

Shechem and the Terebinth Trees

Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh.
Genesis 12:6

Early on, Shechem ("Shoulder") seemed to be a place of choice between serving the Lord and worshiping idols. It lay in the hollow between Mt Gerizem and Mt. Ebal. It was frequently associated with Terebinth trees, which may symbolize the aspect of the cross as the source of the strength and resolve needed to serve the Lord.

Genesis 12:1-6

**Have you come as far as Shechem in your Christianity?
To the Terebinth of Moreh that foreshadows Calvary?
Why stop short of all the goodness to which holiness aspires?
Crucify the flesh within you with its passions and desires.**

Deuteronomy 11:29-30 & 27:11-26

**If you covet all the blessings of Mount Gerizem of old,
And you shudder at the curses Ebal's echoes have foretold,
You can choose to serve the Lord and know the riches of His grace,
And your soul will not regret it when you meet Him face to face.**

Genesis 35:1-5

**Bury all the foreign the idols you've collected from your birth,
Gods of money, gods of pleasure, all the attitudes of earth;
They will rob you of your blessings, they will surely cause you loss
If you fail to leave them underneath the shadow of the cross.**

Joshua 24:21-25

**Put away the gods of Egypt that are lurking in your soul;
If you let them gain a foothold they will take complete control.
Serve the Lord who died to save you, He is worthy of your praise;
And enjoy the Spirit's blessings the remainder of your days**