THE ECUMENICAL THEOLOGICAL RESEARCH FRATERNITY IN ISRAEL עמותה אקומנית למחקר תיאולוגי בישראל

POB 249 Jerusalem 91002 Tel/Fax: (972) 2 673 5423 ecu_frat@netvision.net.il w w w . e t r f i . o r g

We invite you to the next webinar in the 2023-2024 research lecture series

Mount Arbel: A Bridge Between Second Temple Judaism and Early Christianity

Dr. John Ben-Daniel

Thursday, 22 February 2024 at 20:00 Israel time, 13:00 New York time, 19:00 Paris time VIA ZOOM

The Ecumenical-Fraternity-Lecture-Series continues with the PowerPoint Presentation of Dr. John Ben-Daniel's recent findings on the settlement of Mount Arbel during some two hundred years of momentous history, between the Hasmonean Period and the writings of the New Testament.

Dr. John Ben-Daniel is a longstanding active member of the Ecumenical Fraternity. Having qualified in medicine (Cambridge and London Universities), he now combines his medical practice in Jerusalem with studies in Scripture and archaeology, and has published several books, most recently *The Essenes of Mount Arbel and Jerusalem: Origins, History and Influence* (2023). With his wife Gloria, he has co-authored *The Apocalypse in the Light of the Temple* (2003), *Saint John and the Book of Revelation: From Essenes to End-Times* (2019), and *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary in the Light of the Temple* (2024). He is a member of the Enoch Seminar.

While visiting the Arbel National Park with his wife in 2019, their attention was caught by some ancient ruins. There, near the Sea of Galilee, two miles southwest of Magdala, they came across a dense collection of more than 100 caves, carved into the cliff, adjacent to a huge cave once protected by an ancient wall.

This is how Dr. Ben-Daniel introduces this lecture: "In 1989, Dr. Zvi Ilan was the first Israeli archaeologist to investigate the site, which he dated to 100 BCE and called the 'Arbel cave village'. Apart from the many cisterns and miqva'ot, he was fascinated by the large cave and intended to excavate it, but died the following year. Apart from a brief report in Prof. Uzi Leibner's survey (2009), no other archaeological work has been conducted here. The search continues for a satisfactory explanation for the existence of the Arbel cave village.

In my lecture, I would like to take you on a PowerPoint tour of Mount Arbel, to set the scene for a new perspective on this ancient site, one which turns out to be an important bridge between Second Temple Judaism and Early Christianity. The most complete account of this research and its ramifications can be found in *The Essenes of Arbel and Jerusalem* published in 2023 by Enigma Press (for further details please contact enigma@post.pl or click on that title at www.newtorah.org)."

We are looking forward to your presence and participation in this upcoming Zoom presentation. To register click HERE.

Yours Fraternally,

Rev. Dr. Petra Heldt ETRFI General Secretary

Jewish-Christian relations since 1966