

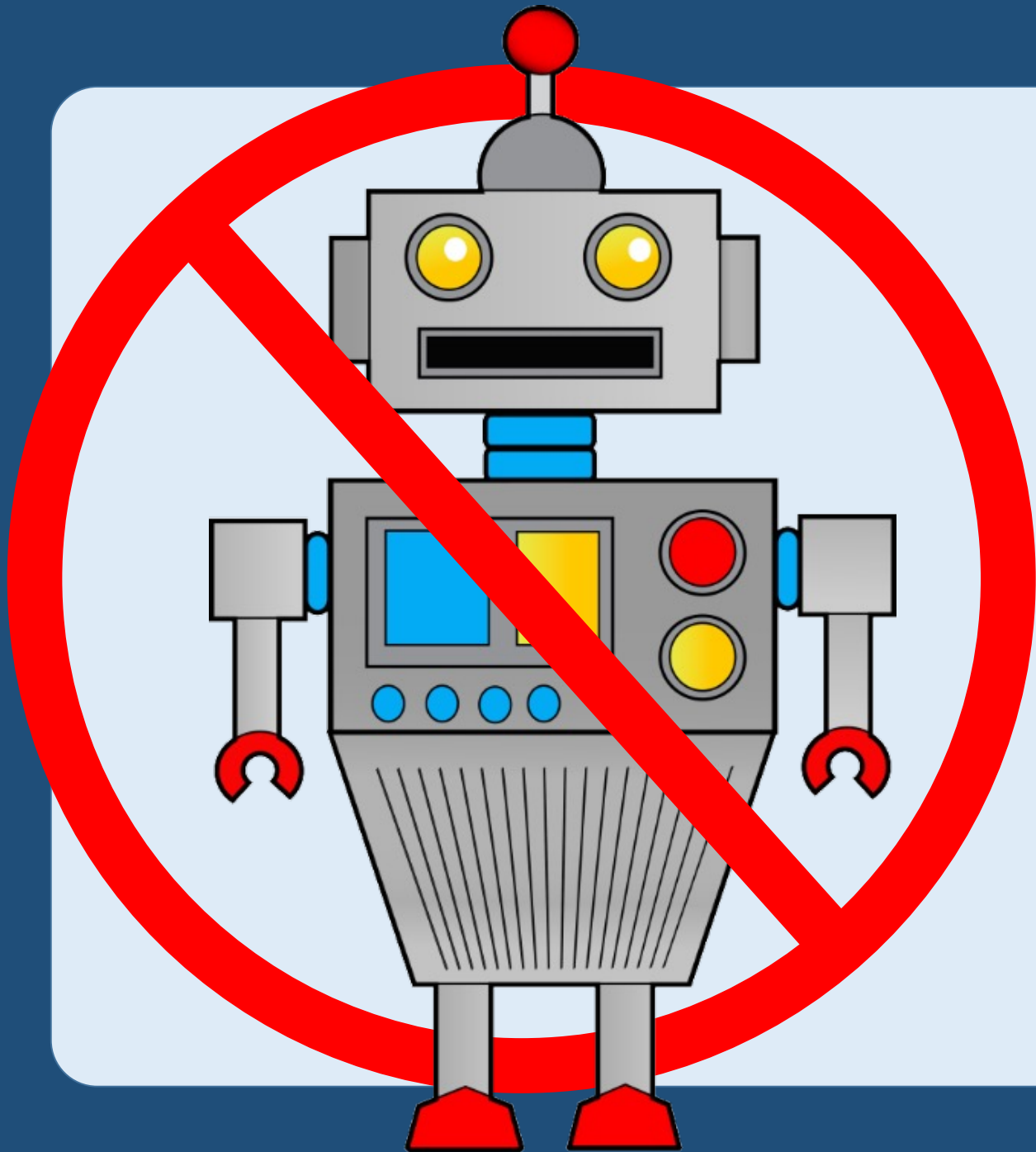
God's Relentless Pursuit

Luke 15:11-32

There was a man who had two sons.
The younger one said to his father,
'Father, give me my share of the
estate.' – Luke 15:11-12a

There was a man who had two sons.
The younger one said to his father,
'Father, give me my share of the
estate.' **So he divided his property
between them.** – Luke 15:11-12

“Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. – Luke 15:13



CHOICE

“Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. – Luke 15:13

After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and **hired himself** out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. – Luke 15:14-16

When he came to his senses, he said,
'How many of my father's hired servants
have food to spare, and here I am
starving to death! I will set out and go
back to my father... So he got up and
went to his father. – Luke 15:17-18a, 20b

But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

– Luke 15:20b

One of the main reasons why Middle Easterners of rank do not run is that traditionally they all have worn long robes. This is true of both men and women. No one can run in a long robe without taking it up into his or her hands. When this occurs the legs are exposed which is considered humiliating.

– Kenneth Bailey

But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. – Luke 15:22-24

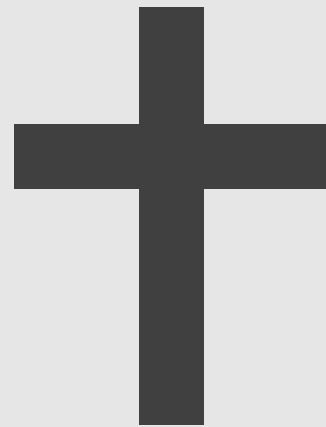
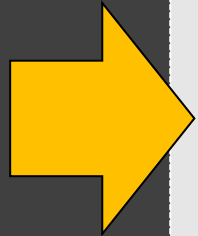
Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' – Luke 15:25-27

The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' – Luke 15:28-30

‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ – Luke 15:31-32

Radical Hospitality

The Year of the Lord's Welcome



Radical Hospitality

The Year of the Lord's Welcome

