

THO 6321 Rhetorical Analysis of Biblical and Related Materials: Philosophical and Hermeneutical Considerations in Contemporary Rhetorical Analysis for Exegesis: Hermeneutics, Rhetoric and Meaning in Scripture (Winter, 2010)
Prof. L. G. Bloomquist

1. Initial work on a rhetorical analysis of Biblical texts:

a. Old Testament (January 14)

Muilenburg, SBL Presidential Address (1968)¹ -- available electronically

Zulick, Hebrew hearing (1992)² -- available electronically

Trible, Rhetoric and Jonah (1994)³ -- professor to send pages

b. New Testament (January 21 and 28)

Betz, Galatians (1979)⁴ -- consult in Library

Kennedy, New Testament Interpretation (1984)⁵ -- order or consult in Library

Mack, Rhetoric and the New Testament (1990)⁶ -- order or consult in Library

c. Toward a hermeneutically sensitive rhetorical analysis of biblical texts (February 4)

Schüssler-Fiorenza, Ethics of biblical interpretation (1987)⁷ -- available electronically

Wuellner, Where is rhetorical criticism taking us? (1987)⁸ -- available electronically

2. Foundational discussions on the relation between rhetoric and hermeneutics (February 11)

Ricoeur, Rhetoric-Poetics-Hermeneutics (1970)⁹ -- required text

Gadamer, Rhetoric, Hermeneutics, Ideology-Critique (1971)¹⁰ -- required text

Gadamer, "Rhetoric and Hermeneutics" (1976)¹¹ -- required text

¹James Muilenburg, "Form Criticism and Beyond," *Journal of Biblical Literature* 88 (1969): 1–18.

²Margaret D. Zulick, "The Active Force of Hearing: The Ancient Hebrew Language of Persuasion," *Rhetorica* 10 (1992): 367–80.

³Phyllis Trible, *Rhetorical Criticism: Context, Method, and the Book of Jonah* (Guides to Biblical Scholarship, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1994), 1–87.

⁴Hans Dieter Betz, *Galatians: A Commentary on Paul's Letter to the Churches in Galatia* (Hermeneia; Philadelphia: Fortress, 1979), 14–25.

⁵George A. Kennedy, *New Testament Interpretation Through Rhetorical Criticism* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1984).

⁶Burton L. Mack, *Rhetoric and the New Testament* (Guides to Biblical Scholarship, New Testament Series; Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1990).

⁷Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza, "The Ethics of Biblical Interpretation: Decentering Biblical Scholarship," originally presented as the SBL Presidential Address, 1987 in *Rhetoric and Ethic: The Politics of Biblical Studies* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1999), 17–30.

⁸Wilhelm H. Wuellner, "Where is Rhetorical Criticism Taking Us?" *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 49 (1987): 448–63.

⁹Paul Ricoeur, "Rhetoric-Poetics-Hermeneutics," Unpublished lecture given in 1970 at the Institut des Hautes Etudes (Belgium), published in English as "Rhetoric -- Poetics -- Hermeneutics," in *From Metaphysics to Rhetoric* (ed. Michel Meyer, trans. Robert Harvey, Dordrecht: Kluwer, 1980) 137–151. in *Rhetoric and Hermeneutics in Our Time: A Reader* (ed. Walter Jost and Michael J. Hyde; New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997), 60–72.

¹⁰Hans-Georg Gadamer, "Rhetorik, Hermeneutik, und Ideologiekritik: Metakritische Erörterungen zu *Wahrheit und Methode*," in *Hermeneutik und Ideologiekritik* (Theorie-Diskussion; Frankfurt: Suhrkamp, 1971), 57–82; Hans-Georg Gadamer, "Rhetoric, Hermeneutics, and Ideology-Critique," trans. G. B. Hess, R. E. Palmer, in *Rhetoric and Hermeneutics in Our Time: A Reader* (ed. Walter Jost; Michael J. Hyde; New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1997), 313–34.

¹¹Hans-Georg Gadamer, "Rhetoric and Hermeneutics," originally published as *Rhetorik und Hermeneutik*, als öffentl. Vortrag d. Jungius-Ges. d. Wiss. gehalten am 22. 6. 1976 in Hamburg (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 1976) in *Rhetoric and Hermeneutics in Our Time: A Reader* (ed. Walter Jost and Michael J. Hyde; New

February 18: No Class (Reading Week)

3. Breaking new ground in the relation between rhetoric and hermeneutics (February 25 and March 4)

Booth, Burke's religious rhetoric (1996)¹² -- required text
Altieri, A responsive hermeneutics (1997)¹³ -- required text
Mailloux, Articulation and Understanding (1997)¹⁴ -- required text
Palmer, What hermeneutics can offer rhetoric (1997)¹⁵ -- required text
Wuellner, Rhetoric and the Sublime (2000)¹⁶ -- professor to send pages

4. A hermeneutically-sensitive rhetorical analysis of Biblical texts: Sociorhetorical interpretation

a. Initial stage (March 11 and 18)

Robbins, Tapestry (1996)¹⁷ -- required text

b. Subsequent developments, and where do we go from here? (March 25 and April 1)

Bloomquist, Edges (2004)¹⁸ -- professor to send pages
Robbins, Invention of Christian discourse (2009)¹⁹ -- order or consult in Library
Robbins, Where is Wuellner taking us? (2004)²⁰ -- professor to send pages

5. Students' contribution to the discussion

Brewer, David
Edwards, Robert
Finbow, Doug
Harrity, Francine
Smith, Daniel

Haven: Yale University Press, 1997), 45–59.

