# Baptist Banner

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Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Ps.60:4

VOL. 16, NO. 11

GOODLETTSVILLE, TENN. 37072

APRIL, 1982

#### THE OLD LIFE CONTRASTED WITH THE NEW



"But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Romans 8:11

<del>\*</del>

## Japan Missionary Report

### MAPLE GROVE CHURCH HELPING TELECAST

Maple Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Scottsville Rd., Lafayette, Tenn. has sent out letters to sister churches asking for donations to assist in the purchase of additional television equipment that will improve the films and the televising of all the telecasts. Many are working at present in the various areas of this work with telecasts reaching from East to West and from North to South in America. We are now being offered opportunities to telecast overseas to 1,600,000 homes. This will be considered in the future.

Donations on the above named project can be mailed to Maple Grove Baptist Church, c/o Dean Dyer, Treas., 506 Birch St., Lafayette, TN 37083. If there are any questions, call one of the following: Willie Petty, (615) 666-4334; Dean Dyer, (615) 666-2242; Don Curtis, (615) 644-2296. Done in Business Meeting Feb. 13, 1982.

Maple Grove Baptist Church Don Curtis, Moderator Hollis McDonald, Clerk We are sending you our Christian greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from Hiroshima, Japan.

We have read the news in the newspaper and have watched TV news of cold waves



attacking USA many a time, though most news were from Chicago, New York, Washington and even from Florida, but (Continued on Page 2)

## Revivals

SUNDAY - APRIL 4

Salem Missionary Baptist Church, Portland Highway, Gallatin, Tenn. Pastor C. L. (Dee) Russell is to be assisted by Elder Harold D. Linville. Services each night at 7:00 P.M. The public is invited to attend.

SUNDAY - APRIL 11

Lyons Missionary Baptist Church, 904 Gagel Ave., Louisville, Ky. Pastor D. C. Barton is to be assisted by Elder L. W. Smith. Services on Sunday nights at 6:00 P.M. and on week-nights at 7:30 P.M. Everyone is invited.

SUNDAY - APRIL 18

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 1080 Old Dickerson Pike, Goodlettsville, Tenn. Pastor H. C. Vanderpool is to be assisted by Bro. Horace Head. Services nightly at 7:15 P.M. Everyone is invited.

## BOOKS

You are invited to write to the address below, or call the listed number, to receive a nice brochure with over 150 books listed. Many of these are reprints of old books that have been out of print for a long time. Write and ask for the brochure of their books. (615) 452-7027 Write To:

CHURCH HISTORY
RESEARCH AND
ARCHIVES
220 Graystone Drive
Gallatin, TN 37066

## \*\***\***

WINE

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1). By J. H. Smith

In the second chapter of Ephesians there is a vivid presentation of the old life of sin, without Christ, and the new life in Him; and the contrast between the two. The apostle points out what the Ephesians were in times past and what a change had been wrought since they had been quickened, or made alive, in Christ Jesus; and he makes it very clear that it was God's grace that had



brought these people into this new relationship, "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace are ye saved;)" Ephesians 2:5. Away from Christ a person is dead spiritually, dead to Divine things, whether it be Jew or Gentile; and Paul includes both when he said, "Even when WE were dead in sins, hath quickened US together with Christ." A point of emphasis in this chapter seems to be to help these Ephesians to look back and see what they were, and to look again now and see what you are. "Count your many blessings, and see what God has done." And this is what the Lord would have you and me to do also.

## THEIR PAST LIFE WITHOUT CHRIST

"And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins." What was it about their past life that was (Continued on Page 2)

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**★★★★** 

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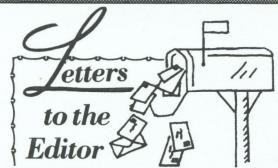
## OLD AND NEW LIFE

(Continued from Page 1)

brought to their attention? It was DEATH, dead in trespasses and sins. When Adam sinned, he brought death. "The wages of sin is death," Romans 6:23. The sinner is cut off from the very source of life because of his sins, his sins separate him

from God, and this is what Paul is telling the Ephesians about, look at your spiritual state before you were quickened, or made alive with Christ Jesus.

