

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE ICI REPORT FOR APRIL 2014

(a) SBL INTERNATIONAL MEETING IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA

The SBL is joining forces with the EABS (European Association of Biblical Studies) again for the International Meeting which will take place in Vienna, Austria, from 6-10 July. The Call for Papers is closed now, and the program director is busy scheduling the sessions. The program will be made available soon. Registration and accommodation bookings are open, and you may benefit from a considerable pre-conference discount. See the following link:

https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/meetings_registration20.aspx?meetingId=24

An ICI forum meeting will be held at the Vienna conference, so you will be welcome to join us to share your ideas and views. The time and venue will be communicated to you later.

(b) SBL ANNUAL MEETING IN SAN DIEGO, CA

The SBL Annual Meeting will take place in San Diego, California, from 22-26 November. The Call for Papers is closed now, and the program director is busy scheduling the sessions. The program will be made available soon. Registration and accommodation bookings are open, and you may benefit from a considerable pre-conference discount. See the following link:

http://sbl-site.org/meetings/meetings_registrationAM.aspx

An ICI forum meeting will be held at the San Diego conference, so you will be welcome to join us to share your ideas and views. The time and venue will be communicated to you later.

(c) PUBLICATION IN ANEM/MACO

ANEM/MACO is a series that was established by the SBL at the request of the International Cooperation Initiative (ICI), and which is co-edited by Ehud Ben Zvi and Roxanna Flammini. The series publishes volumes on the Ancient Near East (including ancient Israel) electronically and makes them freely available for download. (Paperback and hardback versions of the volumes are available too, for a reasonable price.) Any work published in ANEM/MACO is freely available in electronic version to anyone in

perpetuity. To view the volumes published in the series, please go to http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ANEmonographs.aspx

The latest volume in ANEM/MACO is still hot of the press! See the further information below, as well as the link where it can be downloaded for free.

Deuteronomy–Kings as Emerging Authoritative Books: A Conversation

Diana V. Edelman

Why did the books of Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings grow in authority during the Persian and Hellenistic periods and begin to be collected and read in sequence? In this collection of essays, each of the five books is addressed by two established scholars who explore themes and topics that made that book a candidate to be read and reread in the specified periods in which most scholars would agree the book was gaining authority. The focus is not on when each book was written or the historicity of the material contained in it but on the larger impact the book might have had on primary or secondary audiences as part of emerging Torah. The volume focuses uniquely on why readers and rereaders in the Persian and Hellenistic periods found these books to encapsulate emerging Jewish identity and how they used the past to address the present and the future. This book will appeal to those who want to understand more fully the socio-religious function of emerging Torah in the Persian and early Hellenistic periods.

To download the book for free, paste the following link into your browser:
<http://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/pubs/9781589837409openaccess.pdf>

(d) PUBLICATION IN IVBS

IVBS is a series that was established by the SBL at the request of the International Cooperation Initiative (ICI), and which is co-edited by Monica Melanchthon and Jione Havea. IVBS encourages in particular submissions from scholars in the present seven international regions for which it has editorial boards: Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, Middle East-South Asia, Northeast Asia, Pacific, and Southeast Asia. Interregional collaborations are also welcome. IVBS publishes works in English and in any other language for which its editors can find qualified peer reviewers. Any work published in IVBS is freely available to anyone in perpetuity. The series publishes work generally in the area of reception history and criticism. The scope is not limited to any particular biblical text or historical timeframe. The works will mainly be published in

English and, wherever possible, also in primary languages of authors. For more information please go to <http://ivbs.sbl-site.org/home.aspx>. If you would consider publishing your work in this series, feel free to contact one of the two general editors, [Monica Melanchthon](#) or [Jione Havea](#).

(e) PUBLICATIONS: ONLINE BOOKS – NEW BOOKS ADDED

(For the full list, please go to http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ICIbooks.aspx)

Revelation

Knight, Jonathan. *Revelation*. Readings: A New Biblical Commentary. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2011.

This reading of Revelation views the text as John's response to the problem of social accommodation in the churches of Asia Minor. Knight works from the hypothesis, now increasingly argued in scholarly circles, that there was no persecution of the Christians by the emperor Domitian at the end of the first century CE, and he explains the references to martyrdom in the Apocalypse as mainly symbolic. Knight argues that John is creating awareness of a crisis in order to call his readers to a stricter pattern of behaviour than Paul had allowed when writing to the Corinthians. This readable chapter-by-chapter commentary on the book concludes with a section on the main theological ideas of Revelation. This is a reprint of the edition originally published in 1999.

