

TEN YEARS OF DISCOVERY IN THE WILDERNESS OF JUDAEA. By J. T. Milik. Translated by J. Strugnell. (S.C.M. Press; 12s. 6d.)

This book is a revised and expanded version of the French edition published by *Les Editions du Cerf* in 1957. It gives us a summary of the conclusions so far arrived at from a study of the Dead Sea scrolls and of the ruins at Qumrân, where dwelt the main body of the Essene owners of the finds. The writer, a Catholic priest, is one of the team of experts engaged in excavating the area. He warns us that discoveries there have not yet ceased, and that the conclusions he offers are still liable to modification.

The book has five chapters. Chapter 1 tells the full story of the discoveries from the spring of 1947, when Mohammad the Wolf threw his famous stone, down to the February of last year. In Chapter 2 we have a scientific account of the scrolls, with a synopsis of their contents and points of textual criticism. Chapters 3 and 4 sum up the wealth of information on Essene history, organization and teachings elicited from the finds, and discuss possible relationships with orthodox Judaism and early Christianity; in a plausible identification of the 'Wicked Priest', the 'Man of Lies', and other objects of Essene disapproval, the author here draws most interesting parallels with events narrated in I Maccabees. Chapter 5 gives a general appraisal of the importance of the scrolls in the fields of philology, onomastics, palaeography, Hebrew literature, Jewish legal institutions in the Roman period, the history of the second Jewish revolt, and the history of religions. There are three maps, twenty-five plates, two indices—of subjects and of texts cited—a chronological table giving a suggested synchronization of Jewish political history with the data provided by the scrolls, and an up-to-date bibliography.

Fr Milik is writing primarily for those who have pursued biblical studies; for such his book is certainly to be warmly recommended. He also does his best to cater for the layman; his style is as popular as his scientific aim permits, though the technicalities in Chapter 2 will probably be too much for this class of reader. Misprints are infrequent and unimportant. On page 139 'for' (?) has become 'from', with some loss of intelligibility; on pages 79 and 93 the Essenes have been refined into 'Essences'.

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CHURCH MUSIC AND THEOLOGY. By Erik Routley. (S.C.M. 'Studies in Ministry and Worship'; 8s. 6d.)

This book is an attempt to find some solution to the problem: What is good church music? Dr Routley suggests that the current controversy