

possessive metaphors: *cultura culturata*, processual metaphors: *cultura culturans*, see also pp. 23–30).

The volume closes with select bibliography (437f.), list of authors, indexes of persons, concepts, and subjects, as well as an index of metaphors (468). This *Handbuch* offers inspiration and guidance for biblical scholars who often use the same terminology and concepts, although, in many cases, they use and define them differently. The essays offer an excellent introduction to the wider discourse (in the central European tradition) and help biblical scholars to appreciate and to contribute to the academic discussion of issues which also appear in the Bible and in its examination and application to current issues. In addition, the *Handbuch* also provides clarification and demands care and caution when “culture” (defined nationally, ethnically, or racially) is often naively and uncritically adduced as the final and non-questionable argument in various discussions in society and the academy. Culture and arguments by culture are by no means harmless concepts!

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IATG – Internationales Abkürzungsverzeichnis für Theologie und Grenzgebiete, Siegfried M. Schwertner (ed.), 3rd. edition. Berlin, de Gruyter, 2014. Xliii+ 726 pp., hardbound. 190 Euro. ISBN 078-3-11-020575-6.

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Schwertner’s “International glossary of abbreviations for theology and related subjects”, the English title, has become an international standard reference tool for scholars, editors, and librarians in the field of theology since its first publication in 1974 (2nd ed. 1992). It grew from some 350 pages to over 700 pages. The present

third edition was supplemented by 4000 new titles of academic journals, series, dictionaries, and other reference tools and source editions.

Schwertner notes in the preface that during the work on the various editions of this glossary, major changes have taken place in the storage and availability of bibliographical information. The last two decades have brought a wide availability of data over the Internet, for example, every computer with a network connection can access bibliographical databases or individual libraries.

The introduction to the volume appears in German, English, French, Italian, and Spanish so that the volume can be used widely. The English introduction (xiv–xvi) describes the aim of this glossary, the principles of abbreviation used for the abbreviated titles, the make-up of the bibliographical notes and their arrangement. This is followed by a list of the abbreviations used in the bibliographical part, lists of abbreviations of biblical books (according to *SBL handbook of style*, RSV and *New Catholic Encyclopedia*), lists of sources and versions of the Bible, lists of Deuterocanonical books (Apocrypha Old Testament, Apocrypha New Testament) and of early patristic works, Qumran texts, Philo, Josephus, rabbinic texts, Midrashim and Targumim, and the texts from Nag Hammadi.

Part one consists of a list of abbreviations and periodicals, series, encyclopaedias, and sources, and the explanations of the abbreviations (1–191). Part two (195–726) lists periodicals, series, encyclopaedias, and sources, with bibliographical notes and their abbreviations. In this edition, the abbreviations of the *SBL handbook of style* are incorporated with respect to the *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its reception* (EBR, also published by de Gruyter). Where these abbreviations deviate from those of IATG, they are printed in italics. Schwertner used the first edition of the SBLHBS; the second edition appeared in 2014 (*The SBL handbook of style: for Biblical Studies and related disciplines*, 2nd ed.; Atlanta: SBL Press, pp. 171–260). The preface lists further changes in comparison with the first and second editions.

The journal *Old Testament Essays* appears in the first part as OTE: Old Testament essays. OTSWA and OTEs: Old Testament essays. Dept. of Old Testament, Univ. of

South Africa. In part two (“Titles with bibliographical notes and abbreviations”) it appears as

Old Testament essays. Ou Testamentiese Werkgemeenskap in Suid-Afrika.
 Pretoria; OTE
 Stellenbosch 1,1978ff. (24/25,1983)
 15/16: Old Testament studies, 1972/73
 Old Testament essays. Journal of the Old Testament Society of South
 Africa. Ed.: Dept. OTEs
 of Ancient Languages, Univ. of Pretoria. Pretoria 1,1983-5.1987 NS
 1,1988- (21.2008)
 > OTSSA.P

This entry indicates one, perhaps misleading, feature, which applies to most journals listed here: in part two, the first year of the appearance of a journal is given (in this case “1,1978”). The final reference “(21.2008)” in parentheses does not mean that the journal stopped appearing in this year as one might assume at first. It only means that it has definitely appeared until then. Schwertner explains that “it has become possible to list the most recently published volume for a journal or a series. This information is listed in brackets. It should be kept in mind that the work for this 3rd edition has taken several years and that the libraries also require some time to update their catalogues, so these volume entries can date back somewhat” (English preface). In this case they certainly date back. When Schwertner’s volume was published in 2014, OTE was (and is!) still appearing. When a journal has indeed stopped appearing, the last number and year is given without parentheses. This information, therefore, needs to be used with care.

Unfortunately, there are some inconsistencies and gaps with a number of South African journals, for example, the following entry is incomplete: “Verbum et ecclesia. Fakulteit Teologie (NG Kerk). Pretoria 22, 2001- (30,2009) VeEc< SkKe”. When did the first volume appear? Why does the entry start with volume 22?

Future editions of this reference tool will probably include the websites of journals and will indicate which titles are available electronically and when they started