

## ~GILGAL 2 (111)

### (Gil'gal) [Rolling, Rolling Away]

- Although some view it otherwise, the **Gilgal** mentioned in connection with Elijah and Elisha is evidently not the same as **GILGAL 1**. Before being taken up to the heavens in a windstorm, Elijah, accompanied by Elisha, went from Gilgal down to Bethel and then to Jericho.

- And it came about that when Yehowah was to take Elijah in a windstorm up to the heavens, Elijah and Elisha proceeded to go from **Gilgal**. (**2 Kings 2:1**)

- And Elijah began to say to Elisha; Sit here, please, because Yehowah himself has sent me clear to Bethel. But Elisha said; As Yehowah is living and as your soul is living, I will not leave you. So they went down to Bethel. (**2 Kings 2:2**)

- Then the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him; Do you really know that today Yehowah is taking your master from headship over you? At this he said; I, too, well know it. Be silent. (**2 Kings 2:3**)

- Elijah now said to him; Elisha, sit here, please, because Yehowah himself has sent me to Jericho. But he said; As Yehowah is living and as your soul is living, I will not leave you. So they came on to Jericho. (**2 Kings 2:4**)

- Then the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho approached Elisha and said to him; Do you really know that today Yehowah is taking your master from headship over you? At this he said; I, too, well know it. Be silent. (**2 Kings 2:5**)

- This route suggests a location near Bethel. Also, their going down implies that this **Gilgal** was in a mountainous region. The **Gilgal** in the Jordan Valley would not fit this description.

- Hence this **Gilgal** is usually linked with **Jil Jiliya**, a large village atop a hill about 11 kilometers (7 miles) North of Bethel. Elisha later rendered harmless a poisonous stew there.

- And Elisha himself returned to **Gilgal**, and there was famine in

- the land. As the sons of the prophets were sitting before him, he in time said to his attendant; Put the large cooking pot on and boil stew for the sons of the prophets. (2 Kings 4:38)
- Accordingly a certain one went out to the field to pick mallows, and he got to find a wild vine and went picking wild gourds from it, his garment full, and then came and sliced them into the stewpot, for they were not acquainted with them. (2 Kings 4:39)
  - Later they poured it out for the men to eat. And it came about that, as soon as they ate from the stew, they themselves cried out and began saying; There is death in the pot, O man of the true God. And they were not able to eat. (2 Kings 4:40)
  - So he said; Fetch, then, flour. After he threw it into the pot, he went on to say; Pour out for the people that they may eat. And nothing injurious proved to be in the pot. (2 Kings 4:41)
  - Perhaps this or still another **Gilgal** is the one described at;
  - And it must occur that when Yehowah your God brings you into the land to which you are going to take possession of it, you must also give the blessing upon Mount Gerizim and the malediction upon Mount Ebal. (Deuteronomy 11:29)
  - Are they not on the side of the Jordan toward the direction of the sunset, in the land of the Canaanites dwelling in the Arabah, in front of **Gilgal**, beside the big trees of Moreh? (Deuteronomy 11:30)
  - As having Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal in front of it.
  - In later periods this city, or perhaps **GILGAL 1** evidently became a center of false worship.
  - Although you are committing fornication, O Israel, let not Judah become guilty, and do not you people come to **Gilgal**, neither go up to Beth-aven nor swear; As Yehowah is alive! (Hosea 4:15)
  - All their badness was in **Gilgal**, for there I had to hate them. On account of the evil of their dealings I shall drive them away from my own house. I will not continue on loving them. All their princes are acting stubborn. (Hosea 9:15)

- With Gilead what is uncanny, also untruth, have occurred. In **Gilgal** they have sacrificed even bulls. Moreover, their altars are like piles of stones in the furrows of the open field. (**Hosea 12:11**)
- Foreseeing the subsequent exile of the northern kingdom, Yehowah, by his prophet Amos, scornfully tells the irreformable Israelites to be frequent in committing transgression at **Gilgal**, also foretelling exile for its inhabitants.
- Come, you people, to Bethel and commit transgression. At **Gilgal** be frequent in committing transgression, and bring your sacrifices in the morning, on the third day, your tenth parts. (**Amos 4:4**)
- And do not search for Bethel, and to **Gilgal** you must not come, and to Beer-sheba you must not pass over, because **Gilgal** itself will without fail go into exile, and as regards Bethel, it will become something uncanny. (**Amos 5:5**)