



**Protestant Theological
Faculty**
Charles University

XXXIII. Colloquium Biblicum

Image, Image-Making and the Creation of (Un)Likeness

**on April 8–10, 2026 in Prague at the
Faculty of Protestant Theology of Charles University**

The colloquium deals with concepts of image and image-making in the Biblical World and its reception. Despite being the only means to see what others see, as true embodiments of particular ontological properties, images are typically studied under generalising frameworks and schemes. Such approaches assume not only that humans share the same semiotic beliefs but also an ontological constitution. However, while anthropological studies have challenged the idea of a shared ontology between all humans, biblical scholarship has for a long time historicised and nuanced how ancient Levantine peoples have understood their visual artefacts. In this sense, the conference invites scholars to discuss how ancient conception of images, methodological approaches and hermeneutical readings in different theological contexts have helped to forge (un)likeness.

We look forward to meeting you in Prague.

On behalf of the preparatory team:

Prof. Dr. Filip Čapek, Charles University, Czech Republic

PD Dr. Thomas Wagner, Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany

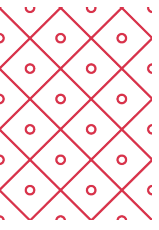
Prof. Dr. Silas Klein Cardoso, Faculdade Unida de Vitória, Brazil

For further information see the contact below.

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Programme

Wednesday, April 8, 2026, Room E, 3rd floor

I. Image, Image-Making and the Creation of (Un)Likeness

16:00–16:15 **Welcome and Opening**

16:15–17:15 **Klein Cardoso Silas (Vitória/BRA):**
Simulacra and Presence: Mechanisms of (Un)likeness in Ancient Levantine Visual Culture

17:15–18:15 **Wagner Thomas (Wuppertal/DE):**
Image, Appearances, Likeness: Semantics of Imagery and Their Conceptual Background

18:30 **Dinner**

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Thursday, April 9

II. Images of YHWH and Beyond

- 9:00–9:30** **Dubbink Joep** (Amsterdam/NL):
Images of YHWH's Spouse
- 9:30–10:00** **Niesiolowski-Spano Lukasz** (Warsaw/PL):
*The Yahwists and the Surrounding Imagery
in Yehud Circa 350 BCE*
- 10:00–10:30** **Prudký Martin** (Prague/CZ):
The Narrative Portrayal of God in the Abraham Stories
- 10:30–11:00** **Break**

III. Deities – Animals – People

- 11:00–11:30** **Harris Caleb** (Prague/CZ):
Resheph: Fire and Plague (Or Nothing at All)
- 11:30–12:00** **Sláma Petr** (Prague/CZ):
*"...and cast an image of a calf" Ex 32:4
Who is being criticized here?*
- 12:30–14:30** **Lunchtime**
- 14:30–16:00** **Kindl Eva-Martina** (Bonn/DE):
Close Reading Session
- 16:00–16:30** **Break**
- 16:30–17:00** **Kellenberger Edgar** (Basel/CH):
The Bear As an Icon For Human and Divine Behaviour
- 17:00–17:30** **Page Emily** (St. Andrews/UK):
The Embodied Self in Proverbs and Egyptian Iconography
- 17:30–18:00** **Lukáš Jan** (Prague/CZ):
I am Black and/but Comely: Song of Songs 1:5

Friday, April 10

IV. Broader Contexts

- 9:00–9:30** **Pickströer Daniel** (Dortmund/DE):
The Normative Interpretation of The Image of God Through Time
- 9:30–10:00** **Gallus Petr** (Prague/CZ):
Man as a Imago Dei
- 10:00–10:30** **Tops Thomas** (Wuppertal/DE):
Metaphors and Visualisation: Ps-Longinus, De Sublimitate as an Analytical Tool for Interpreting Metaphors in the NT
- 10:30–11:00** **Break**
- 11:00–11:30** **Nogueira Paulo** (Campinas/BRA):
The Survival of Biblical Images in the History of Culture: Contributions from a "Science Without a Name"
- 11:30–12:00** **Čapek Filip** (Prague/CZ):
Imagine All the Temples: Case Study Lachish in Iron Age
- 12:00–13:30** **Lunchtime**
- 13:30–15:00** **Guided tour of the Jewish Museum in Prague (by Jan Štefl)**
- 16:00–17:30** **Final discussion, Evaluation, Plans**
- 18:00** **Dinner**

