

STUDIES

- Norbert Nagy
The Contextualisation of the Parable of the Unjust Steward as a Slave Parable
and Its Ecclesiastical Interpretation 203
- György Papp
The Reception of the Historical Work of the Rhetorician Priscus in
Géza Gárdonyi's *Slave of the Huns* I. 235
- Tímea Berki
Sámuel Brassai's Social Network in the 1830's and 1840's 258

WORKSHOP

- László Gál
More than a Grey Building: 86 Years since the Opening of the First
Department Store in Cluj-Napoca, the Sora. 272

VARIA

- Előd Szabó
The Ark of the Covenant, the Ark of Providence. 282
- Alpár Bartha
Vertical Attention 287
- Vilmos Erdő-B
A toast with the Berde Chalice 289

BOOK REVIEW

László Széles: *The Layers of Preaching in the 17th Century: Writers, Copiers, Compilers, Listeners*, ed. by Gábor FÖRKÖLI, Borbála LOVAS, Dávid SZIGETI MOLNÁR (Budapest: History of Early Modern Unitarian Preaching Literature in Transylvania and Hungary Research Group – Protestant Theological Institute of Cluj-Napoca, 2024), 284 pp. 292

Obituary

Sándor Szentgyörgyi
In memoriam Ádám János Pál 298

Abstracts 299

Indexed by Religious and Theological Abstracts.



Year of Foundation: 1861. Publisher: The Transylvanian Unitarian Church. Appears quarterly.

Editor in Chief: **dr. Sándor Kovács**

Editor: **dr. Júlia Eszter Andorkó**

Copyreader: **Gabriella Dénes, Rodger Mattlage**

Layout: **Péter Virág**

Editorial Board: **dr. Juliane Brandt, dr. Szabolcs Czire, dr. Ildikó Horn,
dr. Botond Koppándi, dr. Csilla Adél Lakatos, dr. Borbála Lovas, dr. Lehel Molnár**

Honorary editors: **dr. Mihály Balázs, dr. Elek Rezi**

Editorial Office: B-dul 21 Decembrie 1989, nr. 9, 400105 Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Tel: +40 264 593 236, +40 740 246 585; e-mail: keresztnymagveto@unitarius.org

Printed by the IDEA Printing House. ISSN 1222-8370.

ABSTRACTS

Norbert Nagy

The Contextualisation of the Parable of the Unjust Steward as a Slave Parable and Its Ecclesiastical Interpretation

The parable of the unjust steward is considered one of Jesus' most puzzling parables. After more than two thousand years of interpretation, 21st century parable scholarship is offering new interpretations of this extremely difficult parable. While much has been written from a reader-response perspective, very few scholars have attempted to apply current postcolonial interpretations to the social context of the parable. By doing so, and incorporating social-scientific criticism and biblical hermeneutics, intriguing new insights may emerge.

This article proposes that the unjust steward was a slave who used his wisdom and shrewdness to seize the single opportunity available to him to liberate himself from his master's dominion. Consequently, when this interpretation is contextualized within an ecclesiastical framework, valuable lessons for the church may be uncovered.

Keywords: biblical hermeneutics, biblical exegesis, criticism, exegesis, hermeneutics, justice, parable, postcolonial reading, reader-response perspective, slave parable, slavery, social-scientific criticism, steward; Jesus

György Papp

The Reception of the Historical Work of the Rhetorician Priscus in Géza Gárdonyi's Slave of the Huns I.

This article is the first of two which examines how the Hungarian writer Géza Gárdonyi (1863–1922) integrated surviving fragments of the historical work by Priscus of Panium (?–472?), the diplomat, historian and rhetorician, into his novel *Slave of the Huns* (the Hungarian title: *A láthatatlan ember*/The Invisible Man). This article focuses on the depiction of the diplomatic mission and the plotting and subsequent exposure of a conspiracy against Attila the Hun

(c. 406–453). The second article will address the portrayal of prominent individuals and the elaborate diplomatic banquets.

This article's introductory section provides a brief overview of Priscus' life and historical writings, and identifies editions of Priscus's history that might have been accessible to Gárdonyi. While it is uncertain which editions Gárdonyi relied on to acquaint himself with Priscus' fragments, it is evident that he had a thorough knowledge of them. A parallel reading of his novel and Priscus' fragments clearly reveals that Gárdonyi incorporated these fragments into his work, remaining as faithful as possible to the historical data while enlivening the historian's sparse records with the freedom of literary creativity.

Keywords: historical work, literary creativity, novel, *A láthatatlan ember*; Attila the Hun (c. 406–453); Gárdonyi, Géza (1863–1922); Priscus of Panium (?–472)

Tímea Berki

Sámuel Brassai's Social Network in the 1830's and 1840's

Sámuel Brassai (1797/1800–1897) was a gifted eccentric, living in the decades preceding the professionalization and differentiation of the scientific disciplines.

Based on research into original manuscripts and other printed resources, this article reconstructs Brassai's place within his extensive social network. It also explores his strategies and innovations as an editor of the magazine *Vasárnap* *Újság* (Sunday Paper), founded by Sándor Bölöni Farkas (1795–1842).

This article explores the process by which Brassai formed his network and also traces his orientation in scientific life and his involvement in the education of society in the pages of the magazine.

Brassai eventually became recognized as “the last Transylvanian Polymath”.

Keywords: editorial strategies, education of society, polymath, social network, the last polymath of Transylvania; Transylvania; *Vasárnap* *Újság*; Bölöni Farkas, Sándor (1795–1842); Brassai, Sámuel (1797/1800–1897)