

SPECIAL SECTION ON DISCOURSE ANALYSIS AND THE GREEK
NEW TESTAMENT

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Biblical and Ancient Greek Linguistics has on occasion published papers unified by a common theme or publication. This section of this volume of the journal provides such a collection of papers. The following three papers all focus upon discourse analysis and the Greek New Testament. These three papers were originally presented as part of an invited section at the Evangelical Theological Society annual meeting on November 20–22, 2024, in the New Testament Greek Language and Exegesis section. The occasion for this invited section was publication of a volume on discourse analysis, co-authored by Stanley E. Porter and Matthew Brook O'Donnell, *Discourse Analysis and the Greek New Testament: Text-Generating Resources* (Library of New Testament Greek 2; London: T&T Clark, 2024). The session included the three papers including the first by Stanley E. Porter, representing the authors of the selected volume, and then two responses by James D. Dvorak and David L. Mathewson. At the conference, before the session was opened to questions, Porter offered an extemporaneous rejoinder to the two responses, which, however, is not included here in the journal.

These papers offer an invitation to and exploration of discourse analysis of the Greek New Testament, as prompted by Porter and O'Donnell's volume. It may come as a surprise, at least to readers of this journal, that such an invitation and introduction is necessary in such a venue, especially since discourse analysis has been in use within linguistics, and even within New Testament Greek studies, for a significant amount of time. However, it may also come as a surprise for some readers to confront some of the issues that are raised by discourse analysis, since its progress has been

relatively slow within New Testament studies. There have been several areas where discourse analysis has become quite popular within Greek studies, but it seems still to be the case that progress in this area has been incremental rather than propulsive. As a result, it was thought appropriate to use the publication of Porter and O'Donnell's major and thorough volume as an occasion to re-introduce the topic of discourse analysis and to test it through the considered responses of other New Testament Greek scholars. These papers represent those efforts.

The papers presented here have had minimal revision from the original forms in which they were written, although all of them had to be abbreviated for the occasion when they were delivered due to the limitations of time at the conference.