

SCRIPTURE WEEK AT LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

More than a billion of the world's people have committed their lives to the message of the Christian gospels. Their stories and teachings have shaped Western Civilization for the last 2,000 years. But where did these four Gospels come from? How and why were they written? Led by local and visiting biblical scholars, Scripture Week, hosted by the Center for Religion & Spirituality at LMU Extension, is an invitation to graduate students, scholars, Church and community leaders, priests and ministers, and those seeking personal enrichment to Los Angeles for a week of summer sun and *Digging up the Gospels*.

Sunday, June 28

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. KEYNOTE LECTURE
Q, the Earliest Gospel
John S. Kloppenborg, Ph.D., University of Toronto

Monday, June 29

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. COURSE 1
Q, the Original Stories and Sayings of Jesus
John S. Kloppenborg, Ph.D.

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. LECTURE
The First Scribes and the Beginnings of Biblical Literature
William M. Schniedewind, Ph.D., University of California at Los Angeles

Tuesday, June 30

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. COURSE 2
The Dead Sea Scrolls: Scripture in the Time of Jesus
William M. Schniedewind, Ph.D.

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. LECTURE
Textual Orientation: The Mysterious World of New Testament Manuscripts
Jeffrey S. Siker, Ph.D., Loyola Marymount University

Wednesday, July 1

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. COURSE 3
How Did We Get the New Testament?
Jeffrey S. Siker, Ph.D.

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. LECTURE
The Apocalyptic Worldview of Mark
David A. Sánchez, Ph.D., Loyola Marymount University

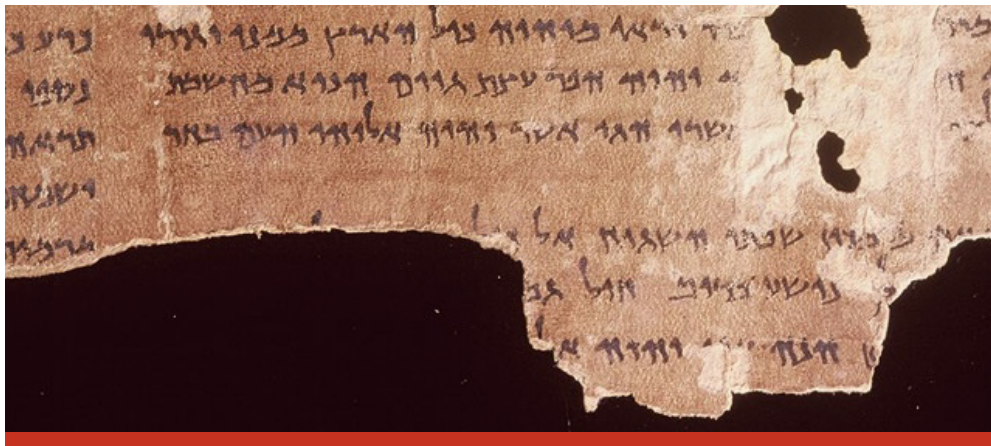
The Center for Religion & Spirituality at Loyola Marymount University
University Hall, Ste. 1840; 1 LMU Drive, Los Angeles, California 90045
<http://extension.lmu.edu/crs>



EXPLORING THE ORIGINS OF THE CHRISTIAN GOSPELS LMU Scripture Week 2009

SUNDAY, JUNE 28 TO WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2009
Conrad N. Hilton Center
Loyola Marymount University

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ABOUT THE EVENING LECTURES & SCHOLARS

“Q, the Earliest Gospel”

The lost Gospel known as Q offers a distinct and remarkable picture of Jesus and his significance. Rather than privileging Jesus’ death and resurrection as the salvific events, highlighting Jesus’ battles with demons, or concentrating on his messianic program of healing, this “Sayings Gospel” presents Jesus as a prophetic critic of unbelief – and a sage with the wisdom that can transform. This lecture will survey the Gospel of Q, which reveals a very different portrait of Jesus than in much of the later canonical writings, challenging the way we think of Christian origins and the nature and mission of Jesus Christ.

