

BOOK NOTICES / BOEKAANKONDIGINGS

NEW TESTAMENT / NUWE TESTAMENT

Anderson, Janice Capel & Moore, Stephen D (eds) 1992. *Mark & method. New approaches in Biblical Studies*. Minneapolis: Fortress. Pp 176, including index of topics and names, index of ancient sources, and a glossary. Available at Lux Verbi: R52,95.

'The purpose of this book', the authors explain in the preface, 'is to introduce students and teachers to new approaches in the interpretation of the gospels, using the Gospel of Mark as a case study ...

'This book can be used in courses on Mark, the Gospels, biblical hermeneutics, New Testament introduction, and the Bible as literature ... Scholars who are trying to keep abreast of new developments in the field may also find it helpful.'

Producing the book has been a rewarding collaborative venture, they say. All five contributors have read and commented upon each other's work, and working together decreased the sense of isolation that scholars sometimes feel. The joy of having a co-writer who also cares as passionately as you do about your subject matter, should not be underestimated. This does not mean that they have reached - or wanted to reach - unanimity on Mark or method. In fact, one conviction they share is the importance of multiple angles of vision.

Janice Anderson is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the University of Idaho, Moscow.

Stephen Moore is Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Wichita State University in Kansas. He is the author of *Literary Criticism and the Gospels* (1989).

Baird, William 1992. *History of New Testament Research. Volume one: from Deism to Tübingen*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press. Pp 450, including index of subjects, index of names, and Scripture index. Available from Lux Verbi at R185,95.

The introduction starts as follows:

'When the writers of the New Testament put down their pens, they could not have imagined the amount of industry their works would generate. This small collection of twenty-seven books was to become the object of an incredible effort of research. To the modern observer, the New Testament appears like a tiny treasure buried under a mountain of scholarly debris. The attempt to un-

cover its riches has enlisted the arduous labor of scores of persons employing a multitude of methods, like a crowd of excavators using everything from trowels to bulldozers'.

Stressing the historical and theological significance of pivotal figures and movements, William Baird guides the reader through intriguing developments and critical interpretation of the New Testament from its beginnings in Deism through the watershed of the Tübingen school. Familiar figures appear in a new light, and important, previously forgotten stages of the journey emerge. Baird gives attention to the biographical and cultural setting of persons and approaches, affording both beginning student and seasoned scholar an authoritative account that is useful for orientation as well as research.

William Baird is Professor of New Testament at Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth. Among his previous books are *1 and 2 Corinthians* (1980), and *The Quest of the Christ of Faith* (1977).

Schnelle, Udo 1992. *Antidocetic Christology in the Gospel of John. An investigation of the place of the fourth gospel in the Johannine School.* Tr by Linda M Maloney. Pp 275, including an index of selected New Testament writings, and of modern authors. Minneapolis: Fortress Press. Available at Lux Verbi at R146,95.

The location of the fourth gospel in the Johannine community is determined anew in this important redaction-critical study. In the central area of its Christology, the Gospel of John proves to be a response to a docetic heresy within the Johannine school.

At the centre of the work is a probing analysis of the Johannine miracle stories. As real deeds of revelation in the world, these miracle stories do not reflect a 'gnostic' or 'docetic' tendency, but an anti-docetic stance.

The miracle stories originated not from an alleged 'signs source', but are individual traditions of the Johannine School. Also the sacramental texts, the prologue, and the Johannine theology of the cross emphasize the central thought of Johannine Christology: the identification of the historical Jesus with the exalted Christ. The book challenges earlier Johannine research, particularly that of Rudolf Bultmann and his students. It is indispensable for student and scholar alike.

Udo Schnelle is Professor of New Testament at Erlangen University, Germany. He is the author of several important studies on Jesus, Paul and the Gospel of John.

OLD TESTAMENT / OU TESTAMENT

Brueggemann, Walter, 1992. *Old Testament Theology. Essays on structure, theme and text*. Edited by Patrick D Miller. Minneapolis: Fortress Press. Pp 318, including Scripture index. Available from Lux Verbi at R74,95.

In these essays, Walter Brueggemann addresses the necessity for thinking about the shape and structure of Old Testament theology - and for the impact such thinking can have on the large issues of contemporary life.

'One note to the reader: listen for the sounds of other voices', Patrick Miller writes in his introduction.

'More than any other contemporary Old Testament interpreter, Brueggemann draws in the work of persons from all disciplines and incorporates them in a seminal way in his theology. He is a voracious reader; but what he reads he absorbs, so that the work of persons in theology, psychology, the social sciences, politics, and the like, often provide heuristic possibilities and even basic models for talking about the Old Testament. The broad audience he reaches is due in no little measure to the fact that he sees the Old Testament as having intelligible and significant connections to all sorts of things in this world.'

Walter Brueggemann, author of several Fortress Press books, is Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary, Atlanta, and past President of the Society of Biblical Literature.

Campbell, Antony F & O'Brien, Mark A 1993. *Sources of the Pentateuch. Texts, introductions, annotations*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press. Pp 266, including index of biblical passages by source, and an index of modern authors. Available from Lux Verbi at R132,95.

This book contains indispensable tools for the student of Pentateuchal source analysis:

- * the complete NRSV text of the Priestly document, the Yahwist's narrative, the Elohist texts, and non-source texts of the Pentateuch as identified by Martin Noth;
- * introductions that review the history of the source-orientated research and the current debate over the origin and growth of the Pentateuch;
- * notes and annotations that lead to understanding of source-critical decisions;
- * studies of three composite texts that exemplify the nature of the problem and possible approaches to the solution.

