

**Report of the Forty-Third General Meeting
of the Catholic Biblical Association of America**

The forty-third general meeting of The Catholic Biblical Association of America was held 18-21 August 1980, at the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, Minnesota. The meeting began Monday evening with a welcome to the members of the Association from Dr. Bruce Stender, president of the College of St. Scholastica, and from Mother Grace Marie Braun, O.S.B., prioress of the Benedictine Community of St. Scholastica. The Reverend Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P., then delivered the presidential address, "The Beatitudes."

Sessions on Tuesday, 19 August

Four task forces and six continuing seminars met simultaneously each day from 9:00 to 10:45 A.M. The task forces included "Early Pentateuchal Sources" (convener: Michael Mulhall, O.Carm.; core group members in attendance: John Gammie; Helen Ann Kenik; Dennis J. McCarthy, S.J.; Sean E. McEvenue; John J. Schmitt; Walter R. Wifall); "Hebrew Poetry" (convener: Conrad E. L'Heureux; core group members in attendance: Lawrence Boadt, C.S.P.; Cheryl Exum; Aloysius Fitzgerald, F.S.C.; Harold A. Forshey; John S. Kselman, S.S.; Leo Laberge, O.M.I.; Thomas P. McCreesh, O.P.); "Luke-Acts" (convener: Robert F. O'Toole, S.J.; core group members in attendance: Frederick W. Danker; Dennis Hamm, S.J.; Luke T. Johnson; Robert J. Karris, O.F.M.; Jerome Kodell, O.S.B.; William S. Kurz, S.J.; Rea McDonnell, S.S.N.D.; Dennis M. Sweetland; Charles H. Talbert); "New Testament Ethics: Method and Content" (convener: Robert J. Daly, S.J.; core group members in attendance: Cassian Corcoran, O.F.M.; James A. Fischer, C.M.; Lawrence Frizzell; Paul Jurkowitz; Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P.; Justin A. Pierce; Stanley M. Polan; Frederick E. Schuele; Anthony Tambasco; L. John Topel, S.J.).

The continuing seminars and their respective leaders studied: "The Ebla Texts

and the Book of Genesis" (Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J.); "Christology" (Benedict T. Viviano, O.P., replacing the late Martin Hopkins, O.P.); "The Sociological Approach to the New Testament: Introduction and Overview for Unashamed Beginners" (Bruce J. Malina); "Teaching Scripture as Pastoral Ministry" (James M. Reese, O.S.F.S.); "Scripture and Faith Development" (William G. Thompson, S.J.); "Prophets and Liberation" (Donald H. Wimmer).

The morning concluded with two papers presented in simultaneous sessions: Conrad E. L'Heureux, "Richard Simon and Pentateuchal Studies: An Evaluation after Three Centuries"; and PHEME PERKINS, "Gnostic Christologies and the New Testament."

The Most Reverend Paul F. Anderson, Bishop of Duluth, was principal celebrant and homilist for the liturgy at midday. His warm words spoke of the service to faith of those whose work is the study and interpretation of the Word of God.

Four sessions of research reports during the afternoon heard the following papers delivered: Paul G. Mosca, "Exodus 4:24-26: The 'Bridegroom of Blood' in Context"; William G. Most, "Luke's Use of Apodictic *kar*"; Karen A. Barta, "The Matthean *Sitz-im-Leben* and the Persecution Theme"; Joseph F. Wimmer, O.S.A., "Fasting in the New Testament"; Robert North, S.J., "Can Geography Save J from Rendtorff?"; Bernard B. Scott, "Are Parables Metaphors?"; Jerome T. Walsh, "Portrait of a Prophet: Rhetorical Criticism of 1 Kings 17"; Francis D. Weinert, "The Meaning of the Temple in Luke—Acts"; Augustine Stock, O.S.B., "Mark's Narrative"; Dennis Hamm, S.J., "The Sign of Healing: Acts 3:1-10 as Lukan Theology"; Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J., "The Theology of the Voice at Ebla"; Michael L. Barré, S.S., "Amos 1:1-2:4: Akkadian and Hittite Parallels"; Charles Talbert, "Once Again: Lukan Attitudes toward Miracle"; Enrique Nardoni, "The Three Disciples in the Transfiguration Narrative"; Philip G. Roets, "Who or What is the Spirit of Jesus?"; Anthony J. Saldarini, "Method and Results in Recent Study of Judaism"; Paula J. Bowes, "Rhetorical Aspects of the Court Narrative"; Philip J. King, "Report on Recent Archaeological Excavations"; Louis Brodie, O.P., "The Ascension of Jesus (Luke 24:48-52) as a Literary Adaptation (Midrash?) of the Taking Up of Elijah (2 Kgs 2:7-18)"; Fernando F. Segovia, "Stages of Redaction in the Farewell Discourse of John 15-17"; Jerome H. Neyrey, S.J., "Apologetic Use of the Transfiguration in 2 Peter 1:16-21"; David M. Bossman, O.F.M., "Samaritan Use of the Isaac Tradition in the *Memar Marqah*."

