

# Contents

Preface .....	XV
Figures .....	XIX
Tables .....	XXI
Abbreviations .....	XXI

## BOOK I

### *A New Foundation for the Study of Parables*

<b>Chapter 1: Introduction</b> .....	3
1.1 The Problems .....	3
1.2 The Answer .....	6
1.3 Scholarship from Jülicher Onward .....	8
1.3.1 <i>Parable Scholarship</i> .....	8
1.3.2 <i>Parable and Fable</i> .....	11
1.3.3 <i>Jülicher's "Parabeln"</i> .....	20
1.4 The Structure of the Study .....	23
<b>Chapter 2: Fable First Principles</b> .....	27
2.1 Introduction .....	27
2.2 Myths about the Fable .....	27
2.2.1 <i>Children's Literature</i> .....	27
2.2.2 <i>Jews Tell Parables, Greeks Tell Fables</i> .....	29
2.2.3 <i>"Realistic" People and "Impossible" Talking Beasts</i> .....	31
2.3 Myths about the Parable .....	41
2.4 The Fable in Modern Secondary Literature .....	44
2.4.1 <i>Ben Edwin Perry and the Language Barricades</i> .....	46
2.4.2 <i>Francisco Rodríguez Adrados and Weighty Tomes</i> .....	49
2.4.3 <i>Émile Chambry and How to Locate a Fable by Number</i> ...	52
2.5 Conclusion .....	57
<b>Chapter 3: The Story of the Fable through the Hellenistic Period</b> .....	59
3.1 Introduction .....	59
3.2 The Archaic Period .....	59
3.2.1 <i>The Semitic World</i> .....	59
3.2.2 <i>The Greek World</i> .....	65

3.3	The Classical Period of Ancient Greece .....	68
3.3.1	<i>Rhetoric</i> .....	68
3.3.2	<i>Education</i> .....	71
3.3.3	<i>Condemned Wise Men</i> .....	72
3.3.4	<i>Early Traditions about Aesop</i> .....	74
3.4	The Hellenistic Period .....	77
3.4.1	<i>Demetrius of Phalerum</i> .....	77
3.4.2	<i>Callimachus of Cyrene</i> .....	82
3.4.3	<i>John Rylands Papyrus 493 and the Rhetorical Collections</i> .....	83
3.5	Conclusion .....	87
<b>Chapter 4: Fable Collections in the Days of Jesus and the Gospels</b> .....		89
4.1	Babrius and the Babrian Tradition .....	90
4.1.1	<i>About Babrius</i> .....	93
4.1.2	<i>The Text</i> .....	98
4.1.3	<i>Sources</i> .....	102
4.1.4	<i>Babrius and the Bible</i> .....	102
4.2	Phaedrus and the Phaedrian Tradition .....	107
4.2.1	<i>Phaedrus the Freedman</i> .....	111
4.2.2	<i>The Text</i> .....	114
4.2.3	<i>Sources</i> .....	116
4.3	The Augustana Collection and the Prose Recensions .....	118
4.3.1	<i>The Date</i> .....	119
4.3.2	<i>The Text</i> .....	121
4.3.3	<i>The Origin and Sources</i> .....	122
4.4	<i>The Life of Aesop: A Sketch</i> .....	123
4.4.1	<i>The Date and Provenance</i> .....	126
4.4.2	<i>The Ancient Recensions of the Text</i> .....	126
4.5	Conclusion .....	129
<b>Chapter 5: The Fable in Graeco-Roman Education</b> .....		131
5.1	Introduction .....	131
5.2	Education in the First Century .....	132
5.3	Primary Education .....	135
5.4	Hermeneumata .....	138
5.5	Secondary Education .....	139

