

## **Detailed Itinerary:**

### **Day 1 – Saturday, Aug 22: Departure from the US**

Today we embark on our Journey to the lands of ancient treasures and Christian history with an overnight flight to Greece. Prepare yourself for a life-changing experience. Get some rest on the flight...Tomorrow you will be walking where the apostles walked!

### **Day 2 – Sunday, Aug. 23: Arrive Thessaloniki**

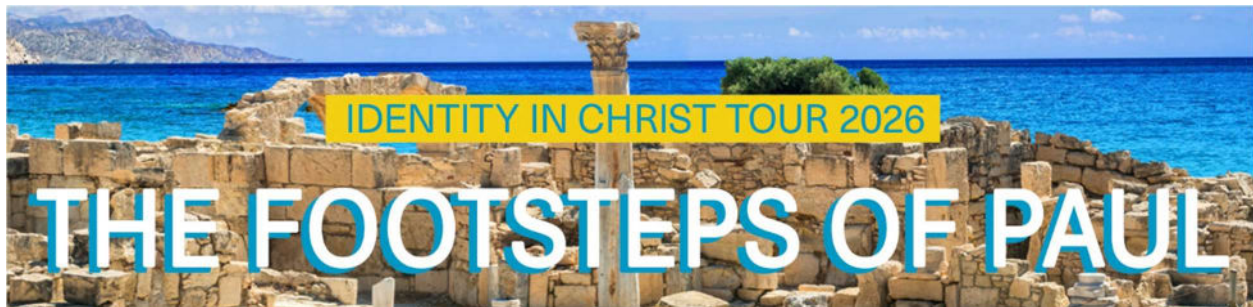
Upon our arrival in Thessaloniki, we will be met by our guide and driver and taken on an introductory tour of the city. The New Testament books of I & II Thessalonians will come alive to us as we view the old city ramparts; the newly excavated Forum, St. George Church, an ancient Roman monument which was transformed into a church and the Galerius Arch which rises over the famous Via Egnatia. We will check into our hotel where we will lodge for the next three evenings.

### **Day 3 – Monday, Aug. 24: Philippi, Kavala**

Today we will visit Philippi and Kavala. Kavala is Greece's prettiest mainland port with a most elegant harbor. Paul landed here with his disciples, Timothy and Silas. Luke, the Evangelist, also came here from Troas. This ancient city of Neapolis was later renamed Christoupolis because it was the first European city to accept Christianity. Imagine walking on the same sod as these men of the Bible! We will see the Roman Aqueduct and the ruins of the Acropolis in this beautifully located city, known since the 5th century as Kavala. Continue on to Philippi where Paul preached his first evangelical sermon and baptized the first Christians on European soil. We will view the baptismal site where Lydia surrendered her life to Christ and visit a crypt dating from the Roman period that is thought to have served as a prison for Paul. See the famous Acropolis, the Market Place, Basilica, and the Theatre. Any remaining time after our arrival back in Thessaloniki is free to relax or explore.

### **Day 4 – Tuesday, Aug. 25: Thessaloniki, Berea, Vergina**

We begin our last morning in this delightful harbor city by following the massive battlements of Byzantine wall to the citadel for a panoramic view of the city. Finally, we visit St. Demetrius Basilica, dedicated to a distinguished member of the Roman army and a



martyred Christian convert. Beginning our journey southward, a stop will be made in Berea to view the ancient synagogue where Paul spoke, the Bema surrounded by mosaics of Paul, and the plaque of scripture regarding the "more noble" church. Driving through town we see remnants of the original Roman road that spanned the nation during Paul's time. We also visit King Phillip's (Alexander's father) tomb in Vergina, one of the most outstanding finds in all of Greece. The exhibit includes many items including intricately designed lavish gold crowns designed for the royalty of the day. Our lodging for the evening is in Kalambaka.

