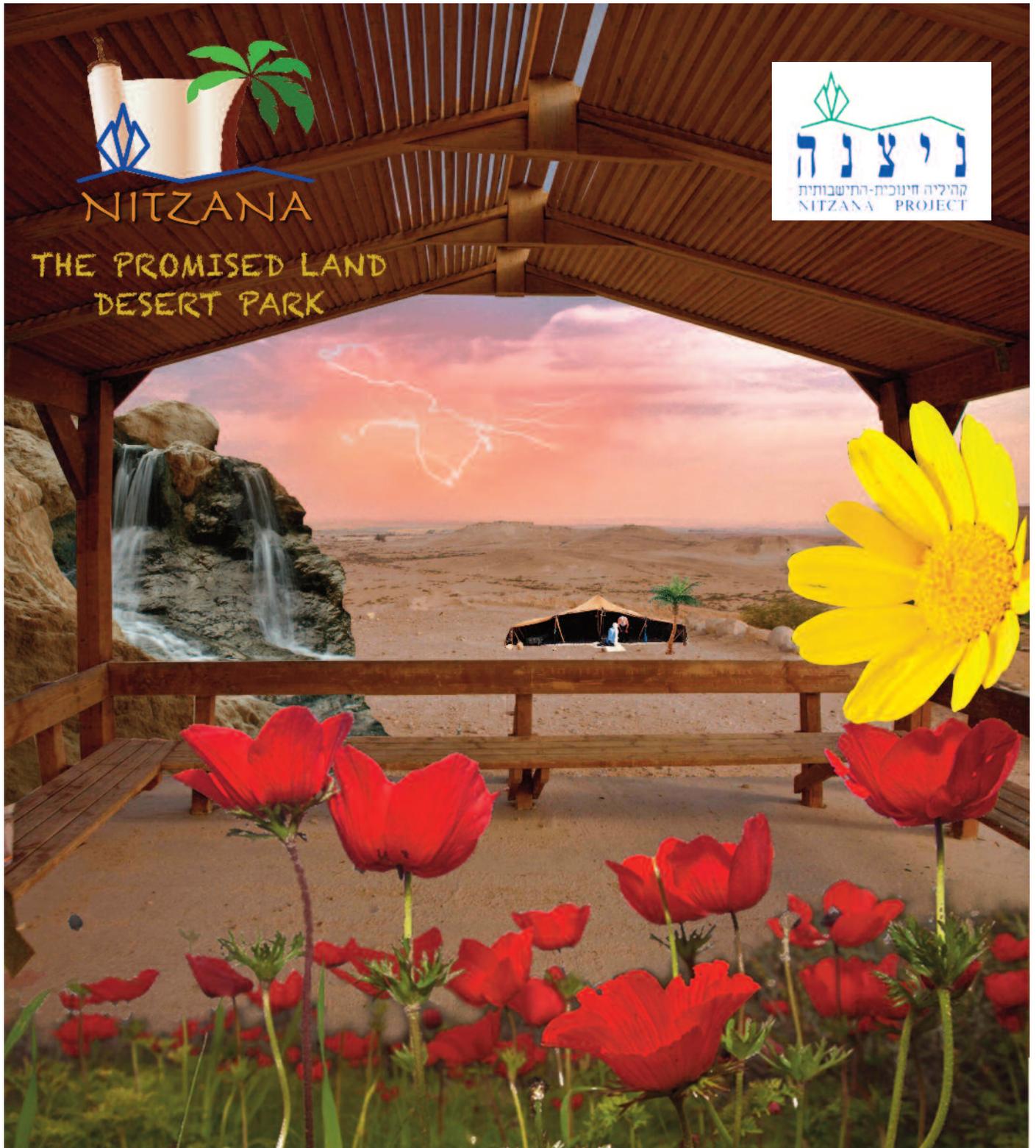


The Promised Land Desert Park

Park Midbari Eretz Ha'mooftahah



Located near the Israeli/Egyptian Peace border in the Sinai desert where so much of early Jewish history began.



