terrible upheaval in the whole history of Palestine took place just after the end

of the New Testament period. Jesus had told the disciples that the temple would

be destroyed, so that not one stone would be left upon another. The devastation

in connection with the Roman conquest was very far-reaching. These changes so

soon after the New Testament events made a very sweeping change in the condition

of the country as a whole, and particularly in the Jerusalem area. This was

followed sixty years later by the rebellion of Bar Cochba, with further turmoil and

destruction, followed by banishment of all Jews from the area. Later on, the

Arab conquest made still further changes. Very soon the external appearance of the

land was very different in many regards than it had been in New Testament times.

Another difference between New Testament times and Old Testament times

in Palestine is that we are not nearly so dependent upon archeology for illuminat-

ing material relating to what is contained in the sacred text. Before the rise of

modern archeology we knew practically nothing about life in Old Testament times

except for the statements in the Old Testament itself. Classical Greek writings

mostly dealt with events after the end of the Old Testament. In the case of the

New Testament, the writings of Josephus contain extensive descriptions of life

and historical events in Palestine, and there are a few references to Palestine

in the writings of pagan historians. These materials give us far more with which

to check the accuracy and integrity of the New Testament documents than we can

expect to secure from archeology. They are drawn on extensively in the discussion

of these various subjects in other articles in this encyclopedia.

One great field of interest for students of the New Testament is to know

where various events occurred. Archeology can help in throwing light on the

location of places mentioned in the New Testament. Unfortunately, quite a few of the

events in the New Testament, such as the Sermon on the Mount, occurred at