

The Society for Biblical Studies  
Paul's World & Mission  
10 Day Pilgrimage in Greece  
30 September - 9 October 2022  
5 Day Elective: Biblical Backgrounds in Italy, returning 14 October 2022

### Course Outline

#### Objectives:

- To provide an overview of the geographical, social and cultural setting of Paul's ministry.
- To identify key ingredients in Paul's missionary strategies.
- To become acquainted with the key issues in Pauline studies.
- To become acquainted with contemporary mission issues.
- To become acquainted with the concept of contextualization in missionary theory
- To understand the meaning of mission in the context of modern Greece
- To study Paul's letters with an interest in learning the ingredients of community building for today's churches: harmony in spite of differences, unity with diversity, managing diversity
- To enjoy the natural and cultural beauty of modern Greece & Italy

#### Suggested reading:

1. Balch, David L. and John E. Stambaugh. *The New Testament in its Social Environment*. Philadelphia: the Westminster Press, 1986.
2. Cline, Eric H., *Biblical Archaeology: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.
3. Fredriksen, Paula. *Paul: The Pagan's Apostle*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017.
4. Gill, David W.J., Trebilco, Paul R., Walton, Steve, eds. *The Urban World and the First Christians*. Grand Rapids: Wm B. Eerdmans Publishing Co, 2017.
5. Meeks, Wayne A. *The First Urban Christians: The Social World of the Apostle Paul*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1983.
6. Miano, Peter J. *The Word of God and the World of the Bible: an Introduction to the Cultural Backgrounds of the New Testament*. London: Melisende, 2001.
7. Murphy-O'Connor. *Paul the Letter Writer: His World, His Options, His Skills*. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1995.
8. Phillips, Thomas E. *Paul, His Letters, and Acts*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendricksen Publishers, 2009.
9. Sanders, E.P. *Paul*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991.

#### Daily Itinerary:

Day 1: Depart USA  
30.9, F

- Day 2:  
1.10, Sa Arrive Thessaloniki  
Field trip: touring as time permits, Old City walls, Citadel, St. Demetrius Church, Arch of Galerius (Acts 17: 4, 12), transfer to hotel for dinner, introductions and orientation  
overnight in Thessaloniki
- Day 3:  
2.10, Su Theme: Introduction to Classical Greece  
Field trip: Pella (birthplace of Alexander the Great), Vergina (Royal Macedonian) tombs  
overnight in Thessaloniki
- Day 4:  
3.10, M Theme: From Alexander to Paul  
Field trip: Thessaloniki, Via Ignatia, Philippi, Kavala/Neapolis (Acts 16: 9-33).  
overnight in Thessaloniki
- Day 5:  
4.10, Tu Theme: Classical Athens  
Field trip: transfer to airport, flight to Athens, driving tour of Athens, Acropolis, Parthenon, Erectheum, Mars Hill/Areopagus, (Acts 17).  
overnight in Athens
- Day 6:  
5.10, W Theme: Classical I Hellenistic Athens  
AM forum: The Perils of Pauline Studies  
Field trip: walking tour--the Athenian agora, the Stoa of Attalos, the Hephaestion, the Roman agora, Tower of the Winds, Library of Hadrian, Plaka, Acropolis Museum, Dinner on your own.  
overnight in Athens
- Day 7:  
6.10, Th Theme: Free day  
Dinner on your own.  
overnight in Athens
- Day 8:  
7.10, F Theme: Paul in Corinth  
Field trip: Corinthian Canal, Corinth excavations, museum, view Acro-Corinth, Mycenae (time permitting). Dinner on your own.  
overnight in Peloponessus
- Day 9:  
8.10, Sa Theme: Religious Cults in Paul's World  
Field trip: Paleo Epidauros, theatre, Asklepion, propylaia, museum, Nafplio. Dinner on your own.  
overnight in Peloponessus
- Day 10 transfer to Venezelos Airport, return to USA or continue with the  
9.10, Su elective journey to Rome

5 Day Elective: Biblical Backgrounds in Italy (Rome and Campania)

Day 10 Theme: The Material Culture of the New Testament World  
9.10, Su Field trip: transfer to Venezelos Airport, fly from Athens to Naples, Herculaneum, visit National Archaeological Museum in Naples. Dinner on your own.  
overnight in Naples

Day 11 Theme: Social Structure of the New Testament World  
10.10, M Field trip: Villa Poppeia (Oplontis), Pompei, visit amphitheater, baths, villas, forum, basilica, free time upon return to Naples. Dinner on your own.  
overnight in Naples

Day 12 Theme: Imperial Rome and Biblical Backgrounds  
11.10, Tu Field trip: transfer to Rome, visit baths of Caracalla, Monte Testaccio. Dinner on your own.  
overnight in Rome

Day 13 Theme: Rome Through History  
12.10, W Field trip: Imperial forum, Colosseum, Pantheon, Piazza Navonna, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps. Dinner on your own.  
overnight in Rome

Day 14 Theme: From House Church to Imperial Church  
13.10, Sa AM Field trip: St. Peter's Square, Vatican City, Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel,  
St. Peter's Basilica  
PM Field trip (optional, additional cost, \$57): catacombs of San Sebastian  
OR San Calisto and the mithraeum of the Basilica of San Clemente. Dinner on your own.  
overnight Rome

Day 15 return to USA  
14.10, Su

\*The daily itinerary is subject to a variety of factors, including flight schedules, local conditions, such as weather, opening and closing hours, holidays, etc. In some circumstances, the itinerary may be adjusted. Sometimes, substitutions will be made.