

Silabus ICRS: Interpretation of the Bible and the Al-Qur'an

Lecturers: Prof. E. Gerrit Singgih, Ph.D. & Dr. Phil H. M. Nur Kholis Setiawan
Semester: II, 2007-2008
Time : Wednesday, 10.30-12.30 (Break 11.15-11.30)
Credits : 3

Description of the Course

A systematic and comprehensive discourse on several parts of the Gospel of Matthew in order to understand the Gospel narrative, and from there to (re) construct some theological thinking by engaging the texts in dialogue with the readers of the text, which consists of Christians and Muslims. It is an attempt to interpret the texts of the Gospel of Matthew in an interfaith context. A same scheme will be used to understand and analyze the Qur'an especially several verses that deal directly or indirectly with interfaith issues.

The Aim of the Course

Because the participants are active readers of the texts, it is hoped that they will be aware of the complexity of the hermeneutical issue, i.e. to make interconnectedness between the past and the present. Even so, it is also hoped that in the end the reading will result in understanding, and this understanding may contribute to reconciliation between Christians and Muslims.

Obligation and Evaluation

1. Participants should take active role in the discussion and show that they have read the required literature (30%)
2. Participants should prepare written proposals for papers which later on will be presented at class-seminars (20%)
3. Participants should write papers (quarto, 1,5 space, min. 10 pages, max. 15 pages) and present them at class-seminars near the end of the course. These seminar papers could be revised after class-seminar, but not later than 2 weeks after the seminar (50%)

Course Schedule

1. February 6, 2008 Syllabus explanation; study of Matthew chapter 1-7: Birth, Initiation, Temptation and the Sermon on the Mount

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| 2. February 13, 2008 | Introduction: Interpretation of the Qur'an in Muslim Scholarship. Attention will be paid on classical discourse |
| 3. February 20, 2008 | Study of Matthew chapters 8-15: the mission of Jesus and the meaning of parables |
| 4. February 27, 2008 | School of thought in <i>Tafsir</i> : Selective Example Will be discussed |
| 5. March 5, 2008 | Study of Matthew chapters 16-20: Confrontations with the existing powers |
| 6. March 12, 2008 | Methods and Approaches of Interpreting the Qur'an Linguistic, <i>Fiqh</i> , philosophy <i>et cetera</i> . Some examples will be discussed |
| 7. March 19, 2008 | Study of Matthew chapters 21-25: The apocalyptic Jesus |
| 8. March 26, 2008 | Interpretation of the Qur'an in Modern Discourse: Attention will be paid on its methods, trends and contributors |
| 9. April 2, 2008 | Study of Matthew chapters 26-28: Jesus' death, Resurrection and the Mission |
| 10. April 9, 2008 | Interpretation of the Qur'an in Indonesian Context |
| 11. April 16, 2008 | Class-seminar I-II |
| 12. April 23, 2008 | Class-seminar III-IV |

Required Reading

1. The Bible (The Revised Standard Version [RSV] or the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]).
2. The New Testament in Greek (UBS), Third Edition.
3. William Barclay, *The Gospel of Matthew*, volume I-II, The Daily Study Bible series, revised edition, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1958.
4. Douglas R.A. Hare, *Matthew*, Interpretation series, Louisville: John Knox Press, 1993.

5. Eduard Schweitzer, *The Good News According to Matthew*, Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1975.
6. John Dominic Crossan, *In Parables*, New York-London: Harper & Row, 1973.
7. Hans-Ruedi Weber, *The Invitation: Matthew on Mission*, New York: Board of Missions of the Methodist Church, 1971.
8. Elaine Mary Wainwright, *Towards a Feminist Critical Reading of the Gospel According to Matthew*, Berlin-New York: de Gruyter, 1991.
9. Marcus J. Borg, *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, Harper San Francisco: 1995
10. Raymond E. Brown, *The Churches the Apostles Left Behind*, New York/Ramsey: Paulist Press, 1984
11. Birkeland, Harris, *Old Muslim Opposition Against Interpretation of the Koran in Avhandling Utgit av der Norske Videnskaps-Akademi 1 Oslo*, 1955.
12. Hawting, G.R., & Shareef, A.K. (ed.), *Approaches to the Qur'an*, London: Routledge 1993.
13. Robinson, Neal, *Discovering the Qur'an: A Contemporary Approach to a Veiled Text*, London: SCM Press 1996.
14. Al-Dhahabi, Muhamad Husein, *al-Tafsir wal-Mufasssirun*, 3 Blande, Kairo 1961
15. Goldziher, Ignaz, *Die Richtungen der Islamischen Koranauslegung*, Leiden 1920; reprint Leiden 1970; Al-Madhāhib al-islamiyya fi Tafsir Al-Qur'an al-Karim, trslt. Ali Hasan Abd al-Qadir, Kairo, Matba' at al-Ulum 1944
16. Jansen, J.J.G., *The Interpretation of the Koran in Modern Egypt*, Leiden 1974
17. Kermani, Navid, *Gott ist schon, Das Asthetische Erlebens des Koran*, Munchen, C.H. Beck 2000; its review in M. Nur Kholis Setiawan, *Para Pendengan Firman Tuhan: Telaah terhadap Efek Estetik al-Qur'an*, in al-Jam'ah Journal of Islamic Studies (2001).
18. McAuliffe, Jane Dame (ed.) *Cambridge Companion to the Qur'an*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 2006.
19. Rippin, Andrew (ed), *Approaches to the History of the Interpretation of the Koran*, Oxford 1988.
20. Wild, Stefan (ed.), *The Qur'an Text*, Leiden 1996.