

Louise A. Gosbell

»The Poor, the Crippled, the Blind, and the Lame«

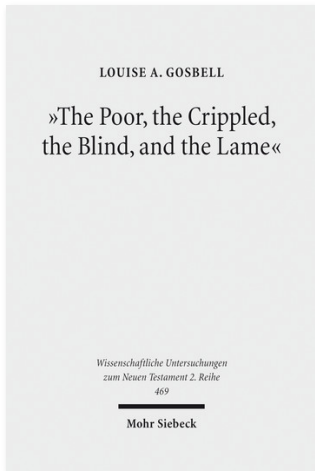
Physical and Sensory Disability in the Gospels of the New Testament

[»Die Armen, die Krüppel, die Blinden und die Lahmen«. Körperliche und sensorische Behinderung in den Evangelien des Neuen Testaments.]

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The New Testament gospels feature numerous social exchanges between Jesus and people with various physical and sensory disabilities. Despite this, traditional biblical scholarship has not seen these people as agents in their own right but existing only to highlight the actions of Jesus as a miracle worker. In this study, Louise A. Gosbell uses disability as a lens through which to explore a number of these passages anew. Using the cultural model of disability as the theoretical basis, she explores the way that the gospel writers, as with other writers of the ancient world, used the language of disability as a means of understanding, organising, and interpreting the experiences of humanity. Her investigation highlights the ways in which the gospel writers reinforce and reflect, as well as subvert, culturally-driven constructions of disability in the ancient world.

Louise A. Gosbell Born 1976; 2001 BTh; 2005 MTh (Hons); 2016 PhD in Ancient History; currently a Senior Research Fellow at Anglican Deaconess Ministries, Sydney and Lecturer in Biblical Studies at Mary Andrews College, Sydney.



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