

WORD OF INTRODUCTION

The annual congress of the Southern African Biblical Studies Society was held in Johannesburg on 14 and 15 May 1993. Following the Society's approach over the past few years, the focus was on issues relevant to the teaching of the Bible within our present context. This year the theme of the Congress centred on: Old and New Methods of Teaching the Bible.

A selection of the papers presented at the congress is included in this volume of Scriptura. This selection is based on the process of merit, following the custom of submitting the papers to peer evaluation. Three of the main papers read at the congress are included here with a focus upon the teaching of the Bible to different audiences, namely adults, teenagers and children. Taking seriously one's audience, in this instance their age, is an important perspective. Some interesting observations and guidelines are given by authors of these papers.

Among the other papers read at the conference is a contextual contribution by Joyce Masenya in which she reflects on Black Feminist Theology within our own South African context.

It is our hope that with this publication the work of our Society in addressing the relevancy of the Bible to our context will reach a wider readership and in this way stimulate the discussion further.

- *Patrick Hartin, Malan Nel and Stephan Joubert.
(Editorial Committee for the Biblical Studies Society.)*