

**REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH GENERAL MEETING
OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA**

The Twenty-Sixth General Meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America was held under the patronage of His Excellency, Most Reverend Joseph T. McGucken, Archbishop of San Francisco, on August 27-29, 1963, at the University of San Francisco, San Francisco, California. The Most Reverend Bishop Merlin J. Guilfoyle, Auxiliary to the Archbishop, celebrated the opening Mass and addressed words of welcome to the members.

Tuesday Sessions—August 27

Representatives of several learned associations were on hand for this meeting and were duly welcomed by the assembly. These were Dr. James Muilenburg of the San Francisco Theological Seminary, representing the Society of Biblical Literature; Msgr. John Tracy Ellis for the American Catholic Historical Society; and Fr. John Fallon for the Catholic College Teachers of Sacred Doctrine.

The first paper *Genesis 1-3 in Modern Theology* was presented by Charles E. Henkey. The purpose of the paper was twofold: first, to justify the work of dogmatic theology and second, to make a practical application to the first three chapters of Genesis.

Ignatius Hunt, O.S.B., gave the next paper, *The Gift of Knowledge and Original Justice*. The conclusions reached from the pericopes of Gn treated were that some allusions to knowledge, all implicit, are permissible and applicable to mankind, but that infused knowledge is a highly doubtful endowment. The *naming* of Gn 2,19-20 is not simply an act of intelligence, but a lordly act determining future activity.

Dennis J. McCarthy, S.J., presented the final paper of the morning session *Three Covenants in Gn 21,21-33; 26,26-33; 31,44-54*. The purpose of the paper was to highlight some aspects of Israelite covenant making, esp. oath and covenant meal.

The papers of the afternoon session were basically philological; Frederick L. Moriarty, S.J., treated of the *Lament over Tyre*, (Ez 27).

Job's Final Plea (Jb 29-31) and *the Lord's Reply* (Jb 38-41) was the title of the paper read by Patrick W. Skehan. Job 29-31 and 38-41 possess an overall structure and balance, a point which can be viewed as an argument for the intrusive character of the Elihu narratives of 32-37. Job's plea in 29-31 is a full scale review of his case, looking for an answer from God. In response to the plea of Job the author composed the Lord's response in 38-41 to excel the successive parts of the plea: 38 and 39 are a diptych of the Lord's created marvels; 40 and 41 have the purpose of casting into the shadow c. 31 of Job's

plea, and to leave the impression that the speech could be continued if it were necessary.

Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J., presented *Psalm 109 (110), Translation and Interpretation*. Making use of philological data from Ugaritic and Phoenician texts, Father Dahood gave a translation differing at several points from previous translations. For example: v. 1 *Sit at my right hand, a throne will I make your enemies, a footstool for your feet.* v. 3 *Conceived in a holy vision, born at dawn, truly like the dew is your youth.*

The Chant of the Women of Israel (1 Sm 18,7) by Dominic M. Crossan, O.S.M., brought the afternoon session to a close. Fr. Crossan questioned the traditional understanding of this passage (David's superiority over Saul) and gave an interesting interpretation in the light of traditional stereotyped word-pairs and number-pairs found in both Ugaritic and biblical poetry. In the chant of the women no quantitative numerical comparison is intended. As a matter of fact in 1 Sm 21,12 and 29,5 the same refrain is cited as an argument that David is on Saul's side. But what of Saul's own understanding of the chant in the verse immediately following? Fr. Crossan suggests that this is due to Saul's own mental breakdown and false interpretation.

In the evening John E. Huesman, S.J., spoke briefly on the *Gibeon Excavations*. Following these introductory remarks he presented an interesting slide lecture of the work done at the site of ancient Gibeon.

Wednesday Sessions—August 28

A Requiem Mass was offered at 9:00 by Monsignor Patrick Skehan for the deceased members of the Association. The morning session began at 9:45 with a paper by Herman C. Waetjen entitled *Mark 14,51-52 and the Ending of Mark's Gospel*. The ending of Mark's gospel has not been lost; it is to be found in the first eight verses of chapter 16. Dr. Waetjen offered an interesting interpretation of these by connecting them with the incident narrated in 14,51-52.

