

*SNSF MARK16 second international conference – 2-3 June 2022, online
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**The shorter ending of Mark in Ethiopic:
prolegomena to a new critical edition**

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Abstract

The Ge‘ez (or Classical Ethiopic) version is a noteworthy witness to the shorter ending of the *Gospel of Mark*. It is all the more striking that the shorter ending is usually transmitted in the oldest Ge‘ez manuscripts, dating back to the 13th century. Though the shorter ending was formerly edited by M. Metzger (1980) and R. Zuurmond (1989), the recent discovery of new manuscripts containing the shorter ending urgently calls for a new edition and translation. This paper will aim at presenting the manuscript evidence and the methodological foundations underlying a new critical edition of the shorter ending of *Mark*. Furthermore, we will attempt to account for the origin of the shorter ending in the Ethiopic tradition, particularly by shedding light on the relationships between the Ge‘ez text with the other ancient versions (Greek, Latin, Syriac and Coptic) of the shorter ending.