

Session 4C: Apocalyptic Novels

Mark Stover: Fictional Jews at the End of Time: Conversion Narratives and Jewish Suffering in Evangelical Apocalyptic Novels

This paper analyzes contemporary evangelical apocalyptic fiction with respect to the portrayal of Jews and Judaism. It examines thirty-eight novels published in the United States between 1991 and 2008. The author concludes that these novels, which include themes of Christian triumphalism, conversion to Christianity, and horrific Jewish suffering in the final days of mankind on earth, are consistent with the theological principles of evangelical premillennial dispensationalism in that Jews are seen as apocalyptic agents both in suffering as well as in conversion. A list of the novels examined is appended.

Mark Stover, MLS, Ph.D., is Interim Associate Dean at San Diego State University library and a teacher in Information Access. Mark was the 2007 recipient of the American Psychological Association Excellence in Librarianship Award, and the 2006 recipient of the San Diego State University Alumni Association Outstanding Faculty Contribution Award. He was editor of *Behavioral and Social Sciences Librarian* from 2000-2006, and is currently editor of *the Journal of Religious and Theological Information*. He has written many articles in a variety of journals. He has written one book on management (*Leading the Wired Organization: The Information Professional's Guide to Managing Technological Change*), and edited another book on technology and religious studies (*Theological Librarians and the Internet: Implications for Practice*).