Again, look at your past, "Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." Every man in his natural state



The BANNER letters from readers this month have been from California, Missouri, Idaho, Tennessee, Indiana, West Virginia, Kentucky, Japan, Ohio and Virginia. We appreciate every letter. Thanks to all of you!

-Editor

walks after the course of this world, not according to God's course, this is the way he is inclined, because he has nothing on the inside to steer him in any other course. He is dead to spiritual values. So he doesn't follow God, he has no desire to follow Him. He may have a religion, and may even be active in church, but he doesn't do it because he loves God. There is another motive.

In Ephesians 2:2 we look again as to the course they had followed before their conversion. "According to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience, or unbelief." The prince of the power of the air is none other than the devil. So the sinner follows this master, the devil. and the devil makes him an easy prey. Jesus said to some selfrighteous Pharisees, who were sinners but didn't realize it, "Ye are of your father, the devil, and the lusts of your father will ye do." They thought that God was their father, but Jesus reminded them that it wasn't so. They were following and pleasing, doing the lusts, of their father, the devil; and of course they couldn't follow two masters (Matthew 6:24).

Then Paul reminds them of their conversation, manner of life, in times past. He speaks of the children of disobedience. verse 2, "Among whom we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of the flesh and of the mind: and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others." Two points to remember here: 1. Our conversation, our conduct, before being changed by His marvelous grace, or having been quickened together with Christ, he says was in the lusts of the flesh and of the mind. Notice, Paul includes himself, the Ephesians, and all of us, all on a common level, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; 2. "and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others." All who are without Christ are children of wrath, and this means, all are subject to the wrath of God. The wrath of God is against all ungodlessness (Romans 1:18). Jesus said of the unbeliever: "And he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 3:36.

Again Paul would have these people to remember the past, how dark it was for them before they heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ: "Wherefore remember, that ye being in times past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world." Ephesians 2:11,12. The worst of all, they were without Christ. Men without Christ are in total darkness, they have no hope, and are without God in this world, and they will always be without Christ. These Ephesians being Gentiles, heathens, they were even without the light of the Old Testament, they were strangers from the covenants of promise. So their past life was very bleak indeed, until the light of the glorious Gospel shined unto them.

#### THEIR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

The new relationship of the Ephesians that they had in Christ speaks of one coming out of a state of death into life; as the apostle said, "And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins." The dead man is brought to life, he now knows what it is to pass from death to life; the darkness is past and the true light now shineth (1 John 2:8). Not only is the dead man quickened, but he is raised up, and made to sit together with Christ in heavenly places, "And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." Ephesians 2:6. Christ was raised up, actually, bodily, and He lives to never die, and we are raised up, spiritually to sit together with Him in the spiritual sphere. Because of our union with Him we enjoy heavenly blessings, we are with Him in this sense, and some day we shall be by Him where He is now; He is in heaven sitting at the right hand of the Father, the very same Jesus who was crucified, rose from the grave and ascended back to heaven.

The Ephesians were at the time of Paul's letter a saved people, who were in time past lost, they had been aliens, strangers, and that thought has already been mentioned. Notice. now, "For by grace are ye saved, have ye been saved (revised version), through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is a gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8,9. Having the experience of being saved, or having been saved, is something so wonderous that we might tell it through a life time, and never explain the height, depth, length, and the breadth of this salvation: it is indeed indescribable, unspeakable and full of glory! The salvation that

(Continued on Page 3)

## REPORT FROM JAPAN

(Continued from Page 1)

not from Tennessee. We hope you and readers of the Banner well in His wonderful care in this cold winter season. We also have cold weather, but not extremely cold one like we had last year. My family and I, and our people are fine and are doing fine for the Lord, for which we are thankful.

