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Education

Ph.D., Biblical Studies, Specializing in Old Testament, The Catholic University of America,
January 2014

Dissertation: *Washing Away Sin: An Old Testament Metaphor and Its Influence*

Abstract: This dissertation addresses the metaphorical concept of washing away sin in the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (Isaiah 1; 4; Jeremiah 2; 4; and Psalm 51). Although ritual purification washing occurs in the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, nowhere within that corpus is washing presented as an actual solution to sin. This study applies the Conceptual Metaphor Theory of G. Lakoff and M. Johnson to this metaphorical concept and traces its trajectory and development within the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and beyond. By acknowledging that metaphor is more than just a linguistic construction and is conceptual, with the potential to influence thought and practice, this study evaluates the influence of the biblical metaphor on subsequent religious practices, such as ritual washing in the Dead Sea Scrolls and ritual baptism in the New Testament, wherein washing with water is understood as an actual solution to sin. What was metaphorical thus becomes a real and viable religious practice in subsequent communities.

M.A., Biblical Studies, Biblical Interpretation, Regent University, August 2009

B.S., Biology, The Ohio State University, June 2005

Employment and Teaching Experience

Visiting Affiliate Assistant Professor of Theology, Loyola University Maryland, 2014-Present

Courses: Introduction to Theology
Images of God in Scripture
Food, Hunger, and the Bible
The Psalms (Seminar)
Biblical Hebrew I

Lecturer, The Catholic University of America, May 2014

Courses: Introduction to the Old Testament

Teaching Fellow, The Catholic University of America, 2012-2014

Courses: Faith Seeking Understanding
Women in the Bible

Teaching Assistant, The Catholic University of America, 2011-2012

Courses: Biblical Archaeology
Introduction to Old Testament
Christian Liturgy, Prayer and Sacraments

Library Assistant, The Catholic University of America, December 2009-2014

Research Specialist, University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine, 2005-2006

Publications

Washing Away Sin: An Analysis of the Metaphor in the Hebrew Bible and Its Influence. Biblical Tools and Studies 23. Peeters Publishers. Forthcoming 2016.

“‘He Will Cast Their Sins into the Depths of the Sea...’ Exodus Allusions and the Personification of Sin in Micah 7:7-20.” *Vetus Testamentum*. Forthcoming 2016.

“Identifying Inner-Biblical Allusion through Metaphor: Washing Away Sin in Psalm 51.” *Vetus Testamentum* 65 (2015): 542-57.

“Women in the Bible, Critical Issues Regarding.” *Lexham Bible Dictionary*.

“Repentance.” *Lexham Theological Wordbook*.

“Sacrifice.” *Lexham Theological Wordbook*.

“Guilt.” *Lexham Theological Wordbook*.

Makoto Funaki, Lesley DiFransico, and Paul Janmey, “PI 4,5-P2 stimulates glucose transport activity of GLUT4 in the plasma membrane of 3T3-L1 adipocytes.” *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta*. 1763 (Aug 2006), 889-99.

Works in Progress

“‘Hide your face!’: Desire for God’s Averted Gaze and the Creative Reinterpretation of a Conventional Biblical Metaphor.” Paper to be presented at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (San Antonio, 2016).

“The Metaphorical Removal of Sin in the Hebrew Bible.” Paper to be presented at the Catholic Biblical Association Annual Meeting (Santa Clara, California; August 2016)

“Distinguishing Emotions of Guilt and Shame in Psalm 51.” Journal Article under Review.

Metaphor and Emotional Expression of Sin/Guilt and Redemption in the Psalms. Work in Progress.

Presentations

“Physical Distancing or Removal of Sin: Spatial Metaphors of Redemption in the Hebrew Bible,” paper presented at the Society of Biblical Literature Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting (New Brunswick, New Jersey; 2016)

“‘He will cast our sins into the depths of the sea...’ Exodus Allusions and the Personification of Sin in Micah 7:7-20,” paper presented at the Catholic Biblical Association Baltimore-Washington Regional Meeting (Arlington, Virginia: 2015)

“Identifying Inner-Biblical Allusion through Metaphor: Washing Away Sin in Psalm 51,” paper presented at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (San Diego, 2014)

“Washing Away Sin: Metaphor and Inner-Biblical Allusion in Psalm 51,” paper presented at the Society of Biblical Literature Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting (Newburgh, New York; 2014)

“Sin is a Stain: Conceptual Metaphor in Isaiah and Jeremiah,” paper presented at the Society of Biblical Literature Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting (Baltimore, 2013)

“Metaphors for Sin and Redemption: Ritual Purity Language and the Unique Case of Psalm 51,” paper presented at the Catholic Biblical Association Baltimore-Washington Regional Meeting (Baltimore, 2012)

Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards

Recipient, Center for Humanities Summer Study Grant, Loyola University Maryland, 2016

Recipient, Course Development Grant for “Food, Hunger, and the Bible,” Peace and Justice Studies Program, Loyola University Maryland, 2016.

Mid-Atlantic Nominee for Regional Scholar Award, Society of Biblical Literature, 2014

First Year Experience Teaching Fellowship, The Catholic University of America, 2012-2014

Johannes Quasten Doctoral Scholarship, The Catholic University of America, 2009-2012

Service

Faculty Leader, Jamaican Experience Immersion Program, Campus Ministry, Loyola University Maryland, 2016

Maintenance of Theology Department Website, Loyola University Maryland, 2015-2016

Biblical Studies’ Area Events Coordinator and Representative to the School of Theology and Religious Studies’ Student Association, The Catholic University of America, 2012-2014

Secretary, The School of Theology and Religious Studies’ Student Association, The Catholic University of America, 2012–2013

Professional Memberships

Society of Biblical Literature
Catholic Biblical Association

Research Language Skills

Biblical Hebrew and Greek, Aramaic, Syriac, Modern German, French, Italian and Spanish.

Additional Qualifications or Certificates

Online Teaching Certificate Course: Methods in Distance Education, The Catholic University of America, Summer 2013