

Comparisons-1970

Gail and I visited Israel in March 1970, in between two major wars there. Much has changed since then because of population increases and excavations. So I have scanned the original 35 mm Ektachrome slides at 600 dpi for comparison of some scenes. That visit was part of a 95-day round-the-world honeymoon that began a week after we were married. I had to study snowstorms in northern Japan for the first two months, but then we went home the long way.

As we traveled (in 2016) from Haifa to Capernaum, we first passed through the Jezreel Valley, a relatively flat area of rich agricultural land. In 1970 a trip up Mount Tabor gave us a good view of the Valley and Nazareth. In March the grain heads were green.



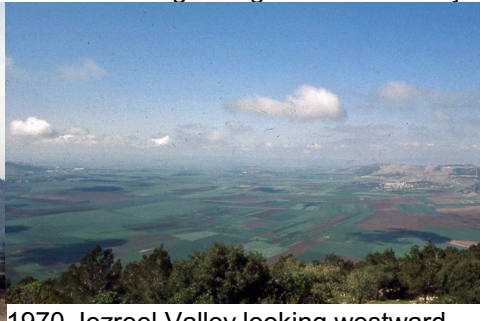
2016 Flowers growing in Jezreel Valley



1970 Flat fields of Jezreel Valley



2016 Mount Tabor from Nazareth



1970 Jezreel Valley looking westward



1970 Nazareth: white buildings on hilltop



2016 Bananas under canopies



1970 White canopies on distant fields

In 2016 we saw numerous fields under canopies. We noticed such water-conserving strategies in 1970 as shown by the view from Mount Gilboa with white fields in the distance.

The city of Nazareth is greatly enlarged from when we first visited there. In 2016 we simply passed through. There were no good places for overviews. In 1970 the oldest parts of the city were identifiable by olive-colored roofs.



1970 Home of Jesus in center of view



1970 Nazareth well in center right



1970 Open fields on other side of hill at Nazareth. Now covered with many homes and roads.

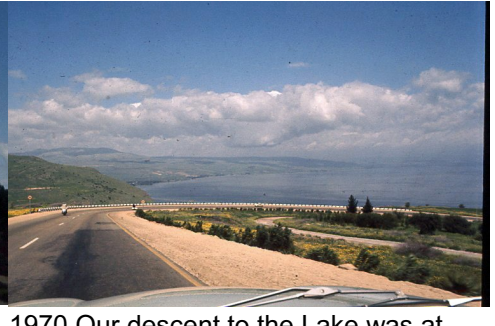
We passed by the town of Cana, site of the miracle of Jesus for turning water into wine for a wedding. The new abundance of homes made it unrecognizable for me.



1970 Village of Cana ahead



1970 The road turns towards the Sea (Lake) of Galilee. Same route in 2016.



1970 Our descent to the Lake was at Tiberias. In 2016 we arrived at the more distant shores in this view.

Capernaum, the ministry home of Jesus, was in the initial stages of excavation and restoration in 1970.



1970 Peter's house being excavated



2016 Excavation complete



2016 Modern church above excavation



2016 Church centered around old home



2016 View: stones of Peter's home



2016 Worship center

The other large structure at Capernaum is the white synagogue built on the dark foundation of the original building of the time of Jesus.



1970 Synagogue at left



1970 Gail sitting at back of synagogue



2016 This entrance did not exist in 1970

For the photo of Gail in the synagogue I had to climb to the top of a pile of stone rubble. The fallen stones have restored to walls so that view is no longer possible.



2016 Restored walls



1970 South, from Synagogue to Lake



2016 Same area, looking east



1970 Olive millstone not seen in 2016



1970 North, of east side of Synagogue



2016 North, of east side of Synagogue



1970 Wine press?



1970 Shoreline dock gone in 2016



2016 Receded shoreline at Capernaum



1970 Jordan River south of Lake

The following views are of Jerusalem in both years, starting with the view in 1970 from the side of the Mount of Olives, then in 2016.



Of particular interest is the change in the southeastern corner of the Temple.



2016 reverse view, exposed steps



1970 Southeast corner, before excavation.



2016 Southeast corner, excavated, exposing steps

The Robinson's arch in the southwest corner was newly exposed when we were there in 1970.



1970 remains of Robinson's arch



1970 Western Wall



2016 finished restoration at same corner



2016 Western Wall



1970 Lions Gate



2016 Lions Gate

Apart from increased trees and lawn areas, I did not notice significant changes in the Muslim buildings on the Temple Mount.

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1970 Dome of the Rock



2016 Dome of the Rock