

**Report of the Fifty-First General Meeting  
of the Catholic Biblical Association of America**

The fifty-first meeting of the Catholic Biblical Association of America was held August 15-18, 1988, at Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California. Joseph A. Grassi, of Santa Clara University, introduced Paul Locatelli, S.J., the university's president, who welcomed the members of the association. Joseph Blenkinsopp, vice president of the association, then introduced Bruce J. Malina, who delivered the presidential address, "Christ and Time: Swiss or Mediterranean?"

*Sessions on Tuesday, August 16*

Three task forces and ten continuing seminars met simultaneously each day from 9:00 to 10:45 A.M. The task forces included: "Deuteronomy and the Former Prophets" (convener: Duane L. Christensen; core group members in attendance: Margaret H. Brown; John C. Endres, S.J.; Terence E. Fretheim; Harry Hagan, O.S.B.; Leslie J. Hoppe, O.F.M.; Alice Laffey, R.S.M.; John L. Sullivan; Pauline A. Viviano; Jerome T. Walsh; Peter Wang); "The Social Sciences and New Testament Exegesis" (convener: Bruce J. Malina; core group members in attendance: S. Scott Bartchy; David M. Bossman, O.F.M.; John H. Elliott; K. C. Hanson; Carl Kazmierski; Mark McVann, F.S.C.; Frederick J. Murphy; Jerome H. Neyrey, S.J.; John J. Pilch; James M. Reese, O.S.F.S.); "Narrative Study of the New Testament" (co-conveners: Ronald D. Witherup, S.S. and Frank J. Matera; core group members in attendance: Karen A. Barta; James A. Fischer, C.M.; Benjamin Fiore, S.J.; Dennis Hamm, S.J.; William S. Kurz, S.J.; Marie Eloise Rosenblatt, R.S.M.).

The continuing seminars and their respective leaders studied: "Northwest Semitic Epigraphy" (Michael L. Barré); "The Poetry of the Book of Lamentations and the Poetic Theory of James Kugel on Parallelism" (Lawrence E. Boadt, C.S.P., and Joseph Wimmer, O.S.A.); "Daniel" (John J. Collins); "Feminist Hermeneutics" (Barbara A. Cullom); "The Social World of Ancient Israel" (James W. Flanagan); "Old Testament Perspectives on Ecology" (Alan W. Jenks and Lawrence Frizzell); "Development of the Wisdom Tradition in the Old Testament and the New Testament" (Betty Jane Lillie, S.C.); "Questions from the Sermon on the Mount" (Neil J. McElaney, C.S.P.); "The Style of New Testament Authors" (Earl J. Richard and Elliott Maloney, O.S.B.); "The Educational Value of Suffering in the New Testament and in Its Milieu" (Charles H. Talbert).

The morning concluded with papers presented in simultaneous sessions by William L. Holladay, "Conclusions from a Study of Jeremiah," and James H. Swetnam, S.J., "John 1:13 and the Mother of Jesus in the Fourth Gospel."

His Excellency Pierre DuMaine, Bishop of San Jose, was principal celebrant and homilist for the eucharistic liturgy at midday.

Four sessions of research reports during the afternoon heard the following papers delivered: Robert Hodgson, "Labeling Theory and the Interpretation of the New Testament Texts"; Jerome H. Neyrey, S.J., "Acts 17, Epicurus, and Christian Theodicy"; John F. O'Grady, "Paul the Loser in Jerusalem: Implications for Christianity"; Duane L. Christensen, "The Mosaic Authorship of the Pentateuch"; Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P., "Prophetism and the World of the Spirits"; Frank J. Matera, "From Herod's Opinion to Peter's Confession: Mark 6:14-8:30"; Thomas L. Brodie, O.P., "The Quest for the Genre of Luke-Acts: The Case for Sharpening the Brown-O'Toole Theory into a Theory of Direct Literary Dependence on the Old Testament"; Benjamin Fiore, S.J., "Paul, Plutarch, and the Epicureans"; Richard J. Pettey, "Images of Women in 1 and 2 Samuel"; Francis K. Kumaki, "W. L. Holladay's Interpretation

