

## **SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE ICI REPORT FOR JULY 2017**

### **(a) THE SBL INTERNATIONAL MEETING 2017, BERLIN**

The next SBL International Meeting will take place in Berlin, Germany, from 7-11 August 2017. The Call for Papers has closed already. See this link: <https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Internationalmeeting.aspx>

A forum meeting of ICI will take place at the Berlin conference. See the details of the meeting below. It would be great to see you there!

#### **Session 8-8**

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#### **Fostering Biblical Scholarship...Worldwide: The Contribution of the International Cooperation Initiative**

**8/08/2017 from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM**

Room: Hörsaal 2014A - Hauptgebäude; Unter den Linden 6 (UL 6)

The International Cooperation Initiative (ICI) is a coordinating space for various attempts to facilitate contact between biblical scholarship in traditional environments such as Europe and North America and non-traditional environments such as the Global South and East. The ICI, therefore, plays an important role in the internationalization of biblical scholarship and in the widening of access to biblical scholarship in all parts of the world. Join us to hear what SBL offers to biblical scholarship worldwide through ICI, and come and voice your opinion in the open discussion time.

Louis Jonker, Universiteit van Stellenbosch - University of Stellenbosch, Introduction

Diana Edelman, University of Oslo, Panelist

Erhard Gerstenberger, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Panelist

Gerald West, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Panelist

Nancy Tan, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Panelist

John F. Kutsko, Society of Biblical Literature, Panelist

Discussion (45 min)

### **(b) THE SBL ANNUAL MEETING 2017, BOSTON**

The next SBL Annual Meeting will take place in Boston, Massachusetts, from 18-21 November 2017. The Call for Papers has closed already, and registration is open. See this link: <https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Annualmeeting.aspx>

**TAKE NOTE ABOUT VISA APPLICATIONS:** We have taken note that some changes have

taken place under the new presidency in the United States with reference to immigration and visas. The SBL Executive is monitoring the situation and will keep its membership and the ICI updated on any further developments. If you plan to go to Boston and have to apply for a visa, please plan ahead so that your application will be submitted well in advance.

For those looking for **more affordable accommodation at the Boston meeting**, the following list may be of assistance. PLEASE TAKE NOTE that these accommodation options are provided as a courtesy to ICI members, and that the ICI and SBL do not take any responsibility for reservations, quality or safety of these lodgings.

HI Boston**	<a href="http://www.bostonhostel.org">www.bostonhostel.org</a>	19 Stuart Street, Boston, MA 02116	\$60
Armory Guest House**	<a href="http://www.thearmoryhouse.com">www.thearmoryhouse.com</a>	62-64 Amory Street, Cambridge, MA 02139	\$86
Quarters on DOT by Short Term Rentals Boston	<a href="http://www.shorttermrentalsboston.com">www.shorttermrentalsboston.com</a>	80 Dorchester Street, Boston, MA 02127	\$100
La Quinta Inn & Suites Boston - Somerville	<a href="http://www.lq.com">www.lq.com</a>	23 Cummings St., Somerville, MA 02145	\$105
Ramada Boston	<a href="http://www.wyndhamhotels.com">www.wyndhamhotels.com</a>	800 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02122	\$119
Best Western Plus Boston Hotel	<a href="http://www.bestwestern.com">www.bestwestern.com</a>	891 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, MA 02118	\$122
Coolidge Corner Guest House**	<a href="http://www.brooklinebedandbreakfast.com">www.brooklinebedandbreakfast.com</a>	17-19 Littell Road, Brookline, MA 02146-6504	\$129

\*\*Hostel or guest house may have common shared dormitories or bathrooms

**(c) PUBLICATION IN ANCIENT NEAR EAST MONOGRAPHS (ANEM) / MONOGRAFÍAS SOBRE EL ANTIGUO CERCAÑO ORIENTE (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 Alan Lenzi and Juan Tebes. 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)

The latest volumes in ANEM/MACO is:

## **Household and Family Religion in Persian-Period Judah: An Archaeological Approach**

By José E. Balcells Gallarreta

Balcells Gallarreta investigates the ritual artifacts from Persian period Tell en-Nasbeh in their original contexts, as a case study that provides a deeper understanding of the religious ideas and practices of households in Persian period Judah. Unlike previous scholarship that focused on official or state religion, he utilizes archaeology of religion and domestic contexts to reveal the existence of household religion and rituals in Persian period Tell en-Nasbeh, along with other contemporary sites in Yehud. Archaeological data from Tell en-Nasbeh and other sites in the Shephelah region of Yehud demonstrate that family and household rituals and religion were practiced in Persian period Judah.

### **Features:**

- Examination of remains from an extensively excavated site
- Maps, tables, photos, and illustrations
- Analysis of Persian-period biblical texts

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

[https://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/pubs/9780884142256\\_OA.pdf](https://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/pubs/9780884142256_OA.pdf)

### **(d) PUBLICATION IN INTERNATIONAL VOICES IN BIBLICAL STUDIES (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](#).