We have so many things to write you and to share with you rejoicing in the Lord. I just don't know where to start. I wish I could tell you of them all at a time. I want you to know we are happy in the services of the Lord by being protected with His almighty power when we carry the word of God out in this pagan land of Japan.

I am looking forward to be with brethren this coming May. With my family, if possible. I have plans to come to our dear Baptist friends in Tennessee and Kentucky before I go on to Owatonna, Mn. to meet my son Luke at the commencement of Pillsbury Baptist Bible College on May 13th. He has found good fathers and mothers in our American friends for past four years, for which we are thankful, and which will be long remembered among our people. I will make all the money needed for the trip. And I will be staying at Mr. & Mrs. Bill Petty's, 508 Jackson Ave., Carthage, Tenn. 37030. Phone: 615-735-0497. I love to see as many as people I can, who supported me for past years. I may be in Colorado and Oregon on my way home to Japan. We ask you pray also for the trip.

Following is the report of donations received for the fourth quarter of 1981. I really appreciate those who supported our work for the Lord.

Oct. - Plunketts Creek Baptist, Carthage, Tenn. \$392.49; Kokomo Baptist, Kokomo, Indiana, \$125.35; North Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$192.73; East Side Baptist and Eld. & Mrs. Walter V. Deweese, Franklin, Ky., \$275.00; Faith Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$70.36; Pleasant Hill Baptist, Portland, Tenn., \$250.00; South Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$142.55; Calvary Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$50.00; Mt. Tabor Baptist, Pleasant Shade, Tenn., \$93.14; Beckwith Baptist, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., \$75.00. Total \$1,666.62.

Nov. - North Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$167.78; Plunketts Creek Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$383.70;

(Continued on Page 3)

## REPORT FROM JAPAN (Continued from page 2)

Faith Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$59.21; South Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$116.29; Calvary Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$50.00. Total \$776.98.

Dec. - Plunketts Creek Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$394.66; North Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$180.39; East Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$112.27; Gay's Chapel Baptist, Statesville, N.C., \$50.00; Hartsville Baptist, Hartsville, Tenn., \$500.00: Beckwith Baptist, Mt. Juliet, Tenn., \$75.00 & \$75.00; Mr. & Mrs. C. P. Jacobs, Nashville, Tenn., \$25.00; Elder & Mrs. James H. Smith, Nashville, Tenn., \$50.00; Elder & Mrs. Walter V. Deweese, Franklin, Ky., \$250.00; East Side Baptist, Franklin, Ky., \$314.00; Calvary Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$50.00; Faith Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$75.28; South Carthage Baptist, Carthage, Tenn., \$162.75 Total \$2,314.35.

To Koi Baptist Church -

Oct. - McFerrin Baptist. Nashville, Tenn., \$89.45; Mt. Calvary Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$20.00; Lyons Baptist, Louisville, Ky., \$200.00. Total \$309.45.

Nov. - McFerrin Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$89.45; Mt. Calvary Baptist, Nashville, Tenn. \$20.00: New Friendship Baptist, Russell Springs, Ky., \$483.95; McFerrin Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$74.05. Total \$667.45.

Dec. - Summer Shade Baptist, Summer Shade, Ky., \$45.00; Mt. Calvary Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$20.00; McFerrin Baptist, Nashville, Tenn., \$83.32. Total \$148.32.

Thank you for your concern in us. We have no debt or no unpaid bills. Lord provided all our expenses and we have a good standing among these pagan people of the land. By the grace of the Lord, we are what we are now.

We will keep praying for all of you.

Yours sincerely in His name, Koji Tajima & family

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#### WINE

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1).

"Look not upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder" (Proverbs 23:31,32).

