

A Consultation on the Historicity and Authenticity of the Exodus and
Wilderness Traditions in a Post Modern Age

Lanier Theological Library

January 17-18, 2014

Friday, January 17, 2014 – All presentations will be in the Stone Chapel

9:20-9:30 Welcome & Introduction

9:30-10:00 Richard S. Hess (Denver Seminary)
Onomastics of the Exodus Generation in the Book of Exodus

10:00-10:30 Steven Ortiz (Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary)
Pitfalls, Prospects, and Paradigm Shifts: The Archaeology of the Exodus and Conquest

10:30-11:00 James K. Hoffmeier (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School)
Some Egyptian Details of the Exodus & Wilderness Traditions

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30-12:00 Alan Millard (University of Liverpool)
Moses, Israel's Tongue-Tied Singer

12:00-12:30 Charles Krahmalkov (University of Michigan)
The Real Moses: the Evidence

12:30-2:00 Lunch Break

2:00-2:30 Joshua Berman (Bar Ilan University)
The Song of the Sea and the Kadesh Inscriptions of Ramses II

2:30-3:00 Gary Rendsburg (Rutgers University)
The Literary Unity of the Exodus Narrative

3:00-3:30 Richard Averbeck (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School)
The Exodus and Slave Release Laws

3:30-3:45 Break

3:45-4:15 Thomas W. Davis (Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary)
Exodus on the Ground: the Elusive Signature of Nomads in the Sinai

4:15-4:45 Jordi Cervera i Valls (Faculty of Theology of Catalonia, Barcelona)
The Copper Snake Episode (Num 21:4-9) in Exegetical, Topographical & Archaeological Contexts

4:45-5:15 K. Lawson Younger, Jr. (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School)
Recent Developments in Understanding the Origins of the Arameans: Possible Contributions and Implications to Understand Israelite Origins

Saturday, January 18, 2014 – All presentations will be in the Stone Chapel

10:00-10:30 Jens Bruun Kofoed (Lutheran School of Theology, Copenhagen)
“Tell Your Children and Grandchildren!”: The Exodus as Cultural Memory

10:30-11:00 J. Andrew Dearman (Fuller Theological Seminary)
The Exodus and Wilderness Wandering Traditions in Amos and Micah

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-11:45 Jerry Hwang (Singapore Bible College)
“I am Yahweh your God from the land of Egypt”: Hosea's Use of the Exodus Traditions

11:45-12:15 W. Mark Lanier (Lanier Theological Library)
A Lawyer Examines the Evidence for the Exodus

7:00-9:00 Evening Lecture* by James K. Hoffmeier & Stephen O. Moshier
Moses Did Not Sleep Here! A Critical Look at Some Sensational Exodus and Mt. Sinai Theories

*You will need to register for this lecture separately from the consultation.

Richard E. Averbeck (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School)

Richard (Dick) has been teaching for 33 years in graduate theological education, the last 20 at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He received his PhD in ancient Near Eastern Studies and Biblical Hebrew at the Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning (now known as the Annenberg School of Judaica at the University of Pennsylvania) for his work on the Gudea Cylinders, a long Sumerian temple building hymn (from about 2100 BC). He has published numerous articles in the fields of ancient Near Eastern Studies, especially Sumer and Sumerian literature, the relationship between ancient Near Eastern Studies and the Old Testament, and the Old Testament Law, especially the ritual law and priestly theology of the Old Testament. He is the main editor and a contributor to *Life and Culture in the Ancient Near East* (Bethesda, Maryland: CDL Press, 2003), and recently contributed to the book *Do Historical Matters Matter to Faith* (Crossway, 2012).

Joshua Berman

Dr. Berman is a professor of Hebrew Bible at Bar-Ilan University, Israel. A graduate of Princeton University, his PhD in Hebrew Bible is from Bar-Ilan University and his rabbinical ordination is from the Israeli Chief Rabbinate. His books include *Narrative Analogy in the Hebrew Bible: Battle Stories and Equivalent Non-Battle Narratives* (Leiden: Brill, 2004) and *Created Equal: How the Bible Broke with Ancient Political Thought* (New York: Oxford, 2008), a National Jewish Book Award finalist in scholarship. He is currently at work on a study of the constructive functions of inconsistency in ancient literature and their implications for the study of the Hebrew Bible.

