

## ENGAGING WITH SOME VIOLENT TEXTS IN LUKE IN CONVERSATION WITH HANS KLEIN

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**Abstract.** This paper engages in dialogue with Hans Klein on three Lukan texts that touch on the topic of war and destruction: the parable of the king pondering to go to war (14,31-32), the parable of the throne claimant (19,12.14-15a.27), and Jesus' lament over the destruction of Jerusalem, preserving the memory of the first Roman war. These passages touch on the issue of war only incidentally and raise more problems than they solve.

**Keywords:** Gospel of Luke, war, peace, violence in the Bible, divine violence.

It is probably safe to say that, considering the level, the national and international recognition and the range of his scholarship, Hans Klein is the most prominent New Testament scholar of Romania. His exegetical writings attest a clear focus on the Gospel of Luke,<sup>2</sup> a very robust involvement with the Corpus Paulinum,<sup>3</sup> and an interest in several other topics.<sup>4</sup> The international visibility and impact of his work is also due to his solid formation in the best German exegetical tradition and to the fact that his writings have appeared at prominent publishers and in the most important international journals. But he has also published extensively in Romanian, contributing

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- <sup>2</sup> Hans KLEIN, *Das Lukasevangelium* (KEK 1.3), Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2006; *Lukasstudien* (FRLANT 209), Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2005; *Barmherzigkeit gegenüber den Elenden und Geächteten. Studien zur Botschaft des lukanischen Sonderguts* (BThS 10), Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener, 1987, to mention only the most important.
- <sup>3</sup> *Entwicklungslinien im Corpus Paulinum und weitere Studien zu Paulustexten*, edited by Tobias NICKLAS, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2016; *Der erste Korintherbrief*, Sibiu/Hermannstadt: Honterus, 2013; *Der zweite Korintherbrief*, Sibiu/Hermannstadt: Honterus, 2015; *Der Brief des Paulus an die Galater*, Sibiu/Hermannstadt: Honterus, 2020; *Der zweite Timotheusbrief*, Sibiu/Hermannstadt: Honterus, 2024; *I și 2 Corinteni – traducere și comentariu*, Oradea: Casa Cărții, 2021.
- <sup>4</sup> The Gospel of Matthew: *Bewährung im Glauben. Studien zum Sondergut des Evangelisten Matthäus*, (BThSt 26), Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener, 1996; *Die Bergpredigt einst und heute. Eine allgemeinverständliche Auslegung*, Sibiu/Hermannstadt: Honterus, 2017; the Synoptics gospels in general: *Teologia evangheliilor sinoptice*, Oradea: Casa Cărții, 2024, as well as ancient religion and mentality: *Kleine Geschichte der antiken griechischen Religion und Denkweise*, Sibiu/Hermannstadt: Honterus Verlag, 2016.