

LGBTQ+ lecture in English (Japanese interpretation) Christians Face the Bible

Participation is possible at the venue or on-line (Zoom)

Lecturer: Bernadette J. Brooten, Ph.D., Dr. Theol. (h.c.)
Interpreter: Sayuri Watanabe (Rev)

LGBTQ+ Christians find hope, comfort, and spiritual sustenance in the Bible. How painful then when other Christians want to deny these Christians a home in the Church on the basis of the Bible. I invite you to read the Scriptures more deeply with me. Did God, in creating humans "male and female" (Genesis 1:27), thereby establish a strict boundary between male and female? Did God destroy Sodom and Gomorrah for the sin of homosexuality (Genesis 19)? What ethics underlie the prohibitions of male-male sexual relations, and do thoughtful Christians today wish to continue these ethics (Lev 18:22; 20:13), according to which a boy pressured or forced into sex with an adult man should be executed? What understandings of gender underlie Paul's rejection of sexual relations between females and between males (Romans 1:27), and do Christians today want to see women as passive by nature, who should subordinate themselves to men? Finally, I will introduce some early Christian and ancient Jewish references to women marrying women and propose a number of ways to understand these texts.

Date and Time: Saturday, June 3, 2023 13:30~15:50

Venue/Participation: Kansai Seminar House or Remote Participation (Zoom)

Fee: 1,500 yen for both visiting and remote participation, **500 yen** for students

[Remote participation by bank transfer (see reverse side for bank transfer address)]

Instructors will be on site to speak and participate in the discussion. Participants can attend in one of the following ways:

- ◆ Participants can attend the lecturers' lectures and participate in the discussions **at the Kansai Seminar House.**
- ◆ Remote Participation: Participants can participate via the Internet from any location using a PC or smartphone. Please let us know your e-mail address when you register. After the deadline, a **Zoom** invitation will be sent to your e-mail address.



Bernadette J. Brooten, Ph.D., Dr. Theol., h.c. (Bern),

Robert and Myra Kraft and Jacob Hiatt Professor emerita, Brandeis University, directs the Feminist Sexual Ethics Project (<https://www.brandeis.edu/projects/fse/>). She researches enslaved and slaveholding women in early Christianity, female homoerotic desire, and texts on female-female marriage in the Roman world. Publications include: *Women Leaders in the Ancient Synagogue: Inscriptional Evidence and Background Issues* (1982; 2020); *Love Between Women: Early Christian Responses to Female Homoeroticism* (1996; 2020); and, with Jacqueline L. Hazelton, editor: *Beyond Slavery: Overcoming Its Religious and Sexual Legacies* (2010). Fellowships include: MacArthur, Fulbright, Harvard Law School, and Israel Institute for Advanced Studies.

Please apply by Fax (reverse side), phone, e-mail, or web form by Wednesday, May 31

