



Polemics and Prophethood in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

International Conference: May 14–16, 2018

Perhaps the quintessential issue that has divided the scriptural monotheisms has been the authority of scripture. If God is all-knowing, all-powerful and all-good, why would God reveal different scriptures that appear to convey conflicting messages about the divine will? The usual response of religious thinkers has been to reject the scripture of others while exalting one's own – only one's own conveys the true and undistorted will of God. But because others claim the same, that only theirs conveys the true and undistorted will of God, a rationale must be found for rejecting the claims of others. Various rationales of rejection have been developed over the centuries, one of the most common being the critique of the vehicle of prophecy: If the

prophet is false, then his message must be false as well. Surprisingly, this issue has yet to be carefully studied in the academy, so it is “the problematic of prophecy” that is the topic for this conference. Particular emphasis will be put on rival perceptions and strategies of mutual delegitimization deployed in Jewish and Muslim texts, lesser known in Western scholarship.

Venue

University of Zurich, Rämistrasse 59, Room RAA-G-01

Organization

Sigi Feigel Visiting Professorship for Jewish Studies and Department of Religious Studies, University of Zurich

Contact / Registration

Sarah Werren: sarah.werren@uzh.ch

Participation is free of charge

Website / Program

www.religionswissenschaft.uzh.ch/de/polemics

With the support of

- Faculty of Theology, University of Zurich
- Swiss National Science Foundation



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION