The desert road drops steeply down from Jerusalem to Jericho. Among these barren hills it is easy to imagine the robbers of Jesus' 'Good Samaritan' story.



An ancient inn stands beside the old road from Jerusalem to Jericho.

The Samaritan in Jesus' story (Luke 10) brought the injured Jew to an inn, like the one modelled right, to be cared for.



answer to the lawyer's question about eternal life. Chagrined, and attempting to save face, he asks another. Instead of answering directly, Jesus replies with a parable.

There was a long history of hatred between Jew and Samaritan (see 'Jewish religion in New Testament times'), though the Samaritans, like the Jews, held the law sacred. The Jews regarded them as scum – untouchables. Yet Jesus has this 'enemy' carrying out the law, whereas the injured man's fellow Jews - even the religious leaders - fail. A real 'neighbour' is one who does the loving thing whenever and wherever occasion arises, regardless of the deepest enmity or antagonism.

10:38-42 Martha and Mary

Only Luke tells this story. The two sisters and their brother Lazarus lived at Bethany, near Jerusalem. Martha gets into a state,

simple and leave time to listen to Jesus, as Mary did. See 'Martha and Mary'.

11:1-13 'Teach us to pray'

Matthew (6:9-13) gives the longer form of the Lord's Prayer. Jesus is supplying both a prayer to be prayed ('when you pray. say...' 2,) and a 'model' (Matthew 6:9, in this way') on which to base other prayers.

Jesus' followers come to God, not as subjects to 'the Master of the Universe' bul as children to the best of fathers: simply, sharing his concerns and confidently telling him of their own needs. They must not be discouraged if time goes by and they see no answer. Persistence, in the end, wins over even the most reluctant friend-and there is no reluctance to answer on God's part. See also Matthew 7:7-11. ► Hallowed be your name (2) This expresses reverence for all that God is: 'name' means

whole character.

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