## JUST A LITTLE NOTE

Judging from what I hear, and by the reference that some of our friends make when we meet, there seems to be a view that I am in ill health. The last time that I had a complete physical by our doctor he said that I was in perfect health. I do have a hearing problem that causes me some difficulty, and I was in the hospital for four days, the doctor gave me a test that he thought might help. I can't tell that it helped any, not as yet, but I was willing to give it a try. But I wasn't sick. In fact, they at the hospital brought me a full meal each time, and I cleaned it all up, and could have eaten more. I am still able to preach and want to preach every opportunity I get, I intend to do so, by His grace, as long as I am in this world. I have not retired from preaching. I gave up my work at Mt. Calvary because I thought it was time. I never had one opposing vote the six years I was pastor, and I believe I still have the love and respect of my church. The church called Brother D. W. Story for our pastor, and I fully believe that he was God's choice. We love our pastor and pray for his good success at Mt. Calvary.

J. H. Smith

### OLD AND **NEW LIFE**

(Continued from Page 2)

these people had experienced wasn't something of their making, it was a gift of God and not of works, lest they should be boasting. Grace is a free gift of God, an unmerited favor. So the boasting is about what Christ has done, it is His merits, what He wrought when He made that sacrifice of Himself on the cross; and God forbid that we should rob Him of the honor that is so justly due Him.

Paul reminds the Ephesians that they have a new citizenship, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;" Ephesians 2:19. First of all, they had been made citizens of heaven, as the apostle writes in another place, "For our citizenship is in heaven; whence also we wait for a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ," (Standard Revised Version) I am indeed proud of my citizenship in this great country of ours, The United States of America, and all of us should be, but I will one day cease to be a citizen of my country here, for I am not here to stay forever; but I have a citizenship in my Father's Commonwealth in heaven, and this I will never lose. The Ephesians had been delivered from their heathenism, they were no more strangers and foreigners, but citizens with the saints.

The Ephesian Church here must be represented as a commonwealth also, and they were citizens with the saints there. It is also called a household, a family, hence a great body of fellowship. They were built upon a good foundation, "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner Stone." In other words, they were built upon the Truth of God and Jesus, the Chief in the building, the force that holds it together. This great church was a habitation of God through the Spirit, "In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Ephesians 2:20-22. A true church is a divine institution, it is His place to dwell, through the Spirit, upon this earth; and as we think upon this, we are reminded of how sacred a place it is and how careful we need to treat a church of the Lord Jesus Christ. But I have known people who seem to think nothing of trying to tear his church apart. It is God's Temple, as Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile, (destroy, in the margin) him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." I Corinthians 3:16,17. I believe that there are people in their graves today because they tried to destroy the church where they were members.

Let us notice, again, in conclusion, what a contrast there is between what these Ephesians were in the past, in their heathenism, idolatry, and what they became to be by God's marvelous grace. This kind of salvation is for all who will take heed to the Gospel call to repent of sin, and put their faith, their trust in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## THE LORD'S DAY

It's almost time to go to church, what should I do? I'm very tired. It's been a long, hard week and I need rest to be able to work next week. Maybe . . . I will just stay home and relax this Sunday. I won't be missed. It will be the same ritual as usual, a couple of songs, prayer, the pastor's sermon. There isn't anything I can do to make it a better service. So I will just stay home today.

Why do I feel so uncomfortable? Am I coming down with a cold? Do I need to go back to bed? What is this feeling in my breast? I know I should go to church. But . . . Maybe I'll get ready and see if I can make it to church today.

In my car, on my way to church, I do feel a little better ... wonder why? Not long ago I felt so ill, much too tired to go anywhere. As I walk up the steps into church, it feels good to see all my friends and loved ones coming together this Lord's day. How good it is to see each of them, to shake hands, and fellowship together. I do feel much better!

The service begins as I take my seat. We are singing the hymns as usual, the offering is taken, another song, then prayer, and now the pastor is preaching. Nothing unusual is happening, it's the same as always, but . .

What is this feeling in my breast? What is this joy I feel? The words from the pulpit are not new, but within me there is more understanding. I see my Savior . . . loving, kind, merciful, extending his hand to the lost in the congregation. I feel I should pray for them, ask God to help come to Him for salvation. He gives me food for my soul that I may be strengthened for the coming week and as I bow my head, I know I am in God's presence.

