

Join Kevin Stirratt & Common Ground Church on

# The Journeys of Paul in Greece

September 21 - October 1, 2024

\$5,825\* from Indianapolis

*Meteora*



*Santorini*



*Thessalonika*



*Philippi*



*Kavala*



#### TRIP INCLUDES

- Standard Tour & Guided Sightseeing
- Round-trip International Airfare  
(Additional baggage & Optional fees may apply, see fine print for details)
- Fuel Surcharges and Government Taxes  
(Subject to Change)
- Admin. fees, Entrance fees, Gratuities & Program fees
- Breakfast & Dinner Daily
- Deluxe Motorcoaches • First-Class Hotels

\*A 4% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions

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### **Sat., September 21 – DEPART THE USA**

Your pilgrimage begins as you depart the USA on your international overnight flight.

### **Sun., September 22 – ARRIVE IN GREECE**

You will arrive in Thessaloniki, Greece, where you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

### **Mon., September 23 – AMPHIPOLIS, PHILIPPI, and NEAPOLI (KAVALA)**

Follow in the footsteps of Paul and Silas to Amphipolis and explore the ruins of the many Christian basilicas there. In Philippi is a baptismal site commemorating where God opened the heart of Lydia (a seller of purple from Thyatira) to hear the words of Paul (Acts 16:13 -15). Lydia and her household were the first Christian converts baptized on European soil. View the Roman-era crypt thought to have served as a prison for the Apostle Paul, and explore Philippi's famous Acropolis, marketplace, the Basilica of Paul, and theater. Today's last stop is Neapolis (Kavala), one of Greece's most picturesque mainland ports, where Paul landed with his disciples, Timothy and Silas. See the Roman aqueduct and acropolis before returning to Thessaloniki for dinner and overnight.

### **Tue., September 24 – THESSALONIKA and VERIA (BEREA)**

Discover Thessaloniki, where Paul was accused of turning the world upside down with his preaching of Christ (Acts 17: 3-6). As you explore St. George's Basilica, believed to be built over the synagogue where Paul preached, reflect on the two epistles the Apostle Paul wrote to the Thessalonian church here. Stroll through the archaeological museum and the beautiful basilicas of St. Sophia and St. Demetrios. St. Demetrios is dedicated to a distinguished Roman proconsul martyred for his Christian faith. Along the Via Egnatia stands the Galerius Arch, where you can look out over the second largest city in Greece from the Old City Ramparts, some dating back to Roman times. Follow the path of Paul when he fled Thessaloniki for the safety of Veria (Berea), where Jews and some honorable Greeks accepted the new faith (Acts 17: 10 -12). Continue on to Kalambaka for dinner and overnight.

### **Wed., September 25 – METEORA and DELPHI**

As you visit the rock forest of Meteora ("in the heavens above") in western Thessaly, imagine the Apostle Paul walking that treacherous terrain on his missionary journey. Gaze up at the breathtaking Byzantine monasteries spectacularly perched on soaring, sheer sided grey sandstone pillars. In the 13th-century, monks sought refuge in cliffside caves before fleeing higher to build the original wooden shelters that later became these monasteries. After a monastery tour, travel to scenic Delphi, religious center of the ancient Greek world and marked by the conical stone called the omphalos or "navel". Walk the Sacra Via to the Athenian treasury, theatre and the Temple of Apollo, where the oracle performed her prophetic rituals. As you consider the incredible amount of pagan influence just in Delphi alone, you will gain a new appreciation for the tremendous spiritual opposition the Apostle Paul faced in preaching the Gospel of Christ here. In the museum are many ancient treasures, including the fifth-century, bronzed charioteer so detailed you can see his eyelashes. Continue to Athens for overnight.

### **Thur., September 26 – CORINTH and CENCHREAE**

Tour the city of Corinth, where the Apostle Paul met fellow tentmakers Aquila and Priscilla and received a vision from the Lord 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). As Paul spoke, Crispus (chief ruler of the synagogue) and many others believed and were baptized (Acts 18:8), establishing the church at Corinth to whom Paul later wrote his two epistles. Discover the archaeological museum, marketplace and temples. As you walk among the ruins, stand on the Bema, where the Apostle Paul stood before Gallio to face charges brought against him by the Jews. Stop briefly at the port town of Cenchreae from which Paul later departed for Syria (Acts 18: 12-18). Return to Athens for dinner and overnight.

### **Fri., September 27 – EMBARK IN PIREAUS & MYKONOS**

Board the ship and sail the blue waters of the Aegean Sea. In the evening, you will arrive at the world famous Greek Island of Mykonos, where gleaming whitewashed buildings seem to climb atop each other to reach the azure sky.





