



# Sar-El Tours News Flash

“For the LORD your God brings you into a good land” (Deut. 8:7)

## What's New in Israel

**Festival of Light:** The Old City is usually known for its holy sites and plethora of tastes and smells, but now it is known for art and nightlife as well. Jerusalem just celebrated its third annual Festival of Light that is held in the narrow alleyways and sites of the Old City. The festival spanned seven days, bringing around 500,000 visitors total. Israeli and international artists alike were able to put their creative energies on display through the use of the innovative art of light. Artists used light to create installations, artwork, performances and statues.



**Facing Tomorrow:** Shimon Peres' third annual Israeli Presidential Conference, Facing Tomorrow 2011, just concluded its final days in Jerusalem, witnessing over 3500 attendees. This year's conference focused on the vital issues, initiatives and decisions that must be implemented today in order to guarantee a better tomorrow for the world, the Jewish people, and the State of Israel. Participants were offered the rare occasion to be in the presence of global leaders, international scholars and activists, poets and scientists, artists and clergy, entrepreneurs, economists and industrialists, including: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, opposition head Tzipi Livni, Middle East envoy Tony Blair, U.S. special advisor Dennis Ross, U.S. comedian Sarah Silverman, singer and performer Shakira, Wikipedia Founder Jimmy Wales, Facebook VP David Fischer, author Amos Oz— and, of course, Peres himself.

## New Sites & Site News

### New Tunnel Found at City of David

Adjacent to an ancient Herodian road used by pilgrims on their journey to the Temple Mount, archeologists have discovered a new section of a 2,000-year-old drainage channel in the City of David. Dating back to the time of Herod in the Second Temple Period (515 B.C.-70 C.E.), the channel connects the dots between where the Jews lived in the ancient City of David, to the retaining wall of the Western Wall at the Temple Mount. Archeologists have cleared out 250 meters for access to the public, spanning from the retaining wall of the Western Wall to the pool of Siloam. Tourists can walk through the tunnel and feel like the pilgrims of the 2nd temple period felt 2,000 years ago. To learn more, check out this video:

[http://video.foxnews.com/v/4508855/exclusive-new-evidence-about-historic-site-/?playlist\\_id=87937](http://video.foxnews.com/v/4508855/exclusive-new-evidence-about-historic-site-/?playlist_id=87937)





## Sar-El News & Specials

**Steven Curtis Chapman's Concert on the Southern Steps:** In conjunction with Sar-El Tours and New Life Ministries (NLM), Steven Curtis Chapman's Concert on the Southern Steps of the Temple Mount in the very heart of God's city, Jerusalem, was an event that those who attended will never forget. With perfect weather that was provided by the Lord Himself, the event was breathtaking as 20 servicemen from the USA joined in on this memorable event. As NLM stood in applause to the servicemen, everyone witnessed one of the soldiers blowing the shofar as all stood in attention. Joining Steven Curtis Chapman was his good friend Jeffrey Moore as they carried their songs to the crowd and then upward towards heaven. Samuel and Susan Smadja and their family were present to enjoy this amazing event, with other Sar-El staff that was available to assist the performers. NLM, Steve Arterburn and the entire NLM tour group that were present, walked away forever changed in this electrifying atmosphere of song and thanksgiving.



**Restoring Courage:** In conjunction with DuCar Tours, we are honored to be a major land provider for the Glenn Beck Restoring Courage event taking place in Jerusalem this August. People around the world are invited to stand with Israel and remember the need to have faith, honor and courage in our own lives, and for the sake of Israel. For more information, please visit: <http://www.beckisrael.com>

### **March of the Living, April 18-26, 2012:**

We invite all Christian friends of Israel to participate in a historical tour in which we will experience death and resurrection; from Auschwitz to Israel. On this unique journey we will take part in the "March of the Living" with thousands of Jews and Christians from all over the world. Tracing the footsteps of those taken during the infamous Death March from Auschwitz to Birkenau, the "March of the Living" will begin in Poland (2 nights in Krakow) with a memorial celebration in the concentration camp of Auschwitz. Out of the sorrow and grief which will be experienced at the concentration camps we will continue our trip to Israel (6 nights in Jerusalem) where our mourning will be turned to joy as we see that "the people of Israel Live— Am Israel Chai!" Israel is G-d's answer to Auschwitz! One of the highlights of the trip will be a memorial service at Yad Vashem where we will meet with Holocaust survivors and new immigrants in Israel. Friends of Israel from all over the world will participate in this unique adventure being offered by Sar-El Tours. Our participation in the "March of the Living" is an attempt to safeguard the memory of the Holocaust so that a tragedy of such dimensions will never happen again; not to the Jewish



people nor to any other people or nation in the world. We invite you to join us on this unique tour that will inspire hope for the future. From the USA, please contact: [donna.palmieri@giltravel.com](mailto:donna.palmieri@giltravel.com). For all other countries, please contact: [yaelzaoui@sareltours.com](mailto:yaelzaoui@sareltours.com).

**Ever-Expanding:** We continue to enlarge our reach on tourism, this time to our friends and tour groups coming from all corners of the earth. Samuel just visited Singapore, Richard will be traveling to Canada and Holland to meet new agents, Yinon will fly to the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Taiwan and Amir will be heading to Australia in order to explore new business venues, in addition to stopping in Singapore to speak at the Impact Conference in conjunction with Bethany Church of Singapore.



### A Word from Samuel & Amir

With all the uncertainty in the Middle East we're still very pleased to see that tourists vote with their legs. We're excited to participate in Glenn Beck's unique project, Restoring Courage, where we are expecting hundreds of supporters from around the globe. With the growing number of voices around the world that doubt the legitimacy of the existence of the state of Israel, it is highly important to stand firm on our right to live peacefully among our neighbors. Sar-El Tours is proud to be the first to launch a very exceptional project inviting Christians from around the world to participate in the famous March of the Living in Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, ending with a short tour in Israel focusing on the remembrance of the Holocaust and the Zionist idea to return to the Land God had promised to us and to our descendants.

*"Then say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land.'" Ezekiel 37:21*