Jordi Cervera i Valls

Fr. Jordi was born and resides in Barcelona. He has been a Capuchin friar since 1984 and he teaches Pentateuch in the Faculty of Theology of Catalonia (Barcelona) where he was awarded degrees in theology and biblical studies. He publishes regularly in the *Revista Catalana de Teologia* and *Scripta Biblica*. Fr. Jordi collaborates extensively with Riccardo Lufrani, a Dominican friar and professor of geography at the Ecole Biblique et Archeologique française of Jerusalem, and with Dr. Tali Erickson-Gini, the Southern Negev Sub-district archaeologist in the Israel Antiquities Authority. They have explored and continue to explore archaeological sites in Sinai, Jordan, the Aravah Valley, and the Negev in an attempt to balance biblical exegesis, geography and archaeology. Fr. Jordi and Fr. Riccardo co-authored the book, *El Camí d'Ubach de Monsterrat Al Sinai Cent anys Després*, in which they retraced the footsteps of a Franciscan monk (Fr. Ubach) who travelled in Sinai in 1910 attempting to locate sites from Israelite itinerary. The duo undertook their investigation on the 100th anniversary of Fr. Ubach's journeys.

Thomas W. Davis

Dr. Davis's archaeological career has spanned more than 30 years. He received a B.A. in History and Archaeology from Wheaton College and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in the field of Syro-Palestinian Archaeology where he was a student of William Dever. Oxford Press has published his revised dissertation under the title: *Shifting Sands: The Rise and Fall of Biblical Archaeology* (2004). Dr. Davis directed the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute in Nicosia, Cyprus from

2003-2011. Since 2011 he has held the position of Professor of Archaeology and Biblical Backgrounds at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. He directs the Kourion Urban Space Project in Cyprus.

J. Andrew Dearman.

Dr. Dearman is an associate dean of the School of Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, where he is also Professor of Old Testament at the regional campus in Houston, TX. He earned his PhD from Emory University and received a ThD (h.c.) from Debrecen Reformed University in Hungary. He is the author or editor of several books including *Religion and Culture in Ancient Israel* (Hendrickson), *Studies in the Mesha Inscription and Moab* (SBL/ASOR), *The Land That I Will Show You. Essays on the History and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East in Honor of J. Maxwell Miller* (JSOTS), and commentaries on *Jeremiah and Lamentations* (NIVAC, Zondervan), and *Hosea* (NICOT, Eerdmans). He has served on the staff of excavations in Israel and Jordan, as well as archaeological survey projects in Jordan, and served on the governing board of the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan.

Richard S. Hess

Dr. Hess is a graduate of Wheaton College (BA), Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (MA) and his PhD is from Hebrew Union College. Hess edits the online *Denver Journal* and the *Bulletin for Biblical Research*. He is also the founder and editor of the Bulletin's Supplement Series and helps to edit the Septuagint Commentary Series (Brill). He has authored eight books, including volumes on religion (*Israelite Religions: A Biblical and Archaeological Survey*), ancient Near Eastern subjects (*Amarna Personal Names and Names in the Study of Biblical History*), Genesis (*Studies in the Personal Names of Genesis 1-11*), and commentaries on Leviticus, Joshua, and the Song of Songs. He has edited thirteen books, most recently collections of studies on *War in the Bible and Terrorism in the 21st Century*, *Issues in Bible Translation*, and *The Family in the Bible*; and commentaries on the Septuagint texts of Exodus and 1 Esdras. He has published more than a hundred scholarly articles in collected essays and journals of Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies.

