

Viktor Roudkovski, LeTourneau University - **“By the Hand of a Woman”: The Pedagogy of Violence in the Book of Judith**

The Deuterocanonical Jewish literature offers a significant array of texts where violence plays a dominant role. I propose to examine the violence in the Book of Judith and present ways in which students can develop reading strategies that follow the trajectory of what some scholars have called “radical discontinuity” or “moderate discontinuity and spiritual and eschatological continuity.” The students’ engagement with the violent texts in light of the early church’s “Christocentric anti-violent enemy-loving” hermeneutic will be highlighted as well.