



- a leaf from one of these trees.  
We returned to the Hostel for lunch & in the afternoon I visited Bethlehem, not many miles really from Jerusalem. On the way we passed the Tomb of Rachel on the roadside. Before we reached Bethlehem we saw down to the left, a mile or two away, the "Shepherds' Fields" which to this day remain as fields for sheep & goats to graze upon. In Bethlehem is the Church of the Nativity, built over the birth place of Christ. It seems at first odd to find all the "Holy Places" - around these parts built over by churches, & yet one must remember that had this not been done the original places would have become destroyed or buried. Successive conquerors of the Holy Land of course did destroy - Jerusalem itself was destroyed several times -