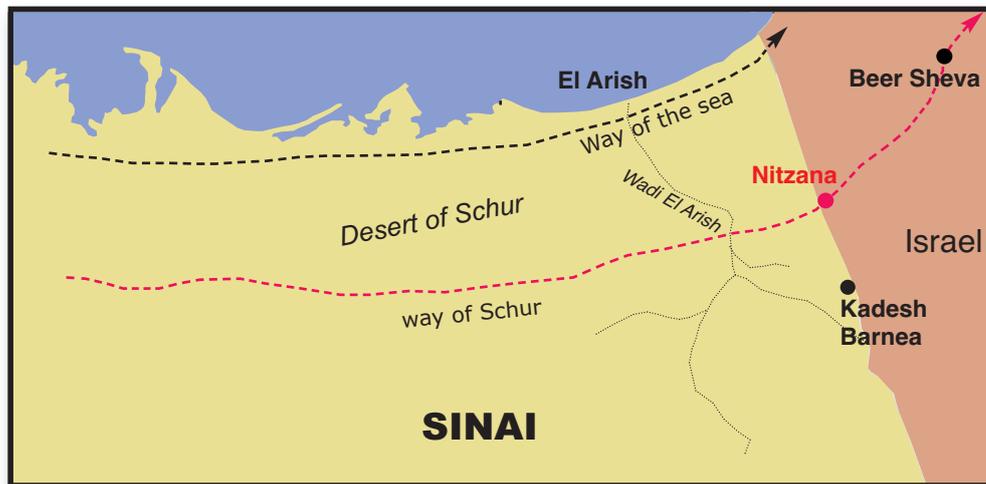
A commemoration park of Biblical events that happened at the ancient gateway of the Promised Land.

The Bible, the world's most famous book and in the eyes of Judaism and Christianity, the most powerful book ever written, also happens to be a living history book of the Jewish people. In it we find events and stories of the Jewish people – past and future. Now you can experience and learn the Bible in a special way.

“Following in the early footsteps of the children of Israel.”

A new park is being built at the Biblical location of The Way of Shur, the place that Abraham sojourned. Kadesh Barnea is also here, the place where the 12 spies were sent out into the land of Canaan to bring back a report. The Rabbis tell us that this is the region where 38 of the 40 years of wandering in the wilderness took place. Intertwined are the events of Moses striking the rock, the bronze serpent incident, the manna that the children of Israel ate for 40 years and more!

The park has a pathway that spans 1.5 kilometers (app.1 mile) with 14 exhibits – starting from the time of Abraham and ending with the Messianic age. The exhibits portrayed in the park have taken place here, in this region. This undertaking will be a great educational tool to help us learn and understand events of the Bible. At each station, an important lesson is imparted and aimed at being thought provoking!



The Way of Shur, the road that Abraham walked and Kadesh Barnea where the 12 spies were sent out from and 38 years of wandering in the wilderness took place.

The park can be toured in several ways:

- Self-guided tour. Groups may bring their own teacher or rabbi.
- Guided tour with specific exhibits and time frame that you request.
- Full Interactive Tour – (Recommended)

This tour includes seeing the entire park with Biblical lessons at each site, enjoying our musical choir, making bread of Pesach, singing the songs of the Bible, enjoying a cool, healthy drink made from an ancient plant and more!

The Bible will come to life as never before!

Rationale



Living in the desert, we find that we must utilize every aspect of our potential. While we have advanced in

education in areas of the desert, ecology, science, agriculture and sports and we have programs for young Israelis, Jewish youth from abroad, foreigners and even refugees that have crossed the border in this area, we have not expounded on the opportunity that lies within our past history and heritage of the region.

Before Jerusalem, there was the wilderness. The region not only holds many Jewish historical events but the prophets point to a time in the future when we will see the desert bloom and streams of water will fill the dry land. As David Thobias wrote in his book, Nitzana, "this is the place where the past meets the future".

The park will draw and be used to educate school groups, religious groups (Jewish and Christian), and Israelis in general.

The park itself will improve the community of Nitzana in beauty and worth. The area used for the park is mostly next to the fence that goes around our community (not big areas of land that could be used for development of houses, etc.)



