396 ST. LUKE. XV. 23—32.   
   
 shoes on his feet: \*8 and bring hither the fatted calf, and   
 “kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: %!'for this my son   
 aj Es was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.   
 rs And they began to be merry. % Now his elder son was in   
 the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he   
 heard musick and dancing. \* And he called one of ¥ the   
 servants, and asked what these things meant. 2% And he   
 said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath   
 killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him \* safe   
 and sound. % And he was angry, and would not go in :   
 therefore came his father out, and intreated him. % And   
 he answering said to his father, Lo, » these many years do I   
 serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy com-   
 mandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I   
   
   
   
   
 Y render, his. 5 Uterally, in health.   
 ® read, but his father came out.   
 » diterally, so many, naming some number. See Acts v. 8, where the word   
   
 ie the same,   
 distinguished and free person, see that from his father; see Matt. xviii.   
 ii. 2; Gen, xii, The shoes, also 30. »} in the fiold— probably   
 the mark of a free man (for slaves went working, in the course his “serving,”   
 barefoot), see Zech. x. 12; Eph. vi. 15. he expresses it, ver. He was appa-   
 These are the gifts of grace and holiness rently returning at meal-time.   
 with which the returned penitent clothed musick and ] This is one of   
 by his . the fatted calf] So Judg. vi. by-glances into the occupations and   
 hae Gideon is commanded "to ut thy recreations of human life, by which the   
 father’s young bullock of seven years Lord s0 often stamps tacit. on   
 by "the LXX thy father’s the joys and unbendings of men. Would   
 calf): some calf fatted for a particular these festal its been here   
 feast or anniv: , and standing in the mentioned by Him on so solemn and   
 stall. No allusion must be thoug! of to blessed an occasion, if they really were   
 the sacrificing of Christ y—whieh would among those works of the devil which He   
 be wholly out of place here,—and is pre- came into the world to destroy?   
 in al whole parable. be 28—33.) Stier well remarks that this   
 Matt. xxv. 21, 23. GI IBS heaven ;”—all elder is now the lost he has lost all   
 alive i —the lost money: lost, who childlike filial he betrays the hy-   
 have entered 1 Pet, il, see Jobn iii. a pocrite within. The love and forbearance   
 contrast to the in ver. 14, of the father are eminently shewn—the   
 25—28.] As far as the penitent, utter want of love humility in the son   
 the parable is fini :—but those who Pre contrasted with them.   
 murmured at his reception, were the 29. saying, even in the de I serve   
 proud and faultless son,—always in ths very manner of speech of a Pharisee   
 the house and servi but not, as will commandments ? thou never ask with   
 appear, either over-: or over- me answers the differences the explana-   
 respectful, too must act their part, tion, in 12 ;—it is a separation intro-   
 in ae te pertont, his art ot As there pointed ont, the father, and, as   
 Sed) ante this part of the ground of sin. a kid, of less value   
 oe sets forth reception he meets than a calf, my friends—who are   
 Pith from his fallow-men, in coutrast