Hosea (Second Edition)

Landy, Francis. *Hosea (Second Edition)*. Readings: A New Biblical Commentary. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2011.

This reading of Hosea explores the book from a feminist, psychoanalytical and poetic perspective. What is God doing with a prostitute? How does the theme of prostitution relate to the abjection of the woman as the other, and the fantasy of sexual ecstasy, precisely because she escapes patriarchal order? Where is the prophet situated in the dialectic of rage and desire that both seduces and condemns Israel? The prophet's voice is both masculine and feminine, and poetically embodies the sensuality of wayward Israel. The ambiguity of voice is also that of the prophet's role, which is both to nurture Israel, as on its Exodus from Egypt, and to be the trap that destroys it. The problematic of voice and prophetic function is evident in the vivid dissection of Israel's social institutions, whose disintegration is inversely related to the centrality of the discussion

in the structure of the book, and in the violent swings from despair to impossible hope. The focus on immediate and uncontrollable entropy, manifest in extended tangled metaphors, that occupies the centre of the book, is framed in the outer chapters by intertextual references to Israel's primordial vision, and the romantic distantiation of the Song of Songs, in which the erotic and poetic contradictions of the book find their perhaps ironic resolution. This is an extensive revision of the 1995 edition.

The Great Name: Ancient Egyptian Royal Titulary

Leprohon, Ronald J. *The Great Name: Ancient Egyptian Royal Titulary*. Writings from the Ancient World. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013.

The titulary of the ancient Egyptian king was one of the symbols of authority he assumed at his coronation. At first consisting only of the Horus name, the titulary grew to include other phrases chosen to represent the king's special relationship with the divine world. By the Middle Kingdom (late twenty-first century B.C.E.), the full fivefold titulary was clearly established, and kings henceforth used all five names regularly. This volume includes all rulers' names from the so-called Dynasty 0 (ca. 3200 B.C.E.) to the last Ptolemaic ruler in the late first century B.C.E., offered in transliteration and English translation with an introduction and notes.

Rethinking Paul's Rhetorical Education

Schellenberg, Ryan S. *Rethinking Paul's Rhetorical Education: Comparative Rhetoric and 2 Corinthians 10-13*. Early Christianity and Its Literature, 10. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013.

Scholars debate whether Paul had formal or informal training in Greco-Roman rhetoric. Using 2 Corinthians 10–13, Schellenberg demonstrates that Paul's rhetorical strategies are also attested in speakers without formal training. The appearance of these strategies does not constitute evidence that Paul received formal rhetorical education.

Prophets Male and Female: Gender and Prophecy in the Hebrew Bible, the Eastern Mediterranean, and the Ancient Near East

Stökl, Jonathan and Corrine L. Carvalho. *Prophets Male and Female: Gender and Prophecy in the Hebrew Bible, the Eastern Mediterranean, and the Ancient Near East*. Ancient Israel and Its Literature, 15. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013.

Biblical scholars and scholars of the ancient Mediterranean consider Old Testament prophetic texts, prophecy in ancient Mesopotamia and in early Christianity. Using the

most current theoretical categories, they demonstrate how essential a broad definition of gender is to understand both the delivery and content of ancient prophecy

(f) EVENTS

The SBL maintains a significant list of events taking place anywhere in the globe. For the full list please go to <http://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/events.aspx>

A selection of events is listed below—mainly those taking place in ICI regions.

Please provide information on conferences in your region, including calls for papers, to Sharon Johnson at sharon.johnson@sbl-site.org.

May 25-29, 2014

The Pentateuch within Biblical Literature: Formation and Interaction

This international conference; held at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies in Jerusalem; explores the fundamental research problem defined so clearly by Wellhausen over a century ago. The primary focus will be the formation of the Pentateuch and its dynamic interaction with both the prophetic corpus and the historiographic literature of the Hebrew Bible. Particular attention will be paid to crucial methodological issues such as the problem of narrative continuity in the ancient world, linguistic dating of biblical texts, the significance of archaeology and historical geography, and the relevance of Second Temple literature for understanding the formation of the Pentateuch. The conference, which features several interactive workshop sessions, is structured to encourage significant time for discussion among participants. The conference organizers are Jan Christian Gertz (Heidelberg University), Bernard M. Levinson (University of Minnesota), Dalit Rom-Shiloni (Tel Aviv University), and Konrad Schmid (University of Zurich).

