Within the book of Job, the interlocutors (Job, the friends, and Yahweh) seem to largely ignore one another's arguments. This observation leads some to propose that the dialogue lacks conceptual coherence. Hawley argues that Job, the friends, and Yahweh attempt to persuade their counterparts through the employment of metaphor. Beyond explaining the individual metaphors in particular texts, he shows how speech and animal metaphors compete with one another throughout the dialogue. Hawley comes to the conclusion that the coherence of the Joban dialogue is apparent in the competing metaphors throughout the discourse.

The Author

Dr. Lance R. Hawley is Assistant Professor at Harding School of Theology in Memphis, Tennessee, USA.