

Ronald R. Cox
Associate Professor

Religion Division
Seaver College
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2005 University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana.
Major Area: New Testament and Christian Origins.
Minor Areas: Hebrew Bible, Systematic Theology.

M.Div. 1996 Pepperdine University, Malibu, California.

B.S. 1991 California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California.
Major Area: Business Administration/Accounting. Cum Laude.

TEACHING

Academic Appointments

2009– Associate Professor, Religion Division, Seaver College, Pepperdine University.
Tenure received, August 1, 2011.
Courses include: History and Religion of Early Christianity, Christianity and Culture, Introduction to Biblical Interpretation, Pauline Writings II, Hebrews and the General Epistles, Johannine Literature, Beginning and Intermediate Greek, and Christian History and Theology I: Ancient and Medieval, World of the New Testament, Keck Research Seminar (First Year Seminar entitled “Money, Power and the Holy Land”).

2009-2010 Visiting Professor, Pepperdine University International Program, Florence, Italy

2007 Visiting Professor, Institute for Theology and Christian Ministry, St. Petersburg, Russia (August).

2005–2009 Assistant Professor, Religion Division, Seaver College, Pepperdine University.

2001–2005 Assistant Professor, Department of Bible and Religion, Rochester College.
Courses Included: Discovering the New Testament, The Book of Acts, Romans, Pauline Epistles I & II, Gospel of Mark, Greek (Elementary to Advanced), Psalms, Freshman Seminar, and Theology and Narrative in the Stories of C. S. Lewis.

2000 Visiting Instructor, Rochester College.

1993–1997 Adjunct Instructor, Religion and Humanities Divisions, Pepperdine University.

Academic & Teaching Honors

2013–2018 Blanche E. Seaver Professor of Religion

2013 Academic Year Undergraduate Research Initiative Grant, “Negotiating Conquest: The Currency of Islam in the Holy Land,” with Ms. Anna Tiner

2013 Awarded grant for Reflectance Transformation Imaging training, USC’s West Semitic Research Project (June)

2013 Summer Undergraduate Research Project, “Loyalist Coins during the First Jewish Rebellion,” with Mr. Eric Kim

2013 Green Scholars Initiative Papyrology Conference GSI Travel Grant, Baylor, Texas, February

2013 Academic Year Undergraduate Research Initiative Grant, “Wyman (0220) Fragment”, with Mr. Vincent Quach, Ms. Natalie Lewis and Dr. Randall Chesnutt

2012 Seaver Dean Research Grant, “Wyman (0220) Fragment”

2012 Sabbatical Leave, Spring Semester

2011 Glazer Institute for Jewish Studies Research Grant

2007–2008 Lela Armstrong Fellow in Religion.

2007–2008 Seaver Research Council Grant, “Proposal for work toward a translation of Philo’s *Who is the Heir?*” [Series Editor changed treatise to “On the Confusion of Languages”]

2006–2007 Seaver Fellow in Religion.

2004 “Most Influential Faculty Member,” awarded by Rochester College Student Body.

1997, 1998 *Christian Scholarship Foundation* Fellowship Awards.

COMPETENCIES

General New Testament, Early Church History, Hebrew Bible, Second Temple Judaism, Systematic Theology.

Research Greek-Speaking Jewish Influences on Early Christology, The writings and world of Philo of Alexandria, Socio-Religious Context of the Letter to the Colossians, Origins and Nature of Sethian Gnosticism, Patristic Exegesis of the Psalms.

Languages Koine Greek, Biblical and Rabbinical Hebrew, Imperial Aramaic, Sahidic Coptic, French, German.

PUBLICATIONS

Research

Books

2007 *By the Same Word: Creation and Salvation in Hellenistic Judaism and Early Christianity* (BZNW 145; Walter de Gruyter)

In process Translation, Introduction and Commentary, “On the Confusion of Languages” by Philo of Alexandria for, *The Philo of Alexandria Commentary Series* (edited by Gregory Sterling; Leiden: Brill and Atlanta: SBL)

In process *Christ in You: Colossians and the Life Lived from Above* (monograph)

Articles, Essays & Encyclopedia Entries

2012 “Creation and Cosmogony” in Second Temple and Hellenistic Judaism, an invited dictionary article in *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception* (Verlag de Gruyter, 2012)

2011 “Traveling the Royal Road: The Soteriology of Philo of Alexandria,” an invited chapter in *This World and the World to Come: Soteriology in Early Judaism*, edited by Daniel Gurtner (Library of Second Temple Studies; T&T Clark, 2011).

In press “‘A Sharp Pen vs. Fragrant Myrrh’: Comparing and Contrasting the Commentaries of Cyril of Alexandria and Theodore of Mopsuestia on Psalm 45” in *The Harp of Prophecy: Early Christian Exegesis of the Psalms*, edited by Brian Daley (University of Notre Dame Press, 2014; completed and forthcoming).