of Jeremiah"; Mark Kiley, "The Geography of Famine: John 6:22-26"; Vincent P. Branick, "Some Theological Issues Arising out of Recent House Church Studies"; Carol K. Stockhausen, "Galatians 3-4 and the Abraham Narrative Reexamined"; Harold O. Forshey, "The Potters' Marks of the Ancient Near East: Their Significance and Function"; Walter A. Vogels, W.F., "Hosea's Gift to Gomer in Hos 3:2"; William M. Soll, "Heinrich Schütz: The Composer as Exegete"; Winsome Munro, "Interpolation in the Epistles: Assessing Probability"; William H. Irwin, C.S.B., "Old Testament Spirituality as an Object of Research in the History of Spirituality"; Harry Hagan, O.S.B., "The Psalms of Lament as Dramatic Monologues."

The evening general session featured a paper by Sandra M. Schneiders, I.H.M., "The Relevance of 'Effective Historical Consciousness' and Feminist Ideology Criticism for a Hermeneutics of Transformation."

*Sessions on Wednesday, August 17*

The task forces and continuing seminars resumed their work during the first part of the morning. Two simultaneous sessions then heard presentations by Gale A. Yee, "'Your Mother Was a Hittite': The Image of the Harlot in Ezekiel 16," and by Marion L. Soards, "Neglected Theological Dimensions of Paul's Letter to Philemon."

Barbara E. Reid, O.P., was presider and homilist at our midday Service of the Word.

The general session in the afternoon listened to a panel discussion on "The Magisterium and Academic Freedom." The moderator was Don C. Benjamin, O.Carm., and the panelists were Richard J. Sklba, John P. Boyle of the CTSA, and Juliana Casey, I.H.M.

CBA President Bruce Malina called the annual business meeting to order at 4:10 P.M. In the absence of Msgr. Myles Bourke, CBA executive secretary Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., gave the report of the chair of the Board of Trustees. The net worth of the association increased only slightly during the past year; but, given the vagaries of the stock market, this is not unexpected. Aloysius Fitzgerald, F.S.C., then presented the treasurer's report, the substance of which had been previously distributed to the members present.

Joseph Jensen, O.S.B., gave the report of the executive secretary. He began by reading the names of members who had died during the past year and asking us to remember them in our prayers. He thanked Joseph Grassi and the Local Arrangements Committee for their tireless and very successful efforts to provide a well-organized and smooth meeting. He reported on some of last year's activities. The CBA had sent delegates to the Intersocietal Committee on Academic Freedom and Scholarly Responsibility. This committee's work has been completed and a final report issued; a provisional report had been published in *BCSSR*; the final version of the report will be published in *Origins*. Concrete progress has been made toward the revision of the *NAB* Psalter: guidelines have been drawn up, a timetable has been established, revisers have been contacted, and psalms have been assigned; official permission from the NCCB is still awaited. Two books of interest to members should be noted. *American Catholic Biblical Scholarship: A History from the Early Republic to Vatican II*, by Gerald P. Fogarty, S.J., cosponsored by the CBA and the SBL, will