The morning was concluded by a symposium of the Post-Bultmann Era. The first talk was by Raymond E. Brown, S.S., *After Bultmann, What?* Fr. Brown considered the post-Bultmann era under two headings: *The New Quest for the Historical Jesus*, and *The Later Heidegger and the Emphasis on Hermeneutics*. What are the weaknesses of this new quest? It produces only a minimum of facts, because it is handicapped by its historiography and by its methodology. Ruling out all kerygmatic, apocalyptic and Jewish sayings, the new quest approaches the Gospels as one would approach fabrications. Besides, John's Gospel is completely neglected. There are limitations as far as historical research is concerned, but it is not to be relegated to a non-historical document.

Rudolph Bultmann and Post-Bultmann Tendencies was the title of the address by P. Joseph Cahill, S.J. He outlined three points in addition to what had already been said by Fr. Brown: 1) the significance of the history of the original "quest"; 2) examples after 1953 (Fuchs, Bornkamm); 3) Bultmann's reaction.

Bultmann distinguishes between two closely allied questions: The issue of historical continuity and the issue of the essential relationship between Jesus

and the Kerygma. The issue of historical continuity can easily be answered affirmatively. The Christ of the Kerygma is not a myth. But this is only one aspect, the fact that Jesus existed and that God operated through him (the *Das* of Jesus); but has God made Jesus *Christ the Lord* (the *Was* and *Wie* of Jesus)? This cannot be answered by the historical method; it is a matter of faith. One cannot find the *Was* and *Wie* of Jesus in the Gospels; this can only be done by existential encounter in the Christ Kerygma.

Heading the activities of the afternoon was the presidential address by Eugene H. Maly who chose to address the assembly with a brief survey of the history of the Catholic Biblical Association of America over the past twenty-five years.

The business meeting got under way with the annual report of the treasurer, Joseph E. Fallon, O.P., and the financial statement of the Board of Trustees, read by Louis Hartman, C.Ss.R., in the absence of Msgr. John E. Steinmueller, chairman of the Board.

In his report as Executive Secretary, Louis Hartman, C.Ss.R., announced that some royalties of the CCD OT version were now being given to the Association and that the Executive Committee had approved the suggestion that this be added to the capital until the interest would be sufficient for the offering of scholarships. The Executive Committee had made a grant of \$500.00 to Bernadin Schneider, O.F.M., for the education of Fr. Oshimo, O.F.M., who would subsequently assist in the translating of the Bible into Japanese.

Roland Murphy, O. Carm., reported for the *CBQ*, and mentioned the fine reaction to the jubilee issues of the *CBQ*. The book review editor is going to send out questionnaires which the members are asked to fill out and send back as speedily as possible. In addition, Fr. Murphy spoke of adding a Biblical Theology section to *CBQ*, a matter being studied by Bruce Vawter, C.M., and John McKenzie, S.J.

Reporting for the Old Testament Translation, Stephen Hartdegen, O.F.M., announced that the last of the volumes (Vol. II) was well on its way to completion, that some of the manuscripts were already in the hands of the publishers.

Reporting for the New Testament Translation, David Stanley, S.J., announced that the Board of Translators had acquired some additional members to assist in the work and that to date the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and John 1-9 had been completed.

Reporting for *The Jerome Bible Commentary*, Joseph Fitzmyer, S.J., announced that approximately half of the contributions for introductory articles had been received; contributors were asked to meet a December deadline.

Reporting for Visual Aids, Mother Kathryn Sullivan, R.S.C.J., announced that the Visual Aids department was financially ahead, that there had been an increase of activities to the point of five to ten requests a week for biblical materials, and that she wished to propose a new project of preparing biblical tapes or records. Fr. Joseph Grassi, M.M., moved that a committee be appointed to study the matter; the motion was seconded and passed.

Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., speaking for the Resolutions Committee made the following motions which were unanimously approved by the members: (1) to express to His Holiness, Pope Paul VI sentiments of filial devotion and piety. (2) to express to His Excellency Archbishop McGucken the gratitude of all the members for his gracious welcome and prayers for his speedy recovery. (3) to express to His Excellency Bishop Guilfoyle the gratitude of the members for celebrating the opening Mass and for his words of welcome. (4) to express to Fr. Huesman and the Jesuit Community of the University of San Francisco the deep appreciation of the members for their hospitality. (5) to express congratulations to Rev. Roderick MacKenzie, S.J. on his appointment to Rector of the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. (6) to express congratulations to Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick Temple, charter member of the Association, on the occasion of the jubilee of his ordination.

Acting on the report of the Credentials Committee, delivered by Joseph Grassi, M.M., the members unanimously approved for membership the following candidates: for *active* membership: Rev. Otto N. Bucher, O.F.M.Cap., Marathon, Wisconsin; Rev. Leonard Cassell, O.S.B., Morristown, New Jersey; Rev. Edward Ciuba, Darlington, New Jersey; Rev. Henry G. Davis, Manly, Australia; Rev. Antoine Gaboury, O.M.I., Lebret, Canada; Rev. Peter J. Kearney, New York; Rev. Anthony J. Mannix, C.M., Rome, Italy; Rev. Francis J. Marcolongo, S.V.D., St. Louis, Missouri; Rev. Edward J. Martin, C.M., Philadelphia, Pa.; Rev. Dennis J. McCarthy, S.J., St. Mary's, Kansas; Rev. James V. Morris, C.M., Rome, Italy; Rev. Samuel Parsons, O.P., Jerusalem, Jordan; Rev. Martin Roberge, O.M.I., Ottawa, Canada; Rev. Francis A. Sullivan, S.J., Rome, Italy; Most Rev. Alexander Zaleski, Dearborn, Michigan; Mr. Robert L. Zell, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

For *associate* membership: Rev. George J. Augustyniak, O.Praem., West De Pere, Wisconsin; Br. Timothy Balfe, F.S.C., Narragansett, Rhode Island; Rev. David J. Bowman, S.J., Washington, D.C.; Rev. Gildard A. Buvala, O.F.M., Westmont, Ill.; Rev. Edward R. Callahan, S.J., Weston, Mass.; Rev. Joseph F. Cevetello, Montclair, New Jersey; Rev. Joseph F. Conwell, S.J., Spokane, Washington; Rev. James J. Cunningham, O.P., Washington, D.C.; Sr. M. Celesta Dolan, B.V.M., Dubuque, Iowa; Sr. M. Pius Fahlstrom, O.S.F., Redwood City, Cal.; Br. Mark J. Hunt, F.S.C.H., New Rochelle, N.Y.; Sr. M. Celeste Huszcza, C.S.F.N., Philadelphia, Pa.; Rev. Ladislaus A. Iranyi, Sch.P., Washington, D.C.; Rev. Anthony Kolodziej, S.V.D., Belle Chasse, Louisiana; Sr. M. Loyola, S.N.J.M., Oakland, Cal.; Rev. Lawrence Luetkemeyer, Tyler, Texas; Sr. M. Wilma Lyle, O.S.B., Yankton, South Dakota; Rev. Robert P. McGill, Dallas, Texas; Rev. John McGrath, S.J., Worcester, Mass.; Sr. Mary L. McKenna, S.C.M.M., Philadelphia, Pa.; Most Rev. Edward P. McManaman, Oil City, Pa.; Rev. James J. Megivern, C.M., Northampton, Pa.; Sr. Michael Michels, O.L.V.M., Washington, D.C.; Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph T. Moriarty, Cleveland, Ohio; Rev. David O'Brien, C.S.P., Austin, Texas; Rev. Webster T. Patterson, S.J., Seattle, Wash.; Rev. Nicholas A. Predovich, S.J., Clarkston, Michigan; Rev. Robert Prendergast, Carlow, Ireland; Rev. John F. Riley,

