

Joshua 5: 9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

The Passover at Gilgal

While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Luke 15: 11-32 adapted by Robert Benson

This is the way of the kingdom

There was a man who had two sons.

The younger one went to his father
and asked for his inheritance.

His father gave it to him and the son left home
to seek his fortune in a far country.

But he wasted all of the money on reckless living
and when a famine fell upon the land,
he found himself tending swine just to stay alive.

Finally he said to himself,

"Even the swine have more than I do.

I am going home and beg for my father's mercy'

When he was still a long way off,

his father saw him and ran to meet him.

"Father, forgive me," said the son.

"I am no longer worthy even to be called your son.

Let me live here as one of your servants."

But the father threw his arms around his son and kissed him,

and called to his servants for clean clothes and shoes

and gave his own ring for his son's finger.

Rejoicing, he told the servants to prepare a feast

and to invite all of his friends.

"My son who was lost has come home,;" he cried.

The elder son, returning from the fields,

heard the noise from the feast as he drew near the house.

When he learned what had happened

he was so angry that he would not go in.

His father came out to him and the elder son said angrily,

"I am faithful to you and always have been,

while my brother has done nothing but bring you disgrace.

Yet you have never thrown a feast for me.

"My dear son;

the father said,'

"You are always with me,

and everything I have is yours and always will be.

Come into the house, this is the time for rejoicing.

Your brother who was dead has come back to life."

Truly I say to you:

The One Who made us is merciful,

we must be merciful, too.