John S. Kloppenborg, Ph.D. is a specialist in Christian origins and second Temple Judaism, in particular the Jesus tradition (the canonical and non canonical gospels), and the social world of the early Jesus movement in Jewish Palestine and in the cities of the eastern Empire. He has written extensively on the Synoptic Sayings Gospel (Q) and the Synoptic Problem, and is currently writing on the parables of Jesus, the letter of James, and cultic, professional, and ethnic associations in the Graeco-Roman world. He has taught and conducted research in Toronto, Windsor, Jerusalem, Cambridge, UK, Calgary, Helsinki, and Claremont, Calif. He is one of the general editors of the International Q Project. He completed his M.A. (1977) and Ph.D. (1984) at the University of St. Michael’s College (Toronto). He is author of Excavating Q: The History and Setting of the Sayings Gospel; The Tenants in the Vineyard: Ideology, Economics & Agrarian Conflict in Jewish Palestine; and coeditor of The Critical Edition of Q.

“The First Scribes and the Beginnings of Biblical Literature”

When and where was the Bible written? The answers to these questions are becoming increasingly clearer. Archaeological data suggest that Jerusalem in the eighth and seventh centuries was more conducive to the flourishing of biblical literature than Jerusalem of the fifth and fourth centuries B.C.E. This lecture explores some of the changes that took place in the eighth

and seventh centuries in Jerusalem and Judah that made that particular time and place ripe for the flourishing of biblical literature.

William M. Schniedewind, Ph.D. is Kershaw Chair of Ancient Eastern Mediterranean Studies and Professor of Biblical Studies & Northwest Semitic Languages at the University of California at Los Angeles. He holds a Ph.D. in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies from Brandeis University, and is the author of How the Bible Became a Book: The Textualization of Ancient Israel and several other books on Ancient Israel. Professor Schniedewind was the director of the Qumran Visualization Project (QVP), which created a virtual reality model of ancient Qumran under the auspices of UCLA’s Experiential Technologies Center (which also has notable projects for 2nd Temple Jerusalem, Islamic Jerusalem, and Ancient Rome). Professor Schniedewind has participated in excavations and surveys in Israel, including Tell es-Safi, Wadi Qumran, Har Tut, and Tel Batash, and is currently the Associate Director of UCLA’s Jaffa Cultural Heritage Project.

“Textual Orientation: The Mysterious World of New Testament Manuscripts”

From over 5,000 ancient manuscripts and fragments of the New Testament (with no two of them exactly the same!), how is it that we get a single text of the New Testament? This lecture will explore the fascinating world of the manuscripts behind the biblical text.

Jeffrey S. Siker, Ph.D. is Professor and Chair of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University. Professor Siker teaches in the area of New Testament theology and early Christianity, the history of biblical interpretation, and the use of the Bible in theological debate. He is the author of Disinheriting the Jews: Abraham in Early Christianity Controversy; Scripture and Ethics: 20th Century Portraits; and editor of Homosexuality in the Church: Both Sides of the Debate. Professor Siker is an ordained Presbyterian minister in the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. and is a Parish Associate at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles.

“The Apocalyptic Worldview of Mark”

In this closing lecture we will be challenged to consider Mark’s Gospel, arguably the first written gospel of the Christian canon, as a literary production with an apocalyptic worldview anticipating the imminent return of the “Christ” in light of its contemporary social circumstances. Professor Sánchez will argue that the Gospel of Mark represents an early layer of Christianity, which anticipated the imminent return of Jesus in the wake the Temple’s destruction; a sign to many as the end of days.

David Sánchez, Ph.D. is an assistant professor of New Testament Studies at Loyola Marymount University. He is a former recipient of the Hispanic Theological Initiative and a current member of the Society of Biblical Literature and the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States (ACHTUS). His recent book, From Patmos to the Barrio: Subverting Imperial Myths, focuses on the continued relevance of the Book of Revelation in the justification and simultaneous deconstruction of modern empires. Professor Sánchez’s current research is in the Gospel of Mark as an “end times” gospel and its ramifications for contemporary Christians.