St. Paul, Minnesota; Rev. Emmanuel J. Roessler, T.O.R., Loretto, Pa.; Rev. Gilbert Romero, S.S., Baltimore, Md.; Br. Dominic Ruegg, F.S.C., St. Mary's College, Cal.; Rev. Benjamin F. Sargent, S.J., San Francisco, Cal.; Rev. Richard J. Sklba, Rome, Italy; Rev. Theodore T. Taheny, S.J., San Francisco, Cal.; Rev. Normand L. Vaillancourt, M. S., Attleboro, Mass.; Rev. Richard M. VerBust, Green Bay, Wisconsin; Rev. John P. Whalen, Washington, D.C.; Rev. Ralph J. Friedrich, Youngstown, Ohio.

Following this, the members present unanimously elected the following candidates for office, presented by Joseph A. Grispino, S.M., of the Nominations Committee: *Pres.*, John L. McKenzie, S.J.; *Vice-Pres.*, Richard Kugelman, C.P.; *Exec. Sec.*, Louis F. Hartman, C.Ss.R.; *Treas.*, Joseph E. Fallon, O.P.; *Editor-in-chief CBQ*, Roland E. Murphy, O.Carm.; *Assoc. Editors CBQ*, Joseph A. Fitzmyer, S.J., and Geoffrey Wood, S.A.; *Member of Committee on Nominations, (1963-1967)*, Martin Schoenberg, O.S.C.

Rev. Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., was appointed consultant of the Executive Board for 1963-1965 by the chairman of the Bishops' Committee of the CCD.

The chairman then called for new business. Fr. Francis Filas, S.J., extended an invitation for cooperation to all the members of the CBA on behalf of the Society of Josephology.

Fr. Bruce Vawter, C.M., moved that Stanislaus Lyonnet, S.J., and Maximilian Zerwick, S.J., of the Pontifical Biblical Institute at Rome be made honorary members of the Catholic Biblical Association of America. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

A motion was made that a committee be formed for collaboration with other biblical associations. In the discussion of the motion it was brought out that such a committee should be of permanent nature, not just one formed *ad hoc*. At the end of discussions the motion was passed unanimously and the business meeting came to a close.

The afternoon session was concluded with a talk *Further Infinitive-Absolute Suggestions* by John E. Huesman, S.J., concerning the finite constructions with infinitive-absolute. Fr. Huesman illustrated this with various examples taken from the Psalms, the books of Proverbs, Jeremia, Ecclesiastes, Habakuk and Isaia.

An Historian's Attitude toward Biblical Research was the title of an address by Francis X. Murphy, C.Ss.R., at the evening session. William Van Etten Casey, S.J., treated the members to a slide lecture on the *Excavations in the Wadi ed-Daliyeh*. Papyri have been recovered in a cave 1100 feet above the Jordan, high in the Wadi ed-Daliyeh, 23 miles southeast of Sebaste, 10 miles north of Jericho and 7 miles west of the Jordan. The expedition was headed by Dr. Paul Lapp of ASOR in Jerusalem. In the slides that accompanied this talk Fr. Casey explained the problems encountered in the exploration, most of them stemming from the almost inaccessible location. All in all it was a fitting conclusion to this second day of the meeting.

Thursday Sessions—August 29

In the first talk of the day *The Gospels and Revelation—An Excursus* John F. Mattingly, S.S., discussed a point raised by R. Schnackenburg, that of revelation being distinct from theology, and also Oscar Cullmann's ideas about tradition.

Jesus and the Remnant was the topic chosen by Benjamin F. Meyer, S.J. Did Jesus look upon his disciples as the Remnant of Israel and the nucleus of the new people of God? The question has always been hobbled by the idea that particularism is essential to the remnant idea. But in the basic scheme of biblical eschatology it is *judgment* that characterizes the remnant idea; judgment and remnant are correlative. The central point is salvation, and that this salvation will be proclaimed by the rescued as coming from God. Therefore the whole question must be studied from the aspects of judgment and restoration. There is evidence of "remnant" terminology in the NT, and Jesus announced his coming as judgment, but faith will save from that judgment. James T. Forrestell, C.S.B., spoke on *The Notion of Mediation in the Johannine Literature*. In the Epistle to the Hebrews there is the concept of ascending mediation; Christ the high priest of the New Testament leads men into the presence of God, having cleansed them from their sins. But the Johannine literature offers another view, that of descending mediation by which divine gifts are offered to men through the Incarnate Logos. The morning session concluded with a paper by Francis J. Schroeder, S.S.J., entitled *St. Joseph in Salvation History*.