The Gardens and Landscape

The gardens and plants in the park will be planned in coordination with **David Thobias** (his past profession was a gardener) and the expert staff of the nursery where many of the plants will be bought. Brackish water will be used to water

the trees and plants of the park, thereby reducing the cost of upkeep (1 cubic meter of brackish water is 1 NIS as opposed to sweet water, 1 cubic meter 11 NIS). To cut cost further, we have already planted almost two hundred seedlings of trees and vines that will grow quickly and can be incorporated in the park. We will continue this process until we have approximately 1,000 plants that we will be able to add to the park. These plants will be without cost – only the price of the water for growing them.



Flowers at Nitzana.

Why a memorial park?

In the past, when God gave us holy days to celebrate year after year, He told us specifically that we should remember His great

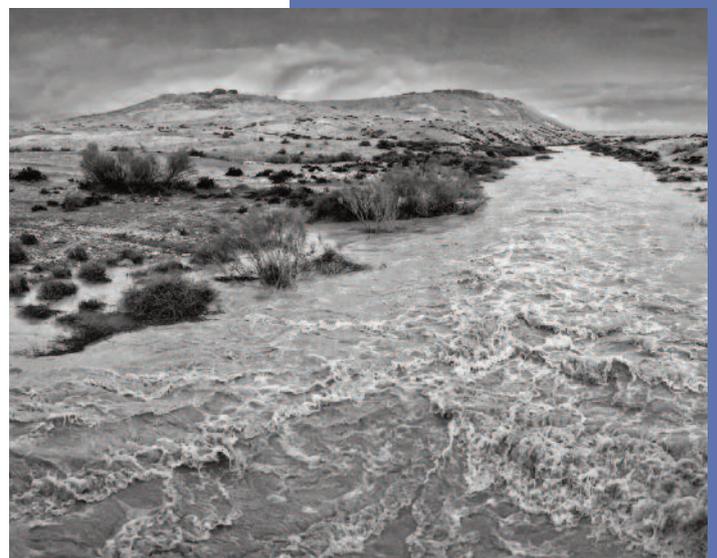
works and to tell our children, so that we would not forget what He has done for us. This park is reinforcing that idea, to help us remember His great works from generation to generation. While there are several other Biblical parks in Israel

teaching about the horticulture and wildlife of the Bible, this park is unique because we are focusing on the desert experience of our past and actually recreating a model of the tabernacle, the rock that Moses struck and brought forth water, the tent of Abraham, the pillar of cloud and fire, the manna that the children of Israel ate for 40 years and much more!

Committees for approving educational material

Two separate committees are needed for reviewing and approving the material

that will be taught in the park. Material will be written by Karen Kellerman and David Thobias. For Christian groups the tour will vary somewhat from the tour for Jewish groups.



Flash flood at Tel Nitzana.

Proposed members of the committee for Christian material:

Professor David Stern, Jerusalem – author of commentary on the entire Bible including the New Testament, author of Jewish Manifesto.

Dean Bye, Canada – Successful businessman now Bible scholar for 20 years, leads tour groups

of Christians on a regular basis in Israel. Dean was physically involved in the return of many Jews from the Former Soviet Union in the 1990's. Professor Thobias, France –

Proposed members of the committee for Jewish material:

David Palmach, Nitzana – Director of Nitzana, studies the Torah and commentaries on a regular basis for many years, has a degree in Israel Studies and is currently taking the Israel Studies course anew.

Knowledgeable not only in Torah and Israel history but also knows plants and animals of Israel (former director of the Southern SPNI).

The Musical Choir

The choir will ideally be made up of 10 people. This will include musically talented volunteers from abroad and musically talented people living at Nitzana. The choir will accompany the tours and help set the mood and ambiance of the stories and lessons at each exhibit. This additional dimension will make the park experience more rich and enjoyable. Songs will be used from the Bible as much as possible. For example when the people cross the Red Sea safely but Pharaoh's army drowns, Miriam sings a song of praise for deliverance and

is joined with the other grateful Israelis. This song will be sung by the choir when explaining that event.

The volunteers from abroad will also act as park keepers (cleaning, watering, building, etc.) when not accompanying tour groups. They will also help with translations of different languages for tour books, brochures and internet correspondence. It will be an international park, open to people from all nations.

