



The Half Shekel Journals of 2022 by Pastor Ed Rice #FaceBook The Face Book Journal

The Itinerary this trip was regularly modified by ongoing circumstances. Here is an overview of what actually happened according to my sketchy Face Book reporting.



Day 1 Oct 31 Mon – Travel day. Shane and Kathy came in Friday, and Saturday they drove us to Berlin NJ where we spent the night with Lt Col Mike and Cheria Bliss. We all had dinner with Rachel (and Matthew) Charity (and Branden) and Micah (and Abbie).

Sunday we attended SS and Church at Solid Rock Baptist Church, and jumped their bus to the Newark Airport. Flight Information: El Al Flight: EWR (Newark) – TLV (Ben Gurion International Airport) Flight #LY26 Depart: Sunday, October 30 at 9:50pm Arrive: Monday, October 31 at 2:10pm (Approximate 10 hour 20 minute flight)



Day 2 Nov 1 Tues - Mount of Olives, Temple Mount, Beautiful Gate, Pool of Bethesda, Via Delarosa, Palm Sunday Road, Zion's Gate, Garden of Gethsemane, walked 8 miles, and us old folks almost kept up... Turned down the 7pm shopping trip for a hot bath.



Day 3 Nov 2 Wed - We left Jerusalem for the day and went into the Judean wilderness; Jericho Road, En Gedi, Masada, and the Dead Sea. Fifty-two of us will never forget the dry barren land where King David lived before his reign, Pastor Charlie made some Psalms come alive and jump off the page; the rugged terrain cut by the Jericho to Jerusalem Road, Pastor Charlie made Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan come alive and live in our soul; Masada, where our guide Joe made man's hatred of Jews, and God's providential care of his chosen people resound off of rocks; and the deadness of the Dead Sea, the lowest place on earth. Day 4 of our pilgrimage to Israel closed with an instilled awe.



Day 4 Nov 3 Thur- Awesome Day 4 in Jerusalem; Israel Museum, Dead Sea Scrolls Museum, SW Temple Robinson Arch, Southern Steps, City of David, Hezekiah's Tunnel, Western Wall Prayer Plaza, and Western Wall Tunnels. Today we walked where Jesus walked, and my my my do our legs ache. Supper with Shane Rice and Kathy Smith-Rice and 5 more friends.



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Day 5 Nov 4 Fri - Today, Day 5 of our Israel pilgrimage, we surveyed the empty tomb. Christ the Lord is risen, and soon coming again. We visited Golgatha, Calvary, the place of the Skull, where they crucified the Lord Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, the only begotten Son of God. *"For (God) hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."*



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him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

Let's be clear and blunt, if you have not been saved the Bible way, you will spend eternity in hell paying your own condemnation. It is not the Catholic way, nor your own special way, it is the Romans 10:9 and 10 way or hell for eternity. Be saved, be saved today. It would be better to gouge your eye out and go through life blind than to miss this truth and be cast into hellfire.



Day 6 Nov 5 Sat – Day 6 of our pilgrimage to Israel was a travel day. Visiting Golgatha and the empty Garden Tomb is always the most Spiritually charged and emotionally draining day of an Israel pilgrimage and the travel day provides ample time to reflect.

We left Jerusalem pointed to Jericho, passed Bethany and the West Bank Palestinian checkpoint, the Good Samaritan Inn (he was a character in our Lord Jesus Christ's highly effective parable, but the Inn was real enough, incidentally, Jesus had no ineffective parables), and stopped in Jericho to take a picture of the oldest sycamore tree in town, Zacheus was not in it.

The bus turned north. with sites set on the Sea of Galilee, we past the tell of the Jericho ruins, stopped for a Sabbath Day lunch at an oasis, and passed through another West Bank Palestinian checkpoint to once again enter Israel, the land of the free! We crossed the tiny brook called the Jordan River and all cheered when the Sea came into view. We had church, prayer, and family alter in the setting sun on the Sea of Galilee.

.Beverly and I dressed for a formal dinner at the Gia Beach motel, it was the last day of our 51st year together in marriage, and we spent it overlooking the Sea of Galilee with family and friend. Awesome!

Day 7 Nov 6 Sunday - Fifty-one years ago 6 November 1971 I married my highschool sweetheart. We were young and now we are old and I have never been more in love with Beverly Cook Rice than I am today. God is good. So Day 7 of our pilgrimage to Israel, being on our anniversary, had even more depth and dimension that cannot be recorded in word or picture.

On 6 Nov 2022, the sun rose on the Sea of Galilee, Chinmeroth, and we were there, roomed in Gia Beach Motel in Tiberias.

The boat launched at 10 and our hour long floating worship service had an honorable mention of ever thing that Jesus did on our at the Sea of Galilee.

