

JEWISH NATIVITY SCENE JUEDISCHE KRIPPE



"A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

Matthew 2,18

An unusual text from the Christmas story stands over this scene. It directs our thoughts from Herod's killing of the children to the happenings of our day and age; it brings to the centre of our attention the monument of the German Rail's goods-wagon standing in the Holocaust Memorial Park "Yad Vashem"...

The crib is a cave made from Frankonian field stones. In the living rooms of Frankonia the "Frankonian Christmas" is being celebrated. The birthday of the Jewish child of the tribe of Judah, of the family of David, the Redeemer, the Saviour, the Son of God: JESUS.

Parallel to this, "on the other track", the goods-wagon with Jewish children, women and men rolls towards annihilation in the concentration camp.

Will later visitors from the east be able to find Jesus, the King of the Jews, here in the west, or even a few Saints, Mary and Joseph?

Perhaps HE too has been deported. With only a young shepherd girl to accompany him, to worship him, to follow him...

Nuremberg, Summer 2001

JEWISH NATIVITY SCENE YAD VASHEM



Yad Vashem

"The history of the west is inseparably united to God's Will with His chosen people - the Jews...
A rejection of the Jews in the west involuntarily results in a rejection of Christ himself; for Jesus Christ was a Jew...
If Synagoges were to burn today, then tomorrow the churches will be set on fire."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer after the Reichspogrom, 9th November 1938 (in "Ethik", outline from 1940)
Quoted by: SCHRUPP, Ernst: ISRAEL and the Messiah, Brockhaus, Wuppertal 1997