be published by Harper & Row in early 1989; members will be able to purchase it directly from the CBA. *The Wisdom of Ben Sira*, by the late Patrick W. Skehan and Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M., was published by Doubleday in the Anchor Bible series in 1987; it too is available to members from the CBA office. The Executive Board approved or reaffirmed the following grants: (a) \$10,000 for the Memorial Stipends program; (b) \$16,000 for the Young Scholars' Fellowships; (c) \$6,000 for the CBA Visiting Professorship at the Pontifical Biblical Institute (there were no applicants for the position at the Ecole Biblique); (d) \$5,000 for the *Elenchus Bibliographicus Biblicus*; (e) \$1,000 for the translation project of the Studium Biblicum Franciscanum; (f) a tithe of membership dues (\$2,512) for famine relief; (g) \$4,000 subsidy for publishing a book of papers from the CBA task force on the social foundations of peace. The book will be edited by Anthony Tambasco and Lawrence Boadt, C.S.P., and will be published by Paulist; (h) a decision on a grant for the Tell Qarqur project awaits a final proposal from the new directors of the project and an evaluation thereof by our archaeology committee. The Executive Board asked Jensen to articulate the criteria that are implicit in our response to requests for grants. He has not completed the task yet, but offered the following reflections: a large proportion of our expenses goes to benefit our own members (e.g., subsidies of *CBQ*, *OTA*, *CBQMS*; subsidy of the annual meeting; etc.); as to specific grants, preference goes to projects that conform to the goals of the CBA, viz., to promote Catholic biblical scholarship, and particularly to projects proposed by our own members, especially those who have contributed significantly to the work of the association. Jensen then explained one of the services offered to our members this past year: the association had the opportunity to obtain *Religious Studies Review* for the members at a very low price. It did so for members living in the USA (postage costs for those living outside the USA were prohibitive). The Executive Board is willing to continue this next year. We have been requested to evaluate the U.S. bishops' pastoral on women's concerns. The Executive Board has asked the task force on "The Social Sciences and New Testament Exegesis" to address the issue and has also established a committee including Adela Yarbro Collins, Carolyn Osiek, R.S.C.J. (chair), Pauline Viviano, and Dianne Bergant, C.S.A., to study the document. The Executive Board named Mary Callaway to the Board of Trustees. Jensen reminded the membership that the 1989 meeting will be held August 14-17, 1989, at Le Moyne College, Syracuse, New York; and he announced that the 1990 meeting will be held at the University of Notre Dame, August 13-16, 1990. He suggested that those interested in forming task forces for those meetings contact the Program Committee, since we have few active task forces this year. Finally, he reminded the members that it is up to them to seek invitations from our academic institutions for future meetings, and he urged them to do so.

John Meier gave the report of the editor of the *CBQ*. He began by announcing that his term as editor will expire on January 1, 1989, and that the board of associate editors has elected John Kselman, S.S., to succeed him. All submissions and correspondence should be directed to Meier until that date; thereafter, to Kselman at Weston School of Theology, 3 Phillips Place, Cambridge, MA 02138. In 1988, 29 articles will have been published, covering 423 pages. Since last year, 84 mss were received, of which 22 were accepted, 33 rejected, and 29 are under consideration. Meier warmly thanked his associate editors for their conscientious efforts during his tenure.

Thomas P. McCreesh, O.P., gave the report of the editor of *OTA*. The period of editorial transition is almost over, with periodical abstracts up to the level that preceded Bruce Vawter's death and book abstracts gradually returning to that level. The current effort is to publish both periodical and book abstracts as up-to-date as possible. A second effort is the preparation of the decennial index; work is under way. A third effort is the continued organization and computerization of the *OTA* office. McCreesh thanked his abstractors and indexers for their labors. During 1988, *OTA* will have published 1,000 periodical abstracts and 91 book abstracts.

Robert Karris, O.F.M., gave the report of the editor of the CBQMS. As of August 8, 1988, 11 mss had been received; of these, 2 have been published, 1 is in press, 1 has been accepted with conditions, 1 was rejected, and 6 were sent back because they were unrevised dissertations, which CBQMS does not publish. Karris thanked his associate editors for their work and urged the membership to submit new, original mss for consideration.

John Donahue, S.J., reported for the Committee on Visiting Professors. Only three applications were received for the coming year; all were for the PBI professorship. Jerome Neyrey, S.J., was selected. Applications for the 1989-90 professorships are due by January 15, 1989. For subsequent years the date will be advanced: for 1990-91, the deadline for applications will be December 1, 1989.

