

which dispelled all his Jewish prejudices and antipathies, opened up to his enlarged mind the truth of the universal equality of all God's human family, and sent him down, not merely to go without gainsaying to the Roman centurion, whose messengers were even then knocking at the gate, but ever thereafter to recognize in every one an equal in God's sight and in Christ's love and ransom.

During the Crusades, Jaffa was a place of great importance, and had very varying fortunes, held sometimes by Paynim and sometimes by Christian, taken and retaken, destroyed and rebuilt again and again; and, at their close, was a desolate heap—not a habitable house remaining. In the Napoleonic wars it was taken by the French. The blackest crime on the memory of Napoleon was enacted here. He shot on the strand four thousand Albanians who had surrendered on promise of safety; and when obliged to retreat, poisoned five hundred of his own soldiers, who were sick in the plague-hospital.

The town occupies a splendid position on the slopes of a low hill, and, approached from the sea, has a very beautiful appearance. Away to right and left of it stretch the sandy shores where the fertile plain of Sharon meets the blue Mediterranean; while inland, in ever loftier undulations, rise the hills of Judea, culminating in the mountains which are round about Jerusalem.

But it is time to go ashore. Here are the boats already alongside, manned by the swarthy boatmen, whose strange garb and violent vociferations attract sufficient notice. How those boats rock, it is enough to make one sea-sick to look at them! How can we ever get on board them or trust them for the long and unquiet row to the shore! But there is no other way, and we may indeed be thankful that we can land at all. Another hour or two of this swell and we should have to bid good-bye to Jaffa, as many a traveller has done, and submit to be carried many miles farther on to Haifa or Beyrout. A few moments of misery in the stern sheets of the rocking boat, as she takes in her complement of passengers; an interval of relief, as the sturdy rowers propel her shorewards, or dash through an ugly-looking gap in the reef of ragged rocks which forms the only harbour; and in a few minutes more the jetty is reached, and we set foot in the Holy Land. Then through a narrow, dingy street, opening into a wider sort of market-place, among a mixed assemblage of donkeys, camels, and busy, noisy Easterns of various shapes and sizes; we drove a quarter of a mile beyond the town, to where,