

# Joshua 10:43

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.

## Analysis

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**And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal—** Gilgal (גִּלְגָל, "circle [of stones]") served as Israel's base camp throughout the conquest (Joshua 4:19, 5:10, 9:6). The return to Gilgal after victory wasn't retreat but strategic repositioning. Gilgal represented the place where Israel crossed Jordan, was circumcised, celebrated Passover, and first ate the produce of Canaan—a place thick with covenant memory.

The phrase "**all Israel with him**" emphasizes national unity under Joshua's leadership. Unlike the later period of the Judges when "every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25), here we see Israel functioning as am echad (אֶחָד, "one people") under God's appointed leader. This unity, combined with covenant obedience, resulted in victory. The pattern is clear: advance in obedience, conquer in faith, return to the place of covenant remembrance, then advance again.

## Historical Context

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Gilgal was located near Jericho in the Jordan Valley, about 2 miles from the Jordan River and 10 miles from Jerusalem. It served as Israel's military headquarters during the conquest period, strategically positioned to launch campaigns into both the central hill country and the southern regions. The site remained significant in Israel's history, later visited by Samuel (1 Samuel 7:16) and where Saul was made king (1 Samuel 11:15).

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. What is your 'Gilgal'—the place where you remember God's faithfulness and return for spiritual renewal?
2. How does returning to foundational covenant truths between ministry efforts strengthen our effectiveness?
3. What does the unity of 'all Israel with him' teach about the importance of corporate obedience and fellowship?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיָּשָׁב	וְיְהוֹשֻׁעַ	וְכָל	יִשְׂרָאֵל	עִמּוֹ	אֶל	הַמַּחֲנֶה
returned	And Joshua	H3605	and all Israel	H5973	H413	with him unto the camp
H7725	H3091		H3478			H4264

  

הַגִּלְגָּל:
to Gilgal
H1537

## Additional Cross-References

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**Joshua 10:15** (References Israel): And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.