

RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

RUB

HOLY SCRIPTURE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

ECCLESIAL DIMENSIONS OF
BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS

17-18TH MAY 2021

International Conference
Bochum, Germany
Online

Prof. Dr. Aaron Pidel, Marquette University
Wisconsin/USA

Prof. Thomas Söding, Chair of New Testament
Faculty of Catholic Theology, RUB

RESEARCH QUESTION

Exegesis has a twofold task. Indeed, it must try to determine the meaning of the biblical texts in their historical context. But Dei Verbum also calls on exegetes to read Scripture “in the spirit in which it was written,” attending, therefore, to the “unity of all Scripture,” the “analogy of faith” and the “living tradition of the whole Church.”

How these two tasks are related is an open problem. It touches on fundamental questions of hermeneutics and ecclesiology: church, truth, inspiration, communication, meaning, reception. The open research question needs a dialogue between theologians from North America and Europe with different religious backgrounds and different academic disciplines.

GOAL OF THE CONFERENCE

Focusing on the New Testament, the conference fills the void by examining the ecclesial dimensions of biblical hermeneutics. On the one hand, it will examine how the texts themselves ask to be read in a community of believers. On the other hand, it will analyze what it means to see the church as a community that comes to faith through reading the holy scriptures. These questions have a major impact on both ecumenical and interreligious dialogue. They call for a comparison between ecclesial and political use of the Bible.

**RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM
PROF. DR. THOMAS SÖDING**

**CHAIR OF NEW TESTAMENT
FACULTY OF CATHOLIC THEOLOGY
IN COOPERATION WITH
HUMBOLDTSTIFTUNG
AND KONRAD-ADENAUER STIFTUNG**

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KEY QUESTIONS

- How do Catholics understand the role of the community in the interpretation of Scripture, in comparison with Protestants and in relation to both Jews and Muslims?
- What does the emergence of the canon imply about the Church as a reading community of faith?
- What is the role of the community in the process of inspiration? In discerning the truth of Scripture?
- What is the place of the Old Testament in the church's life?
- How do Americans and Germans understand the role of the Bible in the Public Square?

SPEAKERS

GARY ANDERSON, NOTRE DAME, IN
MARKUS BOCKMUEHL, OXFORD, UK
REINHARD FELDMEIER, GÖTTINGEN
ANTHONY GIAMBRONE OP, JERUSALEM
MOUHANAD KHORCHIDE, MÜNSTER
ROBIN LOVIN, CHICAGO, IL
JEFF MORROW, SETON HALL, NJ
KARL-WILHELM NIEBUHR, JENA
KATHARINA PYSCHNY, BERLIN
JOHANNA RAHNER, TÜBINGEN
DOROTHEA SATTLER, MÜNSTER
URSULA SCHUMACHER, KARLSRUHE
TINE STEIN, GÖTTINGEN
PHILLIPE VAN DEN HEEDE, JERUSALEM
ROBERT VORHOLT, LUZERN
SUSAN WOOD, TORONTO

BoNT

 **KONRAD
ADENAUER
STIFTUNG**



Alexander von Humboldt
Stiftung / Foundation

DAY 1: MONDAY, MAY 17TH 2021

SESSION 1: OPENING

Chair: Aaron Pidel SJ and Thomas Söding

9-10.30 Welcome

Introduction and Program
Experiences and Expectations

SESSION 2: THE EMERGENCE OF THE CANON IN THE CHURCH

Chair: Aleksandra Brand

11-12.30 Presentation A

The Gospel of Jesus *secundum scripturas*.
New Testament processes
Keynotes: *Karl-Wilhelm Niebuhr, Jena*
Anthony Giambrone OP, Jerusalem

Presentation B

Church as reading community.
Systematic debates
Speaker: Dorothea Sattler, Münster

SESSION 3: THE OLD TESTAMENT IN ECCLESIAL RECEPTION

Chair: Philippe Van den Heede

15-16.30 Presentation A

The book for the people.
Christian Hermeneutics of the Old Testament
Speaker: Katharina Pyschny, Berlin

Presentation B

Word of the living God.
The Old Testament in Christian Liturgical studies
Speaker: Gary Anderson, Notre Dame, IN

The conference is free.

Click [here](#) for further information.

Conference management and registration:
Aleksandra Brand. Please apply via email:
conference-nt@rub.de.

Registration closing date: 3rd May 2021.

SESSION 4: SCRIPTURES AND COMMUNITIES.

INTERRELIGIOUS ASPECTS OF HERMENEUTICAL DEBATES

Chair: Aaron Pidel SJ and Thomas Söding

17-18.30 Presentation A

N.N.

Presentation B

Mouhanad Khorchide, Münster

Presentation C

Jeff Morrow, Seton Hall, NJ

EVENING TALK: THE BIBLE IN THE PUBLIC SPARE: AMERICAN AND GERMAN PERSPECTIVES

Moderation: Aaron Pidel SJ and Thomas Söding

20-21.30 Discussants:

Tine Stein (Göttingen)

Robin Lovin (Chicago)

DAY 2: TUESDAY, MAY 18TH 2021

SESSION 5: INSPIRATION AS A COMMUNICATIVE PROCESS

Chair: Miriam Pawlak

9.-10.30 Presentation A

Inspired witnesses.

Early Christian experiences and reflections

Speaker: Reinhard Feldmeier, Göttingen

Presentation B

Inspired Church – call and temptation.

Exegetical approaches

Speaker: Markus Bockmuehl, Oxford, UK



SESSION 6: THE TRUTH OF THE SCRIPTURE IN THE EYES OF FAITH

Chair: Aaron Pidel SJ

11-12.30 Presentation A

Beyond Neo-Scholasticism.

Catholic hermeneutics of reform

*Speaker: Ursula Schumacher, Karlsruhe
Johanna Rahner, Tübingen*

Presentation B

The Truth of the Scripture
in the Gospel of John

Speaker: Philippe van den Heede, Jerusalem

SESSION 7: THE TEACHING OF THE CHURCH ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES

Chair: Thomas Söding

15-16.30 Presentation A

The responsibility of the magisterium.

Orientation by Dei Verbum

Speaker: Susan Wood, Toronto

Presentation B

The truth of freedom.

Orientation by Paul

Speaker: Robert Vorholt, Luzern

SESSION 8: SUMMARY AND PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Aaron Pidel SJ / Thomas Söding

17-18.30 Closing

Lines of discussion. Framing of problems

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU
TO OUR VIRTUAL CONFERENCE!**

