

## From the Editor

The publication of the next issue of the biblical journal *Scriptura Sacra* calls for some important remarks that can serve as an introduction both to the content and to the proposed layout of the articles in this issue.

The first part is devoted, in accordance with the current profile of the journal, to Hebrew Rhetoric. As an introduction we present the article by Krzysztof Kurzeja, M.A., on the Exodus of Israel from Egypt as a manifestation of God's mercy on the basis of Exodus 15:1-21 – in the reinterpretation of Psalm 136. The author undertook the analysis of two selected pericopes of hymnic character, applying elements of the historical-critical method and the method of Hebrew rhetoric. It is no coincidence that the context of the presented research is God's mercy, emphasized especially in Ps 136, which has become even more inspiring during the Year of Mercy (2016) experienced by the Catholic Church.

Another article with a profile of Hebrew rhetoric is the text by Dr Jerzy Bosowski, in which the image of the cauldron from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel (24,1-14) is analysed. In his research the author focused primarily on discovering, with the help of rhetorical analysis, the structure of this text, starting from the fact of a huge diversity of opinions and exegetical proposals on this subject. Once again, the great usefulness of this method in further analyses of the biblical text, especially those contained in the prophetic visions.

The second part of this issue of the journal contains several articles on biblical themes. The first one, by Marek Dziony, M.A. in German, is the second part of the study published in the previous issue on the problem of justice in Isaiah in the light of cognitive-exegetical research. An essential element in this research is the application of the method of conceptual metaphor in the definition given by George Lakoff and Mark Johnson. It has provided a comprehensive picture of the issue of justice as it emerges from the prophetic text of Isaiah. The originality of the applied method and the language of the article prove its undoubted value for contemporary exegesis.

Another article is the text by Mariola Bernach, MA: *Jesus as the Servant of Yahweh in the interpretation of the Gospel of St. Matthew*. In the first part of her study, the author analyses the texts of the prophet Isaiah, in which the figure of the Servant of the Lord appears. Then she turns to the fragments of the Gospel of St. Matthew, which take up in the form of quotations, direct or allusive, the prophecies of Isaiah. In this way, he shows that St. Matthew was inspired by the texts about the Servant of the Lord in his presentation of Jesus and his messianic mission.

Mirosław Rucki contribution is worthy of further attention, in which he takes up the meaning of the prayerful cry “Hosanna” (Matt 21:9). The author first analyses the call itself, contained in Ps 118:25, giving its possible interpretations, especially in the light of ancient translations. It is more than a cry of joy, but more a plea for help addressed to God himself. The author then shows the Gospel context of the cry of the cheering crowds, in which the prophetic gestures of Jesus play a decisive role: the curse pronounced over the fig tree and the expulsion of the bribers from the temple. It is precisely this context that constitutes the recognition of Jesus’ real identity as more than a prophet – as the Son of God.

The text of the following article, by Fr Michał Ludwig, MA, analyses the motif of the institution of the Eucharist in the redaction of St. Matthew (26,26-30). The evangelical text was analyzed by three methods: historical-critical, linguistic and intertextual, which allowed for a deeper understanding of the meaning of the event itself and the words of Jesus. The author paid particular attention to the reality indicated by the expressions: covenant, body and blood. Their consumption by the disciples, according to the command of Jesus, indicates the union with in the divine life.

In the last text in the articles section, Dr Dominik Tomczyk presents an analysis of the expression τὸ εὐαγγέλιον in *Corpus Paulinum* against the background of its use in the Greco-Roman world and the New Testament. Undoubtedly, for St. Paul, the expression analysed is one of the key expressions for the message he preached, encompassing in content not only the person of Jesus Christ, but his entire accomplished work of passion, death and resurrection, and its effects which bring new life to people who believe in him. St. Paul, having met the risen Jesus at Damascus, became a servant of his gospel – the good news.

In the section devoted to reviews and reports we present important publications for the community of biblical scholars in Opole. The first one is a review of the dissertation of Rev. Dr Łukasz Florczyk, a research worker of University of Opole, Faculty of Theology, which is devoted to a particular aspect of the Deuteronomistic tradition, which is the image of the God of Israel as understood by non-Israelites. The second review discusses a three-volume work of commentary to the Book of Revelation, by Rev. Professor Janusz M. Czerski.

The next two reviews, by Fr. Professor Sebastian Andrzej Jasiński, OFM, discuss the next two volumes of the *Mystagogia Benedicti* series, which collects homilies and

meditations of Pope-emeritus Benedict XVI from the time of his pontificate, set in the key of the liturgical year, for the period of Epiphany and the Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord, together with the octave of the Great Night.

The next review, by Dr Jerzy Bosowski, presents the latest research on Semitic rhetoric, collected in a volume dedicated to the Seventh Congress of the RBS (Biblical and Semitic Rhetoric), held in 2020 in Rome.

The whole publication ends with a report on the symposium of the Polish Biblical Association, which took place in Radom on 13–15 September 2021.

It is to be hoped that reading such rich contributions of the Opole Bible Yearbook will contribute to a deeper knowledge of the Holy Scriptures and the message of salvation contained therein.