Opening the afternoon session was the paper *The Relation of the Apostolic Church to "the Scriptures"* by David M. Stanley, S.J., who developed his paper under two headings: The attitude of the NT authors to the OT, and the attitude of the Evangelists to the logia of Jesus. George T. Montague, S.M., spoke on the *Ministry of Upbuilding in Eph 4,12*. After a brief analysis of the first part of Ephesians, Fr. Montague went on to a detailed analysis of 4,12, which should be translated: *in order to organize or mobilize the saints, for active service, for building up the body of Christ*. This is the role of the official ministers of the Church. *The Description of Christ as "The Image of the Invisible God" and the argument of Col 1,15ff.* was the title of the paper read by Thomas W. Buckley. Fr. Buckley examined at length the use of the word *eikon*, and brought in comparisons with Wisdom, the Torah, Philo and the Logos. The final paper *Teaching the Fourth Gospel—an Experiment* was a report by Joseph A. Grassi, M.M., on "student-centered" teaching of the Gospel of St. John. By this he meant breaking down the class to small groups, each group having the complete responsibility of studying the Fourth Gospel on their own. Fr. Grassi pointed out the advantages and disadvantages of the method, but remarked that on a whole he was very well pleased with the results.

The evening session was a symposium on the Bible and the Ministry which was open to all the clergy. Two talks were given: the first by Eugene H. Maly entitled *The Gospels Today*, and the second by Richard Kugelman, C.P., entitled *Preaching the Word of God*. The response to this session was very enthusiastic.

Friday, August 30, saw most of the members depart, but a tour had been arranged for all those interested and some forty-five members availed themselves of the opportunity to see San Francisco and environs. The trip included the major attractions of the town: Nob Hill, Chinatown, the bridges, Treasure Island, Fisherman's Wharf, etc., as well as a trip to Santa Clara University and Stanford University.

The following CBA members attended the meeting:

Ballmann, Everett A.	Grispino, Joseph A., S.M.
Balducelli, Roger	Hartdegen, Stephen, O.F.M.
Barbieri, Amedeo	Hartman, Louis, C.Ss.R.
Barrosse, T., C.S.C.	Henkey, Charles H.
Bellet, Paulinus, O.S.B.	Hill, William F., S.S.
Bergewisch, Fred F., S.J.	Hinnebusch, Paul, O.P.
Bernas, Casimir, O.C.S.O.	Hopkins, Martin, O.P.
Bolz, Paschal, O.S.B.	Huesman, John, S.J.
Bowman, David J., S.J.	Hunt, Ignatius, O.S.B.
Boucher, Robert, C.Ss.R.	Joyce, Edward, C.P.S.
Brinkman, J. A., S.J.	King, Philip J.
Brown, Raymond E., S.S.	Kugelman, Richard, C.P.
Brown, Schuyler, S.J.	Kutchera, Alvin
Bryant, Thomas, S.S.	Lacomara, Aelred, C.P.
Buckley, Thomas W.	Lazur, Joseph, C.P.P.S.
Cahill, Joseph P., S.J.	Leahy, Thomas M., S.J.
Callahan, Edward R., S.J.	Lenti, Arthur J., S.D.B.
Casey, William Van Etten, S.J.	Lovely, Edward, S.J.
Chirico, Peter, S.S.	Ludwig, James
Collins, T. A., O.P.	Lussier, Ernest, S.S.S.
Conwell, Joseph F., S.J.	Lynch, W. E., C.M.
Cortelyou, W. T., C.M.	Malo, Adrien, O.F.M.
Crossan, Dominic M., O.S.M.	Maly, Eugene H.
Crowley, Edward J., C.Ss.R.	Marcolongo, Francis J.
Cummings, William, C.Ss.R.	Martin, Edward, C.M.
Dahood, Mitchell, S.J.	Martin, Francis, O.C.S.O.
Denzer, George	Mattingly, John F., S.S.
DeVault, Joseph J., S.J.	Matulich, Silvano, O.F.M.
DeVine, Charles, C.Ss.R.	McAlee, Eugene, C.Ss.R.
Dicharry, Warren T., C.M.	McCarthy, Dennis, S.J.
Dietlein, Damian, O.S.B.	McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.
Ellis, Peter, C.Ss.R.	McGrath, Brendan, O.S.B.
Englert, Clement, C.Ss.R.	Megivern, James J., C.M.
Fallon, Joseph E., O.P.	Meyer, Ben F., S.J.
Fallon, John A., O.P.	Moeller, Donald
Filas, Francis L., S.J.	Montague, George T., S.M.
Fitzmyer, Joseph A., S.J.	Montalbano, Frank J., O.M.I.
Forestell, J. T., C.S.B.	Moriarty, Fred L., S.J.
Gaboury, Antoine, O.M.I.	Murphy, R.T.A., O.P.
Giblin, Charles, S.J.	Murphy, Roland E., O.Carm.
Grassi, Joseph A., M.M.	Murray, John P., C.M.

