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Jena, 22 October 2011

Dear colleague, beloved brother in Christ Dr Rogalsky,

On behalf of the Eastern Europe Liaison Committee of *Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas* I congratulate you and all participants on the occasion of this years 'St Jerome Readings' on October 28-29. We wish you a successful symposium which certainly will contribute to further enhancement of biblical studies in Belarus.

It is now more than a year since we met in Minsk for the Fifth International East-West Symposium of New Testament Scholars on Gospel Images of Jesus Christ in Church Tradition and Biblical Scholarship. All participants in this remarkable event have assured me that this conference was an important experience for them by which the exchange of scholarly ideas and positions was strengthened in an ecumenical spirit and in an atmosphere of mutual respect and shared interest in a better understanding of Holy Scripture.

We are confident that your symposium on Holy Scripture this year will also contribute in a similar way to a deeper and better understanding of the Bible for theologians as well as for the church and the people of God as a whole. It should be our shared efforts as Christians from different churches and traditions to come together and study the Bible and to look there for truth, life and enlightenment in Jesus Christ.

I ask you cordially to give my kindest regards to all participants of the symposium as well as to the authorities of your church and university, in particular to the Metropolitan Philaret of Minsk and Slutsk. We remember well his support and kindness for our symposium last year.

With love in Christ, yours, sincerely

Prof. Dr. Karl-Wilhelm Niebuhr