

Forbes, "Repentance and Conflict in the Parable of the Lost Son" JETS 42.2 (1999)

1. What other two stories does the parable of the Lost Son continue?
2. What are the two sections of the parable of the Lost Son?
3. In what does Pohlmann say the protest of the elder brother is reflected?
4. What Old Testament story is the parable of the Lost son parallel to?
At what points are there parallels there?
5. What is the Jewish ceremony of the ketsatsah and at what points does it fit with the parable of the Lost Son? Further, reinstatement (p. 220)
6. Normally when should a son receive his inheritance?
What was the inheritance right of the firstborn?
7. Against what does the Wisdom of Sirach warn against and what does that show in relation to the parable of the Lost Son?
8. Why was it offensive that the son turned the inheritance into cash?
9. What were some of the shameful things the Lost son endured?
10. What is a soliloquy and what role does it play in the story?
11. How is the boy's repentance to be understood in relation to his hunger?
12. The boy's original actions were directed against what person in the story?
13. What rule/custom did the father break when the boy returned?
14. In the giving of what three things did the father honor/reinstate the lost son at his return?
15. What role did the banquet play in the reinstatement of the son?
16. What are three major motif sequences that underline the extremities of the story? (p. 221)
17. How did the elder son shame the father?
18. What shared desire did the elder and younger brother share?
19. In what way does the story of the Lost son end in an open-ended way?
20. What popular mytheme does the parable of the Lost Son break?
21. What aspect of Jesus' ministry is justified by the story of the Lost Son?
22. Who is represented in the attitude of the elder brother? How does Jesus treat them in the story? (p. 228)