

ROCK SOLID EVIDENCE

In 1888 repairs were being carried out on St. Anne's Church in Jerusalem. This old building in the north-easterly corner of the city was a Roman Catholic site, supposedly named after Anne, the mother of Mary. As they worked, they located what seemed to be a large reservoir of historical significance.

An archaeologist by the name of Professor Conrad Schick was called in and he organised an excavation of the entire area down to Roman levels. To everyone's delight **two large pools** with **five porches** were uncovered, along with

numerous columns and fragments.

On one of the walls **was a faded fresco of an angel disturbing the waters.**



Amazingly, they had discovered what appeared to be **the Pool of Bethesda** featured in the Bible!

John 5:2-4 says: *“Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralysed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had.”*

It was here that the Lord Jesus Christ healed a lame man, demonstrating His power as the Son of God.



This discovery confirmed that John's Gospel had been written by an eyewitness after all. Up until the 19th century, critics claimed that it had been written long after the time of Christ by someone who had no first-hand knowledge. Today, however, archaeology is constantly unearthing objects and places from the Bible, underlining God's Word as history not human invention.