James K. Hoffmeier

A Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology and Old Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Hoffmeier is a graduate of Wheaton College and the University of Toronto (MA and Ph.D). Since 1994 Hoffmeier has directed the North Sinai Archaeological Project that included investigating Tell el-Borg from 1999 to 2008. He authored "*Sacred*" in the *Vocabulary of Ancient Egypt* (Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis; Freiburg University Press, 1985), *Israel in Egypt: Evidence for the Authenticity of the Exodus Tradition* (OUP 1997), *Ancient Israel in Sinai: Evidence for the Authenticity of the Wilderness Tradition* (OUP 2005), *The Archaeology of the Bible* is now available in German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Romanian and Norwegian. He edited and contributed to *Faith, Tradition and History: Old Testament Historiography in its Near Eastern Context* (Eisenbrauns), *The Future of Biblical Archaeology* (Eerdmans, 2004), and *Do Historical Matters Matter to Faith* (Crossway, 2012). The first volume of the final report of the excavations at Tell el-Borg will be released early in 2014, and his forthcoming book, *Akhenaten, His Religion and the Origins of Monotheism* (OUP) is in press.

Jerry Hwang

Dr. Hwang serves as Assistant Professor of Old Testament at Singapore Bible College. He is a graduate of University of California (Berkeley), and then received his MDiv. from Talbot Theological Seminary and Ph.D. from Wheaton College. While on sabbatical in the United States during 2014, he will be a Visiting Scholar at Claremont School of Theology while writing a commentary on Hosea. He is the author of *The Rhetoric of Remembrance: An Investigation of the "Fathers" in Deuteronomy* (Eisenbrauns, 2012).

Jens Bruun Kofoed

Associate Professor of Old Testament at Copenhagen Lutheran School of Theology and Fjellhaug International University College in Oslo, he received his Ph.D. in 2001 from University of Aarhus, Denmark. His research in recent years has centered on historiography and philosophy of history. His publications include his monograph *Text and History: Historiography and the Study of the Biblical Text* (Eisenbrauns, 2005) and his recent essay "The Old Testament as Cultural Memory" was published in *Do Historical Matters Matter to Faith* (Crossway, 2012). Dr. Kofoed is a member of the ETS Old Testament Narrative Books Literature Steering Committee and editor-in-chief for Scandinavian Evangelical e-Journal.

Charles Krahmalkov

Dr. Krahmalkov is Professor Emeritus of Ancient and Biblical Languages, the University of Michigan, where he taught from 1968 to 2002. He has also taught at UCLA. He received his B.A. from Berkeley, 1957, and PhD from Harvard, 1965. His formal training is in Assyriology (Berkeley), Egyptology (Brown University) and Semitics and Biblical Studies (Harvard). His professional fields and fields of teaching are Philology and Linguistics and Northwest Semitic Languages and Epigraphy, with specialization in Phoenician and Punic (Western Phoenician) language, inscriptions and history. He is the author of *A Phoenician-Punic Dictionary* (Peeters: Louvain, 2000) and *A Phoenician-Punic Grammar* (Brill: Leiden, 2002), as well as numerous technical articles.

Mark Lanier

Mark Lanier is widely recognized as one of the nation's top trial attorneys. His cases have been on the front pages of the N.Y. Times, USA Today, and other papers. His law firm has offices in New York City, Los Angeles and Houston. He is regularly featured on the television networks for his legal analysis. He also keeps active in learning and discussing matters relevant to biblical studies. He is on the boards of the Albright Institute and ASOR, and he teaches a weekly class with over 650 attendees that has a large internet audience as well (www.Biblical-Literacy.com).

Alan Millard

Professor Millard studied Ancient Semitic Languages in the universities of Oxford and London, was employed in the Department of Western Asiatic Antiquities at the British Museum, served as Librarian at Tyndale Library for Biblical Research in Cambridge for seven years and taught at the University of Liverpool from 1970. He became Emeritus Professor in 2003 at the University of Liverpool. He has worked on archaeological

excavations in Syria (Tell Rifa‘at = ancient Arpad, and Tell Nebi Mend = Qadesh on the Orontes), Jordan (Petra) and Iraq (Nimrud). He has published editions of Babylonian and Assyrian cuneiform tablets, among them *Atrahasis. The Babylonian Story of the Flood* (with W. G. Lambert), *La Statue royale de Tell Fekherye et son inscription bilingue assyro-araméenne* (with A. Abou Assaf and P. Bordreuil) and *Eponyms of the Assyrian Empire, Treasures from Bible Times* (1985) and *Discoveries from the Time of Jesus* (1990), *Discoveries from the Bible* and *Reading and Writing in the Time of Jesus* (Sheffield Academic Press, 2000). Professor Millard is enjoying an active retirement with his wife, Margaret, living now in Leamington Spa, England.

