PACIFIC COAST THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Presents A Free Public Lecture

By Prof. Ted Peters

THE WOLVES OF JACK LONDON:
DARWIN, SIN,
...AND HUMAN NATURE

One century ago Jack London was California's most famous author. Having grown up on the swarthy wharfs of Oakland, impoverished young Jack learned the hard lessons of street survival and the struggle for economic justice. He taught himself to read. He read Charles Darwin and Herbert Spencer, among others. And he interpreted the violence of the Alaskan gold rush—animal violence and human violence—as a return to an earlier stage of evolution. His popular novel about a California dog that goes to Alaska and becomes a wolf, Call of the Wild, was read for decades by school children in the English, Chinese, and Russian languages.

Ted Peters will take us on a tour through the London wolf trilogy—Call of the Wild, White Fang, and The Sea Wolf—stopping to view the wolf nature within human nature, the Darwinian take on sin, and the exasperating hope for human transformation.

Friday, November 5 at 7:30 p.m.
Tucson Room at Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSP)
2451 Ridge Road Berkeley, CA

TED PETERS is Professor of Systematic Theology at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, USA. He co-edits the journal, Theology and Science, published by Routledge for the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences. He is author of GOD—The World’s Future (Fortress, rev.ed., 2000); Science, Theology and Ethics (Ashgate 2003); The Evolution of Terrestrial and Extraterrestrial Life (Pandora 2008); and Anticipating Omega (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht 2008). He is co-author of Theological and Scientific Commentary on Darwin’s Origin of Species (Abingdon 2009). He has been a member of the Pacific Coast Theological Society since 1978.