Biblical studies

Biblical studies have for a long time been among the disciplines at the Protestant Theological Faculty with the highest profile, and a correspondingly large number of staff. Since 1999 the Departments of Old Testament Studies and New Testament Studies have been strengthened by institutional cooperation with other academic institutions, together with which they established the Centre for Biblical Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and Charles University in Prague.

The research is focused in particular on the study of biblical texts from the literary point of view and that of literary history. For a long time the attention was devoted to the literary heritage of antiquity that is part of the context of biblical studies (such as Aramaic epigraphy, New Testament Apocrypha, and Gnostic literature), and to the history of the relevant regions, their culture, and their religions (including institutional cooperation with the Institute of Archaeology of Tel Aviv University on the Lautenschläger Azeka Expedition). A specific feature of the research is an interest in methodological and hermeneutic questions, and in the later impact and reception of the biblical texts.

For the period 2012–2018 the Centre for Biblical Studies has received significant grant support from the Czech Science Foundation for the major interdisciplinary project “The History and Interpretation of the Bible”.

Selected outputs