

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE ICI REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2018

(a) THE SBL ANNUAL MEETING 2018, DENVER

The next SBL Annual Meeting will take place in Denver, Colorado, from 17 to 20 November 2018. The Call for Papers is **closed**, Registering is **open**. Program Book is **available**.

See this link: <https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Annualmeeting.aspx>

SOME ADDITIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN DENVER!!:

Hotel	Website	Address	Phone	Fees*	Distance to Colorado Convention Center
Hostel Fish*	www.hostelfish.com	1217 20th St., Denver, CO 80202	(303) 954-0962	\$43/night (dorms) to \$120/night (private)	1 mile
11th Avenue Hotel and Hostel*	www.11thavenuehotelandhostel.com	1112 Broadway, Denver, CO 80204	(303) 894-0529	\$30/night (dorms) to \$55/night (single)	1 mile
Ember Hostel*	www.emberhostels.com	857 Grant St., Denver, CO 80203	(303) 942-1633	\$50/night (dorms) to \$120/night (private)	1.5 miles
La Quinta Inn Denver Central	www.laquintadenvercentral.com	3500 Park Ave. West, Denver, CO 80216	(303) 458-1222	\$64/night	2 miles
Motel 6 Denver Central	www.motel6.com	3050 W 49th Ave., Denver CO 80221	(303) 455-888	\$77/night	5 miles
Extended Stay American Denver-Cherry Creek	www.extendedstayamerica.com	4444 Leetsdale Dr., Glendale, CO 80246	(303) 388-3880	\$80/night	5 miles

Fees are subject to change

*Hostel or guest house may have common shared dormitories or bathrooms

(b) THE SBL INTERNATIONAL MEETING 2019, ROME

The next SBL International Meeting has been changed to take place in the Pontifical Biblical Institute and the Gregorian University, Rome, from 1 to 5 July 2019. The Call for Papers is **open**.

See this link: <https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Internationalmeeting.aspx>

Visa letters for travel to the Annual or International Meetings

In order to facilitate attendance by those in ICI countries at SBL Congresses, [Samantha Spitzner](#) has been appointed as the SBL visa coordinator. Samantha will advise members who need visas in order to travel to and participate in the Annual or International Meetings. She will not prepare applications, but will be a source of information to aid members in submitting applications and will provide letters of intent if needed by those participating in the meeting as presenters or committee members. For more information, please contact Samantha directly.

SBL INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AWARDS

As of December 1, 2018, the SBL Travel Grant program will begin accepting Applications.

Deadlines

1 December 2018: International Travel Award application opens.

15 February 2019: Deadline – Application form and recommendation letter.

15 April 2019: Award decisions will be announced.

The SBL International Travel Awards offer opportunities to current SBL members outside North America to attend the Annual or International Meeting, to participate in the program, to enhance their professional development, and to build their network with fellow scholars. These grants help facilitate the work of Program Units and the International Cooperation Initiative (“ICI”). These grants are intended to support underrepresented and underresourced scholars. As such, preference will be given to women, people of historically underrepresented ethnicities, and members from [ICI-qualifying countries](#). A key criterion is an applicant’s demonstrable financial need.

Four International Travel Award Panels (ITAP) will administer the awards each year, serving four geographic regions:

- Africa and Middle East
- Asia and Pacific
- Eastern Europe
- Latin America and Caribbean

For awards offered in 2018, each ITAP will administer \$3,000 in awards in each region. The panels may determine the best distribution of funds (e.g., as one \$1000 and one \$2000 award, or as three awards of \$1000 each). The applicants must attend the Annual or International Meetings, but may or may not participate in the program, depending upon their needs expressed in the application. All grants include lodging (one room, single or shared) for four nights and complimentary meeting registration. Recipients may not have attended an Annual or International Meeting within the last five (5) years.

<https://www.sbl-site.org/membership/AMtravelgrant.aspx>

(c) PUBLICATION IN ANCIENT NEAR EAST MONOGRAPHS (ANEM)

ANEM is a series that was established by the SBL at the request of the International Cooperation Initiative (ICI), jointly published with the Universidad Católica Argentina's Centro de Estudios de Historia del Antiguo Oriente (CEHAO) and co-edited by Jeffrey Stackert and Juan Manuel Tebes. The series publishes volumes on the Ancient Near East (including ancient Israel) both in print and electronically, making them freely available for download. Paperback and hardback versions of the volumes are available, for a reasonable price.

To view the volumes published in the series, please go to

http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ANEmonographs.aspx (SBL English version)

<http://www.uca.edu.ar/anem> (CEHAO Spanish version)

The latest volume in ANEM is:

FARBER, Zev I., Jacob L. WRIGHT (eds.) Archaeology and History of Eighth-Century Judah. Ancient Near East Monographs – Monografías sobre el Antiguo Oriente, Volume 23. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature – Centro de Estudios del Antiguo Oriente, 2018. 593 pp. ISBN 9781628372335

Essays from an international group of experts.

