HOSPITALITY & STORIES OF WELCOME [and surprise!]

We'll spend time in Testaments Old and New and Stories of Welcome From Gilgamesh (!) to the 'round table' to Luther's wedding night (!) to Christmas 1914 to...

Genesis 18: Abraham and Sarah entertain angels unaware [see Hebrews 13:2] Judges 19-21: Hospitality goes way wrong ...and it only gets worse. [see Genesis 19 for a parallel.]

John 2: Jesus and the wedding feast: Best wine for last

Jesus is at the table: The wedding guests can't mourn because the bridegroom is with them. [Matthew 9:15/Mark 2:19/Luke 5:34]

Matthew 10:42: Only a cup of cold water.

Matthew 11:18 (before & after too): Jesus the drunkard & glutton, & pal of bad nogoodniks.

Luke 24:28ff: Heartburn & Stay with us: Jesus revealed in the breaking of the bread.

John 21: "Come to Breakfast!" Brunch on the beach!

Romans 16! 'Welcome Phoebe in the Lord...'. & & &

I Cor. 11:17-26. How to ruin the table when all=some=a few are welcome I Cor. 13 "Make God into a scarecrow you'll have a scarecrow for a god."

The earliest letter: I Thessalonians 1:8-9. 'Οποίαν είσοδον εσχομεν! ["What a welcome we had]

Further stories of tables: Round Tables and Table Talk