The latest volume in IVBS is:

### **Reading Ruth in Asia**

Edited by Jione Havea and Peter Lau

This monograph contains readings of texts and themes from the Book of Ruth by scholars from Asia. There is a strong mix of postcolonial and contextual flavors in the essays, which together give readers a taste of Biblical Criticism in Asia. Special attention is given to the literary, cultural, gender and minoritized subjects in the Book of Ruth.

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

[http://ivbs.sbl-site.org/uploads/9780884141006\\_OA.pdf](http://ivbs.sbl-site.org/uploads/9780884141006_OA.pdf)

#### **(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))

#### ***About Earth's Child: An Ecological Listening to the Gospel of Luke***

Trainor, Michael. *About Earth's Child: An Ecological Listening to the Gospel of Luke*. Earth Bible Commentary 2. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2012.

How does sensitivity to current ecological and environmental issues impact on our hearing of the Gospels? *About Earth's Child* listens for the ecological sounds that are present in Luke's narrative symphony and offers a way for readers today to identify them. Michael Trainor approaches Luke's Gospel with a fresh engagement while respecting the evangelist's own purposes in addressing the social and cultural concerns of first-century followers of Jesus.

#### ***Beyond The End: The Future Of Millennial Studies***

Searle, Joshua, Kenneth G.C. Newport, eds. *Beyond The End: The Future Of Millennial Studies*. The Bible in the Modern World 49. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2012.

Historians, theologians, literary critics and social scientists have all been able to establish a compelling unanimity in attesting to the vital historical significance and critical contemporary relevance of millennial thought. Thanks to such interdisciplinary efforts, millennial hope is now identified as a vital aspect of the human condition and as a dynamic force that has motivated

diverse world-historical individuals from Zoroaster and Francis of Assisi to Adolf Hitler and Mao Zedong.

### ***Biblical Rhetoric and Rhetorical Criticism***

Lundbom, Jack R. *Biblical Rhetoric and Rhetorical Criticism*. Hebrew Bible Monograph 45. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2013.

Reading the Bible with an eye to the rhetorical nature of its discourse—not just the style, but its structures and modes of argumentation—gives one a sharpened view of biblical figures, their legacy, and much else in the biblical text. Following the lead of the famous Presidential Address to the Society of Biblical Literature in 1968 by James Muilenburg, ‘Form Criticism and Beyond,’ Jack Lundbom has for over forty years been developing and shaping the field with a stream of papers. Twenty-six of them (three not previously published) are gathered into this volume.

### ***Philo’s Perception of Women***

Sly, Dorothy. *Philo’s Perception of Women*. Brown Judaic Studies 209. Providence: Brown Judaic Studies, 1990.

Philo was a Greek-educated but observant Jew who lived during the time of Jesus and Paul. According to the author, Philo’s writings synthesized earlier Greek and Jewish perceptions of women. Although Philo accepts the female as good because created by God, Sly argues that Philo nevertheless saw women as necessarily subservient and under the control of men. Thus his writings express some of the earliest sources for repressive attitudes towards women and suggest that similar attitudes exhibited by the church fathers may be traced through Philo to earlier traditions.

### ***Resurrection in Paul Cognition, Metaphor, and Transformation***

Tappenden, Frederick S. *Resurrection in Paul Cognition, Metaphor, and Transformation*. Early Christianity and Its Literature 19. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2016.

It is commonly recognized that Paul’s resurrection ideals are bodily ideals, though this dictum is usually configured along literal and metaphorical lines. The realism of future resurrected bodies

is disconnected from the metaphoricity of bodily transformation in the present. Drawing on cognitive linguistics, this fresh and innovative study addresses this problem.

### **Other Publishers' Resources and Resources in Spanish**

Oxford University Press offers free and reduced rate access to dozens of countries. Learn more on their [website](#).

We thank the Instituto Multidisciplinario de Historia y Ciencias Humanas who is willing to make some direct links to free Spanish publications available on the ICI book repository page. See the following [link](#). Links are available there to the following books (in Spanish):

- Excavation reports of Tell el-Ghaba (Egypt)
- Study of Stela of Gebel Barkal (Egypt)
- Proceedings I institute workshop (includes articles on ANE)
- Proceedings II institute workshop (includes articles on ANE)
- Proceedings III institute workshop (includes articles on ANE)

There is also a link to the following Spanish journal:

- Journal of Egyptological Studies

### **JSTOR provides free or low cost access to more than 1,500 institutions in 69 countries**

More than 1,500 institutions in Africa and other developing nations receive access to JSTOR free of charge or for steeply reduced fees. This is made possible through a combination of philanthropic support and the fees paid by libraries in other countries around the world, as well as publishers' eagerness to support this work. More information is available about JSTOR's [African Access Initiative](#) and [Developing Nations Access Initiative](#) programs.

### **Need JSTOR Access?**

As part of your Society of Biblical Literature membership, save 50% on the annual JPASS plan, your personal access to the JSTOR archive. With more than 1,900 scholarly journals, JSTOR is one of the world's leading academic databases. Millions of users worldwide rely on JSTOR for research, fact checking, and book reviews. This discounted subscription includes unlimited reading access and 120 article downloads. JSTOR adds new titles every month so you'll have a growing collection of the world's leading peer-reviewed journals only a click away.

