Dear Friends,

Join us on a trip of a lifetime! On June 7, 2012, Dr. Draper and I will be leading a group on an incredible journey to Greece and Turkey. We invite you to join us for a "Once in a Lifetime Experience" to see the very places where Paul walked, taught and lived. The Bible will come alive for you. We would like to share this experience with you and encourage you to join us.

We will enjoy seven nights aboard our cruise ship with visits to Istanbul, Izmir, Ephesus, Patmos and Crete (Heraklion) and also stops in Rhodes, Santorini and Mykonos. Then, we visit Athens, the cradle of civilization. See the Acropolis and Mars Hill where Paul delivered his famous sermon about the "Unknown God" Visit Corinth, where Paul lived and preached. We are certain you will return filled with enthusiasm, gratitude and a renewed faith.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Draper
Dr. Michael Walker

Your Journey Features:

- Round-trip air transportation from JFK
- Inside cabins aboard ship, 1st class hotel in Athens
- Land transportation via deluxe, private motor coach
- Professional, English-speaking guides
- Tips ($101), port tax ($262) and airline taxes & fuel surcharge ($598) included
- Breakfast and dinner daily, customary meals aboard ship
- Entrance fees to all non-optional sites on itinerary
- Shore excursions at Istanbul, Izmir/ Ephesus, Patmos & Heraklion with optional excursions at Santorini ($85), Rhodes ($80) & Mykonos (bus transport - $15)

Please Read

This Important Information:

Each tour member must hold a U.S. passport that is valid up to 6 months after the scheduled return. Application forms are available at your local Passport Office or U.S. Postal Service. Any required visas will be processed for US citizens only. Non-US citizens are solely responsible for obtaining any required visas.

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Rates based on double-occupancy, the airline fuel surcharge ($420) and currency exchange rate(s) at the date of quotation to your host. Subject to change up to 30 days prior to departure.
Day 1 Thu, Jun 7: NEW YORK - GREECE. Board our overnight flight to Athens, Greece. Dinner and breakfast are served aloft.

Day 2 Fri, Jun 8: ATHENS. After clearing customs, we are transferred to the Port of Piraeus where our Aegean cruise begins. Dinner and overnight onboard.

Day 3 Sat, Jun 9: ISTANBUL. Arrive in Istanbul in the early evening. Tonight will be at leisure to relax on board or to go into the city to enjoy a variety of Turkish specialties and the Grand Bazaar, a covered labyrinth with over 4,000 shops (open until 7:00 PM, closed on Sunday). Overnight on board.

Day 4 Sun, Jun 10: ISTANBUL. Today, we have a glimpse of the best and the most famous monuments in Istanbul remaining from the Byzantine Empire era. Depart from the pier for an interesting tour of Istanbul with a city sightseeing drive through the business center of the modern city, across the Galata Bridge, along the banks of the Golden Horn and under the Byzantine Aqueduct of Valens. On the way, we see the Süleymaniye Mosque dedicated to Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent, built by the famous Turkish architect, Sinan. Arrive at Chora Museum. This 11th century church of St. Savior in Chora is the most important Byzantine monument in Istanbul after St. Sophia museum. Continue with a drive along the ancient Byzantine city walls to the Byzantine Hippodrome where the chariot races and celebrations in honor of the emperors, once took place during this era. Visit the ancient church of St. Sergius and Bacchus which belonged to the monastery of Hormisdas. Our tour continues with a visit to an underground cistern, consisting of a network of waterways built as far back as the third century B.C., to protect the city against long sieges. Continue to Balat area, another historical part of Istanbul for lunch.

Afterwards, we visit The Patriarchate. Drive to Rustem Pasha Mosque, located at Eminonu close to the Spice Market. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight.