Essays from an international group of experts on the ancient Near East and the Hebrew Bible honor Oded Borowski's pioneering work in the archaeology and history of ancient Israel and Judah. Contributors approach the question of what we know of eighth-century Judah from multiple angles, including a survey of Judah's neighbors, the land of Judah and its cities, daily life and material culture, religious beliefs and practices, and early forms of what are now biblical texts. Contributors include Rami Arav, Shawn Zelig Aster, Assaf Avraham, Jeffrey A. Blakely, Sandra Blakely, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, Efrat Bocher, Erin Darby, Jennie Ebeling, Zev I. Farber, Avraham Faust, Daniel E. Fleming, Yuval Gadot, Kristine Garroway, Seymour Gitin, James W. Hardin, Gilad Itach, Hayah Katz, Reinhard G. Kratz, Joel M. LeMon, Shani Libi, Oded Lipschits, Donald Redford, Christopher Rollston, Bruce Routledge, Yair Sapir, Konrad Schmid, Cynthia Shafer-Elliott, Brent A. Strawn, Andy Vaughn, Jacob L. Wright, and K. Lawson Younger Jr.

Features:

- Emphasis on the influence of Assyria in Judah's political, religious, and material cultures.
- Multiple models for the early stages of biblical writing and composition.
- Updated information on pottery typologies.

(d) PUBLICATION IN INTERNATIONAL VOICES IN BIBLICAL STUDIES (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 Melancthon](#) or [Jione Havea](#).

The latest volume in IVBS is:

Nofoaiga, V. A Samoan Reading of Discipleship in Matthew. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017.

A reading of discipleship as service from the ancient Galilee to contemporary Samoa

The Bible contains a collection of perspectives that should not be privileged over and against the perspectives of readers from other lands. This book offers an alternative understanding of discipleship under the influence of the Samoan *tautua* (servant), for whom the needs of family and local people are foremost, and approaches in biblical criticism that affirm locatedness of readers. Because discipleship is also about place, which might be in-between spaces, Nofoaiga offers *tautuaileva* (service in-between spaces) readings of Matthew 4:12–25 and Matthew 7:24–8:22 that emphasize place (Galilee) as well as the marginalized and excluded (the crowd). With the twirlings and ebbings expected from natives of oral cultures, Nofoaiga holds the complexity of *tautuaileva* in this study and offers it as his contribution to the assembling and assembly of islander criticism.

Features:

Tautuaileva, or service in-between spaces or in relational places, as a method of islander criticism.

A critique of traditional interpretations of the meaning of discipleship as abandoning family, duty, and responsibility.

Glossary of important Samoan terms and phrases.

(e) PUBLICATIONS: ONLINE BOOKS

For a **full alphabetic list of all publications available for free in the ICI book repository program**, please go to:

http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ICIbooks.aspx

New books added to the repository!:

Trimm, Charlie. *Fighting for the King and the Gods: A Survey of Warfare in the Ancient Near East. Resources for Biblical Study 88.* Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017.

Fighting for the King and the Gods provides an introduction to the topic of war and the variety of texts concerning many aspects of warfare in the ancient Near East. These texts illustrate various viewpoints of war and show how warfare was an integral part of life. Trimm examines not only the victors and the famous battles, but also the hardship that war brought to many. While several of these texts treated here are well known (i.e., Ramses II's battle against the Hittites at Qadesh), others are known only to specialists. This work will allow a broader audience to access and appreciate these important texts as they relate to the history and ideology of warfare.

Buchner, Dirk, ed. *The SBL Commentary on the Septuagint: An Introduction. Septuagint and Cognate Studies 67.* Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017.

This book contains verse by verse commentary on selections from the Greek text of the Hebrew Bible known as the Septuagint. Each chapter is from a different bible book, for which there will eventually be a full commentary published in the Society of Biblical Literature Commentary on the Septuagint. The commentary series focuses on the actual process of translation, so its authors try to describe and explain the kinds of decisions the ancient Alexandrian translators made about how

to render Hebrew into Greek.

Moore, Stephen D. *Gospel Jesuses and Other Nonhumans: Biblical Criticism Post-poststructuralism. Semeia Studies 89. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017.*

The current global ecological crisis has prompted a turn to the nonhuman in critical theory. This book breaks new ground in biblical studies as the first to bring nonhuman theory to bear on the gospels and Acts. Nonhuman theory, a confluence of several of the main theoretical streams that have issued forth since the heyday of high poststructuralism, includes affect theory, posthuman animality studies, critical plant studies, object-oriented new materialisms, and assemblage theory. Nonhuman theory dismantles and reassembles the Western concept of “the human” that coalesced during the Enlightenment and testifies to other conceptions of the human and of the nonhuman, not least those found in the canonical gospels and Acts. Stephen D. Moore’s exegetical explorations and defamiliarizations of these overly familiar texts and excavations of their incessantly erased strangeness are the central feature of this provocative book.