The list of candidates for membership in the association was not read, since it had been available to the members throughout the meeting. In the name of the committee on credentials, Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M., recommended the following candidates:

*For Active Membership:*

Gary A. Anderson; Nestor G. Benavides; Michael Cahill, C.S.Sp.; James H. Charlesworth; John S. Custer; James Eblen; Sharron Farrell; Chris Franke; Susan Renninger Garrett; Joel B. Green; Douglas M. Gropp; Hernando Guevara; Douglas Kries; Dale Lauderville, O.S.B.; Scott C. Layton; Amy-Jill Levine; Victor H. Matthews; James P. McIlhorne; J. Ramsey Michaels; Watson E. Mills; Russell Morton; Earl Muller, S.J.; Douglas E. Oakman; Stephen Pisano, S.J.; Kevin B. Quast; Gerard F. Rafferty; Barbara E. Reid, O.P.; Harold E. Remus; James Ryan; Stephen E. Salocks; John M. Scholer; Eileen M. Schuller, O.S.U.; Jeffrey R. Sharp; M. Carolyn Thomas, S.C.N.; David L. Thompson; Bonnie Bowman Thurston; Ronald L. Tyler; Dorothy J. Weaver.

*For Associate Membership:*

Andrew K. M. Adam; Patrick H. Alexander; Paul F. Aspan; Mark D. Brimblecombe; Stanley M. Burgess; Barbara Butler; Stephen L. Cook; Catherine A. Cory, O.S.F.; Thomas F. Dailey, O.S.F.S.; Paul Danove, S.J.; Mark J. DeMarco, F.S.C.; Susan Donegan, S.C.; Alice M. Doyle; Patricia Dutcher-Walls; Terry L. Eves; Peter W. Flint; Michael E. Gilleland; James W. Graham; Carol S. Hofer; Gary Knoppers; Jonathan D. Kraus; Raymond O. Leger; Jeanne C. Lowe; John F. Lyons; Mary

Milligan, R.S.H.M.; Marion C. Moeser, O.S.F.; Mary C. Mulhern, O.P.; John H. C. Neeb, A.A.; Frank C. Norris; Cathleen O'Neill, M.M.; Corrine Patton; Clara Pfeifer, S.S.J.; Jeffrey S. Rogers; William T. Slater; Michael A. Smith; Scott R. A. Starbuck.

The candidates were accepted by unanimous voice vote.

Richard Sklba reported for the Committee on Nominations. The following slate of candidates was proposed: *President*: Joseph Blenkinsopp; *Vice President*: James M. Reese, O.S.F.S.; *Executive Secretary*: Joseph Jensen, O.S.B.; *Treasurer*: Aloysius Fitzgerald, F.S.C.; *Consultors, 1988-90*: Jack D. Kingsbury and Alice Laffey, R.S.M.; *Committee on Nominations, 1988-92*: Pheme Perkins; *Program Committee*: Dennis Hamm, S.J.; *Associate Editors of the CBQ*: Bernard F. Batto; John R. Donahue, S.J.; Robert Doran; Alexander A. Di Lella, O.F.M.; William L. Holladay; Elizabeth Struthers Malbon; Thomas H. Tobin, S.J.; and James C. VanderKam. The membership elected the slate by unanimous voice vote.

For the Committee on Resolutions, James A. Fischer, C.M., proposed a resolution to thank Santa Clara University, the Local Arrangements Committee, and all those who made this year's meeting so successful and enjoyable.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 P.M.

The general session in the evening heard Roland E. Murphy, O.Carm., deliver the paper, "Old Testament/Tanakh—A Meditation on Canon."

#### *Sessions on Thursday, August 18*

The task forces and continuing seminars met in the first part of the morning. Two simultaneous sessions followed: Paul G. Mosca, "The Book of Job—A Conservative Reading," and Thomas H. Tobin, S.J., "The Prologue of John and Hellenistic Jewish Speculation."

Leslie J. Hoppe, O.F.M., was principal celebrant and homilist for the eucharistic liturgy at midday.

