Identity Formation in the Gospel of Mark

Programme

Tuesday, 13.8.2013
14:00 Welcome
Gudrun Guttenberger, Ludwigsburg/Heike Omerzu, Copenhagen
14:10 Retrospect and Aim of the Conference
Al Baumgarten, Tel Aviv
14:30 History of Research I: Parting of the Ways
Al Baumgarten, Tel Aviv
15:30 Break
16:00 History of Research II: Concepts of Identity Formation
Heike Omerzu, Copenhagen
17:00 Ethnicity in the Gospel of Mark
Gudrun Guttenberger, Ludwigsburg
18:30 Panel discussion 1

Wednesday, 14.8.2013
9:00 Identity and Spatiality in Mark
Gerhard van den Heever, Pretoria
10:30 Break
11:00 Jerusalem in the Gospel of Mark
Reinhard von Bendemann, Bochum
12:30 Lunch and Break
14:30 Universal Individual, Gentile, and Human Witness to Divine Revelation: The Centurion’s Symbolic Roles in Mark’s Story (15:39)
Mutsumi Yano, Oxford
15:30 Break
16:00 Pharisees and Social Identity in Mark
Raimo Hakola, Helsinki
18:30 Panel Discussion 2

Thursday, 15.8.2013
9:00 Memory and Identity in Mark
Sandra Hübenthal, Tübingen
10:30 Break
11:00 Reception of Mark in the context of the “Parting of the Ways”
Martin Meiser, Saarbrücken
12:30 Lunch
14:00 The “Parting of the Ways” from the perspective of Mark
Al Baumgarten, Tel Aviv
15:00 Panel Discussion 3
16.00 Farewell
Gudrun Guttenberger, Ludwigsburg/Heike Omerzu, Copenhagen

Venue
Faculty of Theology
Copenhagen University
Købmagergade 46,
Auditorium 11 (3rd floor)
1150 Copenhagen

Attendance is free.
For registration and further information:
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The theme of the conference is the construction of boundaries and formation of identity in and through the Gospel of Mark. The conference theme, but also the individual presentations have been conceptualized to interact with the “Parting of the Ways” debate of recent years.

The aim of the conference is to arrive at a more focused description of early Christian identity formation as this finds expression in the Gospel of Mark as a first narrative commemoration of the beginnings of the Jesus Movement. Mark’s unique status as first Jesus narrative and vehicle of social memory thus begs profiling against other identity constructions within ancient Judaism and early Christianity. Specifically, religion and ethnicity as prominent elements of identity formation are a main focus of the papers and discussions. As such the conference will deal with this overarching question: if the Gospel of Mark straddles both the Jewish and Christian worlds, in what sense can it be read as a Jewish text?

Special attention is given to methodological issues and to interpretative models taken from social and culture sciences and their compatibility with and applicability to Markan studies. Discussion about identity-formation will interact with major insights in current Markan scholarship.

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Speakers

Al Baumgarten,

em. Bar Ilan University
Gudrun Guttenberger,

Pädagogische Hochschule Ludwigsburg
Raimo Hakola,

University of Helsinki
Sandra Hübenthal,

Eberhard Karls Universität
Martin Meiser,

Universität des Saarlandes
Heike Omerzu,

Copenhagen University
Gerhard van den Heever,

University of South Africa
Reinhard von Bendemann,

Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Mutsumi Yano,

Oxford University

About the Conference

Identity
Formation
in the
Gospel of Mark
13 – 15 August 2013
Faculty of Theology
Copenhagen University

Conference organizers:
Gudrun Guttenberger
Heike Omerzu