We went through the excavated Synagogue of Capernaum, and Peters house before we worshiped on the Sea shore where Peter and Andrew parked their fishing ship and mended their nets. There we gave honorable mention to everything Jesus did or said at Capernaum.

We worshiped at the location where Jesus preached his longest message, the Sermon on the Mount. We explored all three chapters.

We had a quick lunch together and then worshiped at the mountain path that led off from Capernaum

to Nazareth. We could see Jesus walking and teaching on this pathway. The sun set on our day but or worship was not yet complete, singing hymns in the darkness of the Sea shore after supper was like an afterglow for the day.



Day 8 Nov 7 Mon - The Cliffs of Arbel, Lunch, Tell Dan and Jordan's headwater, the Excavated City, Jeroboam's golden calf alter, Mt Hermon overview, and the Excavated Cannanite City of 1800 BC! Then made our way up the Golan Heights, reviewed the 6 Day War history, Lebanon and Syria, then visited the cave and false god's of Caesarea Philippi where Jesus said upon this (me the Christ) Rock I will build my church.

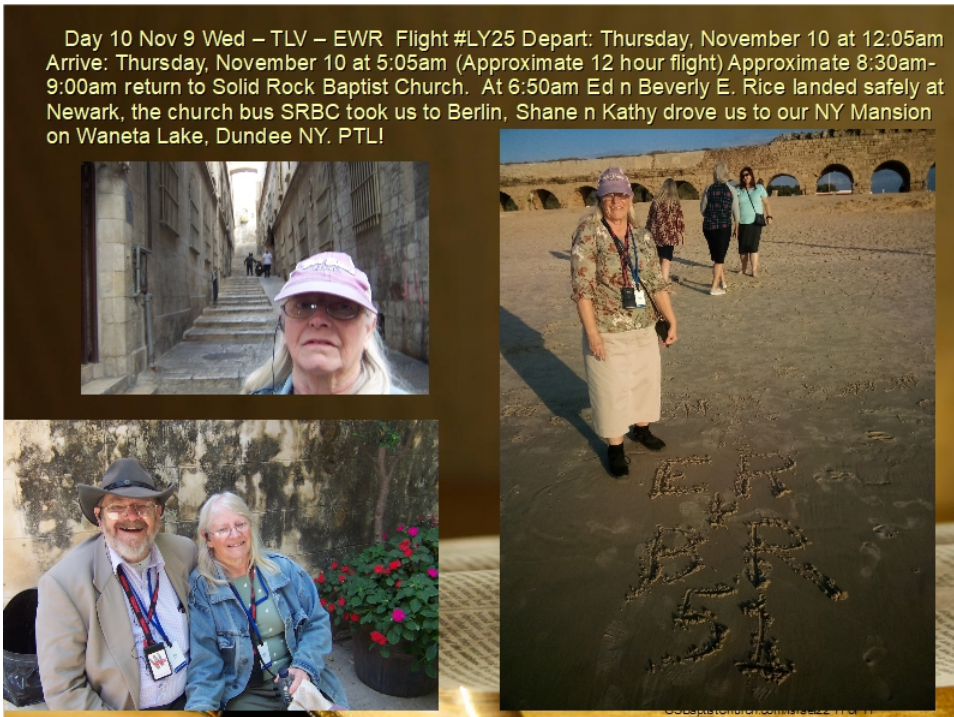


Day 9 Nov 8 Tue - We visited Nazareth's Great Precipice (Brow of a hill of Luke 4:28), the City of Sepphoris (4 miles from Nazareth where Jesus grew up), Mount Carmel where Elijah prayed a 63 word prayer and fire came down from heaven!, Tel Megiddo (the stronghold city destroyed when the King of

kings' foot touches the Mount of Olives just before Armageddon), and the outlet of the Sea of Galilee into the Jordan River. What a day of rejoicing in the Lord.



Six more sites to visit, then barring a hurricane's interference, tomorrow we will fly out of Tel Aviv at midnight, fly for 12 hours, and arrive at Newark at 5 am with our friend Jet Lag. The Solid Rock BC bus carries us to Berlin NJ, then our son Shane Rice drives us home. But sometimes God laughs when he hears our plans.