### Sat., September 28 – EPHEBUS & PATMOS

This morning, you arrive in Kusadasi, Turkiye, and journey to Ephesus, where the Apostle Paul spent three years of his ministry. He planted a church here and later wrote to them in his Epistle to the Ephesians. Many of the ruins of Ephesus (known as “the marble city”) have been restored to show the city as it was in the Apostle Paul’s time. Visit the agora and imagine where Demetrius, the silversmith, sold his silver shrines of the Greek goddess Artemis. Stroll through the great theater, where Paul witnessed faithfully for Christ. Not far away is the stadium where chariot races took place and gladiatorial combats were held. Tradition has it that the Apostle Paul himself fought here against wild beasts. Visit the ruins of St. John’s Basilica, where early Christian tradition tells us the “disciple whom Jesus loved” was buried. View one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the ruins of the Temple of Diana (Artemis), before setting sail for the Island of Patmos to visit the Monastery of St. John high on the mountain overlooking the entire island. Walk down to the Grotto of the Apocalypse and the caves, where it is believed that the exiled Apostle John lived and was inspired by God to write the Book of Revelation as well as other letters to the early church.

### Sun., September 29 – CRETE & SANTORINI

Dock this morning in Crete’s port of Heraklion, just three miles away from 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. Disembark at Santorini, one of the most beautiful Greek islands, where picturesque whitewashed villages topped with brilliant blue domes stand in stark contrast to the sheer drop cliffs overlooking the Aegean Sea. The island itself perches on the edges of a volcano whose eruption 3,500 years ago is thought to have led to the collapse of the Minoan civilization.

### Mon., September 30 – ATHENS

Enjoy the rich architectural splendor of the ancient city of Athens as your guide introduces you to the world renowned Acropolis, the Propylaea, the Parthenon and the Erechtheum. Stand on Mars Hill as the Apostle Paul did when he proclaimed, “I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship,

him declare I unto you” (Acts 17:23). As you stroll the agora (ancient marketplace and center of Athenian public life), recall that this was where the Apostle Paul preached “Jesus and the resurrection” (Acts 17:18) to the skeptical Athenians. Also, see the House of Parliament, the Presidential Palace and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This afternoon, you are free to explore Athens on your own or enjoy an optional journey to Sounion to visit the famous Temple of Poseidon (additional \$75). Dinner and overnight is spent in Athens.

### Tues., October 1 – RETURN TO THE USA

Return home with a new appreciation of the Apostle Paul’s life and ministry.



## TRAVEL REGISTRATION FORM

Mail to: **Group Travel Services • P.O. BOX 151326 • Altamonte Springs, FL 32715**  
phone: 1-800-499-7516 fax: 1-407-331-3242 email: travelwithgts@aol.com

Host: Kevin Stirratt / Common Ground Church ID#: 20000 Tour: ER24

Departure City: Indianapolis Departure Date: 09/21/24

**First, Middle & Last Name must be submitted as it appears on your passport:**

Guest 1: First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Preferred Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ State of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about this tour? \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 2: First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Preferred Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ State of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about this tour? \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate(s): \_\_\_\_\_

If No Roommate: ☐ Try to Match Me ☐ Single Room (availability limited)

Travel Protection Plan: ☐ I/We Accept: ☐ Basic ☐ Select ☐ I/We Decline

### FULL DEPOSIT OF \$600 PER PERSON REQUIRED

#### PAYMENT:

☐ via check - Payable to Group Travel Services, Inc.

☐ via credit card (circle): \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER**

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it Appears on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(For those paying by credit card, a 4% surcharge will be applied)

By signing below, I/We certify that I have read the "Fine Print," understand its content, and agree to its terms including but not limited to the potential for price increases that may apply before payment in full has been received as set forth in the "Fine Print" and potential price increases after payment in full has been received due to government imposed taxes and fees.

Guest 1 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 2 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Travel Protection Plan - Premium Rates for all Tours

Age	Basic	Select	Age	Basic	Select
18 - 59	\$248	\$298	75 - 79	\$665	\$879
60 - 69	\$448	\$565	80 - 84	\$865	\$1185
70 - 74	\$548	\$728			
BASIC PLAN			SELECT PLAN		
Trip Cancellation Trip Cost (\$10,000 limit)			Trip Cancellation Trip Cost (\$50,000 limit)		
Trip Interruption Trip Cost (\$10,000 limit)			Trip Interruption Trip Cost (\$50,000 limit)		
Trip Interruption Return Air Only (\$0)			Trip Interruption Return Air Only (\$1,000)		
Frequent Traveler Benefit \$200			Frequent Traveler Benefit \$0		
Trip Delay \$500 (\$250 a day)			Trip Delay \$2,000 (\$250 a day)		
Missed Connection \$500			Missed Connection \$750		
Baggage & Personal Effects \$500			Baggage & Personal Effects \$1,000		
Baggage Delay \$100			Baggage Delay \$200		
Emergency Medical			Emergency Medical		
Evacuation and Repatriation \$100,000			Evacuation and Repatriation \$500,000		
AD&D \$10,000			AD&D \$25,000		

### Conditions and Limitations

Above prices are applicable up to the age of 70, if you are over 70, please call for pricing.

\*Certain conditions, limitations and exclusions apply. Full details regarding limitations and exclusions will be sent with your registration packet. All prices subject to change.