The evening general session featured a paper by Dennis J. McCarthy, S.J., "History, Reality, and Theology."

Sessions on Wednesday, 20 August

The task forces and continuing seminars resumed their work during the first part of the morning. Two simultaneous sessions then heard presentations by Bruce Vawter, C.M., on "The God of the Old Testament," and by James Swetnam, S.J., on "Jesus as Logos in Heb 4:12-13."

Mitchell J. Dahood, S.J., served as main celebrant for the liturgy at midday. Frederick W. Danker delivered the homily.

The general session in the afternoon listened to a joint CTSA-CBA Panel

Discussion on "The Significance of Contemporary Hermeneutics for Biblical Studies." Charles H. Miller, S.M., moderated the discussion; the panelists were David Tracy and Sandra M. Schneiders, I.H.M.

CBA president Neil J. McEleney, C.S.P., called the annual business meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. The first item on the agenda was the report of Myles M. Bourke as chairman of the Board of Trustees. In the absence of the treasurer, Patrick W. Skehan, Bourke also gave the treasurer's report. Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., followed with his report as executive secretary. After thanking the local arrangements committee for their excellent work and outstanding hospitality, he announced that the executive board had appropriated funds to give \$200.00 to each of the major speakers (at simultaneous and general sessions) at this year's general meeting. Consideration of a general policy in this matter for future years will be on the agenda for the executive board meeting next year. He also announced the following grants: (a) Stipend and travel money for John R. Donahue, S.J., CBA visiting professor to the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome for the 1980-81 academic year, and for Thomas L. Thompson, CBA visiting professor to the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem for the 1980-81 academic year. At the request of Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P., chairman of the committee on visiting professorships, Jensen reminded the members that the stipend consists of \$1,500.00 and round-trip air fare; he also pointed out that applications for both professorships are accepted until January 15th, and urged those interested to apply. (No new grant was made to the Syrian Consortium for Survey and Excavation [under ASOR], since the work intended to be completed during the last season was unavoidably delayed [see further below].) (b) \$1,000.00 to the translation project of the *Studium Biblicum Franciscanum*. (c) \$1,500.00 for the printing of Vietnamese Bibles. (d) \$1,500.00 for the *Elenchus bibliographicus biblicus*; this grant marks the third year of a three-year commitment. And (e) a tithing of membership dues (\$1,568.00) for famine relief through the NCCB. He further announced that the executive board had agreed to the refurbishing of the CBA executive offices, and to the computerization of some office operations, beginning with mailing lists. He announced that the next annual meeting will be held at the University of Seattle, Seattle, Washington. The dates would be, according to present practice, 24-27 August 1980. But he wished to consult the membership about proposed changes in the present practice. Discussion followed, resulting in two proposals: (a) that the annual meeting in 1981 be held from Saturday, 22 August, to Tuesday, 25 August, if such dates can be arranged with the University of Seattle. (It has been so arranged.) And (b) that in future years the annual meeting be scheduled four days earlier than is the present practice; thus it would be held from Thursday through Sunday. Both proposals were approved by a show of hands. Jensen further reported that the NAB New Testament revision project is adhering to its schedule. The revisions are to be completed and submitted by November. Between November 1980, and November 1981, the steering committee will act as the editorial board; the next year, until November 1982, will be occupied with printing, proofreading, etc. Finally, he announced that Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P., had been named the editor of *The Bible Today*, to replace the late Eugene Maly.

