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| Motif: Leadership and Rule: Return of the King |
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| **Odysseus the Beggar**   * Why does Odysseus wish to go to his own palace disguised as a beggar? What does the beggar disguise symbolize? * Why is it important for him to show patience and self-restraint, even when hit and insulted? * What is the meaning of the death of Argos, Odysseus' old hunting dog?   **Odysseus’ Revenge**   * What do you think about the fact that Odysseus reveals his identity to his son? * What of their plot to kill the suitors? Is it justified? Does it accord well with the principles of justice set forth in the *Odyssey* ? * What do you think of Athena's eagerness to see the suitors killed? Is that proper in a divinity? Is Athena, the goddess of wisdom, wise?   **Reunion With Penelope**   * Why does Homer save this moment until the end? * Why does Penelope test Odysseus? * Is Odysseus content to rest from travel, or does the story suggest that Ithaca will not be enough for him in the future? * Has Telemachus achieved his adult identity as a man now that Odysseus is home?   Source: http://fajardo-acosta.com/worldlit/homer/odyssey.htm |
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| **Focus Passages**   * Odysseus the Beggar, book 17, pp. 264-273 * Odysseus’ Revenge, book 19, pp. 290-308 * Reunion with Penelope, book 23, pp. 353-363 |