

**The 380th Meeting of
The Chicago Society of Biblical Research
January 26, 2019, 2:45 p.m.
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary**

Abstracts

Edmondo Lupieri, Loyola University Chicago

Panel: Paul Adaja, Jonathan Bryant, Jonathan Hatter, Joshua King

“Jesus, Two Demoniacs, Many Devils: Reading Matthew 8:28-34 in its Matthean Context”

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The goal of this intervention is to study elements that could help us to better understand the scene and its meaning in Matthew. The presentation is divided into four sections. The first contribution summarizes the most usual positions in contemporary scholarly criticism and offers some insight towards further research; the second analyzes what the earliest Christian writers had to say on three textual details that appear only in Matthew; the third examines pre-modern discussions regarding the name of the town near which the event allegedly took place; finally, the fourth tries to find an answer as to why Matthew avoided mentioning Δεγίων, the name of the devil(s) relayed in Mark’s account. The *Conclusion* will seek to use the results of this research for a better understanding of Matthew’s possible reactions to Mark 5:1-20 and his intentions in re-working the Markan material, with some hypothetical suggestions regarding the Matthean use of Roman military terminology in the frame of his Christological reflections.

Khiok-Khng Yeo, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

“Biblical Reception of Asian Soteriology”

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Asia has kaleidoscopic views of soteriology that have both similar and contradictory precepts. The essay [for Oxford Handbook] seeks to understand Asia’s massive and many-layered *Sitz im Leben*, as well as its relationship to the rich soteriological semantics in the Bible. The more complicated the contour of Asian societies and churches signified, the more powerful the salvation of God will be in this land. Because Asian soteriology is living and active, constantly engaging and being incorporated into the dynamic global system, local actors read the same biblical texts with diverse voices as a way of seeking salvation. Asian soteriology is a self-theologizing and existential act that is well served by the deep imbrication of theology, Scripture, and readers’ contexts. This contrapuntal move—holding in tension the indicative and imperative mood of biblical salvation—allows Asian believers not simply to slip into abstract imputed righteousness but also to concretely participate in, based on merit, Christ’s righteousness.

Steed Vernyl Davidson, McCormick Theological Seminary

“The Major and the Twelve: How the Twelve Shapes the Majors”

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This paper explores the relationship between the Major and Minor Prophets in terms in their canonical contexts. The canonical categorizations tend to blur histories of literary and other dependences that at times can marginalize the Book of the Twelve. Following some of the more recent theories showing how the Major Prophets draw from aspects of the Book of the Twelve, the paper suggests a primary role for particular parts of the Book of the Twelve. The relationship between Jeremiah and Jonah illustrates one example of closer dependence between these constructed categories of prophetic literature. The narrative, structural, and other literary similarities between Jeremiah and Jonah present them as two books struggling to understand the prophetic vocation as well as other theological concepts as divine mercy and justice. The paper considers what these similarities and differences contribute to the debate surrounding the historical and literary personae of Jeremiah and Jonah.