#### **Day 5 – Wednesday, Aug. 26: Meteora Monastery**

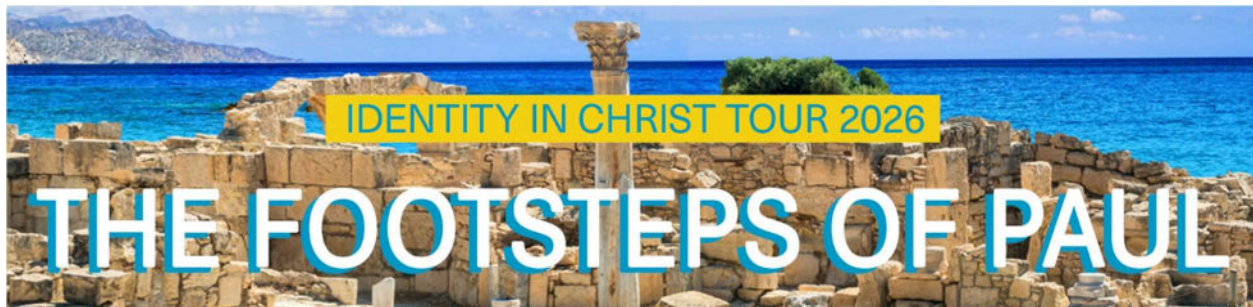
Today in Meteora we see the world-famous Byzantine monasteries that are perched precariously on summits of gray rock pinnacles of varied and beautiful shapes. Their history goes back to the 14th century when the monks sought refuge in the cliffside caves then fled higher to build the original wooden shelters, later transformed into monasteries. This afternoon we continue southward past Thermopylae and on to the city of Athens, the birthplace of democracy and our home for the next three nights. As we enjoy a panoramic bus tour of the city, our guide will point out some of the city highlights, including the House of Parliament, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Olympic Stadium, and Presidential Palace.

#### **Day 6 – Thursday, Aug. 27: Athens, Leisure Time**

We begin our day with a visit to the Acropolis, the Parthenon, and Erectheum before viewing Athens atop Mars Hill where Paul stood and preached the truth to the Gentile nation. The remainder of the day is free with many things to do and see. A short walk from your hotel is the famous Plaka with a multitude of shops and cafes.

#### **Day 7 – Friday, Aug. 28: Cruising Mykonos**

We sail this morning from Athens to the quaint isle of Mykonos, called the island of windmills. Experience the waterfront lined with shops and cafes and then stroll the charming walkways through a maze of whitewashed buildings before returning to the ship for dinner and evening entertainment.



### **Day 8 – Saturday, Aug. 29: Ephesus and Patmos**

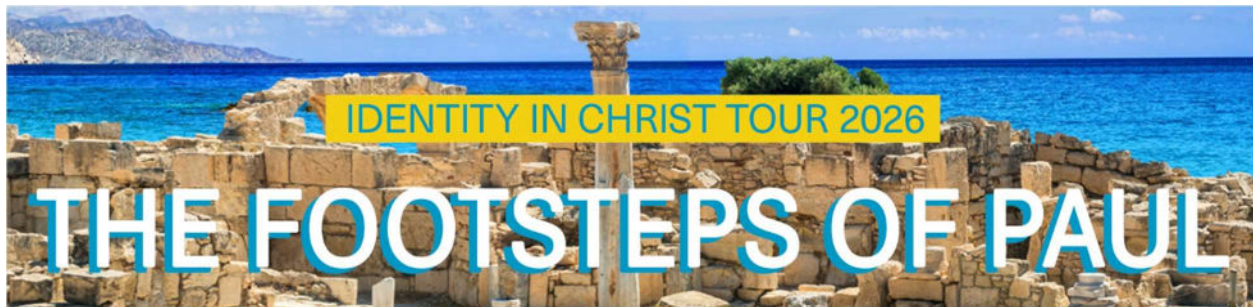
Docking in Turkey, enjoy a tour of Ephesus, the city of the Bible and one of the largest restorations still in progress with miles of ancient treasures. Ephesus was once a thriving port town of 250,000 people. Today you can still see the spectacular excavations of the major streets in this ancient city including the Agora, the Odeon, the Library, the marblepaved main Street, the Baths, Trajan's Fountain, the Residences of the Patricians, the Prytaneum, and Temple of Hadrian. The Great Theatre, built in the 4th century B.C., could accommodate 24,000 spectators and it is famous even nowadays for its acoustics. This afternoon we visit the Isle of Patmos, under statutory protection as a historic monument. Here we have a tour to see the fortified monastery of St. John and the cave claimed to be where John received the Revelation. Back on the ship, enjoy the Captain's dinner before settling in to your cabin for the night.

### **Day 9 – Sunday, Aug. 30: Crete and Santorini**

Crete is the largest and the most rugged of the Greek islands. Take an optional tour (+\$100 per person) to Heraklion and the fantastic ruins of the Palace of Knossos. Discovered in 1899 and partially reconstructed, the elaborate Palace is believed to be the mythical Labyrinth of King Minos and the seat of ancient Minoan culture. This afternoon visit the island of Santorini which is perhaps the most breathtaking of all the Greek Islands. You may choose to take an optional panoramic bus tour (+\$100 per person) viewing some of the most spectacular scenery of the Aegean. Travel through countless villages and settlements with delicate architecture and beauties eventually arriving in Oia. During your time in Oia, visit the many narrow streets, open-air cafes and glittering boutiques. Upon returning to the ship, we view the lace-like caldera, the little islands of Thirasia, Palea, & Nea Kameni. We arrive at the ship for dinner and evening entertainment.