Musholt, Silas, O.F.M.	Sorensen, Howard M., O.M.I.
Oatis, Stephen J., O.P.	Stanley, David, S.J.
Pansini, Francis D., C.M.	Steiner, Luke, O.S.B.
Parsons, Samuel T., O.P.	Taheny, Theodore, S.J.
Peters, E. H., C.S.P.	Sullivan, Francis A., S.J.
Petru, Francis A., S.J.	Turner, Wayne
Pierce, Justin A., S.D.S.	Twomey, Richard L., S.J.
Polan, Stanley, S.S.C.C.	VerBust, Richard
Quinn, Jerome D.	Vincent, Robert G., O.M.I.
Richard, Robert, S.J.	Vawter, Bruce, C.M.
Rodriguez, Mauro, S.D.B.	Weis, Earl A., S.J.
Romero, Gilbert	Wood, Geoffrey, S.A.
Rubsys, Anthony L.	Zabala, Albert, S.J.
Ruegg, Dominic, F.S.C.	Sr. M. Benedict Joseph
Sargent, Benjamin, S.J.	Sr. Consuela Maria, S.N.J.M.
Schoenberg, Martin, O.S.C.	Sr. Jane Marie, O.P.
Schroeder, Francis, S.S.J.	Sr. M. Joseph, S.H.F.
Seper, Francis, M.S.C.	Mother Josephine Morgan, R.S.C.J.
Siebeneck, Robert, C.P.P.S.	Mother Kathryn Sullivan, R.S.C.J.
Simonitsch, Roland, C.S.C.	Sr. M. Loyola, S.N.J.M.
Skehan, Patrick W.	Sr. Maura, C.S.J.
Sloyan, Gerard	Sr. Miriam Auxilium, S.H.F.
Smith, Alan, O.P.	Sr. Patricia Maria, S.N.J.M.
Sneed, Richard, O.S.B.	Sr. M. Pius, O.S.F.

FRANCIS H. SEPER, M.S.C.
Recording Secretary

New York Regional Meeting of CBA

On June 24 a stimulating regional meeting chaired by Right Reverend John E. Steinmueller was held at Manhattanville College.

Members arrived at 4 o'clock and enjoyed the first paper which was read by Rev. George S. Glanzman, S.J., of Fordham and Johns Hopkins Universities concerning imprecation formulae in Fertile Crescent treaties. After dinner Rev. Joseph A. Grassi, M.M., of Maryknoll, made an interesting analysis of Ezekiel 37 and details of the Resurrection story in Matthew. The members were able to follow this paper with the help of illustrations from Dura-Europus which Father Grassi provided. The final paper was read by Rev. Francis J. McCool, S.J., who analyzed the literary form of Mt 28,16-20.