

## CLERGY COMMENTS

“Since going on this journey, I cannot read the Bible the same anymore. The locations and the settings all mean so much more now and help me to better understand the truth of God's word. Talk to anyone who went on the journey with me and they'll tell you the same thing. **It's amazing. This journey to the Holy Lands was like getting another degree from seminary.**”

-Pastor Mike Landry  
Sarasota Baptist Church  
Sarasota, Florida

“ I experienced a new appreciation for all that Christ did to gain our salvation. **The Bible, both O.T. and N.T., came alive** as we walked the lands of the Bible. The organization was superb and ALL went so smoothly”

-Rev. Albert Bierlein  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
Ft. Wayne, Indiana

**“It was the experience of a lifetime. ... It really just brings the Word of God to life.”**

-Rev. Tommy Jackson  
New Heights Church of God  
Longview, Texas

“We celebrated many inspiring worship experiences and **had great fellowship and a deep sense of spiritual renewal** as people experienced the power of walking in the Land. Many commented about how the Bible 'came alive' for them! Already several of our group members have asked me to plan another trip.”

-Rev. Dr. Steve Rettenmayer  
United Methodist Church  
Washington, D.C.

*Comment from Priest*



## 10 REASONS FOR CLERGY TO LEAD A CHRISTIAN TRAVEL GROUP (IN NO SPECIFIC ORDER)

10. Increase Biblical Knowledge
9. Enrich Individual Lives with a once-in-a-lifetime Christian experience
8. Understand the location of Biblical events and how the geography of the land impacted those events
7. Develop Deep Christian Bonds among fellow travelers
6. Lead your church members to a closer relationships with God
5. Develop a more Christ-like understanding of other religions & cultures
4. Build Church Leadership
3. Increase Church Involvement when members return home
2. Rediscover the excitement of learning about the Bible, the kind of excitement you may not have experienced since seminary
1. Deliver powerful sermons based on personal knowledge and images



Educational Opportunities Tours

CHANGING THE CHURCH,  
THE MINISTRY AND  
INDIVIDUAL LIVES THROUGH  
CHRISTIAN TRAVEL SINCE 1974.



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- ❖ Holy Land Tours
- ❖ Bible Lands Cruises
- ❖ Journeys of Paul Cruises & Tours
- ❖ European & Church History Programs
- ❖ Leisure Cruises



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## THE EO VISION

*"In 1960 while studying briefly in Israel, I discovered that I learned more about the Bible and the Mission of Jesus visiting the Holy Land than by my total experience in seminary and college concerning biblical studies."*

The Young pastor, Jim Ridgway, returned from his first trip to the Holy Land with a vision, to be an instrument for helping bring others to the Lands of the Bible where they could further their biblical understanding.

In 1961 he took a group from his church and found that everyone in the group had a life-changing experience and received many blessings. He also found after returning, members of the group were more active in the Church and served a greater role in the Church community.

*"I began to contact ministers of all denominations, telling them my story, how travel not can renew your spirit but have an impact on their Church as well. All of them decided to take a group to the Holy Land"*

In 1973, Jim decided to create a new kind of travel company, a Christian Travel Company. Unlike previous companies Jim used to provide Holy Land Tours, the new company was focused on the Educational and Spiritual aspects of Christian travel and developing partnerships with local churches. The first year, Educational Opportunities had only 3 employees and served 500 passengers working out of a garage and keeping files in a shoebox.

In 2000, James Ridgway, son of Dr. Jim Ridgway took over as CEO. James has continued to advance the vision that his father started over 40 years ago. EO now has over 60 employees and handles all aspects of tours from collecting the money to making the Educational materials and answering passenger questions. So far EO has helped bring over 350,000 people to the Holy Land with their

## THE HOLY LAND CLASSIC TOUR

All Inclusive Price of \$2698\*

\*Includes 2 meals Daily, International Airfare, Tips and \$598 Taxes.

**Day 1 & 2:** Depart USA & Arrive in Israel

**Day 3:** Sea of Galilee / Capernaum /  
Mount of Beatitudes / Tabgha /  
Sea of Galilee Boat Ride / Jordan River

**Day 4:** Nazareth / Megiddo / Caesarea

**Day 5:** Jericho / Qumran / Dead Sea Scrolls /  
Bethlehem / Shepherd's Field

**Day 6:** Jerusalem / Mount Zion / Upper Room  
Mount of Olives / Mount Moriah /  
Garden of Gethsemane / Mount Zion /  
Caiaphas' House / Kidron Valley

**Day 7:** The Old City / The Western Wall /  
Teaching Steps / Pool of Bethesda /  
Herod's Antonia Fortress / Via Dolorosa  
Church of the Holy Sepulchre

**Day 8:** Optional Masada Tour / Leisure Day

**Day 9:** Jerusalem / Ein Karem / Yad Vashem /  
The Garden Tomb

**Day 10:** Return to USA or Enjoy an Extension  
to Egypt, Jordan, Luxor, or Nile Cruise



## SAMPLE BIBLICAL CRUISE

Lands of the Bible  
with Guest Speaker Dr. Paul L. Maier  
May 14, 2012

15 Days Starting at \$3098\*

**Day 1 & 2:** Depart USA

**Day 3:** Rome Italy

**Day 4 & 5:** At Sea with Biblical Lectures

**Day 6:** Cairo, Egypt

**Day 7:** Alexandria, Egypt

**Day 8:** Galilee, Israel

**Day 9:** Jerusalem, Israel

**Day 10:** At Sea with Biblical Lectures

**Day 11:** Ephesus, Turkey

**Day 12:** Athens, Greece

**Day 13:** At Sea with Biblical Lectures

**Day 14:** Naples & Pompeii, Italy

**Day 15:** Return to USA

\*This is one of several biblical cruise itineraries EO offers. Other itineraries include Paul's 2nd & 3rd Journeys; Paul's 4th Journey, Highlights of Paul Journeys and more!



PRESIDENT OF  
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

JAMES RIDGWAY



DR. JIM RIDGWAY  
FOUNDER OF  
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

(Place Business Card Here)

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