



Nili Samet

2020 David Noel Freedman Award for Excellence and Creativity in Hebrew Bible Scholarship

We are pleased to announce that the 2020 David Noel Freedman Award for Excellence and Creativity in Hebrew Bible Scholarship has been awarded to Nili Samet for her paper entitled, “Qohelet’s Language: An Extra-Linguistic Look.”

Nili Samet teaches Bible and Assyriology in the department of Bible at Bar-Ilan University. Her research interests include Biblical Hebrew, with a focus on linguistic dating; Wisdom literature in Israel and Mesopotamia, with a focus on the Book of Qohelet; and comparative study of the Bible and the ancient Near East. Samet is the author of *The Lamentation over the Destruction of Ur: A Revised Edition*, and of articles in the fields of wisdom literature, the Book of Qohelet, and biblical Hebrew. She is currently working on two book projects: a commentary on Qohelet in the series *Miqra Le-Yisrael*; and a book on the syntax of Late Biblical Hebrew. Selected honors and grants include Alon Fellowship for Outstanding young researchers, the Harry Starr Fellowship from the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University, and research grants from the German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific Research and from the Israel Science foundation.

The goal of the Freedman Award is to promote excellence and creativity in Hebrew Bible scholarship. The award is given to a member who has received a Ph.D. or Th.D, in biblical studies or related field within the last ten years and includes a cash prize of \$1,000.00. Papers for this award are evaluated on the basis of three categories:

- Persuasive thesis that engages the Hebrew Bible
- Clarity of expression and thought
- Originality and creativity

The members of the 2020 Freedman Award Committee are Alejandro Botta (Boston University), Cynthia Shafer-Elliott (William Jessup University), and David Pleins (Santa Clara University).

The call for papers for the 2021 David Noel Freedman Award will open by October 1, 2020. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Freedman family and the numerous contributors for making this scholarship award possible. [Please consider a gift today to the David Noel Freedman Award Fund.](#)