast and dinner provided.

May 15 - CORINTH and CENCHREAE
In Corinth, the city where Paul met Aquilla and Priscilla, the tent makers, and where the Lord spoke to Paul by a vision saying, “I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city” (Acts 18: 10). Here, Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue believed in the Lord, and many Corinthians as well hearing Paul, believed and were baptized (Acts 18:8); thus, began the church at Corinth to whom Paul wrote two epistles. Visit the Archaeological Museum, the Market Place and Temples. Walk among the ruins and stand on the Bema where Paul stood before Gallio facing charges brought by the Jews that were dropped. Paul stayed awhile in Corinth before leaving for Syria from the port at Cenchreae (Acts 18: 12-15). Overnight in Athens.
Greek culture. You’ll see the foundations of the Temple of Zeus, the Temple of Athena and the ruins of the Library that once held 200,000 parchment volumes. You’ll also see the remains of the Temple of Trajan, the Grand Theatre, the Gymnasium, and the Health Center (Asclepeion). Visit Thyatira once a busy trading center, famous as a “seller of purple”. Today, it is famous for Persian rugs. Thyatira, one of the Seven Churches mentioned in Revelations, tolerated the false prophetess, Jezebel (Rev. 1: 11; 2: 18-29). Sardis, another of the Seven Churches of Revelation, was berated by John the Prophet for its facade of strength when, in reality, it was weak (Rev. 3:1-6). In Sardis, coins were minted and the dyeing of wool originated. The massive scale of the Temple of Artemis and by the white marble Royal Road, the gymnasium and the synagogue will impress you. Check in to your Hierapolis hotel for dinner and overnight.

May 21 – HIERAPOLIS, LAODICEA, and APHRODISIAS
Hierapolis is blessed by hot mineral springs and some of the best-preserved Roman ruins in Asia Minor. Christianity came to Hierapolis via Paul (Colossians 4:13). The ruins cover more than a mile. You’ll see the impressive amphitheatre with seats still in perfect condition. You’ll see the City Gates, column lined streets and arches that have stood through time and earthquake. Today, the area is known as Pamukkale, meaning “Cotton Castle”. It is named for the limestone-laden hot springs that cascade from one white edged terrace pool to the next. The Christians of Laodicea, one of the Seven Churches (Rev 3:14-22), were chastised for being lukewarm, “You are neither cold nor hot” (Rev. 3:14) and for being too comfortable incorporating pagan and Christian beliefs. In the famous scripture from Revelation (3:20-21), Jesus says to the Laodicean church: “Behold, I stand at the door and knock...” Today, there are many acres of ruins to see, including the stadium and columned streets. Not far away is Aphrodisias, another town whose fame has been obscured by time. This city of marble thrived as the major center for worship of the pagan goddess Aphrodite until 500 years after Christ. Check in to your Kusadasi hotel for dinner and overnight.

May 22 – EPHESUS
Ephesus is one of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev. 1:11). In ancient days, Ephesus was a bustling port town of 250,000, graced with wide, colonnade bordered streets. Today you will be impressed with the spectacular excavations of the major streets of ancient Ephesus. You’ll view the Library and the huge Agora. The Temple of Artemis was declared one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Today, only a single column remains to mark the site. You’ll visit the Basilica of St. John, traditional site of his grave. From the basilica, enjoy a commanding view of the area. You’ll visit the Museum of Ephesus for an up-close look at artifacts from the ancient city. You will have time to explore this powerful city on your own and recreate some of the footsteps of Paul. Fly from Izmir to Istanbul. Check in to your Istanbul hotel for dinner and overnight.

May 23 – DEPARTURE
Return to the USA.