

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 places that are not specifically named and archeology can do nothing to prove where they occurred. Jerusalem of the time of Christ is buried under debris and later occupation is above it. The present city (or rather two cities) have spread^{out} over quite a wide area. Extensive excavations in the city is very difficult. However, investigation of neighboring places such as Bethany, or particular areas in Jerusalem, like the Tower of Antonia, is possible. Also searching for a definite objective, such as the location of the various walls of ancient Jerusalem, can often be carried on with very good results. In recent years Herodian Jericho, about a mile and a half from Old Testament/ Jericho, has been excavated. Herod erected the Jerusalem temple in strict accord with Hebrew specifications, but at Jericho he built a sumptuous palace that is like a bit of ~~first~~ first-century Rome, transported to Palestine.

B. The Discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Undoubtedly the most important discovery that has ever been made in relation to New Testament times, and also the most unexpected, was the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls within the past few years. In 1947 a Bedouin shepherd came by accident upon some scrolls wrapped in jars and hidden in a cave. Eventually half of the group of scrolls that he found came into the possession of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem, and the other half into the possession of the Syrian archbishop. Later the archbishop's scrolls were purchased by the Jews, so the whole set of material from Cave One is now in Jewish hands.

This first discovery included the only complete Bible book of any length, that had yet been found from so early a date. This was a complete copy of Isaiah,