

The Kingdom and the Power

legacies of empire in scripture and beyond



The sixth annual research conference of the Centre for the Study of Bible and Violence. Bristol: 3-5 June 2024

Call for papers

Submission deadline: 1 March 2024

The Centre for the Study of Bible and Violence, in partnership with the Catechesia Institute, is delighted to call for submissions to its sixth annual research conference, which will take place between 3rd and 5th June 2024, in person in Bristol, UK. There will be four themed sessions, each with a keynote address. Papers are invited for each session, as outlined below. Scholars who are invited to present, and perhaps others who have submitted papers of sufficient merit, will be invited to write the paper up for submission for a special issue of the *Journal for the Study of Bible and Violence* (JSBV).

The Centre for the Study of Bible and Violence aims to facilitate cutting-edge research into the interpretation of biblical violence and the use of the Bible in a violent world. We are a confessional Christian institution, and one of our core convictions is that scholarship should be academically robust, irenic, dialogical, collaborative, non-competitive and generous. To this end we welcome dialogue and collaboration with scholars of all faiths and none, willing to learn from anyone while honouring our mutual prerogative to disagree with courtesy.

Since the Centre's inception, one of our goals has been to mentor, encourage and provide opportunities for emerging scholars. Therefore, we will once again be offering a modest prize for the best paper presented at the conference by a student, which is open to undergraduates and postgraduate students who have not yet exceeded eighteen months (full-time, or the part-time equivalent) of doctoral study. *Please indicate on your submission if you would like to be considered for the student prize.* The possibility of publication in the JSBV is open to students as well as to established academics, subject to appropriate peer review, and students may be offered some mentoring from more experienced scholars.

For general questions, please contact the CSBV Director of Operations at hibbarda@bristol-baptist.ac.uk.

Afternoon, Monday 3rd June: Biblical Theology and Empire

Convenor: Dr Trevor Laurence

Keynote speaker: Dr Helen Paynter

We are inviting papers which explore empire in biblical theology, including work on themes, allusion, intertextuality, or any other text-centred approaches.

Please send an abstract of no more than 500 words indicating the range and scope of your proposed paper, its methodology, and your chief interlocutors.

Submissions should be made by 1st March to the convener, Dr Trevor Laurence, at tlaurence@cateclesia.com, and copied to the Centre Director of Operations, Dr Ashley Hibbard, at hibbarda@bristol-baptist.ac.uk.

Morning, Tuesday 4th June: Nuance of Empire

Convenor: Dr Ashley Hibbard

Keynote speaker: Dr Peter Hatton

We are inviting papers which explore nuanced approaches either to the topic of empire in scripture, or to texts pertaining to empire. This may include a variety of approaches, such as contexts where empire is not presented or treated in a simplistic manner, or manifestations of empire, its scope, or its power that are not immediately apparent.

Please send an abstract of no more than 500 words indicating the range and scope of your proposed paper, its methodology, and your chief interlocutors.

Submissions should be made by 1st March to the convener, Dr Ashley Hibbard, at hibbarda@bristol-baptist.ac.uk, and copied to the Cateclesia Institute Director, Dr Trevor Laurence, at tlaurence@cateclesia.com.

Afternoon, Tuesday 4th June: Empire and Postcolonial Readings

Convenor: Kristin Caynor

Keynote speaker: Dr Zac Niringiye

We are inviting papers which explore readings of texts pertaining to empire or the theme of empire in scripture from a postcolonial perspective.

Please send an abstract of no more than 500 words indicating the range and scope of your proposed paper, its methodology, and your chief interlocutors.

Submissions should be made by 1st March to the convener, Kristin Caynor, at kristin.caynor@gmail.com, and copied to the Centre Director of Operations, Dr Ashley Hibbard, at hibbarda@bristol-baptist.ac.uk.

Morning, Wednesday 5th June: The Holy Spirit, Christian Faithfulness, and Empire

Convenor: Francis Mathew

Keynote speaker: Dr Oleksandr Geychenko

We are inviting papers on any subject relating to the work of the Holy Spirit, the transformative nature of the gospel and Christ's kingdom, or Christian witness and faithfulness in the context of empire.

Please send an abstract of no more than 500 words indicating the range and scope of your proposed paper, its methodology, and your chief interlocutors.

Submissions should be made by 1st March to the convener, Francis Mathew, at rockfrancis@gmail.com, and copied to the Centre Director of Operations, Dr Ashley Hibbard, at hibbarda@bristol-baptist.ac.uk.