Join The Rev. Canon Douglas Dupree on a Life Changing Study Tour to

# Italy and Greece

**Following** 

# The Journeys of St. Paul

March 11 - 21, 2025



#### Day 1 - Tuesday, March 11: Depart for Greece

# Day 2 - Wednesday, March 12: Arrival into Athens and Corinth

Depart for Corinth upon arrival at Athens airport. Ancient Corinth is a city blessed with a superb location, fertile plains and virtually impregnable refuge. Excavations reveal that the ancient city was huge and wealthy; a survivor of the numerous invasions but devastated by earthquakes. St. Paul lived and worked in Corinth for 18 months, making converts where he could. The Bema (platform) where the Roman governor tried him is still visible. See one of Corinth's most striking ancient buildings – the Temple of Apollo, seven of whose original columns still stand. Walk through the remains of the Market Place, a colonnaded square once surrounded by many small shops. See the celebrated Fountain of Priene, which has produced water from earliest times, and the Lechaion Road, formerly the main thoroughfare to the port of Lechaion. You will then visit the incredible Corinth Canal. The concept of cutting a canal through the Isthmus of Corinth to link the Ionian and Aegean seas was first proposed by the tyrant Periander, founder of Ancient Corinth. The magnitude of the task defeated him, so he opted instead to build a paved slipway across which sailors dragged small ships on rollers, a method used until the 13th century. Nero, Rome's most infamous emperor, inaugurated one attempt in 67 AD with his golden spade, but it was finally completed in 1893. Then return to Athens, dinner and overnight.

#### Day 3 - Thursday, March 13: Athens

A full day tour where you will view many significant historical and archaeological monuments that date back to the Golden Age of Pericles, in the 5th century BC. During that time, the wealthy, newly democratic and invigorated city-state decided to rebuild the Temples on top of the Acropolis in great splendor. Visit the Parthenon, dedicated to the Goddess Athena, a unique masterpiece of Greek Architecture. This monument is recognized as the culmination of Greek architecture and sculpture. Examine the Propylea, which blends Doric and Ionic building principles. Continue to the Temple of the Athena Nike (Wingless Victory) and the Erechtheum Temple, which was formerly used for cult worship and consists of three basic parts: the main Temple, the north extension, and the famous Porch of Maidens. Explore the Museum of the Acropolis housing many masterpieces. The Acropolis Museum is considered one of the most important archaeological museums in Athens and ranksamong the most important museums of the world. The museum houses more than 4,000 artifacts from the Acropolis site, and its exhibits cover the Greek Bronze Age as well as the Roman and Byzantine periods. Next will be Mars Hill, where St. Paul preached Christianity. You will have a chance to see the Ancient Agora, Tower of the Winds, Herodes Atticus Theater of Dionysus, Temple of Zeus, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the former Royal Palace which is now the House of Parliament. Continue by bus to the University of Athens, the Academy of Athens, the National Library and then to the "Panathenian" Olympic Stadium where the first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896. [You will have the chance to enjoy lunch at a traditional restaurant in the center of Athens. Then you will have the chance to stroll at the Plaka which is the historic heart of Athens. Blending with the adjacent Monastiaki district, the Plaka area seems to have a little of everything, from the ancient ruins of a Roman forum, the Greek Agora, and Byzantine-influenced churches, to restored 19th-centur

### Day 4 - Friday, March 14: Vergina

Drive from Athens to Vergina, with rest stops along the way. Vergina is the first capital of ancient Macedonia. We start off early with a drive to Vergina, first capital of ancient Macedonia and burial place of all Macedonian Kings. We visit the newly completed exhibition bearing the finds of all three tombs, one of them famous as the Royal Tomb (allegedly belonging to Philip the II, father of Alexander the Great). We will visit the unique subterranean structure built to encase and protect the ancient excavated Royal Tombs, as well as the exhibition with all the findings. Continue further passing from the town of Veroia where we will see the bema where St. Paul stood and preached to the Greeks. Then continue to Thessaloniki

#### Day 5 - Saturday, March 15: Philippi/ Kavala

Touring the Ancient town of Filippi and the modern city of Kavala gives you the opportunity to follow St. Paul's footsteps. On this full-day tour you'll have the opportunity to visit some of the most important archaeological sites and monuments in North-Eastern Greece such as Lydia's Baptistry, the great Amphipolis Lion statue, discover landmarks of glorious history and admire Greek nature very distinct from the well-known Aegean islands. Then arrive to the resort area of Asprovalta for a coffee stop. You'll see the Krenides River, the site of Lydia's baptism and you'll see the Philippian Jail where Paul and Silas were imprisoned. Continue to the church site of St. Lydia's Baptistery where the first Christian woman of Europe was baptized and then proceed to the Archaeological site of Philippi, founded by Philip II King of Macedonia, father of Alexander the Great. It was here where St. Paul set foot on the European Continent during his second missionary journey, establishing a thriving Christian church. The ruins include the Forum Romano with its Basilica, St. Paul's Prison and the Theater. The famous ancient road Egnatia, which once ran from the Adriatic Sea all the way to Constantinople (modern time Istanbul), passed by this city. The next stop is in Kavala (ancient site of Neapolis) for free time for lunch and a city tour giving you the opportunity to view the Sylas Monastery named after one of St. Paul's companions. Return to Thessaloniki in the late afternoon.