More information: <http://ias.huji.ac.il/pentateuch>

May 31, 2014**Call for Papers Deadline: Biblical Exegesis between East and West**

Review of Ecumenical Studies issue 3/2014 invites authors of various confessions to discuss the differences and similarities in the field of Biblical studies and to illustrate the extent to which they have mutually learned from one another. How can an Orthodox Bible scholar employ the historical-critical method? What could a Protestant theologian learn from the Orthodox Biblical exegesis? Is there an Orthodox Biblical exegesis at all? What would be its characteristics and what is the opinion of the rather critical Bible scholars on this approach?

[More information](#)

June 16, 2014**MATS 2014, Call for Papers Deadline**

The biennial conference of the Melanesian Association of Theological Schools will be held at the Christian Leaders' Training College, Mt. Hagen, Papua New Guinea, from 7-11 July 2014. The conference theme, Gospel Responses to Vital Issues Facing the Melanesian World in the 21st Century: Biblical, Theological, Missiological, allows for a wide range of papers addressing church, government, and globalization issues, as well as social, cultural, and moral concerns in Melanesia. Persons who hold or are undertaking a postgraduate degree in a theology-related field are invited to present 30 minute papers that will be followed by 15 minutes of questions from the audience. Papers on the theme are preferred but others will be accepted. Send abstracts of 250 words by email (as Word attachments) to Dr. Doug Hanson at graduate_studies@cltc.ac.pg and douglas.david.hanson@gmail.com or call (675) 73565595.

June 22-25, 2014**[Meeting of Society of Asian Biblical Studies \(SABS\)](#)**

The next meeting of the SABS will be held from the 22nd to the 25th of June 2014 (arrival 22nd and departure 26th) in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The meeting is jointly hosted by the Church of Christ in Thailand and the McGilvary College of Divinity, Payap University. The theme of the conference is "Violence in the Human and Earth Community—Asian Biblical Response." For more information regarding this conference go to <http://www.sabs-site.com/>. Please write to [the Secretary](#) for any queries.

July 1-4, 2014**Meeting of the Society of Indonesian Biblical Scholars (ISBI)**

The next meeting of the ISBI will be held from the 1-4 July 2014 in Manado, North Celebes. The meeting is jointly hosted by STAKN Manado and STFK Pineleng. The theme

of the conference is “Monotheism in Bible and Local Religions.” For more information regarding this conference please write to SBI’s President [Rev Agus Santoso](#) or via ICI liaison [Martin Harun](#).

July 6-10, 2014

[SBL International Meeting & European Association of Biblical Studies Meeting](#)

To be held in Vienna. Call for papers is closed now. Registration is now open. See information above.

November 22-25, 2014

[SBL Annual Meeting](#)

The SBL Annual Meeting is the largest gathering of biblical scholars in the world. Each meeting showcases the latest in biblical research, fosters collegial contacts, advances research, and focuses on issues of the profession. The Annual Meeting will be held in San Diego, California

(g) SBL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FREELY AVAILABLE

There are links to numerous educational resources on the SBL website. The following are freely available: (i) Resources on Teaching the Bible; (ii) Freely downloadable Hebrew, Greek and Transliteration fonts (amongst others); (iii) Resources on Bible translations and commentaries; and (iv) Research tool resources.

See <http://sbl-site.org/educational/default.aspx>

(h) PLEASE PASS THE INFORMATION.

It is surprising that we continue to have correspondence from scholars in ICI countries that are just learning about the ICI programs. Please share this newsletter with your colleagues and students and become a liaison for your institution and SBL. (Please contact our liaison officer, [Tim Langille](#), if you would like to assist as contact person in your region.) Your advocacy for ICI strengthens biblical studies as a discipline and builds relationships in the global community. Thank you for those who have done so in the past—we also receive letters from people who received the newsletter from someone else.

With best wishes for your Bible scholarship!

Louis Jonker, SBL – International Cooperation Initiative