CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Monday, September 19

Arrival at Marburg
19.00–20.00 Open Welcome in the Kreuzgang der Alten Universität / Cloister of the Old University Marburg (refreshments)

Tuesday, September 20

9.00 Introduction and Welcome by Lukas Bormann

9.15–10.45 SESSION 1 (PAPERS 1-3)
KONRAD SCHMID: Remembering and Reconstructing Abraham: Abraham’s Family and the Literary History of the Pentateuch
ANTTI LAATO: Relating Abraham’s Family Story to the History of Israel
MAGNAR KARTVEIT: Abraham and Joseph in Samaritan Tradition

10.45–11.15 Coffee Break

11.15–12.45 SESSION 2 (PAPERS 4-6)
LOTTA VALVE: The ‘Wooing of Rebekah’ and the Methodological Rift between Tradition History and Reception History
JACQUES VAN RUiten: Jubilees about Abraham’s Family
ALIYAH EL MANSY: „He is Perfect, he is a True Man!” (Jub 27,17) Constructions of Manliness in Abraham’s Family

12.45–14.00 Lunch

14.00–15.30 SESSION 3 (PAPERS 7-9)
KRISTIAN NORRBÄCK: Abraham and Righteousness in Ben Sira 44
MICHAEL BECKER: Abraham and his Family in Genesis Apocryphon
JESPER HØGENHAVEN: Abraham and his Family in Qumran Biblical Exegesis

15.30–16.00 Coffee Break

16.00–18.15 SESSION 4 (PAPERS 10-13)
CHRISTIAN NOACK: Abraham’s Family in Philo
LUKAS BORMANN: Abraham as „Forefather“ (προπάτωρ) and his Family in Paul

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JOHANNA CONRAD: Rebecca and her Sons in Second Temple Judaism and Paul
ANGELA STANDHARTINGER: Member of Abraham’s Family? Hagar’s Gender, Status, Ethnicity, and Religion in Early Jewish and Christian Texts

19.30 Gala Dinner

Wednesday, September 21

9.00–10.30 SESSION 5 (PAPERS 14-16)
CORNELIS DE VOS: Abraham’s Family in the Epistle to the Hebrews
GUIDO BALTES: The Prodigal Son and his Angry Brother: Jacob and Esau in a Parable of Jesus
ANNI MARIA LAATO: Rebecca’s Sons, Fighting Brothers, in Tertullian, Pseudo-Cyprian, and Augustine

10.30–11.00 Coffee Break

11.00–12.30 SESSION 6 (PAPERS 17-19)
MARTIN MEISER: Abraham and his Family in Greek and Latin Patristic Exegesis
SEBASTIAN WEBERT: Hagar’s Sons amongst Us – Abraham’s Family as a Network of Hermeneutics in St. Jerome
MICHELA DURST: Julian the Apostate and his Attitude towards Abraham and his γένος

12.30–14.00 Lunch

14.00–15.30 SESSION 7 (PAPERS 20-22)
REUVEN FIRESTONE: Hagar and Ishmael in Jewish Literature and Tradition as a Foreshadow of their Islamic Personas
PHILIPP ALEXANDER: Abraham and Ishmael in Pirkei deRabbi Eliezer
MARIANO GOMEZ-ARANDA: The Conflict between Jacob and Esau in Medieval Jewish Exegesis

15.30–16.00 Coffee Break

16.00–17.30 SESSION 8 (PAPERS 23-25)
BÄRBEL BEINHAUER-KÖHLER: Maqam Ibrahim, and the Sacred Landscape of Maccab according to Ibn Jubair (12th century)
KARL PINGGÉRA: Abraham and his Family in Syriac Patristic Exegesis
CATALIN POPA: The Syrians and the Appeal to Abraham in Early Islamic Times

17.45 Concluding remarks

19.00 Dinner

Thursday, September 22

10.00–12.00 Invitation to a sightseeing tour of Marburg (Old city of Marburg, Castle)

Departure of the participants
**ABRAHAM’S FAMILY:**
**A NETWORK OF MEANING IN JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY, AND ISLAM**

Not only Abraham himself has become an important figure in the three religions Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, but also his family history and tradition were used, modified, enlarged or shortened to explain, encourage, legitimize or challenge ethnic or religious groups from the midst of the sixth century BCE on. The Abraham tradition is an issue of narrative and counter-narrative – in the words of R. Hendel: “To remember Abraham is to enter into this ages-long history of memory and countermemory.”

Besides these well-known ideas about Abraham as an outstanding figure it should be noted that also Abraham’s family is used to define both borders of identity and connections to outer groups, moreover Abraham’s family is brought in as a network of meaning to express opposition, antithesis or common ground within and between different religious movements. Most famous is the idea of the two sons of Abraham/Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael, to present two different branches of the Abraham heritage with the aim to explain the antagonisms as well as the connections between different ethnic and religious groups.

Scholars from Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Spain, USA and Germany will come together for presenting and discussing their research results about Abraham’s family as a network of meaning.

**VENUE:**
*Philippus-Universität Marburg*
Fachbereich Ev. Theologie, Neues Testament
Lahntor 3
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