#### Day 6 - Sunday, March 16: Thessaloniki

We start our excursion viewing the White Tower, an historical landmark of the city before continuing to visit the Archaeological Museum which houses interesting finds from the Archaic, Classical and Roman periods, with findings from the Sindos area, a suburb of Thessaloniki, a stunning exhibition of golden jewels. Next, make your way up to the Acropolis, located in the upper part of the city. It is here, where you will have a superb panoramic view of the entire city with the Thermaic Gulf and Mount Olympus in the background. We'll visit St. Demetrios Basilica which was erected in the 5th century AD. The five aisled basilicas suffered a tragic fire in the year 1917 but was later restored in 1948. Marvel at the beautiful mosaics, dating back from the 5th to 9th centuries. From here, follow your guide to the area located under the basilica, where you will see the famous crypt, which according to tradition, was once the confinement for an officer by the name of Demetrius who was later executed by the emperor Gallerius. Today, St. Demetrius is the patron Saint of the city. Then view the Arch of Gallerius and St. George Rotunda. The tour will end with a short stop at the well-preserved Byzantine Basilica of St. Sophia, an 8th Century structure, rich in mosaics and frescoes.

## Day 7 - Monday, March 17: Rome

After breakfast, drive to Thessaloniki airport for flight to Rome. Upon arriving in Rome, we drive to the city center we start the tour visiting Abbey of the Three Fountains, the place of Paul's martyrdom, where tradition has it that three different springs gushed out at each spot touched when Paul's head fell down. Legend claims that when St Paul was decapitated, his head bounced three times and fountains miraculously sprang out when it touched the ground. The legend is nice, but the springs were known in pre-Christian times as the Aquae Salviae, and the excavations revealed ancient mosaic pavements. Still, it's the site of St Paul's martyrdom. It is also said that there was a stone-pine tree at the site of his death, and the identification of this place was strengthened when ancient stone-pine cones were found here during excavations in 1857. To conclude this day in Rome we will visit the place where the bones of Paul have recently been found, Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. It is a Benedictine Abbey which shares its name, origins and centuries of history, both joyful and sorrowful, with the adjoining basilica. Check in at the hotel, for dinner and overnight.

## Day 8 - Tuesday, March 18: Rome

After breakfast, visit the site of Ostia Antica the harbor city of Ancient Rome. We explore the well-preserved excavation and step back in time into Roman times. Ostia was a cosmopolitan city. After time for lunch, we return to Rome. We travel to the Ancient Appian Way, to visit the Catacombs of Santa Domitilla. The Christian catacombs are extremely important for the art history of early Christians. At first they were used both for burial and the memorial services and celebrations of the anniversaries of Christian martyrs. Many modern depictions of the catacombs show them as hiding places for Christian populations during times of persecution Next we will visit the Church of Santa Prisca on the Aventino Hill, the home of Priscilla and Aquila. The early Christian Church met in homes; this is one of them. Tradition says Peter worshiped here. When the Emperor Claudius expelled all Jews from Rome, Aquila and Priscilla were Jewish. As victims of Roman persecution, they moved to Corinth and partnered with Paul. (Acts 18, 1 Cor 16:19, Rom 16:3, 2 Tim 4:19). Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight

### Day 9 - Wednesday, March 19: Rome Ostia. Rome

We continue the tour to the Imperial Rome area, this tour will show the great "power" of Rome and Emperors who demanded divinity for themselves. While in Rome, this was what the Apostle Paul preached against. The tour starts at the Colosseum, everlasting symbol of the greatness of Rome and the stage for the historical fights of the gladiators. We will see the Arch of Constantine erected to commemorate the victory of the emperor over Maxentius in the 4th century A.D. (tradition says that before the battle the Emperor saw a brilliant cross in the sky and said the famous words "in hoc signovinces", meaning "In this sign you will conquer"). Continue to the Roman Forum, the great Rome, with its important buildings will revive before your eyes; the Curia, seat of the Roman Senate, the State Archive, the basilicas, palaces of justice, the temple of Vesta, and the House of the Vestals, temples, columns and arches of triumph erected to commemorate gods of Roman history. From the Forum the guide will show you to the place linked to the fabulous origins of Rome, the Palatine. Here, in 753 B.C., Romolus founded the town. Starting with Augustus, the great emperors settled here. From the valley of the Roman Forum, you will explore the ruins of the Imperial Palaces. The Domus Tiberiana, the royal palace, where the emperors placed themselves on the same level as the gods. Leaving the Roman Forum you'll find We will seehe Mamertine Prison, the site of Paul's Incarceration. On the other side of the street, we see the Forum of Trajan, the biggest and most splendid of all, whose markets are true forerunners of the modern commercial centers. On foot you will reach the Capitoline Hill, once political and religious center of the town, which today is the seat of the Municipality. A stairway leads you to the Piazza del Campidoglio, whose natural terrace provides the best panoramic point over the valley of the Roman Forum and the Palatine Hill. Here you'll find the magnificent result of a single project by Michelangelo, a copy of the mo

## Day 10 - Thursday, March 20: Rome

In the morning, we visit the Vatican Museum, which includes the Sistine chapel and St Peter's Basilica Break for lunch. This afternoon Paul was not the only Apostle associated with Rome. Peter was martyred on the Vatican Hill and the memory of the impact of the Apostle John's lasting ministry before and after his arrest and exile to Patmos by Emperor Domitian. continue our Roman visit at Basilica of St John in Lateran which became among the most important Christian Churches of Rome. When Constantine opened the Roman world to Christianity, his apparent conversion was symbolized by the donation of a significant family property for the Basilica. The important Lateran Baptistery reminds us of the many early converts to the faith and the process of moving it from a rogue influence to a sponsored and ordered faith. Then continue with Holy Steps. According to tradition, these steps (now covered with wooden plants) are the very ones Jesus climbed in the house of Pontius Pilate only to see the Roman governor wash his hands of the self-styled messiah. Martin Luther, on his trip.

## Day 11 - Friday, March 21: Flight back home

Pricing Information: Round-trip air fromJacksonville, FL (JAX) Double occupancy:\$5,990 Single supplement: +\$1,100
More information contact: The Rev. Canon Douglas Dupree Email: ddupree@diocesefl.org)
For questions, please contact Biblical Journeys at: Phone: (201) 627-0117 Email: info@biblical-journeys.com
To Register: https://biblical-journeys.com/0325Dupree
TOUR RESERVATION FORM (0325Dupree)  Please detach this page and return it to us along with your payment form and passport copy  Please Note: A separate registration form is required for each traveler. Photocopies of this form can be made.  Please mail your form with your payment to Biblical Journeys, 110 Kinderkamack Road, Suite 200, Emerson, NJ 07630  PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR PASSPORT
NAME: (FIRST) (MIDDLE) (LAST)
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PASSPORT NUMBER: EMAIL ADDRESS: COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: ISSUE DATE:
PASSPORT MUST BE VALID SIX MONTHS AFTER YOUR RETURN.  **IMPORTANT: PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT FRONT PAGE WITH YOUR DEPOSIT. NAME ON YOUR PASSPORT
AND AIRLINE TICKETS MUST BE IDENTICAL I AM SIGNING UP FOR THE FOLLOWING (PLEASE CHOSE THE OPTION THAT APPLIES):
<ul> <li>JOURNEYS OF PAUL: \$5,990 (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)</li> <li>I HAVE A ROOMMATE</li> <li>I NEED A ROOMMATE, I DO UNDERSTAND THAT IF A ROOMMATE IS NOT AVAILABLE, THE SINGLE SUPPLEMENT CHARGE WILL BE ADDED TO MY INVOICE.</li> <li>I WOULD LIKE TO TRAVEL SINGLE AND PAY THE SINGLE SUPPLEMENT OF \$1,100.         NAME OF ROOMMATE:</li></ul>
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All funds deposited at Bank of America
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# What's Included

- Daily buffet breakfasts and dinners according to the program (lunch is self hosted).
- Deluxe private motor-coach for transfers and sightseeing.
- Services of a professional
   English-speaking Tour Guide
   while touring.
- Whispering system with individual headphones.
- Porterage of one suitcase at hotels.
- Entrance fees where necessary, according to the itinerary.
- Government taxes and fees.
- Tips to bellboys and restaurants.
- Tips for local guides and drivers.
- International flights as per brochure.

# **Pricing Information**

- Double occupancy: \$5,990.
- For individual travelers wanting a single room, the single supplement fee is \$1,100.
- Deposit of \$500 per person due at time of registration.
- Balance due by: December 11, 2024

Biblical Journeys
110 Kinderkamack Road, Suite 2B
Emerson, NJ 07630
(201) 627-0117
INFO@BIBLICAL-JOURNEYS.COM
WWW.BIBLICAL-JOURNEYS.COM

# **Terms and Conditions:**

DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT: A deposit of \$500 per person is due to secure your reservation. The full and final payment is due 90 days before departure. Final documents will not be released until receipt of full payment. Extraordinary mail charges required by late booking, changes, or late payments must be borne by the passenger or tour host. Biblical Journeys, LLC does not agree to provide any services until full payment is received.

