

## 1. Opening Prayer

## 2. Intro: Intertextuality (Steve Moyise at St. Hild College)

Julia Kristeva (1941 – ) introduced this notion in 1969 arguing that there is relationship between ‘texts’ with those forms such as parody, pastiche, homage, retellings, and allegory. The meaning of a text is not fixed but open to revision as new texts come along and reposition it.

### a. Intertextual Echo

An allusion is usually woven into the text rather than “quoted”, and is often rather less precise in terms of wording. . An echo is a faint trace of a text and might be quite unconscious, emerging from minds soaked in the scriptural heritage of Israel.

Example) Philippians 1:19

### b. Narrative Intertextuality

By telling and retelling a story in past remembrance, it becomes a larger story with the hope to shape the hearers’ identity with future expectation.

Example) Romans 8:18-39

### c. Exegetical Intertextuality

Critical explanation or interpretation of a text.

Example) Romans 2:17-29

### d. Dialogical Intertextuality

The source text is not always as malleable as traditional categories like allegory and typology. Sometimes the source text is so powerful that it brings with it associations and connotations that are not easily silenced. In other words, the new affects the old while the old affects the new.

Example) Revelation 5:4-5

### e. Postmodern Intertextuality

A writer does not weave a web of meanings that the reader merely has to follow, but presents them to the reader as a text. The reader reacts to the offer and enters into a dialogue with the possibilities the text has to offer. There is always more than one way of configuring a text.

Example) John 4

### 3. Read Esther Ch. 7

- a. Can you make an outline of this chapter?
- b. Scholars have different interpretations on verse 4. What do you think Esther wants to say?
- c. In verse 7, why do you think the king went out to the palace garden and why do you think Haman stayed with the queen Esther?
- d. In verse 8, why do you think the king perceived the scene as Haman was assaulting Esther?
- e. Verses 5 and 7 describe Esther as the queen but verse 6 just says, “Esther.” Why? Do you think there is any important reason?
- f. Does this story tell us any theological or spiritual lesson?
- g. Reading this chapter, does Esther remind you of anyone in the bible?

### 4. Closing Prayer