Paradigm Change in Pentateuchal Research

Both in Judaism and in Christianity, the Pentateuch forms the first and fundamental piece of the Bible and in many ways can be seen as the basic document of Western religious history. The paradigm for the study of the Pentateuch that currently prevails in Biblical Studies dates from the 19th century and forms a cornerstone of Biblical Studies and of the reconstruction of the history of ancient Israel. This paradigm extends to the narratives of the Pentateuch as well as to its legal collections. According to this paradigm, the Pentateuch was composed over a long period, with the three most important stages JE (from before the Deuteronomy), D (the core of Deuteronomy, dated in the 7th century) and P (Priestly texts, from the exilic and postexilic periods). This paradigm was established by Julius Wellhausen's «Prolegomena zur Geschichte Israels» (1878). It has been modified in many ways since its invention, and in the last thirty years it has been subject to various criticisms even by representatives of theological schools that were previously defending it; nevertheless, nofundamental paradigm shift has taken place to this date.

It is the aim of this conference to discuss this paradigm critically and to explore whether a fundamental paradigm change can overcome the current impasse of old models and open new approaches to the understanding of the Pentateuch. The international speakers are experts in the fields of Biblical Studies, Legal History, Linguistics, and Ancient Near Eastern Studies.

Kindly supported by:

Swiss National Science Foundation

vbg -Fonds for teaching and research-

General Information

Location

STH Basel | Mühlestiegrain 50 | CH-4125 Riehen | Switzerland Directions: www.sthbasel.ch > Kontakt

Registration

Before 13 March 2017: STH Basel, office@sthbasel.ch www.sthbasel.ch > Forschung > Tagungen

Expenses (advance payment)

Conference Fee incl. Lunch and Coffee CHF 130.- | Students CHF 60.-Single day CHF 45.- | Students CHF 30.-

The registration is valid with payment of the conference fee only. No refunds in case of nonattendance. Account data: PC 40-5255-5 (IBAN CH72 0900 0000 4000 5255 5, BIC POFICHBEXXX) with note «Studientagung Pentateuch».

Dinner Friday

It is possible to join us for dinner on Friday evening, 19.00 in Riehen (seperate registration; individual payment directly in the restaurant).

Staatsunabhängige Theologische Hochschule Basel Mühlestiegrain 50, CH–4125 Riehen/Basel Tel. +41 (0)61 646 80 80, Fax +41 (0)61 646 80 90 office@sthbasel.ch, www.sthbasel.ch

Paradigm Change in Pentateuchal Research

16-18 March 2017

Organisation

Prof. Dr. Matthias Armgardt, University of Konstanz Ass.-Prof. Dr. Benjamin Kilchör, STH Basel Prof. Dr. Markus Zehnder, Biola University Los Angeles

STH BASE

Programme

Thursday, 16 March 2017

09.15 Opening

09.30–10.30 Georg Fischer, University of Innsbruck, Austria Time for a Change! Why Pentateuchal Analysis is in a Crisis

10.30–11.00 Coffee Break

11.00–12.00 Richard Averbeck, Trinity International University, Deerfield IL, USA Reading the Torah in a Better Way: the Manifold Unity of Narrative, Law, and Priestly Writing

12.00–13.30 Lunch Break

- 13.30–14.30 Matthias Armgardt, University of Konstanz, Germany The Law Codes in the Pentateuch
- 14.30–15.30 Guido Pfeifer, Goethe University, Frankfurt a.M., Germany The Pentateuch Paradigm and Ancient Near Eastern Legal History - a Look back from the Environment

15.30–16.00 Coffee Break

16.00–17.00 Markus Zehnder, Biola University, Los Angeles, USA The Relationship of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 17.00–18.00 Benjamin Kilchör, STH Basel, Switzerland Wellhausen's Five Pillars for the Priority of D over P/H and their Lost Sustainability

Friday, 17 March 2017

- 09.00-10.00 Joshua Berman, Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv, Israel The Limits of Source Criticism: The Flood Narrative in Genesis 6–9 10.00-11.00 Lina Petersson, Uppsala University, Sweden The Linguistic Profile of the Priestly Narrative of the Pentateuch 11.00-11.30 Coffee Break Eckart Otto, University of Munich, Germany 11.30-12.30 **Deuteronomy as the Legal Completion** and Prophetic Finale of the Pentateuch 12.30-14.00 Lunch Break 14.00-15.00 Kenneth Bergland, Andrews University, Berrien Springs MI, USA The Reception of Torah in Jer 34 as a Legal Blend of Lev 25 and Deut 15 Carsten Vang, Lutheran School of Theology 15.00-16.00 Aarhus, Denmark The Non-Prophetic Background for the King Law in Deut 17:14-20 16.00-16.30 Coffee Break
- 16.30–17.30 John Bergsma, Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH, USA A (Samaritan) Pentateuch? The Implications of the Pro-Northern Tendency of the Completed Torah
- 17.30–18.00 Koert van Bekkum, Theological University Kampen, Netherlands The Divine Revelation of the Name. Warranted and Unwarranted Confidence in the Literary-Critical Analysis of Exodus 3 and 6

Saturday, 18 March 2017

09.00–10.00	Jan Retsö, Gothenburg University, Sweden The Tabernacle Description and the Dating of the Priestly Code: A Comparative Religious Approach
10.00–11.00	Sandra Richter, Wheaton College, IL, USA Silver in the Book of Deuteronomy: A Key to the Provenance of the Book?
11.00–11.30	Coffee Break
11.30–12.30	Pekka Pitkänen, University of Gloucester- shire, Cheltenham, England Reconstructing the Social Contexts of the Priestly and Deuteronomic Materials in a Non-Wellhausian Setting
12.30-14.00	Lunch Break

14.00–15.00 Final Discussion