Joseph A. Fitzmyer, S.J., spoke as editor of the *CBQ*. Since 1 January up to 15 August, 77 manuscripts had been submitted; of those, 23 were accepted, 24 rejected,

and 30 are still under consideration. Fitzmyer called attention to a serious shortage of Old Testament articles among those submitted.

Bruce Vawter, C.M., reported as chairman of the CBQMS editorial board and as editor of *OTA*. No new monographs were published this year; three are in preparation. Two more are awaiting final revisions by the authors; three are under consideration; and two were rejected in the past year. *OTA* continues to receive commendatory reactions. Vawter indicated a continuing need for abstractors and asked that those interested contact him.

Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M., in the name of the committee on credentials, recommended the following candidates for membership in the CBA:

For Active Membership:

Karen A. Barta, Dianne Bergant, C.S.A., Henrikus W. Boers, Rita J. Burns, Thomas George Coughlin, O.M.I., William Joseph Fay, Carol Rader Fontaine, Jerko Fućak, O.F.M., Harry Hagan, O.S.B., Thomas J. Herron, Mark Edward Hillmer, Thomas A. Kopecek, Jon D. Levenson, John J. McDonnell, C.M., Donal McIlraith, Anthony O'Leary, C.P., William W. Reader, David Whitten Smith, John L. Sullivan, Elisabeth M. Tetlow, Matitiah Tsevat, Rafael Vicent, Francis David Weinert.

For Associate Membership:

Barry J. Allaire, Bernard R. Bonnot, Barbara Bozak, C.S.J., Ginette Brouillard, James T. Butler, Donald Dietz, O.M.I., Chris Franke, Edward O. Fride, Michael Galligan-Stierle, Gertrude Giroux, Elaine Marie Guillemin, Jay M. Harrington, O.S.A., Mary Anne Hoop, B.V.M., Thomas Marian Kalita, A.A., Robert George Kennedy, Joan Koehler, O.S.F., David E. Lewycky, George A. Martin, Pauline Micke, O.S.B., Mark Anthony O'Connell, Robert J. Owens, Jr., Margaret Page, O.P., Peter R. Powell, Jr., John P. Sankovitz, Marion Lloyd Soards, Jr., John Sowada, Michael J. Spicer, David Gregory Timbs, C.Ss.R.

These candidates were accepted by a voice vote.

PHEME PERKINS reported for the committee on nominations. She announced that Cassian Corcoran, O.F.M., had been appointed to the committee on nominations by CBA President McEleney to complete the term of the late Eugene Maly. The following slate of candidates was recommended: *President*: Mitchell Dahood, S.J.; *Vice-President*: Philip J. King; *Executive Secretary*: Joseph Jensen, O.S.B.; *Treasurer*: Patrick W. Skehan; *Chairman of the Board of Trustees*: Myles M. Bourke; *Consultors, 1980-82*: Jack D. Kingsbury and Leonard A. Bushinski, C.S.Sp.; *Committee on Nominations, 1980-84*: Damien Kraus, O.S.B.; *Associate Editors of CBQ, 1980-84*: Raymond E. Brown, S.S.: John J. Collins; George W. MacRae, S.J.; Roland E. Murphy, O.Carm.; *Associate Editor of CBQ to fill unexpired term 1980-82*: PHEME PERKINS. The membership elected the slate by a unanimous voice vote.

Philip J. King reported on the ASOR Syrian Survey. He gave a brief history of the project and reported that the 1980 campaign was aborted because of political unrest in Syria. It is planned to complete the systematic survey of the western portion of the Ghab in 1981, as well as to excavate some one-period sites and to begin one specific dig. Final determination of the site has not been made. A new director is needed for the project, which remains in good standing with the Syrian government

despite this year's political complications. The new director will be named by ASOR in the next few weeks.

Lawrence Boadt, C.S.P. spoke for the program committee. He commented on the contrast between last year's high number of offerings for research reports and the much lower number forthcoming this year, particularly in the area of Old Testament studies. He urged the members to continue their efforts to share the results of their scholarship.

