ICI REPORT FOR JULY 2013

(a) PLEASE PASS THE INFORMATION.

This is conferencing time in Europe. I have been in three international academic conferences since the middle of July. In each of them I had many informal ICI meetings and I have met with a significant number of scholars from various countries who have never heard of ICI, its goals and, never mind, its book depository. This information would have been of much help to them. All this is to say, please be pro-active in passing the information.

(b) LISTENING AND ENGAGING SESSIONS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SBL

Last year we skyped two sessions of the Annual Meeting of the SBL to two different groups in two continents and a good interaction ensued. We plan to build on our past experience, and broadcast far more sessions this year. More information to come in the near future.

(c) IOSOT TO MEET IN SOUTH AFRICA IN 2016

IOSOT (the International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament) has announced that its next meeting will be held in South Africa (University of Stellenbosch). This is only the second time that the meeting will be held outside Europe and the first time in the African continent.

(d) PUBLICATIONS: ONLINE BOOKS – NEW BOOKS ADDED

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

- (1) Chase, Frederic Henry. *The Lord's Prayer in the Early Church*. Text and Studies Vol 1, No. 3. Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press, 2004.
- (2) Edwards, Timothy. *Exegesis in the Targum of Psalms: The Old, the New, and the Rewritten*. Biblical Studies, 28/1. Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press, 2007.
- (3) Faust, Avraham. *Judah in the Neo-Babylonian Period: The Archaeology of Desolation*. Archaeology and Biblical Studies, 18. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2012.
- (4) Kelle, Brad E., Frank Ritchel Ames, and Jacob Wright, eds. *Interpreting Exile:* Displacement and Deportation in Biblical and Modern Contexts. Ancient Israel and Its Literature, 10. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2011.

- (5) Perdue, Leo G. ed., *The Blackwell Companion to the Hebrew Bible.* Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2001.
- (6) Skinner, Christopher W. and Kelly R. Iverson, eds. *Unity and Diversity in the Gospels and Paul: Essays in Honor of Frank J. Matera*. Early Christianity and Its Literature, 7. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2012.

(e) TYNDALE HOUSE AND SBLGNT

Tyndale House, with permission from SBL, has added the text of the SBL Greek New Testament to the Scripture Tools for Every Person (STEP) project hosted at www.StepBible.com. The SBLGNT is one of many Bible translations and editions used in the project. The Tyndale STEP program aims to provide reliable Bible software for those in under-resourced areas of the world. The software has been developed especially for use by those who have unreliable or limited internet access, so although it is browser based, it can be downloaded and run locally and can be ported across to phone and tablet platforms. The free software is distributed via the Internet, and individuals are allowed to make and give away copies, but, of course, not to sell them.

I am sure you would join me in thanking Tyndale House for making this software freely available to students and scholars everywhere, but especially for the availability in ICI countries! A web presentation can be viewed at www.tyndale.cam.ac.uk/STEP/STEP1.htm or view further details about the modules and ongoing development at www.Tyndale.cam.ac.uk/STEP.

(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

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

September 19-20

Biblical Studies, West and East: Trends, Challenges and Prospects

Conference hosted by the Department of Theology of the Ukrainian Catholic University. Abstracts are being accepted for the three panels: Current Methods and Approaches in Biblical Studies, Judaic Context of the New Testament, Hebrew and Greek Bibles. Indications of interest should be made as soon as possible with an abstract of up to 300 words and a short CV to Yuriy Shchurko. Inclusion in/and panels will be confirmed by

September 3rd 2013 at the latest. For more information: http://ucu.edu.ua/eng/announcements/1490/

November 23-26 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 Baltimore, Maryland. <u>More information</u>

(g) PERSONAL THANKS

My personal thanks to all the individuals I met during this conferencing season and who shared their experiences with and brought up ideas for furthering ICI and its goals. I apologize for the brief report, but I am still on the road.

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Ehud Ben Zvi, SBL - International Cooperation Initiative