

*From the Guest Co-Editor:  
David B. Schreiner*

Some of my favorite memories are those where I am sitting in class at Asbury Theological Seminary, with my colleagues, listening to some of the most respected names in evangelical, biblical scholarship talk about the issues of scripture. For a young, aspiring scholar, this was just so exciting! During my time at Asbury Theological Seminary, I was fortunate to learn how historical-critical scholarship was not necessarily one of the devil's tools. I heard how Deuteronomy continues to be one of the greatest theological influences and how if we just listen to the text properly, we will find some of the greatest theological nuggets in even the most violent passages of the Old Testament. Above all, I learned how an understanding of language, history, and culture were critical to understanding the depths of scripture's message.

However, the greatest impact that Asbury Theological Seminary had on my spiritual and academic development was through the creation of a robust theological framework alongside personal relationships that could help not only absorb the ebbs and flows of life but also keep everything in the proper perspective. You see, as we all know, life comes after graduation, and one must navigate positive and negative experiences while keeping a divine calling in focus. If it were not for the friends made and the lessons learned while at Asbury Theological Seminary between 2004-2012, I am confident that my place in life would look dramatically different. I am therefore indebted specifically to: Drs. Mark Awabdy, Bill Arnold, John Cook, Rob Fleenor, Brad Haggard, Sam Long, and Michael Matlock. I remember our time and conversations with the deepest fondness.

It is my honor to have worked with Dr. Jason Myers and a very fine group of young scholars and fellow alumni to present this *Festschrift*. It is my prayer that it becomes an inspiration to all that come through the program and a proper representation of the quality of scholars that Asbury Theological Seminary seeks to form.

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