Cost

The cost of the park is estimated to cost 1.8 million USD. Each of the 15 exhibits will cost approximately 100,000 USD,

with some exhibits running less and others costing more. Within each station, there will be the exhibit itself and it will include seating at least

nearby for 50 people (one busload). Each station will have large, flat stones for scripture references in Hebrew and English and a map for orientation of the event being taught. Additional cost for parking, 2-3 electric cars for the disabled

or elderly, paving the road with a hard sand texture, tour booklets in other languages, etc. accounts for the rest of the cost. At present we have donations in the amount of 15,000 NIS.

Stations for the Promised Land Desert Park



The Route of the Park

The first station will start at the lookout that is located on the hill above the new neighborhood. From there, the path will continue behind the dining room area, across the street from the Bedouin tents of Nadav Suissa, next to the pool area, around by the solar park, up and over the hill of the northwest side of

Nitzana, on to the Colorado "forest" that is just before the water reclamation classroom, past the water reclamation project towards the red playground and the park will finish just after the guard house located at the front gate.

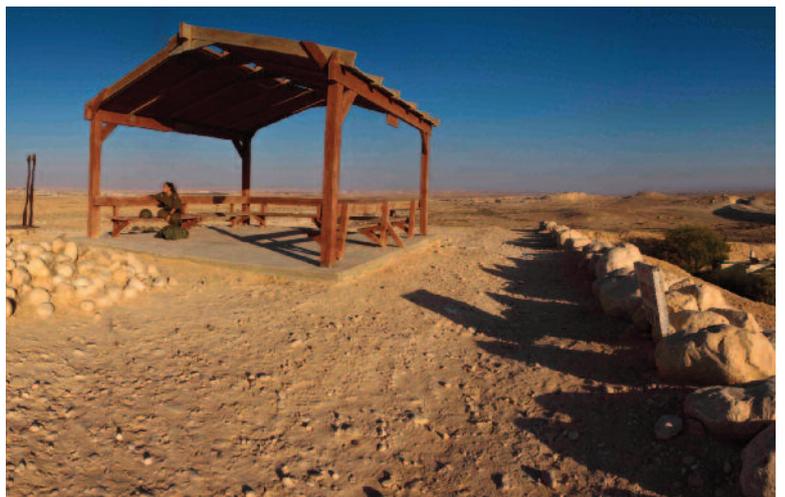


Patriarchal Period

- Station #1 Pergola

Location: Look out over the new neighborhood.

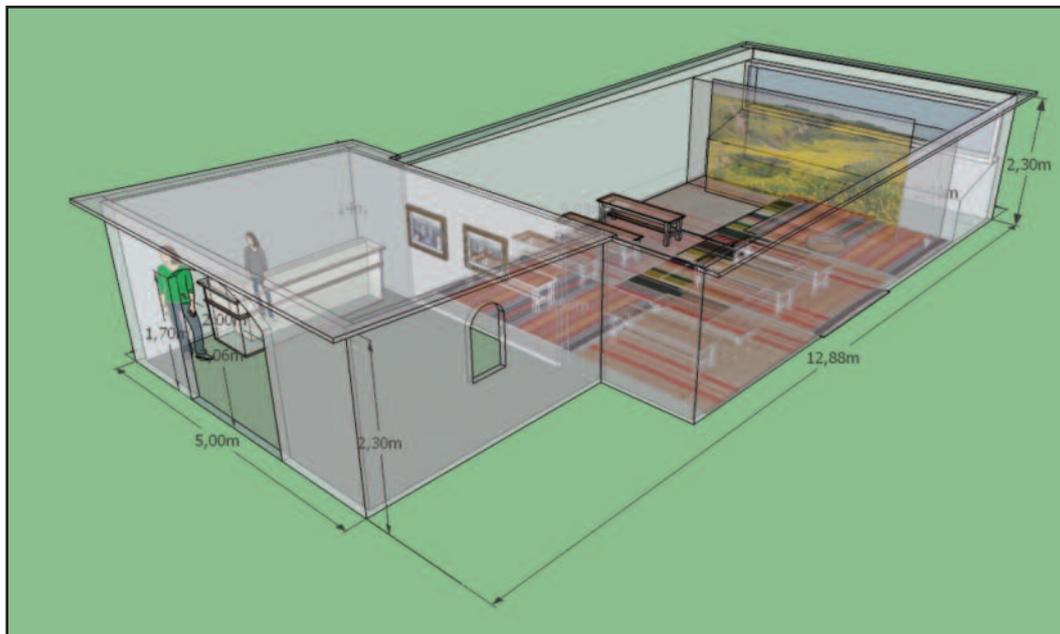
What we will learn: Here we can see the breathtaking view of the Promised Land and learn the reason why the Land is so special. A brief history of the last 2,000 years and where we are today being pioneers once again in our land.



