

Abstract

This diploma thesis “Isaiah 49 as seen by Rhetorical Criticism: Between Doubts and Radical Hope” adopts the method of rhetorical criticism and applies it on a chosen biblical text from the 49th chapter of Isaiah. Rhetorical criticism is an exegetical method which, provided that the form of the text firmly relates to its content, tries by an attentive studying of the linguistic structures of the text to better understand the intended meaning of the author. This studying is of a synchronic character and uses structural and literary tools. It also pays attention to elements of persuasion. In the first chapter of this thesis, rhetorical criticism is introduced as well as its emergence in the second half of the 20th century and its subsequent development is described. In the second chapter, the method of this thesis is specified. It is then used in the third chapter, which is the core of the thesis, to interpret the chosen biblical text. The utilization of the method of rhetorical criticism is then evaluated in the final fourth chapter.