

Site: Antonia Fortress

Scripture References: Nehemiah 3:1, 12:39; Matthew 27:27-31

Historical Significance:

1. This massive four-towered building was built by Herod the Great on the north side of the Temple Mount. Its chief purpose was to protect the Second Temple.
2. During Jesus' time it served as a barracks for the Roman soldiers stationed in Jerusalem.
3. Pilate may have sent Jesus here to be beaten before His crucifixion.
4. Crusaders of the twelfth century built memorial buildings here.
5. The modern buildings date to the twentieth century and were built over the remains of the Crusader structures.
6. It is believed that this area is where Jesus was verbally abused and beaten with whips.

Things to look for:

1. The artwork inside the modern chapels and the devotional setting create a place to reflect on the last hours of Jesus' life.

What does this site teach us about God?

1. Reminds us of the great love God has for us that He allowed His One and Only Son to suffer and die for our sins.