

**The 377th Meeting of
The Chicago Society of Biblical Research
October 27, 2018, 2:45 p.m.
North Park University**

Abstracts

David Martinez, University of Chicago

“Vows of Abstinence in Ancient Greek Religion, Magic, and Early Christianity”

[davidm@uchicago.edu]

The abstinence vow (Hebrew: *issar*) with the basic structure “May I neither eat nor drink until...” has a long and complex multicultural history, beginning in Greek literature with Homer’s *Iliad* and in the Hebrew Bible with I Samuel. This paper will examine its forms and applications in various ancient traditions and literatures, its idiosyncratic transformation in Greek magic, and its usage in early Christianity in Acts 23.12 and within the Eucharistic Words of Jesus.

Annette Bourland Huizenga, University of Dubuque

“Imitating Paul’s Example in the Pastoral Letters”

[ahuizenga@dbq.edu]

My research on 1-2 Timothy and Titus has often turned to the topic of how Paul functions rhetorically as an example for both the author and the audience(s) of the letters. In this paper I compare the model of the exemplary Paul in the Pastorals with Paul’s own appeals about imitating himself found in the undisputed Pauline letters (esp. 1-2 Corinthians, Philippians, and 1 Thessalonians). My analysis shows that the Pastorals’ use of Paul-the-example can be easily differentiated from Paul’s own use of himself as a pattern to be followed in at least these three aspects:

- The kinds of behavior, teaching, virtues, attitudes to be imitated
- The stated purpose for which imitation of Paul is encouraged
- The role of Paul as an authoritative figure for the audience/recipients

Of particular concern is how the male gender of the “Paul” of the Pastorals affects his being deployed as an example: how can this primary male figure (among others, such as Timothy, Titus, the later men who acted as leaders) be expected to serve as a τύπος for the *women* in the letters’ audiences? Comparisons with the undisputed Paulines demonstrate that the clear-cut gender ideology of the Pastorals emphasizes Paul as a masculine ideal, making him even less “accessible” as a role model for female readers.

G. Brooke Lester, Garrett-Evangelical Theological

“The Elusive Allusion: Can Metaphor Theory Really Salt Its Tail?”

[brooke.lester@garrett.edu]

Can literary allusion be understood as a species of metaphor? What good is such an approach, and for whom? Terms like “allusion,” “intertextuality,” and “inner-biblical interpretation” have described an array of overlapping approaches to the ways in which the words and phrases of a text at hand might interplay with those of another text...whether by the design of an author, or by the genius of real or imagined readers. How does allusion-as-metaphor sit among other approaches? What distinct goods does it offer? How well does a metaphor-based understanding of allusion hold up on the terrain of metaphor theory?