The following CBA members and invited guests were in attendance at the meeting:

Achtemeier, Paul J.  
Alexander, Patrick H.  
Arnold, Patrick M., S.J.  
Attridge, Harold W., Jr.  
Barré, Lloyd M.  
Barré, Michael L.  
Barta, Karen A.  
Bartchy, S. Scott  
Benjamin, Don C.  
Bishop, Jonathan P.  
Black, Edith D.  
Blenkinsopp, Joseph  
Boadt, Lawrence E., C.S.P.  
Bossman, David, O.F.M.  
Bower, Alan E.  
Boyle, John P.

Branick, Vincent P.  
Brodie, Thomas L., O.P.  
Brooks, Stephenson H.  
Brown, Margaret H.  
Brummel, Thomas R., C.M.F.  
Bucher, Otto, O.F.M.Cap.  
Buckley, Thomas W.  
Burger, Matthias, O.S.B.  
Burns, Camilla, S.N.D. de N.  
Butts, James R.  
Bushinski, Leonard A., C.S.Sp.  
Cahill, Michael, C.S.Sp.  
Carmody, Timothy R.  
Casey, Juliana, I.H.M.  
Clifford, Richard J., S.J.  
Cody, Aelred, O.S.B.

- Collins, Adela Yarbro  
 Collins, John J.  
 Cordano, Virgil, O.F.M.  
 Craghan, John F.  
 Crim, Keith R.  
 Cullom, Barbara A.  
 Danove, Paul L., S.J.  
 Dietlein, Damian L., O.S.B.  
 Di Lella, Alexander A., O.F.M.  
 Donahue, John R., S.J.  
 Dozeman, Thomas B.  
 Doyle, Alice M.  
 Dumais, Marcel, O.M.I.  
 Eblen, James E.  
 Elliott, John H.  
 Endres, John C., S.J.  
 Exum, J. Cheryl  
 Fiore, Benjamin, S.J.  
 Fischer, James A., C.M.  
 Fitzgerald, Aloysius, F.S.C.  
 Flanagan, James W.  
 Forestell, Terence J., C.S.B.  
 Forshey, Harold O.  
 Franke, Chris A.  
 Fretheim, Terence E.  
 Frizzell, Lawrence E.  
 Gammie, John G.  
 Gelinas, Margaret M.  
 Glazier, Michael  
 Grassi, Joseph A.  
 Griffin, Patrick J., C.M.  
 Grindel, John A., C.M.  
 Guinan, Michael D., O.F.M.  
 Hagan, Harry, O.S.B.  
 Hamm, M. Dennis, S.J.  
 Hanson, K. C.  
 Hartdegen, Stephen J., O.F.M.  
 Herdliska, Mary Elizabeth, O.S.F.S.  
 Hodgson, Robert, Jr.  
 Holladay, William L.  
 Hollar, John A.  
 Holleran, J. Warren  
 Hoppe, Leslie J., O.F.M.  
 Huesman, John E., S.J.  
 Hummer, Lawrence L.  
 Humphrey, Hugh M.  
 Hurst, Thomas R., S.S.  
 Irwin, William H., C.S.B.  
 Janecko, Benedict F., O.S.B.  
 Jensen, Joseph, O.S.B.  
 Jordan, Richard A.  
 Karris, Robert J., O.F.M.  
 Kazmierski, Carl R.  
 Keating, John R., S.J.  
 Keegan, Terence J., O.P.  
 Kesterson, John  
 Kiley, Mark C.  
 King, Philip J.  
 Kolasny, Judette M.  
 Kolenkow, Anitra Bingham  
 Kselman, John S., S.S.  
 Kumaki, Francis K.  
 Kurz, William S., S.J.  
 Laberge, Léo, O.M.I.  
 Laffey, Alice L., R.S.M.  
 Launderville, Dale, O.S.B.  
 Lazor, Bernard A., O.S.A.  
 Lillie, Betty Jane, S.C.  
 Lodge, John G.  
 Looney, Daniel A.  
 Malina, Bruce J.  
 McCarthy, David P.  
 McCreesh, Thomas P., O.P.  
 McDonald, Patricia M., S.H.C.J.  
 McEleney, Neil J., C.S.P.  
 McHatten, M. Timothy, O.P.  
 McIlhorne, James P.  
 McKenzie, John L.  
 McVann, Mark, F.S.C.  
 Maloney, Elliott C., O.S.B.  
 Martin, George A.  
 Martinez, Ernest R., S.J.  
 Matera, Frank J.  
 Meier, John P.  
 Meyer, Vernon J.  
 Michaud, Jean-Paul, S.M.M.  
 Miles, Andrew J., O.S.B.  
 Miller, William T., S.J.  
 Montague, George, S.M.  
 Moore, Brian R.