Anthony J. Saldarini spoke for the projects and priorities committee. The committee wishes to consult the membership on a proposed CBA commentary series on biblical and pseudepigraphical books. The series would be scientific and scholarly; it would not necessarily cover the whole Bible but would be an outlet for individual commentaries on particular books. An editorial board would be established, to which an author could submit specimen chapters. Any members who are interested in this proposal are asked to express their interest in writing to the executive secretary.

On behalf of the committee on resolutions, Brendan McGrath, O.S.B., proposed resolutions to thank the Most Reverend Paul F. Anderson for celebrating the liturgy with our membership; to thank the Priory and College of St. Scholastica for their warm and gracious hospitality; to congratulate the Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba on the occasion of his ordination to the episcopate and his appointment as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee; to offer cordial congratulations to our colleagues in the Society of Biblical Literature in this, the centenary, year of that organization; and to commend and thank the committee on local arrangements, the program committee, the speakers, and all who have contributed to the success of this meeting. The resolutions were accepted unanimously.

The business meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

The evening general session heard Daniel J. Harrington, S.J., deliver the paper, "The Reception of Walter Bauer's *Orthodoxy and Heresy in Earliest Christianity* during the 1970s."

Sessions on Thursday, August 21

The task forces and continuing seminars met in the first part of the morning. Two simultaneous sessions followed: Walter R. Wifall, "The Tribes of Yahweh, 1250-1050 B.C.: A Synchronic Study with a Diachronic Title"; and Donald P. Senior, C.P., "The Struggle to Be Universal: Mission as Vantage Point for New Testament Investigation."

Philip Van Linden, C.M., was principal celebrant and homilist for the midday liturgy.

The following CBA members and invited guests, including some from the SNTS, were in attendance at the meeting:

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| Achtemeier, Paul J. | Berge, Paul S. |
| Bailey, Joseph G. | Bishop, Jonathan |
| Barbieri, Amedeo, P.I.M.E. | Boadt, Lawrence E., C.S.P. |
| Barta, Karen A. | Bossman, David M. |
| Barré, Michael L., S.S. | Bourke, Myles M. |
| Benjamin, Harry S. | Bowes, Paula J. |
| Bergant, Dianne, C.S.A. | Boys, Mary C. |

- Bozak, Barbara, C.S.J.
 Branick, Vincent
 Brodie, Louis T., O.P.
 Brown, Peter Schuyler, S.J.
 Brummel, Thomas, C.M.F.
 Bryant, Thomas J., S.J.
 Bucher, Otto, O.F.M.Cap.
 Buckley, Thomas
 Bushinski, Leonard A., C.S.Sp.
 Carlston, Charles E.
 Ceresko, Anthony R., O.S.F.S.
 Cody, Aelred, O.S.B.
 Cope, Lamar
 Corcoran, Cassian, O.F.M.
 Coughlin, Thomas G., O.M.I.
 Dahood, Mitchell J., S.J.
 Daly, Robert J., S.J.
 Danker, Frederick W.
 Dawes, Dorothy, O.P.
 Denis, Albert M., O.P.
 Dietlein, Damian
 Dietz, Donald, O.M.I.
 Di Lella, Alexander A., O.F.M.
 Donahue, John R., S.J.
 Durken, Daniel, O.S.B.
 Exum, Cheryl
 Fischer, James A., C.M.
 Fitzgerald, Aloysius, F.S.C.
 Fitzmyer, Joseph A., S.J.
 Fleddermann, Harry
 Forshey, Harold O.
 Franke, Chris
 Frizzell, Lawrence
 Fućak, Jerome
 Gammie, John G.
 Hagan, Harry, O.S.B.
 Hamm, Dennis, S.J.
 Harrington, Daniel J., S.J.
 Harrington, Jay, O.S.A.
 Hartdegen, Stephen, O.F.M.
 Heemrood, J.A., O.M.I.
 Heil, John P.
 Hensell, Eugene, O.S.B.
 Hoffman, Thomas A., S.J.
 Hollar, John A.
 Hoopé, Mary Anne, B.V.M.
- Hoppe, Leslie J., O.F.M.
 Hunt, Joseph Ignatius
 Irwin, William H., C.S.B.
 Irvin, Dorothy
 Jensen, Joseph, O.S.B.
 Johnson, Luke T.
 Johnson, Thomas
 Jurkowitz, Paul
 Karris, Robert J., O.F.M.
 Kazmierski, Carl
 Kendall, Robert Daniel, S.J.
 Kenik, Helen A.
 King, Philip J.
 Knight, Douglas A.
 Kodell, Jerome, O.S.B.
 Kraus, Damien, O.S.B.
 Kselman, John S., S.S.
 Kurz, William S., S.J.
 Laberge, Leo, O.M.I.
 Laffey, Alice, R.S.M.
 Launderville, Dale
 Lazor, Bernard, O.S.A.
 Leahy, Thomas W., S.J.
 L'Heureux, Conrad E.
 Liebenow, G. Hans
 Lillie, Betty Jane, S.C.
 Lillie, Harrison A., Sr.
 Little, Donald H.
 Malina, Bruce J.
 Martin, Francis
 Martin, George
 McCarthy, Dennis J., S.J.
 McCreesh, Thomas P., O.P.
 McDonnell, John, C.M.
 McDonnell, Rea, S.S.N.D.
 McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.
 McEvenue, Sean
 McGrath, Brendan, O.S.B.
 McVann, Neil
 McIlraith, Donal
 McKenzie, John L.
 Meier, John P.
 Micke, Pauline, O.S.B.
 Miller, Charles H., S.M.
 Miller, William T., S.J.
 Mindling, Joseph, O.F.M.Cap.