JSTOR provides free or low cost access to more than 1,500 institutions in 69 countries

More than 1,500 institutions in Africa and other developing nations receive access to JSTOR free of charge or for steeply reduced fees. This is made possible through a combination of philanthropic support and the fees paid by libraries in other countries around the world, as well as publishers’ eagerness to support this work. More information is available about JSTOR’s [African Access Initiative](#) and [Developing Nations Access Initiative](#) programs.

Need JSTOR Access?

As part of your Society of Biblical Literature membership, save 50% on the annual JPASS plan, your personal access to the JSTOR archive. With more than 1,900 scholarly journals, JSTOR is one of the world’s leading academic databases.

Millions of users worldwide rely on JSTOR for research, fact checking, and book reviews. This discounted subscription includes unlimited reading access and 120 article downloads. JSTOR adds new titles every month so you'll have a growing collection of the world's leading peer-reviewed journals only a click away.

To access the discounted JPASS, log-in to the SBL website with your member ID. Just below where you entered your member ID, click membership benefits. You will see JSTOR's JPASS among the benefits and a link "To get your savings: click here."

(f) ICI TEACHING COLLABORATION PROGRAM

In order to facilitate the exchange of scholars and institutions in biblical studies across the globe, a teaching collaboration program is run by the ICI. The facility consists of lists of scholars and institutions interested in exchanges that are made available on the SBL website.

See: <http://sbl-site.org/educational/ICITeaching.aspx>. If you or your institution is interested in such collaboration, please visit the site and enroll yourself in these lists. For more information, contact [Jackie du Toit](#).

(g) JOURNAL OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE (JBL) ARCHIVE

Take note that an archive with JBL articles from volume 122.1 of 2003 through volume 130.1 of 2011 is available online to people accessing the SBL website from any ICI country. See http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/ICI_JBLarchive.aspx. All articles in those volumes can be downloaded for free!

(h) THE SBL WEBSITE

The SBL website (on the SBL Press page) has a facility where one can search the full text of all SBL books! For this very convenient tool, see:

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

For searching reviews of a vast number of academic publications, see the website of Review of Biblical Literature (RBL) at (you have to log in with your membership number):

<http://www.bookreviews.org/>

(i) 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.

11/5 Conference Day 2018 Worldviews in the Ancient Near East: New Perspectives, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Organized by the Centro de Estudios de Historia del Antiguo Oriente (CEHAO) & Programa de Estudios de las Sociedades del Cercano Oriente Antiguo, Instituto de Investigaciones de la Facultad de Ciencias Sociales (UCA-CONICET), Universidad Católica Argentina.

<https://www.facebook.com/CEHAOoficial>

11/8-11/9 Symposium on Medieval Biblical Manuscripts from the Thames to the Euphrates in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Following the growing interest in the study of late medieval Bibles, this study day aims to foster explorations which are cross-cutting and synchronic rather than diachronic or based on identified cultural spaces of the Middle Ages. There will be interdisciplinary talks on possible distinctive or shared features, and on the possible products of exchanges, cultural transfers, or the Zeitgeist. The contributing specialists will be grouped not by language (Latin, Hebrew, Greek, Arabic) but by the subject to be studied in terms of texts, paratexts, forms or possible functional uses.

<http://www.cpafr.cnrs.fr/spip.php?article744>

11/17-11/20 SBL Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

<https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/AnnualMeeting.aspx>

2019

1/23-1/25 Prayer and the Ancient City: Influences of Urban Space

The Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg will host the conference. The workshop is a first attempt to investigate the impact of urban space on prayer practices and related religious thought and belief in antiquity

<https://www.theologie.uni-halle.de/nt/aktuelles/>

7/21-7/24 The British Association of Jewish Studies Conference

BAJS Annual Conference will be held at the University of Oxford. Theme: What is Commentary?

<https://britishjewishstudies.org/about/conference-2018/>

7/1-7/5 SBL International Meeting

Our host institutions are the Pontifical Biblical Institute and the Gregorian University, Rome, Italy.

<https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Internationalmeeting.aspx>

7/30-8/2 Society for New Testament Studies

SNTS 2019 General Meeting will be held in Marburg, Germany.

<http://snts.international/general-meetings/>

8/4-8/9 International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament

The 23rd Congress of IOSOT will be held at the University of Aberdeen.

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/events/conferences/iosot/index.php>

8/11-8/14 European Association of Biblical Studies

2019 Annual Conference will be held in Warsaw, Poland.

<https://www.eabs.net/>

(j) 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>

Also remember to check the newly-developed **Bible Odyssey** online portal. See www.bibleodyssey.org. This portal offers wonderful educational resources, but also resources for broader popular audiences. Use this site to popularize our academic studies in faith communities!

Any topics you would like to see Bible Odyssey address? Just send a message to: bow@sbl-site.org

(k) PLEASE PASS ON THE INFORMATION

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues and students and become a liaison for your institution and SBL. (Please contact our liaison officer, [Jackie du Toit](#), 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 to those who have done so in the past—we also receive letters from people who received the newsletter from someone else.

Thanks a lot for your interest and spread the word!

Juan

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