

It is my pleasure to distribute the ICI REPORT for February 2010

(a) PUBLICATIONS: IVBS

The IVBS website will be ready soon. The general editors, Monica Melanchthon (monixm@gmail.com) and Louis Jonker (lcj@sun.ac.za) are looking for submissions. Please consider publishing articles, books and collections of essays in this important series.

(b) PUBLICATIONS: ONLINE BOOKS

For the list of the books published online as of Feb 26, 2010 please go to http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ICIbooks.aspx

We continue looking at possibilities to expand this program.

The following books were added since the last report:

Lee, Nancy C. and Carleen Mandolfo, eds. *Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary Cultural Contexts*. Symposium 43. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2008.

Personal tragedy and communal catastrophe up to the present day are universal human experiences that call forth lament. Lament singers—from the most ancient civilizations to traditional oral poets to the biblical psalmists and poets of Lamentations to popular singers across the globe—have always raised the cry of human suffering, giving voice to the voiceless, illuminating injustice, or pleading for divine help. This volume gathers an international collection of essays on biblical lament and Lamentations, illuminating their genres, artistry, purposes, and significant place in the history and theologies of ancient Israel. It also explores lament across cultures, both those influenced by biblical traditions and those not, as the practices of composition, performance, and interpretation of life's suffering continue to shed light on our knowledge of biblical lament.

The contributors are Borislav Arapović, Wilma Ann Bailey, Adele Berlin, Mark J. Boda, Walter Brueggemann, Amy C. Cottrill, F. W. Dobbs-Allsopp, Clyde Fant, Erhard S. Gerstenberger, Archie Chi Chung Lee, Nancy C. Lee, Tod Linafelt, Carleen Mandolfo, William Morrow, Kathleen O'Connor, Kimberly Wedeven Segall, Gerald West, and Robert Williamson Jr.

Porter, Stanley E. and Christopher D. Stanley, eds. *As It Is Written: Studying Paul's Use of Scripture*. Symposium 50. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2008.

All scholars recognize that Scripture plays a vital role in the theology and rhetoric of the apostle Paul. They disagree, however, about how best to make sense of the many marked and unmarked references to Scripture that permeate his letters. This book aims to move the

discussion forward by examining the reasons behind these scholarly differences. The essays are united by a concern to show how scholarly opinions concerning Paul's use of Scripture have been influenced by the application of divergent methods and conflicting presuppositions regarding Paul, his audiences, and the role of biblical references in his letters. The book also seeks to extend the boundaries of the discussion by applying the insights of deconstruction, postcolonial theory, and feminist criticism to the study of Paul's use of Scripture. Together these essays show what can be accomplished when scholars take the time to discuss their differences and try out new approaches to old problems. The contributors are Douglas A. Campbell, Roy Ciampa, Steven DiMattei, Kathy Ehrensperger, Neil Elliott, Bruce N. Fisk, Mark D. Given, Steve Moyise, Stanley E. Porter, Jeremy Punt, and Christopher D. Stanley.

(c) DEVELOPING A NETWORK OF LIAISONS & TEACHING COLLABORATION PROJECTS

Nat Levtow (Nathaniel.Levtow@mso.umt.edu) is working on developing a substantial network of colleagues who would like to serve as liaisons for ICI projects in different countries and to spread awareness of ICI and its teaching collaboration projects. Please contact him if you wish to volunteer, suggest others and if you have any ideas that you think may be helpful to advance awareness of ICI around the globe.

(d) EVENTS

Please let submit basic information about events to Sharon Johnson at sharon.johnson@sbl-site.org. There are a number of other events that may be of interest to this group.

June 2010

6/14-6/16 The Society of Asian Biblical Studies (SABS) will hold its next meeting at the Divinity School, Chung Chi College, Chinese University of Hong Kong.

SABS seeks to bring together scholars interested in and committed to Biblical Studies in various contexts of Asia/Oceania, including those in diaspora. For further information, please contact Monica Melanchthon at styofabs@gmail.com or Tat-siong Benny Liew at bliew@psr.edu

July 2010

Zoroastrians ARAM Society for Syro-Mesopotamian Studies is organizing its Thirtieth Ninth International Conference on the theme of The Zoroastrians, to be held at the University of Oxford, 08-10 July 2010. The conference aims to study Zoroastrian religion and culture, and it will start on Thursday 08 July at 9am, finishing on Saturday 10 July at 1pm. Each speaker's paper is limited to 30 minutes, with an additional 10 minutes for discussion. If you wish to participate in the conference, please contact our Oxford address: ARAM, the Oriental Institute, Oxford University, Pusey Lane, Oxford OX1 2LE, England. Tel. ++1865-514041. Fax ++1865-516824. Email: aram@aramsociety.org

July 25-29 SBL International Meeting - Meeting of the European Association of Biblical Studies in Tartu, Estonia (this is joint meeting)

For information go to <http://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Internationalmeeting.aspx> and <http://www.eabs.net>

July 27-29

Indonesian Biblical Scholars Meeting in Jakarta The theme is The Development of the Wisdom's Tradition in the Bible. For more information e-mail Yonky Karman ykarman@cbn.net.id

August 1-6

The 20th Congress of IOSOT (International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament) in Helsinki, Finland. For more information and for information about the joint congresses of IOSCS, IOMS, IOQS and IOTS please go to <http://www.helsinki.fi/teol/pro/iosot/abstracts/index.htm>

(e) MEMBERSHIP

Please keep encouraging your colleagues and graduate students to join the Society and to contribute to shaping its future. Students from ICI qualifying countries have to pay only US \$ 10 and scholars from the same countries only US \$ 15 to become full members. Anyone who wishes to become a member and for whom this amount represents undue hardship is encouraged to contact Leigh. Please contact also Josey Snyder (josey.snyder@sbl-site.org) with any question related to this program.

(f) PLEASE PASS THE INFORMATION

Feel free to distribute this report among all those you think might find it helpful. If you are a member of other professional organizations related to biblical studies, we urge you to send our newsletters to those responsible for communication within those groups as well. There is still a significant number of colleagues who have not heard about the initiative.

Best wishes,
Ehud

Ehud Ben Zvi, SBL - International Cooperation Initiative