### **Day 10 – Monday, Aug. 31: Disembark Cruise – Ancient Corinth & Cenchreae**

We disembark the cruise this morning and travel west with a rest stop and photos at the Corinth Canal. Next, we visit ancient Corinth, the city that inspired many of Paul's most familiar letters and is a highlight for the New Testament scholar. See the Archaeological Museum, the Market Place, the Bema, and the Temples. A devotional in the midst of the ruins of the church of Corinth where Paul preached will enhance our understanding and



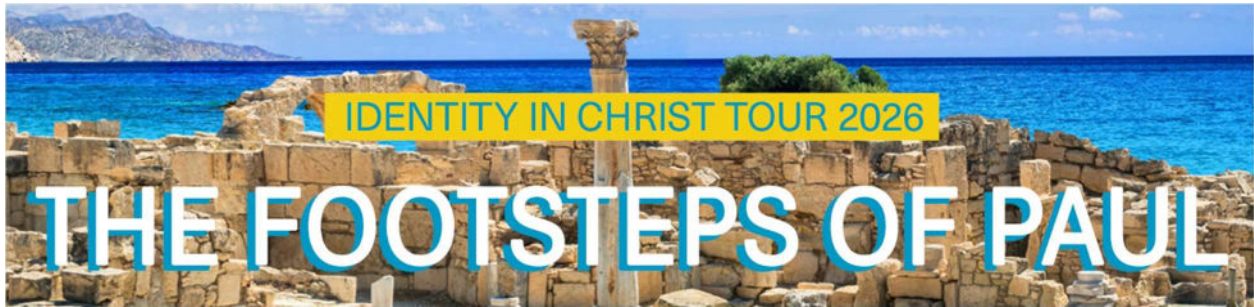
love for the Bible. The ruins of this important cultural center are fascinating as we walk along the stone path that the Apostle Paul walked. The engineering skill and intellect of these people are evident in the water systems that still flow from ancient to modern day. Our guide will be sure to show you the room dedicated to the medical care of that period. We travel on to the top of the nearby Acropolis where our guide will speak on the worship practices and point out the bird's eye view of what was a bustling city of around 800,000 during Paul's stay. Before returning to Athens, we will pass by Cenchreae, the ancient port region of Corinth. Acts 18:18 states the Apostle Paul stopped at Cenchreae during his second missionary journey, where he had his hair cut to fulfill a vow.

#### **Day 11 – Tuesday, Sept. 1: Arrive Rome, Catacombs**

We fly from Athens this morning to Rome and transfer to our lodgings for the next three nights. This afternoon we will take an afternoon tour of the Catacombs where thousands of Christians were buried in a remarkable tiered series of galleries. Dinner will be served at our Rome hotel where we will stay for the next three evenings.

#### **Day 12 – Wednesday, Sept. 2: Forum, Mamertine, Coliseum, Abbey of the Three Fountains, St. Paul Outside the Walls**

Our walking tour begins at the ancient Roman Forum. We will visit the Arch of Titus which commemorated the sack of Jerusalem by Titus in AD 70. View the Mamertine Prison exterior, where tradition says the Apostle Paul was imprisoned. The Roman church would say that Peter was imprisoned here as well, but there is no imperial evidence of Peter's being in Rome. Next, we visit the Coliseum, where thousands of people and animals perished during gladiatorial games. The Coliseum first opened in AD 80 and within 100 days of its opening, 5000 wild beasts perished here. The slaughter of both humans and animals continued for three more centuries. Historians believe the Coliseum could hold between 40,000 and 80,000 people depending on how close the seating was. We can walk over the labyrinth of brick cells, ramps, and elevators used to transport animals and gladiators into the arena. This afternoon we visit The Abbey of the Three Fountains, the traditional site of Paul's martyrdom and the ancient street that he walked on. Next, visit the 4th century Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, the site of Paul's tomb, and the Scala Santa, where Martin Luther made his stand against the practice of indulgences. This



fascinating museum houses the Steps from Pilot's Judgment Hall in Jerusalem brought to Rome by Helena, the mother of Constantine. Tonight purchase dinner on your own at a restaurant of your choosing.

### **Day 13 – Thursday, Sept. 3: Vatican Museums, St. Peter's, Afternoon at Leisure**

After breakfast we will begin our morning of sightseeing in Vatican City. See the Basilica at St. Peter, the Sistine Chapel and the Vatican Museums with stunning works of art at every turn. Our afternoon is free to explore further on our own, relax, and do any last-minute shopping before getting dinner on our own.

### **Day 14 – Friday, Sept. 4: Home**

This morning we transfer back to the Rome Airport for our flight to the USA.

**PRICE PER PERSON:**  
BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

**\$5,319.00\***

*\*Includes roundtrip airfare from JFK*

**Single Supplement:**  
**\$1,710.00**

Reservation Due By:  
March 19, 2026

Final Payment Due By:  
May 22, 2026