## FINE PRINT

**INCLUDED IN PRICE:** 1) Roundtrip International Airfare; 2) Deluxe Motorcoaches; 3) 1st Class Hotels; 4) Guided Sightseeing; 5) Entrance fees to sites visited; 6) Breakfast & Dinner daily; 7) Gratuities of \$24; 8) Fuel Surcharges which may be imposed by airlines and other suppliers. If applicable, fuel surcharge will be paid by the passenger; 9) Port Taxes

**NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:** 1) Travel Protection Program; 2) Optional sightseeing; 3) Miscellaneous fees such as Individual Transfers; Passports, Laundry, Lunches, Beverages at Meals; Excess Baggage and Items of a Personal Nature; 4) Voluntary "Love Offering" for Guide and Driver; 5) Any increase in taxes and/or fees imposed after the printing of this brochure; 6) \$100 Document fee for Non-US and Non-Canadian residents; 7) Visa(s) for non-US citizens.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Price is based on double occupancy. When available, single rooms are often smaller than doubles. Additional single rate charges apply of **\$986; \$438 on Cruise**.

#### PAYMENT:

Payment Amount	Payment Due Dates & Notes
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<b>\$600</b>	Due upon registration.
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<b>\$1,200</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Deposit Amount. All guests must have \$1,800 on their account by 04/10/24 to be ticketed
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<b>Full Payment</b>	Final Payment is due on 05/10/24. If paid after the due date, a late payment fee of \$100 will be assessed.
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**ADDITIONAL AIRLINE FEES:** You may incur additional airline baggage and optional fees (food, Excess Baggage, Items of a Personal Nature etc....) these can be found at the airlines website and will be charged by the airline at check-in.

**PRICE INCREASE:** All prices quoted in this brochure are subject to change prior to payment in full due to currency fluctuations, fuel surcharge increases, government taxes and fees increases or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, you may be subject to a price increase after payment in full has been received due to potential government imposed taxes and fees. You will be notified immediately upon discovery of an increase and will have the option of paying the difference or canceling with full refund.

**AIRLINE TICKETS:** In order to keep prices low, GTS does not guarantee the most direct routing to your final destination. Once printed, airline tickets cannot be changed or refunded thereafter. Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class aboard IATA and ARC carriers utilizing APEX or SUPER APEX non-refundable, non-amendable tickets for groups of 10 or more flying together for entire itinerary.

**FLIGHT TIMES:** All flight times are subject to change by the airlines without advance notice. GTS is not responsible for such changes or delays and does not reimburse expenses resulting from such delays. If making own flight arrangements to departure city, we recommend you purchase a ticket which can be changed without large penalties.

#### CANCELLATION POLICY:

100% of Cancellation Fees are covered by the optional Travel Protection Program provided premium has been paid and reason for cancellation is insurable. Those who do not take travel protection should be aware of the following cancellation penalties:

From day of registration to 135 days prior to departure, you will be charged the \$250 non-refundable cancellation fee plus any airline fees.

Additionally, thereafter, you will be charged any airline penalties and a single room supplement if your cancellation forces your roommate into a single plus the following charges:

133-104 days = \$600; 103-59 days = \$800; 58-45 days = 60% of total cost; 60 days to day of departure = 100% of total cost.

Cancellation must be submitted in writing. On or after day of departure, no refund will be paid for any services not used.

#### LATE REGISTRATIONS:

Registrations received 135 days prior or closer to the departure date are welcome. Please note that registrations received 135 days to 118 days prior will incur a late fee of \$100.00 per person.

Registrations received 117 days prior to 103 days prior will incur a late fee of \$200.00.

Registrations received 102 days or closer to departure will incur additional air and land fees based on availability and cost. These fees will be advised prior to processing the registration.

#### DEVIATIONS:

Deviations from the standard tour program must be submitted in writing and are subject to additional airline fees, if applicable. Transfers for passengers who deviate are not included.

#### ITINERARY CHANGES:

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure. While you will see all sites listed in this brochure, the order of sites and/or days and number of days may be altered to accommodate changes in airline, hotel schedules, and local conditions. Due to airline schedules, some participants may receive one or two extra leisure days at a nominal per day charge and some extensions may not be available on all departure dates. If itinerary changes necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged \$125 per night; single rooms \$175 per night. Meals for extra nights are not included.

#### FIT TO TRAVEL STATEMENT:

Passengers registering for the tour accept the responsibility for being in good health and able to walk and travel on the tour. Because many of the sites are not accessible to the physically challenged, those needing oxygen, wheelchairs, or other ambulatory assistance will find the tour extremely limiting to their experiences.

Except where otherwise stated, GTS acts only as agent for the relevant supplier in securing hotels, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall GTS be liable for failure by any such supplier to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. GTS assumes no liability for injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may occur by reason of any negligent or willful act or omission of any suppliers of service. GTS does not own or operate any of the suppliers of services to your tour. Similarly without limiting the foregoing, passenger agrees to hold GTS harmless for any defect in any vehicle, plane, boat, bus, car, van or other vehicle, act of war or insurrection, terrorist activity, revolt or other civil uprising, military action, strikes or labor unrest or any Act of God or for any other act of any third party. Florida law will be applicable to any dispute which arises out of or concerns this brochure or your tour.