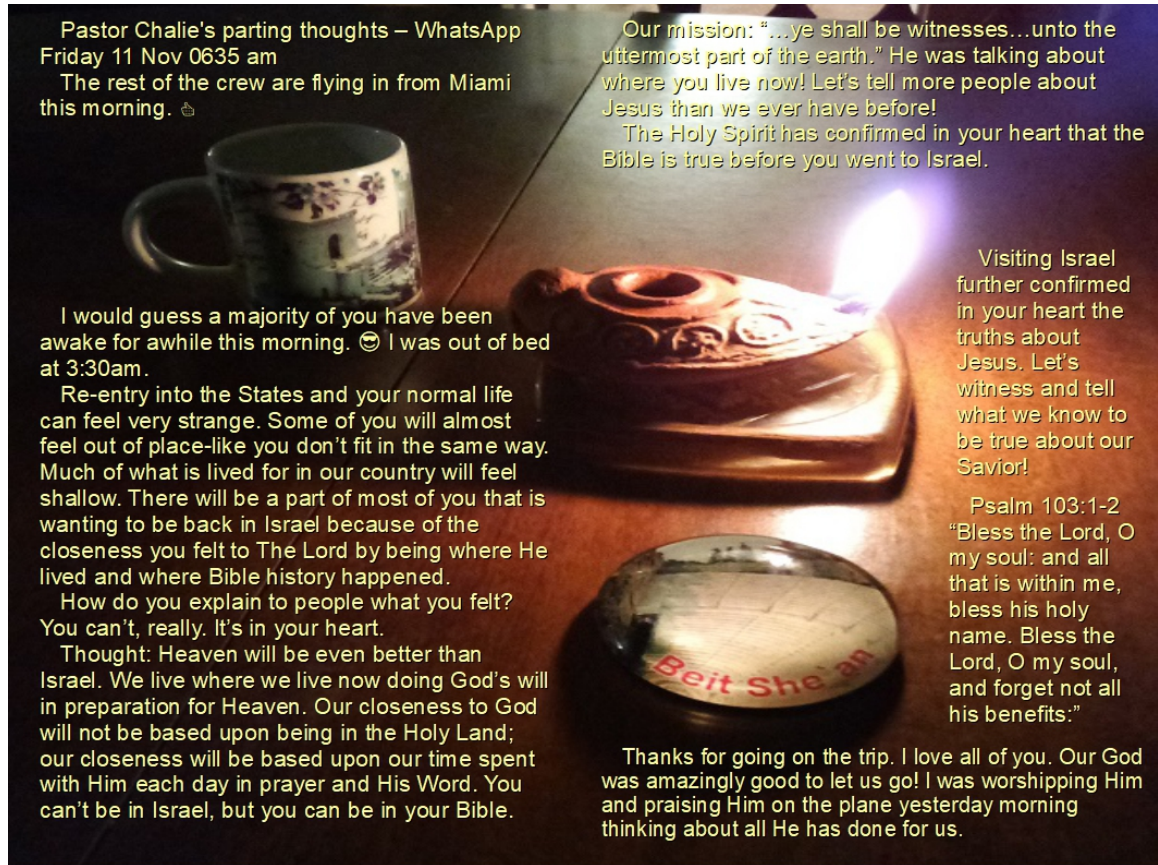
Day 10 Nov 9 Wed – TLV – EWR Flight #LY25 Depart: Thursday, November 10 at 12:05am Arrive: Thursday, November 10 at 5:05am (Approximate 12 hour flight) Approximate 8:30am-9:00am return to Solid Rock Baptist Church

At 6:50am Ed n Beverly E. Rice landed safely at Newark, the church bus SRBC took us to Berlin, Shane n Kathy drove us to our NY Mansion on Waneta Lake, Dundee NY. PTL!

Pastor Charlie's parting thoughts – WhatsApp Friday 11 Nov 0635 am

The rest of the crew are flying in from Miami this morning. ☺ ☺ ☺

I would guess a majority of you have been awake for awhile this morning. ☺ ☺ was out of bed at 3:30am.



Re-entry into the States and your normal life can feel very strange. Some of you will almost feel out of place-like you don't fit in the same way. Much of what is lived for in our country will feel shallow.

There will be a part of most of you that is wanting to be back in Israel because of the closeness you felt to The Lord by being where He lived and where Bible history happened.

How do you explain to people what you felt? You can't, really. It's in your heart.

Thought: Heaven will be even better than Israel. We live where we live now doing God's will in preparation for Heaven. Our closeness to God will not be based upon being in the Holy Land; our closeness will be based upon our time spent with Him each day in prayer and His Word. You can't be in Israel, but you can be in your Bible.

Our mission:

"...ye shall be witnesses...unto the uttermost part of the earth." He was talking about where you live now! Let's tell more people about Jesus than we ever have before!

The Holy Spirit has confirmed in your heart that the Bible is true before you went to Israel. Visiting Israel further confirmed in your heart the truths about Jesus. Let's witness and tell what we know to be true about our Savior!

Thanks for going on the trip. I love all of you. Our God was amazingly good to let us go! I was worshipping Him and praising Him on the plane yesterday morning thinking about all He has done for us.

Psalms 103:1-2 "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:"