

## SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE ICI REPORT FOR MARCH 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](https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/meetings_registration20.aspx?meetingId=24)

### (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 will also be opening soon. Keep your eye on the following link:

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

### (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](http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/Books_ANEmonographs.aspx)

We are excited to announce that one of the publications in this series, namely *The Forgotten Kingdom: The Archaeology and History of Northern Israel* by Israel Finkelstein, won the “Prix Delalande-Guérineau” by the the *Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres* for the French version of the book. The Prix Delalande-Guérineau is awarded by the *Académie* to the person whose published work is judged to be the best

in the field of Orientalism. The award has been given out every other year since the late 19th century. This prize is another confirmation of the high quality of scholarship which is made available freely to ICI and other countries. We congratulate the author, as well as the editors of ANEM/MACO, with this achievement.

To download the book for free, paste the following link into your browser:

[http://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/9781589839106dwld\\_txt.pdf](http://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/9781589839106dwld_txt.pdf)

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

**The Galilean Economy in the Time of Jesus**

Fiensy, David A. and Ralph K. Hawkins, eds. *The Galilean Economy in the Time of Jesus*. Early Christianity and Its Literature, No. 11. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013.

In order to provide an up-to-date report and analysis of the economic conditions of first-century C.E. Galilee, this collection surveys recent archaeological excavations (Sepphoris, Yodefath, Magdala, and Khirbet Qana) and reviews results from older excavations (Capernaum). It also offers both interpretation of the excavations for economic questions and lays out the parameters of the current debate on the standard of living of the ancient Galileans. The essays included, by archaeologists as well as biblical scholars, have been drawn from the perspective of archaeology or the social sciences. The volume thus represents a broad spectrum of views on this timely and often hotly debated issue.

**XIV Congress of the IOSCS, Helsinki, 2010**

Peters, Melvin K. H., ed. *XIV Congress of the IOSCS, Helsinki, 2010*. Septuagint and Cognate Studies, No. 59. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013.

This volume represents the current state of Septuagint studies as reflected in papers presented at the triennial meeting of the International Organization for Septuagint and Cognate Studies (IOSCS). It is rich with contributions from distinguished senior scholars as well as from promising younger scholars whose research testifies to the bright future and diversity of the field. The volume is remarkable in terms of the number, scholarly interests, and geographical distribution of its contributors; it is by far the largest

congress volume to date. More than fifty papers represent viewpoints and scholarship from Belgium, Canada, Cameroon, Finland, France, Germany, Israel, Korea, The Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

### **Sedulius, The Paschal Song and Hymns**

Springer, Carl P. E., trans. *Sedulius, The Paschal Song and Hymns*. Writings from the Greco-Roman World, No. 35. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013.

This is the first complete English translation of the poetic works of Sedulius, a Christian Latin poet of late antiquity whose biblical epic and hymns were enormously popular during the Middle Ages and the early modern period. The introduction places the poet and his works into his historical and literary contexts, followed by the Latin text of Sedulius's poetic works with English translation on facing pages. Notes on linguistic and historical matters are designed to help the reader with little or no Latin and only some familiarity with Sedulius's classical and biblical sources. Appendices supply texts and translations of incidental related materials, including Sedulius's dedicatory letters; biographical notices, subscriptions, and laudatory poems associated with Sedulius's works in the manuscript tradition; and representative excerpts from Sedulius's own prose paraphrase of the Paschale Carmen. The volume includes a bibliography and index.

### **Philodemus, On Property Management**

Tsouna, Voula, trans. *Philodemus, On Property Management*. Writings from the Greco-Roman World, No. 33. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2012.

Philodemus was an important Epicurean philosopher active in southern Italy in the first century B.C.E. His treatise *On Property Management*, whose surviving part is completely translated here into English for the first time, focuses primarily on the vices or virtues involved in the acquisition and preservation of property and wealth. The extant remains of the work contain the most extensive and thorough treatment of property management found in any Hellenistic author. Philodemus criticizes rival writings by Xenophon and Theophrastus on the subject of *oikonomia*, or property management, and defends his own Epicurean views on the topic. More systematic and philosophical than rival approaches, the treatise clarifies many moral issues pertaining to the possession and preservation of property and wealth and provides plausible answers to a cluster of moral questions.

**(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](mailto:sharon.johnson@sbl-site.org).

**April 22-25, 2014****New Testament Society of South Africa Conference**

The NTSSA conference will be held at the University of the Free State in Bloemfontein, South Africa. Those interested in attending must indicate by registering by the 14th April 2014. The theme of the conference is "John and Philo". For further information please contact the chair, [Jeremy Punt](#) or the secretary, [Michael Sokupa](#).

**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](mailto:graduate_studies@cltc.ac.pg) and [douglas.david.hanson@gmail.com](mailto: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 dan STFK Pineleng. The theme of the conference is "Monotheism in Bible and Local Religions." For more information regarding this conference please write to ISBI'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.

**(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. 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