

Intercultural Biblical Hermeneutics

In its focus on “ordinary” readers in small communities who read the same biblical text and exchange their readings with other communities of readers around the world, intercultural biblical hermeneutics is a creative and sophisticated approach in biblical criticism. It engages readers’ social and existential situation, making possible a mutually enriching interplay between religious-theological and academic-scholarly interpretation of the Bible.

These monographs are offered to Bible scholars and practitioners with a twofold purpose: to present the fruits of research in the new field of empirical intercultural hermeneutics, and to foster further conversation and collaboration. This research tests the hypothesis that the intercultural reading of narratives from sacred texts—here, the Bible—can have a beneficial effect, helping readers to greater understanding for one another, leading to reconciliation and more justice.

Books in the series

No. 5 (forthcoming): *The Widow and the Judge—Memory, Resistance, and Hope: Intercultural Reading of Luke 18:1–8 in Latin American Contexts of Impunity*, edited by Hans de Wit and Edgar Antonio López

No. 4: *Intercultural Reading of John 10:1–21: The Shepherd-Sheep Metaphor as a Leadership-Followership Model*, by Eric Nii Bortey Anum and Ebenezer Quaye

No. 3: *From Adequate Biblical Interpretation to Transformative Intercultural Hermeneutics: Chronicling a Personal Journey*, by Louis C. Jonker

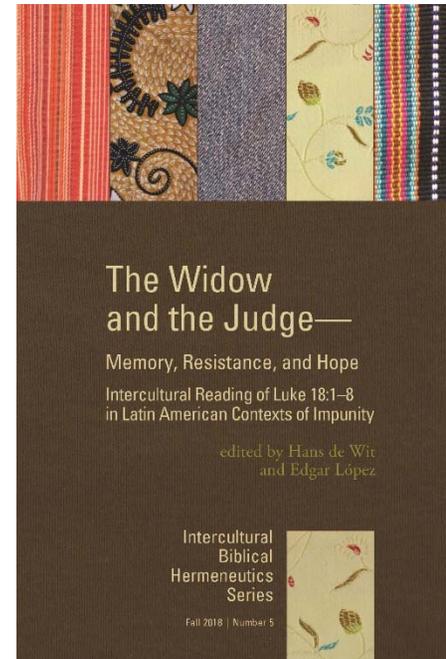
No. 2: *Toward a Communal Reading of 2 Samuel 13: Ideology and Power within the Intercultural Bible Reading Process*, by Charlene van der Walt

No. 1: *Empirical Hermeneutics, Interculturality, and Holy Scripture*, by Hans de Wit

For more information, see <http://www.ambs.edu/ims/intercultural-biblical-hermeneutics>

The Widow and the Judge—Memory, Resistance, and Hope: Intercultural Reading of Luke 18:1–8 in Latin American Contexts of Impunity

Edited by Hans de Wit and Edgar Antonio López. Forthcoming in 2018 from Foundation Dom Hélder Câmara Chair, VU University Amsterdam; published in collaboration with Institute of Mennonite Studies



Part 1 describes the context of impunity in which the participating communities—from Perú, Colombia, El Salvador, and Guatemala—read the text. Part 2 describes the readings of the text realized by the seventeen participating groups, and the exchange they had with their partner groups. Part 3 takes stock of the results of the interaction between the groups and shows the richness of the intercultural Bible reading process, and its usefulness for the ecclesial communities affected by impunity: better understanding of their reality

and increased motivation to continue transforming it, nourished by a shared appropriation of the text and the exchange with their partner group.

“Quietly, almost imperceptibly, biblical study has been undergoing a Copernican revolution. People are recovering the Bible’s capacity to act as a catalyst for self-criticism and transformation. They are learning to read scripture from multicultural perspectives, and have their own preconceptions challenged by the authenticity of the experience of others’ encounters with the text. Brilliantly conceived, this intercultural Bible reading project might just save biblical study from its Babylonian captivity to dogmatism and cultural isolation.”—Walter Wink