

- AN INVITATION TO HEAR -

Biblical Insights *into the* Christmas Narrative

AN EVENING LECTURE WITH

Dr Shahar Shilo

SCHOLAR - RESEARCHER
BIBLICAL HISTORIAN



TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2026



5:30PM - 8:30PM



Oasis Church Colliers Wood
1 to 27 Fortescue Road
Colliers Wood
London SW19 2EA

EVENT INFORMATION

The Israel Tourist Office, together with Oasis Church, are delighted to present a lecture by the esteemed biblical historian, Dr Shahr Shilo.



EVENING TIMETABLE

-  **5.30pm:** Doors open
-  **6.15pm:** Welcome by the Israel Ministry of Tourism
-  **6.30pm:** Start of Lecture
-  **8.00pm:** End of Lecture & Networking
-  **8.30pm:** Close



**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,
PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE CHURCH DIRECTLY
OR EMAIL: roni@goisrael.gov.il**

BIBLICAL INSIGHTS INTO THE CHRISTMAS NARRATIVE

Through archaeology and ancient discoveries, we gain a deeper understanding of the story that changed the world



THE GREAT ISALAH SCROLL

How the Dead Sea Scrolls support Old Testament prophecies of a Messiah and a ruler from Bethlehem



FIRST-CENTURY NAZARETH

Excavations confirm Nazareth was an inhabited village in Jesus' time, consistent with Luke's account



FIRST-CENTURY BETHLEHEM

Archaeological discoveries confirm Bethlehem was inhabited during Jesus' lifetime, as described in Luke



MANGERS

Archaeology and the Greek word kataluma ("guest room") suggest Jesus was likely born in a family home where a stone manger was used



PALACE OF KING HEROD

Remains of Herod the Great's Jerusalem palace near the Jaffa Gate confirm the royal setting described in Matthew, where the Magi met Herod



NABATAEAN INCENSE TRADE

Evidence of the Nabataean Incense Road and trade goods such as frankincense and myrrh shows these valuable gifts were widely available



CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Beneath the Church of the Nativity are first-century caves and the foundations of Constantine's 4th-century basilica, identifying the site as Jesus' birthplace



- MEET -

Dr Shahar Shilo

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Dr Shahar Shilo is a distinguished researcher, historian, and expert tour guide specializing in the biblical history, archaeology, and landscapes of ancient Jerusalem, the Negev Desert and the Judean Desert.

With over 40 years of professional guiding experience and more than 20 years of academic expertise, Dr Shilo has dedicated his career to the study and interpretation of Israel's biblical past. His research and teaching focus primarily on ancient Jerusalem and the biblical desert, combining archaeological evidence, historical scholarship, and biblical sources to provide a comprehensive understanding of the region.

Dr Shilo leads in-depth guided tours and delivers engaging lectures that bring the history of biblical Israel to life.

In addition to his work as a guide and lecturer, Dr Shilo teaches at Ben-Gurion University, where he conducts seminars and professional training programs for licensed tour guides, helping to educate the next generation of tourism professionals.

Renowned for combining academic excellence with compelling storytelling, Dr Shilo offers an enriching experience for visitors, students, and professionals seeking a deeper understanding of the history, archaeology, and biblical heritage of the Land of Israel.