Thank you, dear Lord, that I am here today. You said, forsake not to gather yourselves together on the Lord's day as the manner of some is, that we may worship and serve you. THIS IS THE LORD'S DAY, let us rejoice and be glad in it. He gave His life on the Cross of Calvary and the veil of the temple was rent in twain, that I may enter into the Holy of Holies to speak directly to Him, to offer myself a living sacrifice to Him, that I may receive salvation.

'Thank you, dear Lord, for giving me this Lord's day that I may come to your house to worship and praise you. Help me to be in your presence each Lord's day to receive my needs, to praise and worship you in spirit and truth. This is a privilege most precious. Help me, Lord, to always be faithful to take my place before your throne of grace. Amen.'

> Arvella Stapleton 1129 Lewis Avenue Rossford, OH 43460



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### **BIBLE LANDS TOUR**

(Tentative Date) OCTOBER 24, 1983

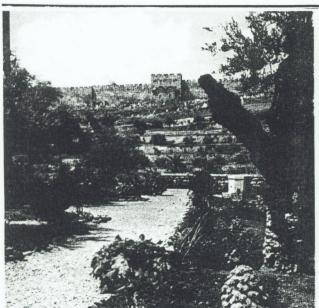
Due to the request of several of my past tour members, and the interest of new ones, I plan, the Lord willing, to host my 7th Bible Lands Tour beginning on the above tentative date. The reason this much time is given before departure time is, some of those making plans to travel with us must make vacation plans almost a year in advance with their employer.

Countries to be visited, including the Holy Land, will be made known as soon as possible, along with cost and accommodations. THIS IS THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME!

Those who feel that they want to travel with us, and will be making those plans, would do me a service, as well as themselves, to fill out the Form below and mail to me as soon as possible. Those who wish to plan this vacation may plan on about ten days (Oct. 24 - Nov. 2).

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am enclosing a filled out form for each one. \_\_\_ MAIL TO: BIBLE LANDS TOUR Pastor H. C. Vanderpool, Host P. O. Box 1001 Goodlettsville, TN 37072 Phone: (615) 859-5780





THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

## Baptist

32 Years Ago April, 1950 By the late Elder Calvin Gregory 1891-1957

On last Sunday, April 30, at New Bethel Baptist Church, which is located near Goodlettsville, a largely attended ordination service took place when Brethren Albert Crouch, Clemons Gregory, Herbert Vanderpool and Levie Smith were set apart to the full work of the ministry. The ordaining Presbytery was composed of 19 ministers and 47 deacons from 32 churches. The pastor, Elder W. T. Russell, was chosen as Moderator of the Presbytery, with Elder P. H. Brooks as clerk or secretary. The sermon for the occasion was delivered by Elder Henry Smith, who is to leave soon for foreign mission work in Japan.

The pastor of the church presented the candidates for ordination to the Presbytery. The interrogation was given by Elder F. W. Lambert. The ordaining prayer was offered by Elder F. L. Ray, followed with the laying on of hands. The charges were delivered by Elders Edgar Brown and C. B. Massey. The presentation of the bible by Elder M. Riley Drury, brought the service to a close.

The four brethren ordained to the ministry are very promising young preachers and give evidence of developing into highly useful ministers. Gregory and Smith are natives of

## History



this county, Gregory being the grandson of W. C. (Dock) Gregory, and Smith being the son of Milford Smith, of R. 3, Lafayette. He is also a brother of Elder Henry Smith, who has recently resigned as pastor of Maple Grove Church, near Lafayette; of Drake's Creek Church, near Franklin, Ky.; and of McFerrin Avenue Baptist Church in Nashville, to go to Japan shortly as a missionary. He is to be accompanied by his wife. On Sunday he was given a free will offering of about \$250 at the ordination. Elder Frank Carr, of New Middleton, Smith County, will also go to Japan soon, possibly on the same ship with Elder and Mrs. Smith.

