

Athens

From Corinth we rode the bus to Athens and stopped for lunch. Then we went up on the Acropolis to view the ruins and their restoration. We first passed the large amphitheater. The view across the city beyond leads to the sea.



The first restoration was of the Temple of Athena Nike. It was totally dismantled and removed from the hilltop.

Missing pieces were carefully recreated. Then the temple was rebuilt in its original location. The new pieces are of a bright white marble, while original pieces are darker with age.



We climbed many steps that were polished smooth (and slippery) by many feet over the centuries.



Another restoration having carved figures for its columns does not show the original columns. They are in a museum elsewhere. These figures are modern copies.



The main building on the hill is the Parthenon. It is also being restored, as shown by the white pieces and the major equipment.

The main building on the hill is the Parthenon. It is also being restored, as shown by the white pieces and the major equipment.



A smaller building in the lowlands beyond the base of the hill was converted to a church in the later years of the Roman Empire.

Another view shows some columns. To the left of center is the arch of Hadrian, a Roman Emperor.





On one side of the hill is this barren rock with many visitors. It is called Mars Hill. It was on this hill that Paul gave an interesting speech to the important philosophers of the city. (Recorded in Acts 17 of the Bible) He had seen a monument - to the unknown god. He claimed that this god was really the Creator of the world and everything in it. Paul eventually claimed that God will judge the world by a man that God raised from the dead. That claim split the opinions of the audience. Only a few wanted to learn more about Jesus, and later Paul went to Corinth.

Dr. Ed Holroyd
29 October 2016, nearing Israel



European Robin