In press “Philo of Alexandria: *On the Decalogue*”
“Philo of Alexandria: *Life of Moses*,”
invited chapters in *Early Jewish Literature: An Introduction and Reader*, edited by Archie Wright (Eerdmans, forthcoming)

In Process “New Testament Canon and Text,” a chapter being co-authored with Randall Chesnutt for *The Bible in Archaeology and History. Volume 2: New Testament, Judaism, and Early Christianity* (edited by Ed Wright et al.; Waco, Texas: Baylor University Press)

General

2013 “Why it All Matters: Appreciating the Universal Scope of Colossians 1:15–20,” *Leaven: A Journal for Christian Ministry* 21.3.

2012 “Listening for the Apocalypse: Romans 8:18–30,” *Leaven: A Journal for Christian Ministry* 20.4.

2007 Guest editor of “Colossians” edition of *Leaven: A Journal for Ministry* 15.2 and contributor, “Christ, The Creation and You,” *Leaven* 15.4.

2005 “The New Testament Preaches the Psalms: Problems and Possibilities” in *Performing the Psalms: And the World Imagined in Scripture*, edited by D. Fleer and D. Bland (Chalice Press, 2005).

2003 “The Bible in the Hands of an Angry God: A Sermon on Hebrews 4:12–13” in *Preaching Hebrews*, edited by D. Fleer and D. Bland (ACU Press, 2003).

Book Reviews

2013 A. Geljon and D. Runia, *Philo of Alexandria: On Cultivation: Introduction, Translation and Commentary* (Philo of Alexandria Commentary Series 4; Brill, 2012), completed and submitted to *The Studia Philonica Annual*.

2013 R. MacSwain and M. Ward, editors. *The Cambridge Companion to C. S. Lewis* (Cambridge, 2010), completed and submitted to *Restoration Quarterly*.

2013 Sean M. McDonough, *Christ as Creator: Origins of a New Testament Doctrine* (Oxford, 2009), invited review, in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 75 (2013).

2010 James Thompson, *Hebrews: Paideia Commentary on the New Testament* (Baker, 2008), in *Restoration Quarterly* 52 (2010).

2009 Mark W. Hamilton, ed., *The Transforming Word: A One-Volume Commentary on the Bible* (ACU Press, 2009), in *Restoration Quarterly* 51 (2009).

2009 Birger A. Pearson, *Ancient Gnosticism: Traditions and Literature* (Fortress, 2009), in *Studia Philonica Annual* 21 (2009).

2009 Eric F. Mason, 'You are a Priest Forever': Second Temple Jewish Messianism and the Priestly Christology of the Epistle to the Hebrews (Studies on the Text of the Desert of Judah 74; Brill, 2008), in *Studia Philonica Annual* 21 (2009)

2008 Harry Alan Hahne, *The Corruption and Redemption of Creation: Nature in Romans 8:19–22 and Jewish Apocalyptic Literature* (T & T Clark, 2006), completed and forthcoming in *Religious Studies Review*.

2008 Richard Hill and Lyle Smith, *Teaching C. S. Lewis: A Handbook for Professors, Church Leaders, and Lewis Enthusiasts* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2007), in *Christianity and Literature* 58 (2009)

2007 Bibleworks 7.0 (2005), in *Studia Philonica Annual* 19 (2007).

2006 Gerard Luttikhuizen, *Gnostic Revisions of Genesis Stories and Early Jesus Traditions* (Brill, 2005) in *Studia Philonica Annual* 18 (2006).

PRESENTATIONS

Research

2013 “Report on Wyman Fragment,” with Dr. Randall Chesnutt, GSI Papyrology Conference, Baylor, Texas, February.

2012 Respondent to Thomas Tobin’s translation, commentary and analysis of Philo of Alexandria’s Allegorical Interpretation. Invited paper for the Philo of Alexandria Group for the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, Illinois, November.

2011 “‘Children of His Invisible Image’: Translation, commentary and analysis of sections 134-149 of Philo’s *On the Confusion of Languages.*” Paper and panel topic in the Philo of Alexandria Group for the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Francisco, California, November.

2011 “Wisdom Christology? Why Jesus’ Role as Creator should give us Pause About a Well-Worn Assumption.” Paper presented at the annual Christian Scholars Conference, Malibu, California, June.

2011 “Shaking Heaven: Between Eschatology and Ontology in James Thompson’s *Hebrews.*” Paper presented at the annual Christian Scholars Conference, Malibu, California, June.

2009 “‘Interpreting Babel’: From Earth to Heaven in Philo’s *On the Confusion of Languages*.” Paper presented at the annual Christian Scholars Conference, Nashville, Tennessee, June.

2008 “Hebrews 5:11-6:12 as ‘Frank Criticism’ (*παρρησία*).” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, Massachusetts, November.

2007 “‘The Mystery Now Revealed’: Lohse’s *Colossians and Philemon* as the First Word on *Hermeneia*.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, California, November.

2007 “Salvation as the Reparation of Creation: The Roles of the Divine Intermediary in NT Christology.” Paper presented to the *Person and Society Seminar*, Pepperdine University, Malibu, Calif., April.

1999 “Philo’s *Life of Moses*: Reading Torah Biographically.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Orlando, Florida, November.