5.6	<i>Progymnasmata</i> .....	141
5.6.1	<i>The Chreia</i> .....	146
5.6.2	<i>Working with the Fable</i> .....	150
5.6.3	<i>Applying the Morals</i> .....	151
5.6.4	<i>Inventing Fables and Morals</i> .....	153
5.7	Defining the Fable .....	155
5.7.1	<i>Ancient and Modern Theory</i> .....	155
5.7.2	<i>Terminology</i> .....	160
5.8	Whether to Divide Fables by Characters or Possibility .....	165
5.9	Conclusion .....	171
<b>Chapter 6: The Fables of the Rabbis</b> .....		173
6.1	Introduction .....	173
6.2	The Fables of the Tannaim .....	175
6.2.1	<i>Ben Zakkai: Talking Trees and Fox Meshalim</i> .....	175
6.2.2	<i>Ben Hananiah: Quelling a Revolt with a Fable</i> .....	179
6.2.3	<i>Akiva: A Martyr's Mashal</i> .....	181
6.2.4	<i>Meir: The Fable Corpus and the End of an Era</i> .....	184
6.2.5	<i>Bar Kappara and the Jewish Aesops</i> .....	187
6.3	Spotting Fables in the Rabbinic Corpus .....	192
6.3.1	<i>Meshalim Adapted from Hellenistic Fables</i> .....	192
6.3.2	<i>Characteristics of the Jewish Fable</i> .....	195
6.4	Greeks and Romans on the Semitic Fables .....	195
6.5	Supersessionism and the Parable .....	197
6.6	Conclusion .....	198
<b>Chapter 7: The Parable and the Ancient Fable</b> .....		201
7.1	Introduction .....	201
7.2	The Synthesis of Parable and Fable .....	201
7.3	The Meaning of παραβολή in the Ancient Rhetoricians .....	208
7.3.1	<i>Aristotle's "Comparisons and Fables"</i> .....	209
7.3.2	<i>Apsines of Gadara: No People in Parables?</i> .....	217
7.3.3	<i>Tropes of Trypho and Homer's Parables</i> .....	219
7.3.4	<i>Folding Fables with Lucillus, Quintilian, and Aesop</i> .....	221
7.4	Conclusion .....	224
7.5	Conclusion to Book I .....	225

## BOOK II

*The Fables of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke*

<b>Chapter 8: Before We Forgot Our Fables</b> .....	231
8.1 Introduction .....	231
8.2 Steps down the Path before Jülicher .....	232
8.2.1 <i>Edward Greswell: "What is There to Discriminate Them Asunder?"</i> .....	232
8.2.2 <i>Richard Trench: "Fabula ... An Unpleasant Sound in the Ear"</i> .....	234
8.2.3 <i>Gottlob Christian Storr: "Parables Are Rational Fables"</i> ...	236
8.2.4 <i>Hugo Grotius: "These αἴνοις (Fables) of Christ"</i> .....	239
8.2.5 <i>An Icelandic Monk and the Dæmisögur of Jesus</i> .....	241
8.2.6 <i>Odo of Cheriton and the Parabolae of Aesop</i> .....	242
8.2.7 <i>Berechiah ha-Nakdan and the Medieval משלי שועלים</i> ...	243
8.2.8 <i>Nonnus and the μῦθοι of Jesus</i> .....	244
8.2.9 <i>The Gospel of Thomas and the Missing παραβολη</i> .....	245
8.3 Aesop and the Fable in The Gospel of Luke .....	248
8.4 Conclusion .....	253
<b>Chapter 9: The Gospel Jesus and the Fable Teller</b> .....	255
9.1 Introduction .....	255
9.2 The Presence of the Author .....	256
9.2.1 <i>For Slaves</i> .....	259
9.2.2 <i>For Sophists</i> .....	267
9.3 Jesus and the Fable Teller Tradition .....	277
9.4 The Death of the Fable Teller and the Wicked Tenants (Luke 20:9–19) .....	283
9.5 Conclusion .....	289
<b>Chapter 10: The Form of the Fable</b> .....	293
10.1 Introduction .....	293
10.2 The Form of the "Parable" .....	294
10.3 The pronomina indefinita τις and δὺο .....	296
10.4 Soliloquy and Direct Speech .....	301
10.5 How a Fable Is Structured .....	314
10.5.1 <i>The Fool Acting Alone</i> .....	317
10.5.2 <i>The Agonistic Fable</i> .....	319

10.6	Expanding and Condensing the Lukan Fables	322
10.6.1	<i>Expanding the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11–32)</i>	325
10.6.2	<i>Condensing the Two Debtors (Luke 7:41–42) and Paraphrasing Fables</i>	330
10.7	The <i>Chreia</i> and the Fable	334
10.8	Conclusion	336
<b>Chapter 11: Reading from the Fable Perspective</b>		339
11.1	Introduction	339
11.2	Characters and Themes in the Fable	340
11.3	Live and Die by Your Wits: In Praise of the Crafty Steward (Luke 16:1–13)	344
11.4	Comedy and Austerity: Getting the Punchline of the Judge and the Widow (Luke 18:1–8)	357
11.5	“Parables” Are Unrealistic: The Scale of Fictionality and the Rich Fool (Luke 12:15–21)	371
11.6	Conclusion	380
<b>Chapter 12: The Lessons of the Fable and How to Interpret Them</b>		383
12.1	Introduction	383
12.2	The <i>Promythium</i> and the <i>Epimythium</i>	384
12.2.1	<i>Differentiating the Promythium and Epimythium</i>	387
12.2.2	<i>Multiple Morals</i>	391
12.3	A <i>Promythium</i> to “Parable” Interpretation: Lessing and Jülicher’s Single Point Approach	395
12.4	The <i>Promythium</i> and the Lukan Fables	400
12.4.1	<i>The Style of the Promythium</i>	400
12.4.2	<i>“Against Those Who ...” and Other Subjects</i>	405
12.5	The Forms of the <i>Epimythium</i>	406
12.6	“You” in the Ancient Fable	413
12.7	Conclusion	417
<b>Chapter 13: Interpreting from the Fable Perspective</b>		419
13.1	Introduction	419
13.2	The Challenge of Weaving a Fable into a Gospel: The Judge and the Widow (Luke 18:1–8)	420
13.3	The Production of New Paratexts by the Fable Collector: The Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9–14)	427

