The Society of Biblical Literature and De Gruyter are delighted to announce the 2021 De Gruyter Prize recipient is Erin Galgay Walsh. Erin was awarded in the category of Textual Culture and Reception of the Bible for her paper entitled “The Gendered Body in Verse: Jacob of Serugh and Romanos Melodos on the Woman with a Flow of Blood.”

Erin Galgay Walsh (PhD Duke University, 2019) studies ancient and late antique Christianity with a focus on Syriac language and literature. Her current research focuses on the reception of biblical literature and the growth of asceticism within the eastern Roman and Persian Empires. Dr. Walsh is working on a book project examining the Nachleben of unnamed New Testament women in Syriac and Greek poetry, highlighting the work of Narsai of Nisibis, Jacob of Serugh, and Romanos Melodos. She teaches and writes upon a variety of topics in New Testament literature, the history of Biblical interpretation, Syriac language and literature, embodied practices, religious poetry, and multilingualism in the late antique and early Byzantine east. She is an affiliated faculty member with the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality and the Joyce Z. and Jacob Greenberg Center Jewish Studies at the University of Chicago. During the 2018-2019 academic year, she was a Junior Fellow in Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection of Harvard University. Professor Walsh also serves as Editor in Chief at Ancient Jew Review, a non-profit web journal devoted to the interdisciplinary study of ancient Judaism.

The award includes a cash prize of $750. The awarded papers will be published in the Journal of the Bible and its Reception. In addition to being published, the awarded papers will be delivered at the SBL Annual Meeting followed by a panel discussion. The papers are evaluated in accordance with the following criteria:

- Quality, originality and creativity.
- Promises an important and original contribution.
- Persuasive thesis with clarity of expression and thought, engaging and well written.

The members of the 2021 De Gruyter Award Committee are Amy Easton-Flake, Emerson Powery, Joy Schroeder, and Jay Twomey.

The call for papers for the 2021 Society of Biblical Literature – De Gruyter Prize for Biblical Studies and Reception History will open by January 31, 2022.