- **Station #2 Welcome Center, octagonal shaped with windows on all sides.**

Location: Look out over the new neighborhood

What we will learn: watch a short Movie that will start the journey back in time, which will show the overview of the tour and teach the geographic importance of this desert location, Nitzana and the Way of Shur.



*Project of welcom center : a building covered with desert mud.
A place for exhibitions and movie.*

- **Station #3 Tent of Abraham**

Location: Behind the dining room

What we will learn: The covenant that God made with Abraham and his descendants, the cutting of the covenant with animals. The beginnings of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob inhabiting the Negev, the different places that they lived. Hospitality of Abraham. Make the link between the desert, past and present.



*The Abraham tent :
Studying the patriarchal way of
life in the desert.*

- **Station #4 Hagar sitting by a fountain of water.**

Location: Behind the dining room, across from the tents of Nadav Suissa.

What we will learn: The story of Hagar, the descendants of Ishmael, the Arabs – brothers of the Jewish people. Water, the importance of water in the desert. Beer Sheba, the wells dug by Abraham and Isaac

Israel in the Desert, the Sinai Period

Presentation and geographical location of the period

- **Station #5 The first Pesach**

Location: Behind the dining room

What we will learn: Reenactment of the first Pesach, leaving Egypt and exploring the 3 possible routes that they took to reach Kadesh Barnea.

- **Station #6 Mount Sinai and the 10 commandments, entering into the covenant.**

Location: On the steep hillside behind the dining room that has the lookout point at the top (next to the olive trees that are planted on the hillside).

What we will learn: The importance and guidelines to the covenant.

- **Lessons from the Torah,**

Location: Same location as station #6

What we will learn: Lessons specifically from the Torah that deal with relationships with our neighbors, strangers, animals and the land and how that links our relationship to God. What makes the holy land – holy? What makes a holy people – holy?

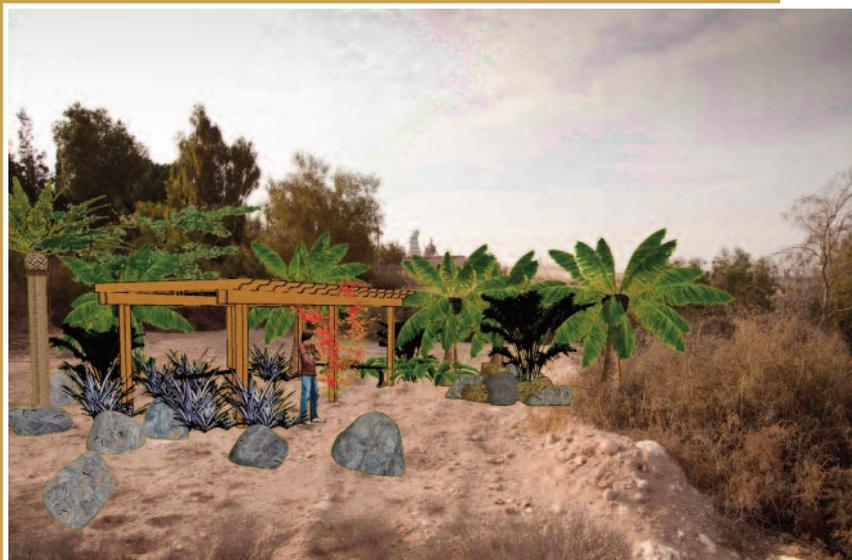
- **Station #7 Kadesh Barnea, an oasis of palm trees and water**

Location: Next to the swimming pool area and across the street from the swimming pool.