13.4	The Futility of the “Single Lesson” Theory: The Crafty Steward (Luke 16:1–13) .....	432
13.5	Scribes Interpreting Jesus’s Fables: The Place at the Table (Luke 14:7–11) .....	438
13.6	Creating Plot with the <i>Chreia</i> , the Fable, and Its Framing Devices: The Rich Fool (Luke 12:15–21) .....	443
13.7	An <i>Epimythium</i> to Fable Interpretation: C. H. Dodd and the Kingdom of God .....	445
13.8	Conclusion .....	447
<b>Chapter 14: The Lukan Fable Collection: A Source .....</b>		<b>449</b>
14.1	Introduction .....	449
14.2	Luke’s “Parable” Collection in Gospel Scholarship .....	450
14.3	Aesthetic Features of the Ancient Fable Collections .....	459
14.3.1	<i>Phaedrus</i> .....	460
14.3.2	<i>The Augustana Collection</i> .....	462
14.3.3	<i>Babrius</i> .....	464
14.3.4	<i>Avianus</i> .....	466
14.4	Aesthetic Features of the Lukan Fable Collection .....	467
14.4.1	<i>Twin Fables and Coordinating Catchphrases</i> .....	468
14.4.2	<i>Conspicuous Catchwords or Thematic Vocabulary</i> .....	476
14.5	Conclusion .....	477
<b>Chapter 15: Source Criticism of the Lukan Fables .....</b>		<b>479</b>
15.1	Introduction .....	479
15.2	The Source Critical Value of the Fable Features .....	479
15.2.1	<i>The Absence of the Kingdom of God in the Lukan Fable Collection</i> .....	480
15.2.2	<i>Soliloquy and Interior Monologue</i> .....	483
15.2.3	<i>Narrative Framing Devices</i> .....	489
15.3	Style and Vocabulary .....	490
15.3.1	<i>The Historical Present</i> .....	491
15.3.2	<i>Conjunctions and Parataxis</i> .....	495
15.3.3	<i>Asyndeton</i> .....	497
15.3.4	<i>The Absence of the Lukan Speaking Formula</i> .....	504
15.3.5	<i>Vocabulary</i> .....	509
15.4	Problems with the Alternative Theories .....	512
15.5	The Shape of the Source .....	514
15.6	The Sitz im Leben .....	516

15.7	The Date, Location, and Authorship of the Lukan Fable Collection .....	520
15.8	Conclusion .....	521
<b>Chapter 16: Fables beyond the Lukan Gospel .....</b>		<b>523</b>
16.1	Introduction .....	523
16.2	Fables and the Other Early Christian Writings .....	523
16.2.1	<i>Matthew</i> .....	524
16.2.2	<i>Q</i> (?) .....	525
16.2.3	<i>Mark</i> .....	527
16.2.4	<i>John</i> .....	527
16.2.5	<i>Paul</i> .....	528
16.2.6	<i>Thomas</i> .....	530
16.3	Church Fathers .....	531
16.4	The Historical Jesus .....	533
16.5	Biblical and Post-biblical Judaism .....	535
16.6	Fable Scholarship .....	536
16.7	Conclusion to Book II .....	537
<b>Bibliography .....</b>		<b>543</b>
<b>Key to Perry Numbers .....</b>		<b>583</b>
<b>Index of Fables .....</b>		<b>585</b>
<b>Index of Biblical, Early Christian, and Jewish Sources .....</b>		<b>597</b>
<b>Index of Other Classical and Pre-Modern Authors and Materials .....</b>		<b>609</b>
<b>Index of Modern Authors (Selective) .....</b>		<b>617</b>
<b>Index of Subjects .....</b>		<b>621</b>