1999 “‘A Sharp Pen vs. Fragrant Myrrh’: Comparing and Contrasting the Commentaries of Cyril of Alexandria and Theodore of Mopsuestia on Psalm 45.” Paper presented at *The Harp of Prophecy: Early Christian Exegesis of the Psalms* Conference, Notre Dame, Indiana, April.

1997 “The History of the Churches of Christ ‘Put Another Way’: The Historiography of Richard Hughes in the Light of Alasdair MacIntyre.” Paper presented to Restoration Theological Research Forum, San Francisco, California, November.

General

2013 “The End in Graphic Terms: What Comic Books Get Right (and Wrong) about the Apocalypse,” Lecture to be presented at the 70th Annual Bible Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, May.

2012 “Entering the Dance: High Christology and Daily Life in the Letter to the Colossians,” a Sabbatical Report for Seaver College, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, October.

2012 “The King James Bible in North America Churches Today,” Lecture presented as part of the *Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible* exhibition at Payson Library, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, September.

2010 “Women of Bethlehem: Lives of Women in 1st Century Palestine,” Lecture presented to Westminster Presbyterian Women’s Study Group, Westlake Village, California, December.

2009 “The Lord of Creation: The Hymn to Christ in Colossians 1:15-20,” Three lectures presented at the 66th Annual Bible Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, May.

2007 “Paul’s Letter to the Colossians.” Addresses made to the Boise State and Oregon State Campus Ministry Retreat, Yamhill, Oregon, October.

2007 “‘From God to God’: Pursuing Divine Love.” Addresses made to the Rochester College student assembly, Rochester Hills, Michigan, March.

2006 “The Church and the Nations,” Panel Presentation at the 89th Annual Bible Lectureship, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, Texas, September.

2006 “Do You Have the Anointing? Learning “What is True and Is Not A Lie” in 1 John 2:27,” Lecture Presented at the 63rd Annual Bible Lectureship, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, May.

2006 “Let the Word of Christ Dwell in You Richly: Preaching Colossians.” Seminar presented for the Cascade College Expositors’ Seminar, Portland, Oregon, January.

2005 “Through Him and To Him: Jesus as Savior and Creator in Colossians 1:15–20.” Lectures presented at the 87th Annual Bible Lectureship, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, Texas, February.

2004 “The New Testament Preaches the Psalms: Problems and Possibilities.” Paper presented at the 7th Annual Rochester College Sermon Seminar, Rochester Hills, Michigan, May.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Service to the College

2013– Seaver Faculty Association President-Elect

2013 Moderator, Seaver Undergraduate Research Presentations session, April.

2012 Participant, Theology and Science Seminar, Seaver College, July.

2011–13 Member, Ad-hoc Faculty-Administration Working Group

2010–11, 12–13 Member, Faculty Executive Committee, Seaver College

2010 Presenter, “Becoming Flesh: Taking Jesus into a World that is not Our Own,” International Awareness Week Convocation, November.

2009–10 Visiting Faculty (Family), Pepperdine International Programs, Florence, Italy

2009 Co-facilitator (with Prof. Cynthia Colburn), “Christ in Art” Faith and Learning Faculty and Staff Seminar

2008 Facilitator, Club Convocation series, Seaver College

2008 Co-facilitator (with Prof. Cynthia Colburn), “Christ in Art” Faith and Learning Faculty and Staff Seminar

2007 Presenter, “Biblical Perspective on Pre-Marital Sex,” Relationship IQ Project’s Convocation Series, October.

2007 Presenter, “Biblical Perspective on Pre-Marital Sex,” Moral Compass Convocation Series, March.

2006 Facilitator, Club Convocation series, Seaver College.

2006–09, 10–11 Member, Academic Integrity Committee, Seaver College

2006–08 Member, Electronic Resources Advisory Council, Payson Library, Seaver College

2003–2005 Chairman, Freshman Seminar Coordination Committee, Rochester College.

2002– Advisor to Religion Majors.

Service to the Profession

2013– Co-Chair, Philo of Alexandria Group, Society of Biblical Literature.

2007–2013 Member, Steering Committee, Philo of Alexandria Group, Society of Biblical Literature.

2006– Book Review Editor, *Studia Philonica Annual* (volumes 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24)

1994– Member, Society of Biblical Literature

Service to the Church

2006– Member, Bible Class teacher, Auxiliary Preacher, and (since 2011) Associate Minister (part-time), Culver Palms Church of Christ, Los Angeles, California.

2004–2005 Leadership Team, Word of Life Community Church of Christ, Metamora, Michigan.

2000 Interim Preaching Minister, Warsaw Church of Christ, Warsaw, Indiana.

1994– Preaching, teaching, and officiating for baptisms, weddings and funerals in Sierra Madre, Calif.; Warsaw, Ind.; Lagrange, Ind.; South Bend, Ind.; Dowagiac, Mich.; Clawson, Mich.; Rochester Hills, Mich.; East Lansing, Mich.; Metamora, Mich.; Culver City, Calif.; Whittier, Calif.; Camarillo, Calif.; Exeter, Calif.; San Diego, Calif.; Santa Paula, Calif.; Fullerton, Calif.; Malibu, Calif.; Traverse City, Mich.; Berkeley, Calif.; and San Luis Obispo, Calif.; Phoenix, Ariz.