What we will learn: The 12 spies being sent for the first time into the Promised Land, the reaction of the people, the decree of 40 years of wandering before being able to enter into the Land.



In front of the swimming pool on the other side of the fence, there is a kind of natural oasis. There vegetation grows.



- **Station #8 The Succa,**

Location: Where the gate is across the street from the solar park parking lot.

What we will learn: The important events that happen in the seventh month throughout the Bible. All of the Jewish holy days (holidays).

- **Station #9 The Tabernacle,**

Location: On the northwest side of Nitzana, just past the Solar Park.

What we will learn: Why the Tabernacle was made and why it was so important. The specific use of each of the elements found in the Tabernacle. The covenant of the Levitical priesthood and also the covenant made with David.



Model of the Tabernacle at Timna in the Arava.

- **Station #10 The experience of wandering for 40 years in the wilderness.**

Location: At the forest of Colorado, just before the water reclamation project.

What we will learn: Forty years of wandering, quail event, manna experience, bronze serpent event, etc.

- **Station #11 The rock that Moses struck.**

Location: The water reclamation classroom

What we will learn: Lessons about water, past, present and future! How to secure rain from God. Explanation of the route, going into the Promised land by way of the Jordan – finally entering in.

The prophetic period

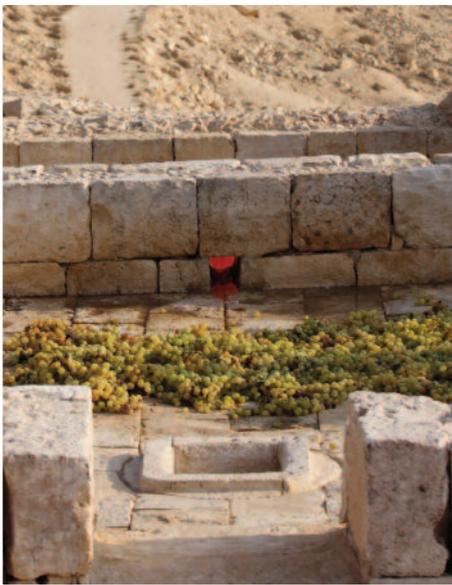
- Station #12 The Messianic period

Location: Out of the village, in the «bustan» of Nitzana.

What we will learn: The future of the desert, geographically, spiritually, who will inhabit it, the landscape, animal life, the change in the universe and the heavens.

- Winepress

What we will learn: How people made wine in the desert. The spiritual reference to the winepress and the wine of wrath. The part that the wine of wrath plays in the future according to the prophets.



Winpress at Avdat and Shivta.

Partner with us to help construct this unique learning environment. We welcome your physical and financial help.

Just as the children of Israel gave freely of their gold, silver and jewelry to help with the construction of the tabernacle when it was being erected in the wilderness – we ask that you be like minded. Since we are dealing with events from the Holy Bible, the park must be first class and with quality construction - in order to give honor to commemoration of these events. Please give freely of your “gold and silver” that we may fulfill the vision that we have for this grand park that will tell the story of the people of the Bible, the Land of the Bible and the great God of the Bible.

Ways That You Can Help

**Send contributions for:
a tree or shrub that will be planted in the park.**

- 50 Euros/USD - 100 Euros/USD - 250 Euros/USD
- 500 Euros/USD - 1,000 Euros/USD _____Euros/USD
- Major Gift Donor 10,000 Euros/USD

Volunteer. Help us to build the park. We need your talent and strength. Meals and accommodations provided.

For Hebrew:

Contact David Palmach

HYPERLINK "<mailto:Davidpal@jafi.org>" Davidpal@jafi.org

For English:

Contact Karen Kellerman

HYPERLINK "<mailto:Kkellerman@ymail.com>" Kkellerman@ymail.com

For French:

Contact David Thobias

HYPERLINK "<mailto:lapida2@orange.fr>" lapida2@orange.fr;