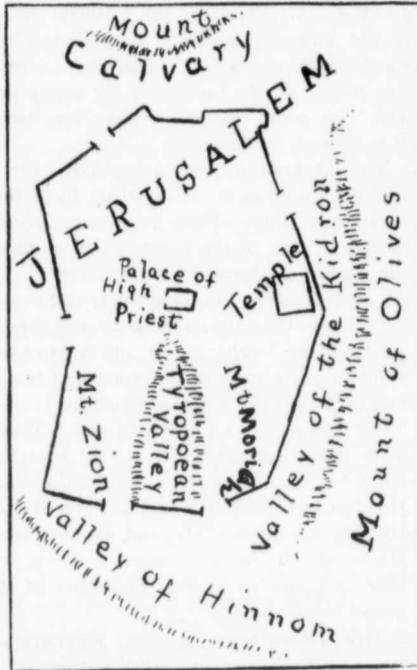


THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON

By Rev. J. M. Duncan, D.D.



Facing Jerusalem on the east and separated from it by the Kidron Valley, is the range of hills known as Olivet or the Mount of Olives. On one of its summits called "The Ascension" stands the Church of the Ascension. This summit is reached from the valley below by three roads or paths, a central one leading straight up the hill and the other two turning aside to the north and south, respectively, for the sake of an easier ascent. The roads join at a bridge over the Kidron close to the Garden of Gethsemane, and lead to St. Stephen's Gate just north of the temple site. The Mount of Olives was called the Mountain of Three Lights: (1) on account of the fire from the temple altar lighting it up at night; (2) from the first beams of the sun lighting up the summit; (3) from the olive oil which it produced for lighting the lamps of the temple. In the days of Jesus the range was covered with olives, pines, myrtles and palms, and its verdure and fresh mountain breeziness must have made a grateful contrast to the close and foul city atmosphere. But during the siege of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70, these trees were destroyed, and the once beautiful hillsides were left bare and desolate.

ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

Some Test Questions

[NOTE: These Questions are not intended for use in the class, but as samples of questions by which the teacher may test the thoroughness of his own preparation of the Lesson. He will also find it of great advantage to be familiar with the Questions set for the scholars in the HOME STUDY, INTERMEDIATE, and PRIMARY, QUARTERLIES and LEAFLETS. The scholars should be encouraged to use these as a guide in their study of the Lesson.]

1. What commission did Jesus give to His disciples before His ascension?
2. By whom, and about what date, was the Acts of the Apostles written? What story does it tell?
3. Explain "former treatise". Who was Theophilus? When did Jesus begin His work on earth? Through whom is He continuing that work?
4. To whom did Jesus give commandments? In whose power were they to be obeyed? Explain "apostles".

5. How often did the risen Jesus show Himself? What length of time intervened between His resurrection and ascension?
6. For what did He bid the disciples wait in Jerusalem?
7. What is meant by "the kingdom of God"? Mention some of the points on which the risen Jesus gave instruction to His disciples.
8. What question did the disciples ask? What was their idea of Jesus' kingdom?
9. How did Jesus treat their request for information? What promise did He make to them?
10. In what manner did Jesus depart? Who appeared to the disciples? In what manner did the angels say Jesus would come again?
11. Whither did the disciples return? For what did they wait? In what did they occupy their time?