CANCELLATIONS: In the event of cancellation from day of registration to 90 days prior to departure there is a \$150 per person non-refundable administrative fee (not including credit card fees). Thereafter the following charges apply: 89-45 days prior to departure the charge is \$1000; 44-31 days the charge is 55% of total cost of the tour; last 30 days prior to departure the charge is 100% of the total cost of the tour. No Shows or cancellations after date of departure, no refund whatsoever. All refund claims must be received in writing.

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AIRLINE CANCELLATION: In accordance with airline regulations, 100% of the airfare will be charged for cancellation within 30 days of departure. If cancellation is due to health or illness in the immediate family of the traveler, and can be supported by a Doctor's Certificate, this may be waived. Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended.

INSURANCE: Biblical Journeys, LLC is not responsible or liable for loss, damage, theft of luggage or personal belongings, personal injury, accidents, or illness. For your protection we suggest that you purchase adequate insurance to cover these eventualities and cost of your tour. We strongly recommend that you be insured against the eventuality of cancellation.

LAND TRANSPORTATION: As specified in the respective tour itineraries. Where motor coaches are specified, these are modern, large-windowed, air-conditioned/heated vehicles designed especially for sightseeing. The cost of the land arrangements as outlined in this brochure is based on a busload ranging from 15-25 tour participants as available locally.

HOTELS: As specified in brochure. The tour price is based on shared accommodation in twin-bedded room with private shower or bath. A limited number of single rooms are available at additional supplements stated in brochure. Single rooms when available are often smaller than doubles. Tour participants without a roommate will have to pay the single rate. Biblical Journeys will attempt to assign roommates when possible, in the event when no same gender roommate is available, the single supplement will be added to the invoice.

MEALS: As per tour brochure. In-flight meals as per the airline's normal meal service policies.

SIGHTSEEING: As specified in each itinerary, including the services of a local multilingual guide. (Right is reserved to vary the sequence of sightseeing programs, or to make substitutions if necessitated by circumstances beyond our control.)

TRANSFERS AND PORTERAGE: Included in each city abroad between airports, rail stations, piers, and hotels and vice versa. Porterage includes the handling of one normal piece of luggage per person. Additional pieces (including garment bags or similar) may be handled at additional charges, collected upon arrival abroad. Free allowance for checked baggage aboard airlines is 44 pounds (Seasoned travelers have found it convenient to use one piece of luggage only.) A special bag tag for quick identification is also provided. Check with airline provider for specific size and weight requirements.

TRANSFERS: Transport between overseas airport, hotel and piers is included in the standard program. Those who request changes from standard program and who do not arrive with the group (land only passengers) are responsible for their own transfers even when coinciding with group transfers.

INCLUDED IN PRICE OF BASIC STANDARD PROGRAM: All U.S. current departure taxes (subject to change and increase), round trip airfare, transfers with group to and from overseas airports and piers; shared double room in 3-5-star hotels; two meals daily; English-speaking guide; transportation and entrance fees to sites to be visited.

NOT INCLUDED: Passport fees; phone calls; valet/laundry service; and other items of a strictly personal nature; baggage or other insurance (which is highly recommended); and any beverage; (Please note that the custom abroad is to include coffee or tea with breakfast only; it is an extra charge when served with other meals, as are mineral waters, wines or liquor); expenses within the U.S.A. or Canada.

TAXES: Airline security, Custom and Departure taxes are in addition to all air fare. These taxes are subject to change per government regulations and currency fluctuations. Quoted taxes are subject to change. Final taxes will be advised at time of final invoice. It is the responsibility of the group leader and tour members to have taxes paid at finalization.

DOCUMENTATION: U.S. citizens require a valid passport for international travel; the passport must be valid for six months beyond the group's return date.

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT INFORMATION: RESERVATIONS may be secured upon payment of a deposit in the amount of \$500 per person. We recommend this be done far in advance of departure to allow adequate time to secure passports, visas, and other documents.

FLIGHT TIMES: Subject to change by airlines without advance notice. Biblical Journeys, LLC is not to be held responsible for such changes or delays and does not reimburse expenses resulting from such delays.

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Brochures are issued on the sole responsibility of the tour operator. They are not issued on behalf of and do not commit any airline whose services are used in the course of travel.

For a comprehensive list of our terms and conditions, please visit: https://biblical-journeys.com/