Abstract

The task of diploma thesis „Old Testament Interpretation and the Postmodern Conditions“ is to critically reflect the course and current issues of Old Testament research. This reflection is based on the analysis of research situation and chosen approaches to the Old Testament. The thesis shows, that the Old Testament interpretation must be based on lively dialogue. It doesn't mean just the dialogue with the biblical texts or the state of current research, but also with the situation of the world often called as "postmodern". The important assumption of this diploma thesis is that the authentic interpretation includes also the constant and deep self-examination of interpreter and his place in the society. It doesn't mean, that the interpretation ought to be the self-presentation of interpreter. On the contrary, it should remain critical and solid, but also enacted in deep solidarity with the neighbour and shared world.

The results of this diploma thesis show the importance of keeping the critical grounds of Old Testament research and interpretation. Only the intensive and unappealing criticism could be a basis for the future quality and solidness of the research and upholding its matter in wider research community and society. Another important aspect is the solidarity with the world. It means that the authentic presentation of our discipline is based on the shared humanity and on the solidarity with non–human world as well. The third aspect of the Old Testament Interpretation in postmodern conditions is the accentuation of wisdom. This wisdom is not only the rational knowledge, but has an important ethical dimension. It is rather ability to perceive the whole of our world, not just temporary and short-term purposes. This aspect is needed to be involved in wider scientific community and confronted with often articulated absolutism of certain kind of scientific knowledge and market economy.