Day 5 Mon, Jun 11: IZMIR. Board our coach and set out for the ancient city of Ephesus, famous in antiquity for its Temple of Diana. During the years of the Roman Empire, the Greek port of Ephesus became the greatest city in Asia Minor. Upon arrival, we follow our guide and enter the ancient site through the Magnesia Gate. Discover innumerable monuments including the Forum, the Odeon, the Library of Celsius, the Thermal Baths of the Scholastika and the Great Theatre built in the Greek era and reconstructed in the Roman period, which is still noted for its remarkable acoustics. View the symbols all around and marvel at the fact that one is still able to read the inscriptions in the ancient Greek language. Walk back to our coach along the Arcadian Way, where once Mark Anthony and Cleopatra rode in procession. Before returning to our ship, we get a cultural taste of Turkey by enjoying an exhibition of oriental carpets or leather goods. Dinner and overnight on-board.

Day 6 Tue, Jun 12: PATMOS. Depart from the port of Scala and enjoy a short drive to the village of Chora, where the Monastery of St. John is built within the walls of a strong fortification. As we walk uphill towards the entrance of the monastery, we marvel at this magnificent structure which was built 900 years ago. View the courtyard, the monks' dining room and the old bakery before visiting the main church noted for its outstanding frescoes and interior decoration. Next, we visit the small museum where priceless ecclesiastical treasures, books, manuscripts, mosaics, icons, splendid medieval textiles, vestments and jewelry are housed. Return to our motor coach and continue to the nearby Grotto of the Apocalypse. Walk down the steps to the grotto of the Apocalypse. Here, we see the niches in the wall that mark the pillow and ledge used as a desk by the Apostle John, author of the Book of the Revelation, and the crack in the rock made by the voice of God honoring the Holy Trinity. Afterwards, we drive back to the port of Scala and enjoy some free time in this quaint and picturesque town. MYKONOS (Optional Tour.) Delos, once a Sacred Island, is the legendary birthplace of the Sun God Apollo and his twin sister Artemis. For 500 years, tiny Delos was the religious & commercial hub of the entire Aegean. Today, the only remaining inhabitants are the keepers of its treasured ruins. Time at leisure to sightsee on our own or sign-up aboard ship for an optional excursion.

Day 7 Wed, Jun 13: RHODES. (Optional Tour.) Drive along the picturesque south-eastern coastline, dotted with white-washed villages, to Lindos, one of the most important of the three great cities of ancient times. See how this entire city is guarded by medieval walls which were constructed by the knights of St. John in the 13th Century. Or choose other excursions available.

Day 8 Thu, Jun 14: CRETE (HERAKLION). Crete is the largest and the most rugged of the Greek islands. It is also the home of the great Minoan Civilization and the mythological home of Zeus. After a short drive through the town of Heraklion, we arrive at the Knossos excavations. Here, Sir Arthur Evans’s archaeological discoveries revealed a civilization dating back to 4000 B.C., when a great empire flourished on the island of Crete. Based on the wealth of artifacts that were found, Evans theorized that this was the site of the ancient Minoan Kingdom. These findings will be viewed in detail, as our guide leads us on a journey of discovery to learn of the sophisticated culture that flourished thousands of years ago on this island. We see the Palace, decorated with frescoes and shields, houses the Hall of the Royal Guard, the Hall of the Double Axes, the King’s Chamber with the alabaster throne, the Queen’s Apartment and beautiful courtyards and shrines. Having visited this remarkable site, our coach takes us back to the Venetian lion-guarded port of Heraklion to rejoin our ship. SANTORINI. (Optional Tour.) Driving along the road, we have the unique opportunity to admire the panoramic view of the Aegean Sea and the neighboring islands. An interesting sight is the various layers of lava that can be seen on the face of the rock, each layer being another phase of the activity of the volcano. Or choose other excursions available.

Day 9 Fri, Jun 15: (PIRAEUS) ATHENS-CORINTH. We disembark our cruise ship and begin a tour of Athens. Visit, among other masterpieces of the “Golden Age,” the Acropolis, the Agora and Mars Hill where Paul taught. Continue to ancient Corinth. Visit the ruins of the ancient city where Paul worked. See the remains of first-century shops, the Agora where Paul was on trial at the Bema, the Fountain of Peirene, Temple of Apollo and visit the museum. Return to Athens. Dinner and overnight at our hotel.

Day 10 Sat, Jun 16: DEPART ATHENS. After breakfast, we transfer to the airport and fly back to the USA—the end of a memorable journey.