To access the discounted JPASS, log-in to the SBL website with your member ID. Just below where you entered your member ID, click membership benefits. You will see JSTOR's JPASS among the benefits and a link "To get your savings: click here."

**(f) ICI TEACHING COLLABORATION PROGRAM**

In order to facilitate the exchange of scholars and institutions in biblical studies across the globe, a teaching collaboration program is run by the ICI. The facility consists of lists of scholars and institutions interested in exchanges that are made available on the SBL website. See: <http://sbl-site.org/educational/ICITeaching.aspx>. If you or your institution is interested in such collaboration, please visit the site and enroll yourself in these lists. For more information, contact [Jackie du Toit](#).

**(g) JOURNAL OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE (JBL) ARCHIVE**

Take note that an archive with JBL articles from volume 122.1 of 2003 through volume 130.1 of 2011 is available online to people accessing the SBL website from any ICI country. See [http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/ICI\\_JBLarchive.aspx](http://www.sbl-site.org/publications/ICI_JBLarchive.aspx). All articles in those volumes can be downloaded for free!

**(h) THE SBL WEBSITE**

The SBL website (on the SBL Press page) has a facility where one can search the full text of all SBL books! For this very convenient tool, see:

<http://sbl-site.org/publications/default.aspx>

For searching reviews of a vast number of academic publications, see the website of Review of Biblical Literature (RBL) at (you have to log in with your membership number):

<http://www.bookreviews.org/>

**(i) 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).

**August 7, 2017****Conference on Apocalyptic Literature and Mysticism: Investigating a Turn in Recent Apocalyptic Research**

Yale Divinity School and the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of the Free State in Bloemfontein, South Africa, will be hosting a conference on this theme. The conference focuses on the relationship between apocalyptic literature and Merkavah Mysticism/mystical movements/texts. The conference will take place on at the University of the Free State. Speakers include John Collins, Adela Collins, Greg Sterling, Jörg Frey and Pieter de Villiers.

For [more information](#).

**August 7-11, 2017****2017 SBL International Meeting**

Berlin, Germany

<https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Internationalmeeting.aspx>

**September 8-10, 2017****Biblical Interpretation for Caribbean Renewal**

Jamaica Theological Seminary will host an interdisciplinary theology conference on its campus 14-16 West Avenue, Constant Spring, Kingston 8, Jamaica W.I. The conference is co-sponsored with the Caribbean Graduate School of Theology and the United Theological College of the West Indies.

Both Caribbean residents and others with an interest in the Caribbean are invited to propose papers on any aspect of the theme of “**Biblical Interpretation for Caribbean Renewal.**” We especially encourage papers that:

- propose priorities for biblical interpretation in the Caribbean
- address current practices of biblical interpretation in the Caribbean
- engage particular biblical texts in light of Caribbean realities

The due date for receiving proposals is **July 15, 2017**.

Further information on submitting proposals may be found in the [Call for Papers](#).

For more information please visit [the conference page](#) on the website of the Jamaica Theological Seminary.

**October 25-26, 2017****The Dead Sea Scrolls Seventy Years Later. Manuscripts, Traditions, Interpretations, and Their Biblical Context**

John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland.

The huge impact of the scrolls on the field of biblical studies (in its most expansive sense!) makes it imperative that we undertake today an effort to examine and review the large field of Dead Sea Scrolls studies. The seventieth anniversary of the first discoveries seems an opportune time. The conference creates a platform for scholarly exchange concerning the present state of professional research in the field of Qumran studies.

For more information:

See <http://ocs.academicon.pl/index.php/test/DSS2017>

**November 18-21, 2017****2017 SBL Annual Meeting**

Boston, Massachusetts

<https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Annualmeeting.aspx>

**November 17-20, 2017****International Qur'anic Studies Association Meeting**

(Held in conjunction with the SBL/AAR Annual Meetings)

Boston, Massachusetts

<http://www.iqsaweb.org/>

**July 30 – August 3, 2018****2018 SBL International Meeting**

Helsinki, Finland

<https://www.sbl-site.org/meetings/Internationalmeeting.aspx>

**(j) 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>

Also remember to check the newly-developed **Bible Odyssey** online portal. See [www.bibleodyssey.org](http://www.bibleodyssey.org). This portal offers wonderful educational resources, but also resources for broader popular audiences. Use this site to popularize our academic studies in faith communities!

Any topics you would like to see Bible Odyssey address? Just send a message to: [bow@sbl-site.org](mailto:bow@sbl-site.org)

**(k) PLEASE PASS ON THE INFORMATION**

Please share this newsletter with your colleagues and students and become a liaison for your institution and SBL. (Please contact our liaison officer, [Jackie du Toit](#), if you would like to assist as contact person in your region.) Your advocacy for ICI strengthens biblical studies as a discipline and builds relationships in the global community. Thank you to 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