¹²Wayne C. Booth, "Kenneth Burke's Religious Rhetoric: 'God-Terms' and the Ontological Proof," Originally presented (in part) at a talk to the Kenneth Burke Society (Pittsburgh, 1996) in *Rhetorical Invention and Religious Inquiry* (ed. Walter Jost and Olmsted, Wendy; New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000), 25–46.

¹³Charles Altieri, "Toward a Hermeneutics Responsive to Rhetorical Theory," in *Rhetoric and Hermeneutics in Our Time: A Reader* (ed. Walter Jost and Michael J. Hyde; New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997), 90–107.

¹⁴Stephen Mailloux, "Articulation and Understanding: The Pragmatic Intimacy Between Rhetoric and Hermeneutics," in *Rhetoric and Hermeneutics in Our Time: A Reader* (ed. Walter Jost and Michael J. Hyde; New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997), 378–94.

¹⁵Richard E. Palmer, "What Hermeneutics Can Offer Rhetoric?" in *Rhetoric and Hermeneutics in Our Time: A Reader* (ed. Walter Jost and Michael J. Hyde; New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997), 108–31.

¹⁶Wilhelm H. Wuellner, "Reconceiving a Rhetoric of Religion: A Rhetoric of Power and the Power of the Sublime," in *Rhetorics and Hermeneutics: Essays in Honor of Wilhelm Wuellner* (ed. James Hester and J. David Hester; Harrisburg: Trinity Press International, 2004), 23–77.

¹⁷Vernon K. Robbins, *The Tapestry of Early Christian Discourse: Rhetoric, Society and Ideology* (London: Routledge, 1996).

¹⁸L. Gregory Bloomquist, "A Contemporary Exegesis at the Edges of Chaos," keynote address, AAR Eastern International Region, held at Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Canada (April, 2002), *Religion & Theology/Religie & Theologie* 11, no. 1 (2004): 1–38.

¹⁹Vernon K. Robbins, *The Invention of Christian Discourse: Volume 1* (Rhetoric of Religious Antiquity; Blandford Forum: Deo, 2009), xii-120.

²⁰Vernon K. Robbins, "Where is Wuellner's Anti-Hermeneutical Hermeneutic Taking Us? From Schleiermacher to Thistleton and Beyond," in *Rhetorics and Hermeneutics: Essays in Honor of Wilhelm Wuellner* (ed. James Hester and J. David Hester; Harrisburg: Trinity Press International, 2004),

[Http://www.emory.edu/COLLEGE/RELIGION/faculty/robbins/Pdfs/WuellClarPrePub.pdf](http://www.emory.edu/COLLEGE/RELIGION/faculty/robbins/Pdfs/WuellClarPrePub.pdf).

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- Betz, Hans Dieter. *Galatians: A Commentary on Paul's Letter to the Churches in Galatia*. Hermeneia. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1979.
- Bloomquist, L. Gregory. "A Contemporary Exegesis at the Edges of Chaos." Keynote address, AAR Eastern International Region, held at Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Canada (April, 2002). *Religion & Theology/Religie & Teologie* 11, no. 1 (2004): 1–38.
- Booth, Wayne C. "Kenneth Burke's Religious Rhetoric: 'God-Terms' and the Ontological Proof." Originally presented (in part) at a talk to the Kenneth Burke Society (Pittsburgh, 1996) in *Rhetorical Invention and Religious Inquiry*, edited by Walter Jost and Olmsted, Wendy, 25–46. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000.
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- Robbins, Vernon K. *The Invention of Christian Discourse: Volume 1. Rhetoric of Religious Antiquity*. Blandford Forum: Deo, 2009.
- *The Tapestry of Early Christian Discourse: Rhetoric, Society and Ideology*. London: Routledge, 1996.
- "Where is Wuellner's Anti-Hermeneutical Hermeneutic Taking Us? From Schleiermacher to Thistleton and Beyond." In *Rhetorics and Hermeneutics: Essays in Honor of Wilhelm Wuellner*, edited by James Hester and J. David Hester. Harrisburg: Trinity Press International, 2004.
- <http://www.emory.edu/COLLEGE/RELIGION/faculty/robbins/Pdfs/WuellClarPrePub.pdf>.
- Schüssler Fiorenza, Elisabeth. "The Ethics of Biblical Interpretation: Decentering Biblical Scholarship." Originally presented as the SBL Presidential Address, 1987 in *Rhetoric and Ethic: The Politics of Biblical Studies*, 17–30. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1999.
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