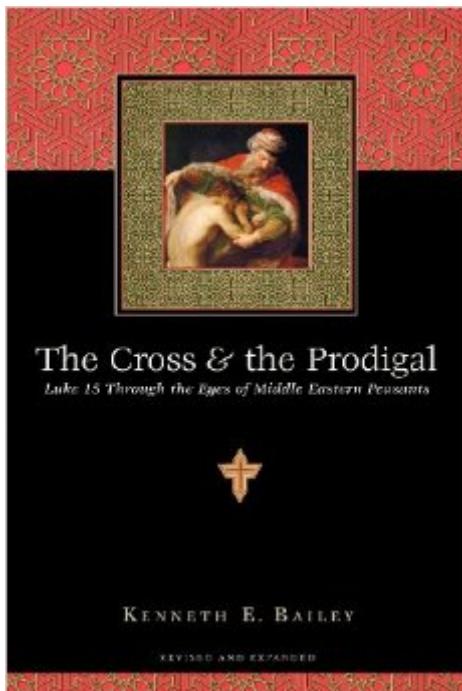


[The book was found](#)

The Cross & The Prodigal: Luke 15 Through The Eyes Of Middle Eastern Peasants



Synopsis

Honored in 2006 as a "Year's Best Book for Preachers" by Preaching magazine. Where is the cross in the parable of the prodigal son? For centuries, Muslims have called attention to the father's forgiveness in this parable in order to question the need for a Mediator between humanity and God. In *The Cross & the Prodigal*, Kenneth E. Bailey--New Testament scholar and long-time missionary to the Middle East--undertakes to answer this question. Drawing on his extensive knowledge of both the New Testament and Middle Eastern culture, Bailey presents an interpretation of this parable from a Middle Eastern perspective and, in doing so, powerfully demonstrates its essentially Christian message. Here Bailey highlights the underlying tensions between law and love, servanthood and sonship, honor and forgiveness that grant this story such timeless spiritual and theological power.

Book Information

Paperback: 151 pages

Publisher: IVP Books; 2 edition (July 3, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0830832815

ISBN-13: 978-0830832811

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (41 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #22,892 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > History & Culture #17 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Criticism & Interpretation > New Testament #20 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Commentaries > New Testament

Customer Reviews

I really enjoy Bailey's style, and this book was a bit less technical than some of his others, making it even more easy to read and grasp. He takes a relatively short story and expands on the underlying concepts and cultural understandings that the original hearers would have grasped when they heard it. He adds so much background story to it, that it really comes to life more. My only complaint, and it is a relatively slight one in light of the whole story, is that Bailey kind of misses the mark in identifying the parties of the story. In identifying the prodigal son as just mankind, he misses the covenant significance behind it. The father figure is indeed representative of Yahweh as he points

out, but the older son would be representative of the two southern tribes that were technically still within the covenant with the Father, with the prodigal son representing the ten Northern tribes who were not. Like the prodigal son, those tribes were cast out, dispersed throughout the nations, but they were promised (as seen in Isaiah, Hosea and Ezekiel 37, and elsewhere) that one day they were to be brought back into the fold. As we see this beginning to happen under the ministry of Paul, we see the building frustration of the Pharisees who were dealing unkindly to the idea, just as the older son in the story did. But as I said, while this is a technical issue of sorts, it doesn't really alter the thrust of this book's underlying story, that of the Father's love even for the people who despised him beforehand, but were now returning to the fold. I just think that bringing in that identification would add a slightly deeper meaning to the story, as well as bringing in the connection and tying together the promises from the OT that were about to take place.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Cross & the Prodigal: Luke 15 Through the Eyes of Middle Eastern Peasants Cross Stitch: Learn Cross Stitch FAST! - Learn the Basics of Cross Stitch In No Time (Cross Stitch, Cross Stitch Course, Cross Stitch Development, Cross Stitch Books, Cross Stitch for Beginners) Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies in the Gospels A Lucky Luke Adventure : In the Shadow of the Derricks (Lucky Luke) (v. 5) Cross Stitch Design Journal 160 Pages for Needlework Planning - 10 Squares to the Inch: Passion for Cross Stitch 8.5"x11" graph paper notebook for ... original needlework and cross stitch designs Manga Drawing Books How to Draw Manga Eyes: Learn Japanese Manga Eyes And Pretty Manga Face (Drawing Manga Books : Pencil Drawings for Beginners) (Volume 4) Plant Life in Field and Garden (Yesterday's Classics) (Eyes and No Eyes Book 3) Elected Through Terror: The Rajneesh through the eyes of a local sheriff The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith The Prodigal God Discussion Guide: Finding Your Place at the Table The Prodigal Church: A Gentle Manifesto against the Status Quo The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming Reaching Your Prodigal: What Did I Do Wrong? What Do I Do Now? Your prodigal child Things I've Been Silent About: Memories of a Prodigal Daughter Prodigal Son: A Novel The Prodigal Son (A Reverend Curtis Black Novel) Sniper on the Eastern Front: The Memoirs of Sepp Allerberger, Knight's Cross Folktales on Stage: Children's Plays for Readers Theater, with 16 Reader's Theatre Play Scripts from World Folk and Fairy Tales and Legends, Including Asian, African, Middle Eastern, & Native American New Book Of Middle Eastern Food Enlarged And Revised (Cookery Library)

[Dmca](#)