

THE BIBLE, NARRATIVE, AND MODERNITY

MARCH 26-28, 2015

NOTRE DAME CONFERENCE CENTER

SYMPOSIUM EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Thursday, March 26

7:30 P.M. POETRY READING BY DR. BRETT FOSTER AT HAMMES BOOKSTORE

Friday, March 27

11:00 A.M. KEYNOTE LECTURE BY DR. MISTY ANDERSON
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE

3:00 P.M. FACULTY ROUNDTABLE: "EXPLORING RELIGION AND LITERATURE METHODOLOGIES"

Saturday, March 28

10:30 A.M. KEYNOTE LECTURE BY DR. TIMOTHY LARSEN, WHEATON COLLEGE

2:30 P.M. FACULTY ROUNDTABLE: "TEACHING THE BIBLE OUTSIDE THEOLOGY"

The Bible, Narrative, and Modernity joins an already rich interdisciplinary project at Notre Dame that seeks to reimagine the relationship between Religion and Literature. Focusing on the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, this symposium seeks to upend the common characterization of this period as increasingly secular. The presiding critical commonplace holds that Asiatic archaeological research, widespread developments in geology across the continent that culminated in Darwinian evolutionary biology, and, perhaps most importantly, the importation of German biblical criticism precipitated a crisis of faith that rapidly transformed European society—particularly in Britain—into a primarily secular body over the course of the eighteenth- and nineteenth-centuries. Favoring a secular narrative of middle-class emergence, nationalism, and the aesthetics of realism, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literary scholars have embraced and reasserted this dominant narrative. By examining the Bible as narrative and the role it plays in shaping eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literature, this symposium challenges this common narrative of secularization, while exploring a range of religion and literature methodologies in the scholarship of these two periods.

Sponsored by the Nanovic Institute for European Studies with additional support from *Religion and Literature, Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, and the Department of English at the University of Notre Dame.

Speakers and Workshop Leaders

DR. MISTY ANDERSON
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

DR. TIMOTHY LARSEN
Wheaton College

DR. RICHARD HUGHES GIBSON
Wheaton College

Symposium Organizers

MEAGAN SIMPSON
Ph.D. candidate in English
University of Notre Dame

JESSICA ANN HUGHES
Ph.D. candidate in English
University of Notre Dame

For more information, visit
NANOVIC.ND.EDU/MODERNITY.