Sean McEvenue writes: 'Consensus about the division and date of the Pentateuchal sources has been lost and will not soon be restored. This book pre-

sents the very best product of classical source research, the lifework of Martin Noth, for the first time in a simple, user-friendly format framed by brief, helpful, and extremely sensitive explanations.'

Kruger, Paul 1992. *Ek sal vir jou wees soos die dou*. Pp 102. Midrand: Orion-uitgewers. By alle Christelike Boekhandelaars teen R19,95.

Die skrywer nooi die leser in die voorwoord 'op 'n verkenningstog deur die boek Hosea om te probeer hoor wat God gister by monde van dié profet vandag nog vir ons sê'.

Die boek Hosea is 'n stuk geloofskategese met dié sentrale gedagte: as die verhouding met God nie reg is nie, loop alles verkeerd. Twee goue drade loop van voor tot agter deur die boek: God se genade-aanbod, aan die een kant, en wat hulle daarmee gemaak het, aan die ander.

Oor laasgenoemde kan hulle nie anders as om hul koppe te laat sak nie; maar God se trou en genade laat sy volk nooit los nie. Dis daarom nie sonder rede dat die boek begin met 'n huwelik en eindig met die beeld van die dou nie.

Twaalf temas word aangebied: eers kom die profetiese gedeelte en die boodskap wat die volk van Hosea se tyd waarskynlik daaronder sou verstaan het ('n boodskap aan Israel'); daarna volg'n toepassing van dié gedeelte vir vandag. Aan die einde van elke tema is 'n aantal vrae wat kan help om die waarhede van die boek tuis te bring. Die vrae is so saamgestel dat dit vir sowel persoonlike as groep-Bybelstudie gebruik kan word.

Die skrywer is 'n Ou-Testamentikus, verbonde aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch.

Potgieter, J H 1991. *'n Narratologiese ondersoek na die boek Jona*. Pretoria: HTS Supplementum Reeks no 3. Pp 131, wat insluit: outeursregister, sakeregister en Bybelregister. Prys: R35.

Ina Gräbe, van Unisa se Departement Algemene Literatuurwetenskap, skryf in die voorwoord:

'Hierdie boek lewer 'n waardevolle bydrae deurdat die teoretiese verantwoording en praktiese illustrasie van 'n leesstrategie nuwe perspektiewe open vir 'n beter begrip van die boek Jona. Die implikasies van Henk Potgieter se bevindinge strek egter wyer omdat dit lig werp op die manier waarop verhale en poëtiese gedeeltes dwarsdeur die Bybel ingespan word om andersins moeilik verstaanbare religieuse beginsels en argumente vir alle lesers toegankliker maak.

'Sensitiwiteit vir die manier waarop die gegewens gestruktureer is, maak dit vir die skrywer in die eerste plek moontlik om probleme rondom die

samestelling van die boek - soos die verklaring van die gebede as pouses binne die verhaal - te beantwoord.

'In die tweede plek lei 'n stapsgewyse analise van die narratiewe struktuur ... ook tot 'n helderder insig in die boodskap van die boek. So byvoorbeeld kom die skrywer tot die ... ontdekking dat dit die matrose is - en nie die profeet van God nie - wat ... die essensie van absolute gehoorsaamheid begryp as die verteller juis aan hulle die geleentheid gee om as sekondêre woordvoerders in die verhaal te getuig: "U is Jahwe, U doen soos U goed dink".'

J H Potgieter is Professor in Semitiese Tale aan die Universiteit van Pretoria.

Systematic theology / Sistematiese teologie

Landman, Christina 1992. *Europe's role in a South African methodology. A sideline and female perspective*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang AG. Pp 171. Price 46,00 sFr.

This book is a publication of the theology series of the European University Studies.

This work consists of essays on the so-called Middle Ages, seen from two perspectives. Writing from a sideline perspective, as opposed to the perspectives of historically mainstream theologies, the author proposes a method for reading religious political texts with European philosophical insights but with a relevance for South Africa. This is done by comparing so-called medieval texts with South African texts and situations within the demands of liberation, contextualisation, and communalism.

In the second part of the book, from a female perspective, the author reevaluates the post-biblical history of Christianity, criticising the terms 'Patristic' and 'Middle Ages'. A South African women's theology is then offered as the outcome of the sideline perspective on the Bible, history and theology discussed in this book.

Christina Landman is Professor at the University of South Africa, Pretoria.

Ethics / Etiek

Baldwin, Lewis V 1992. *To make the wounded whole. The cultural heritage of Martin Luther King, Jr.* Minneapolis: Fortress Press. Pp 324. Available from Lux Verbi. Price not given.

This book traces how King's black messianic vision propelled him into fateful encounters with other black leaders, the war in Vietnam, black theology and world liberation movements.

Walter E Fluker of Colgate Rochester Divinity School, comments:

'Baldwin's work represents a breakthrough in contemporary scholarship on King. This volume moves beyond his *There is a Balm in Gilead*, which contextualizes King's thought and praxis, to pose critical questions about the civil rights leader's rich legacy and its meaning and significance for developments in black theology and ethics.'

Lewis Baldwin is Associate Professor in Religious Studies at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, and author of the acclaimed volume *There is a Balm in Gilead* (Fortress Press, 1990).