Moriarty, Robert K., S.M.  
 Mosca, Paul G.  
 Mowery, Robert L.  
 Muller, Earl C., S.J.  
 Mullin, Thomas M.  
 Munro, Winsome  
 Murphy, Frederick J.  
 Murphy, Roland E., O.Carm.  
 Nardoni, Enrique  
 Nasuti, Harry P.  
 Neyrey, Jerome H., S.J.  
 Nicholson, Godfrey C.  
 Nowell, Irene, O.S.B.  
 O'Connell, Kevin G., S.J.  
 O'Connor, Kathleen M.  
 O'Grady, John F.  
 Osiek, Carolyn A., R.S.C.J.  
 Pascuzzi, Maria, C.S.J.  
 Pazdan, Mary Margaret, O.P.  
 Pettey, Richard J.  
 Pierce, Justin A., S.D.S.  
 Pilch, John J.  
 Pisano, Stephen, S.J.  
 Prendergast, Terrence, S.J.  
 Prokurat, Michael  
 Rafferty, Gerard F.  
 Reese, James M., O.S.F.S.  
 Reid, Barbara E., O.P.  
 Richard, Earl  
 Robinson, Robert B.  
 Rosenblatt, Marie-Eloise, R.S.M.  
 Rubsys, Anthony L.  
 Salocks, Stephen E.  
 Salyer, Gary  
 Schehr, Timothy P.  
 Schenck, Richard, S.J.  
 Schneiders, Sandra M., I.H.M.  
 Schoenstene, Robert L.  
 Seeman, Christopher J.  
 Segovia, Fernando F.

Sharp, Donald B., S.J.  
 Sheridan, Mark, O.S.B.  
 Sherwood, Stephen K., C.M.F.  
 Skilba, Richard J.  
 Smiga, George M.  
 Smith, David W.  
 Smith, Michael A.  
 Soards, Marion L., Jr.  
 Soll, William M.  
 Spellacy, Marie  
 Spontak, James A.  
 Steiner, Luke J., O.S.B.  
 Stock, Augustine R., O.S.B.  
 Stockhausen, Carol K.  
 Strange, Michael, S.S.  
 Stuhlmüller, Carroll, C.P.  
 Sullivan, John L.  
 Swetnam, James H., S.J.  
 Talbert, Charles H.  
 Thomas, M. Carolyn, S.C.N.  
 Thibeaux, Evelyn R., C.D.P.  
 Timbs, David G., C.Ss.R.  
 Tobin, Thomas H., S.J.  
 Topel, John L., S.J.  
 Turner, Wayne A.  
 Viviano, Benedict, O.P.  
 Viviano, Pauline A.  
 Vogels, Walter, W.F.  
 Von Wahlde, Urban C.  
 Wahl, Thomas P., O.S.B.  
 Walsh, Jerome T.  
 Walsh, Michael J.  
 Wang, Peter E.  
 Wensing, Michael G.  
 Wimmer, Joseph F., O.S.A.  
 Winkler, Jude M., O.F.M.Conv.  
 Witherup, Ronald D., S.S.  
 White, Leland J.  
 Wilhelm, H. Joseph, S.M.  
 Wright, David P.  
 Yee, Gale A.  
 Zilonka, Paul, C.P.

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