

Soeng Yu Li

Paul's Teaching on the Pneumatika in 1 Corinthians 12-14

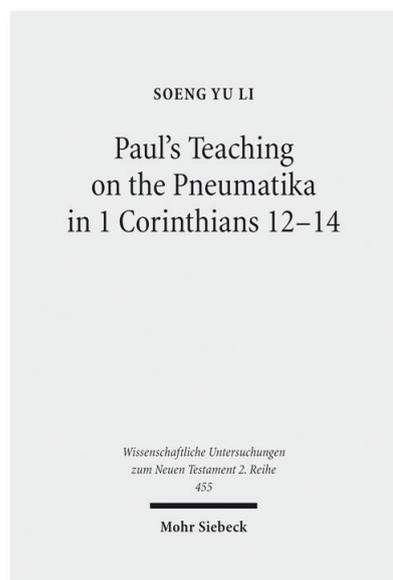
Prophecy as the Paradigm of *ta Charismata ta Meizona* for the Future-Oriented *Ekklēsia*

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In this study, Soeng Yu Li explores Paul's understanding of the *charismata* in 1 Corinthians 12-14 and why the apostle focuses on the *charisma* of prophecy in 1 Corinthians 14. After demonstrating that the semantic relationship between *charismata* and *pneumatika* is to be understood as meronymy, the author then offers an exegesis of 1 Corinthians 12-14 from a meronymic point of view. In 1 Corinthians 12-14, Paul teaches about the topic *pneumatika*, the things that characterize the life of the *pneumatikoi*. Paul teaches the Corinthians that as *pneumatikoi*, both their behaviour and their practice of their apportioned *charismata* must be characterized by *agapē*. Only in this way can they build up the *ekklēsia* in the here and now towards the promised eschatological future. To illustrate his teaching, Paul uses prophecy as the paradigm of *ta charismata ta meizona* for the gathered *ekklēsia* living in the future-oriented present.

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