

2020 Society of Biblical Literature – De Gruyter Prize for Biblical Studies and Reception History

The Society of Biblical Literature and De Gruyter are delighted to announce the 2020 De Gruyter Prize recipients are Carson Bay and Chloe Church. Carson Bay was awarded in the category of Textual Culture and Reception of the Bible for his paper entitled “*Exemplarity, Exegesis, & Ethnography: Abraham in Pseudo-Hegesippus as a Test Case for Biblical Reception in Christian Late Antiquity*.” Chloe Church was awarded in the category of Material and Visual Culture and Reception of the Bible for her paper entitled “*Receiving the Word in Image: Federico Zuccaro’s The Annunciation Broadcast By Prophets (1565) and the Reception History of the Bible in the Counter-Reformation*.” The prize 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.

Carson Bay completed his final two graduate degrees in Classics (MA) and Religions of Western Antiquity (PhD) at Florida State University in 2018. He is currently a postdoctoral researcher in the Institute for Jewish Studies at the University of Bern, Switzerland and part of the research team *Lege Iosephum! Reading Josephus in the Latin Middle Ages*. Carson’s work ranges across the Hebrew Bible, Second Temple and Hellenistic Judaism (with a healthy dose of Josephus), New Testament studies, early Christianity, and Classics, ignoring as best it can conventional disciplinary boundaries. His research, grounded in ancient Mediterranean literature and society, is usually interested in pairing close textual and philological work with various iterations of ‘theory.’ He is currently completing his first book on reception of the ‘Hebrew heroes’ of Jewish Scripture in the late antique Latin Christian text called Pseudo-Hegesippus or *On the Destruction of Jerusalem* as viewed through the Roman discourse of exemplarity. He is also knee-deep in his Habilitation project, which is the first close analysis of the reception of ancient Christian and classical Latin literature in the early Medieval Hebrew text called *Sefer Yosippon*, one of the first pieces of Jewish historiography in the early Middle Ages. Previous awards Carson has won include a Fulbright research grant, which landed him at the Institutum Judaicum Delitzschianum at the University of Münster, Germany, and a Josephine de Karman Trust Dissertation Completion Fellowship.



Chloe Church graduated from the University of Birmingham, UK, in 2016 with a first class degree in Theology and Religion and the JG Davies Memorial Prize for the highest-scoring undergraduate dissertation. In the same year she began a Masters by Research with Biblical Studies Specialism at the University of Birmingham, and was awarded a College of Arts and Humanities Masters-Level Scholarship for her research on the methods of visual biblical interpretation in the Lutheran and Counter-Reformations. Chloe is now a doctoral student at the University of Exeter and University of Bristol, UK. Her research is supported and funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, and focusses on the visual biblical interpretation of the Annunciation to Mary (Lk 1.26-38) in Counter-Reformation paintings.

The members of the 2020 De Gruyter Award Committee are Jo Carruthers (Lancaster University), Mary Chilton Callaway (Fordham University), Joy Schroeder (Capital University), and Jay Twomey (University of Cincinnati).

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, 2021.