Stephen O. Moshier

Dr. Mosher is a Professor of Geology, Wheaton College, Illinois, and Chair of the Department of Geology and Environmental Science. He was born and raised in Corning, New York and studied geology at Virginia Tech (BS, 1977), SUNY Binghamton (MA, 1980) and Louisiana State University (PhD, 1987). From 1998 to 2007 he served as team geologist for the Tell el-Borg excavation in the NW Sinai, Egypt and in 2008 he joined the Harvard University-Wheaton College Leon Levy Expedition to Askhelon, Israel. He is a member of several professional societies and past president of the Kentucky Geological Society. Moshier has contributed articles to the *American Assoc. Petroleum Geology Bulletin*, *Sedimentology*, *Journal of Sedimentary Research*, *SEPM Core Workshops*, *Geological Society of America Bulletin*, *Geological Society of London*, *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith*, *Geoarchaeology: An International Journal*, and *Books and Culture Magazine*.

Steven Ortiz

Dr. Ortiz is Professor of Archaeology and Biblical Backgrounds and Director of the Charles D. Tandy Institute for Archaeology at Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been engaged in biblical archaeology with over 30 years of field experience, has traveled extensively throughout the Middle East, lived in Israel for over four years and spends most of his summers in the country. Dr. Ortiz is currently the co-director and principal investigator at Tel Gezer. His research focus is the archaeology of the southern Levant. Dr. Ortiz has contributed to several books and monographs: *History of Ancient Israel*, *Do Historical Matters Matter to Faith? Critical Issues in Early Israelite History*, *Buried Hopes or Risen Savior*, *Archaeological and Historical Studies in Honor of Amihai Mazar*, and *The Future of Biblical Archaeology*.

Gary A. Rendsburg

Dr. Rendsburg, MA & Ph.D. at NYU, serves as the Blanche and Irving Laurie Professor of Jewish History in the Department of Jewish Studies at Rutgers University. Rendsburg is the author of six books and about 140 articles; his most popular book is *The Bible and the Ancient Near East*, a general survey of the biblical world, co-authored with his teacher, the late Cyrus H. Gordon. *The Redaction of Genesis* (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1986). Rendsburg has visited all the major archaeological sites in Israel, Egypt, and Jordan; plus he has excavated at Tel Dor and Caesarea. His current book project is entitled *How the Bible Is Written*, with particular attention to the use of language to create literature.

K. Lawson Younger, Jr.

Younger is Professor of Old Testament, Semitic Languages, and Ancient Near Eastern History at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School of Trinity International University, Deerfield, Illinois. A specialist in Assyriology and Aramaic, as well as Hebrew Bible, Dr. Younger has published a number of significant works involving ancient Near Eastern texts and their relationship to the Hebrew Bible, e.g. *Ancient Conquest Accounts: A Study of Ancient Near Eastern and Biblical History Writing* (1990), *The Context of Scripture. 3 Volumes* (1997-2002; all three volumes co-edited with W. W. Hallo); *The Canon in Comparative Perspective* (1991); *Mesopotamia and the Bible. Comparative Explorations* (2002); *Judges, Ruth* (2002); and *Ugarit at Seventy-Five* (2007). He is a trustee of the American Schools of Oriental Research, as well as an active member of the American Oriental Society, the International Association of Assyriology, and the Society of Biblical Literature. He was the Seymour Gitin Distinguished Professor at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research (Jerusalem) 2012-2013. He is presently working on a book on the history of the Arameans.