Montague, George T., S.M.
 Moriarty, Robert K., S.M.
 Mosca, Paul G.
 Most, William G.
 Mulhall, Michael, O.Carm.
 Nardoni, Enrique
 Navarre, Nanette, O.S.U.
 Neyrey, Jerome H., S.J.
 Nickels, Peter, O.F.M.Conv.
 Nickle, Keith F.
 Nolan, Brian
 North, Robert, S.J.
 O'Toole, Robert F., S.J.
 Pastva, Agnes Ann, S.N.D.
 Pazdan, Mary Margaret, O.P.
 Peifer, Claude, O.S.B.
 Perkins, PHEME
 Perlewitz, Miriam F., M.M.
 Peters, Edward H., C.S.P.
 Petru, Francis A., S.J.
 Pierce, Justin A.
 Pierzina, Robin, O.S.B.
 Pilch, John J.
 Plevnik, Joseph, S.J.
 Polan, Stanley M.
 Prochaska, Mary Borgias, S.N.D.
 Quinn, Jerome D.
 Reader, William
 Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.
 Reimherr, Otto
 Riehl, Claudia, O.S.B.
 Roets, Philip
 Rubsys, Anthony L.
 Ruckstuhl, Eugen
 Ryan, Rosalie, C.S.J.
 Saldarini, Anthony J.
 Sanchez, E.
 Sankovitz, John P.
 Schaberg, Jane, R.S.C.J.
 Schmitt, John J.
 Schneiders, Sandra, I.H.M.
 Schuele, Frederick E.

Schulte, Anthony, O.F.M.
 Schwank, Benedikt, O.S.B.
 Scott, Bernard B.
 Segovia, Fernando F.
 Senior, Donald, C.P.
 Sharp, Donald B., S.J.
 Sklba, Richard J.
 Smith, David W.
 Sowada, John
 Stock, Augustine, O.S.B.
 Stockhausen, Carol
 Stuhlmüller, Carroll, C.P.
 Sullivan, John L.
 Sweetland, Dennis M.
 Swetnam, James, S.J.
 Tajchman, Greg, O.F.M.
 Talbert, Charles H.
 Tambasco, Anthony
 Tetlow, Elisabeth M.
 Thompson, William G., S.J.
 Tiede, David L.
 Topel, L. John, S.J.
 Tracy, David
 Turner, Wayne A.
 Van Linden, Philip, C.M.
 Vater, Ann M.
 Vawter, Bruce, C.M.
 Viviano, Benedict T., O.P.
 Viviano, Pauline
 Wahl, Thomas, O.S.B.
 Walsh, Michael F., C.M.
 Walsh, Jerome T.
 Wang, Peter
 Wcela, Emil A.
 Welch, John
 Weinert, Francis D.
 Weis, Earl A., S.J.
 Werenski, Robert
 Wifall, Walter
 Wimmer, Donald H.
 Wimmer, Joseph E., O.S.A.
 Zilonka, Paul, C.P.

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