

Messages from Gilgal

The Gilgal, which lies on the west coast of the Jordan River, has always played an important role in Old Testament history. It has valuable lessons to teach us.

First message: “And those twelve stones which they took out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal. Then he spoke to the children of Israel, saying: “When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, ‘What are these stones?’ then you shall let your children know, saying, ‘Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land’; for the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea,” (Josh. 4:20-23). The stones are meant by the Lord to remind us and our children of His great works. Our great God, removes all obstacles that we encounter, as He did when crossing the Jordan River. These memories strengthen our faith when facing current challenges being confident that we are more than conquerors.

Second message: “Then the Lord said to Joshua: This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you. Therefore the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day.” (Josh.5:9). Gilgal means rolling away. The people’s past slavery in Egypt still affected their lives (vestiges of blemishes from the past). The Lord wants to roll away the effects of what happened in the past, including painful memories. Although we have confessed our sins and accepted the work of the blood of Jesus, yet the negative effects of the past remain in our lives. The Gilgal is where the Lord wipes them all away.

Third message: “Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho.” (Josh.5:10). In the wilderness, the people did not keep the Passover and neglected circumcision. But when they reached Gilgal, they started practicing them again. The same is also true with the believer who had neglected Bible studies, and attending spiritual meetings, no longer enjoying these matters. In Gilgal, there is a return to healthy spiritual habits. The same is reiterated in Elijah’s repairing the altar of the Lord that has been thrown down – restoring the ministry or the service that was lost.

Fourth message: “And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, “Are You for us or for our adversaries?” So He said, “No, but as Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.” (Josh.5:13, 14). Joshua’s encounter with the mighty angel of the Lord with the drawn out sword is a proof that we will not face satan by ourselves. The Lord will dispatch His angels to assist us in all our spiritual confrontations, and to put an end to these spiritual battles. “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds” (2Cor.10:4)