



The Church to which twelve different nations contributed, each being represented by different domes which form the roof. It is cared for by the Franciscan Fathers. To the left can be seen the Garden of Gethsemane.

Land of Mohab." The surrounding land for two or three miles inland appeared white with salt. At a considerable distance from the shore, dwarfed shrubs bearing the "Sodom Apple" instantly reminded us of a product suitable as the only emblem of the accursed vegetation.

The heat was intense and the flies were still in abundance as we drove on to Jericho; to our right and before us could be seen the "Mountain of Temptation," so beautiful, with a dignity and stateliness of its very own. To the west and above all intervening mountain tops, we could see in the distance the Mount of Olives on which stands, at the uppermost spot, the tall tower of the Russian Church of the Ascension. At last we were on our way through the gloomy pass which was chosen for the parable of the Good Samaritan, and soon we reached Bethany. The little Greek church of Mary and Martha was visible in the distance, its dome of pale blue was easily recognised. The few houses in this village were small and of lowly estate and we did not wonder why a suburb of Jerusalem should have been chosen for the home of our Lord in His early days.

By this time we noticed that we were climbing, and before us Jerusalem appeared to be situated on a high hill and above all else. At 6.15 we had arrived at our destination and there at the local hotel, Miss Wood, Matron of St. John's Hospital, and the Warden, Commander Gurd, greeted us. Arrangements had been made to ensure that we would rest but our visit was short and every moment was precious. What could be more fitting than to attend the evening service at St. George's Cathedral which would commence in fifteen minutes! This was accepted and our prayers were of thankfulness for the privilege of visiting the Holy Land.

Next morning we set off early with the Parish Priest, the Reverend Ronald Brownrig, of St. George's Cathedral, whose sincerity and philosophy made us realise from the beginning, the full beauty and spiritual significance of the habitat of our Lord. We visited the "Mount of Olives." This hill, filled with memories, immediately impresses one and recalls the endless events which did take place there. The betrayal of Judas Iscariot and the words "Sleep on now, and take your rest, behold the hour is at hand" instantly spring to the mind, for was not the Mount of Olives that very hillock where the Son of God commenced His sorrowful way to Calvary?

The tower of the Russian church of the Ascension on the top of the Mount of Olives gave us a very excellent view of Jerusalem and its surrounding hills. Even the Dead Sea could be seen in the distance and our instructor, in simple language, went over the Old and New Testaments, leaving us with a vivid short history of Jerusalem and its people.

At midday we made for Gethsemane. Here was indeed "peace" for within this garden, so well cared for by the Franciscan Fathers, stand eight olive trees. Their trunks are strong, one measuring nearly eight yards in circumference. They cluster together in that sacred garden and shade with an almost fatherly care, the endless variety of flowers which entirely surround them. Youth and age were never more appropriately represented, we felt completely at peace in this lovely spot. To the left stood the Church of All Nations which is characterised by its twelve domes representing the countries which contributed to it. Within it is very beautiful, perhaps its decoration and altar are simpler than most and from its entrance one looks over to the "Golden Gate" forming part of the wall of the temple area, and through which, it is said, Christ rode

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