A crowd estimated at perhaps 800 persons attended the ordination. A fine dinner on a long wire table was spread at the noon hour.

New Bethel is one of the oldest Baptist Churches in Middle Tennessee, having been organized in 1794. It was first called White's Creek Church and has been a continuous existence since its formation 156 years ago.

-Macon County Times NOTE: (New Bethel is now 188 years old.)

If you want the Church to go, you much go to Church.

## MISSION

There is a new Missionary Baptist Mission at 114 Plymouth Avenue, New Plymouth, Idaho. This is in the V.F.W. Hall, and services are conducted each Sunday at 7:00 P.M. Bro. Joe Morgan is the mission pastor. The work is sponsored by Oak Forest Missionary Baptist Church #2, Scottsville, Kentucky.

Anyone having friends or relatives living in the New Plymouth, Idaho or Ontario, Oregon areas, please notify them of this mission. Correspondence may be sent to Bro. Joe Morgan, General Delivery, New Plymouth, Idaho 83655. You may call him at: (208) 278-5300.

### NEWS FROM OREGON

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I am a member of Hauser Missionary Baptist Church at Hauser, Oregon. During the ordination service of Brother Larry Ross and the following day of fellowship with the sister churches, the Lord reminded me of just what He had given me. If it be the Lord's will I would like to share it with all the fellow Christians who read the Baptist Banner. Here it is.

#### JUST REMEMBERING FROM GOD

I was raised to believe on God's holy word.

Many times I prayed to Him when I was a little girl.

But I didn't know what saving grace was

Until one night at an altar of prayer.

All I had to offer Him was brokenness and strife.

All I had to offer Him was sin in my life.

But He came into my very soul

And brought me out of darkness into light.

What He offered me was His life on the cross.

What He offered me was blessed happiness.

No. I'll never forget the burden He did lift

And that is why this is one battle I'll never quit.

Patricia Ann Conyers February 7, 1982

## ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ A Recipe for Life

1 cup - good thoughts

I cup - kind deeds

1 cup - consideration for others

3 cups - forgiveness

2 cups - well-beaten faults

Mix thoroughly, add tears of joy, sorrow and sympathy for others. Fold in four cups prayer and faith to lighten other ingredients and raise the texture to great heights of Christian living.

## GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

The Garden of Gethsemane is one of the most impressive sites to see in the Holy Land. It lies at the foot of the Mount of Olives. It appears today as it was twenty centuries ago. On the opposite hill across the Kidron Valley, city followed city, but this garden is still kept almost as it was at the time of Jesus with maybe the same olive trees. St. John spoke of it as a garden over the Kidron brook. It was a spot favoured by Jesus. "It was a place where Jesus often went for His retreat and prayer" (Luke 22:39). This is the garden where Jesus on His last night underwent the most sorrowful hour of His passion, the hour in which He trembled in His nature. choosing to suffer and die on the cross, taking upon Himself the sins of all mankind. "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me, nevertheless not my will, but thine be done." (Luke 22:42). Judas came then with the servants of the high priest and betrayed his master (Matthew 26:47, Mark 14:44, Luke 22:47, John 18:2,3). All the disciples fled, leaving him alone, fulfilling the prophecy which says "I shall smite the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered." Jesus was arrested, taken to the house of Caiphas and condemned the following day to death on the cross. In the Garden of Gethsemane, there are eight olive trees whose age is lost in antiquity. Some botanists claim that they may be 3,000 years old. Josephus relates that Titus cut down all trees in the environs of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. If these trees escaped destruction, they are the very contemporaries of Christ as they are Roman olive trees. If not, they are without doubt the shoots of those under which Jesus prayed that night of His agony. "The olive tree does not die." (Pliny). They still bear fruit.

## **CHURCH**

