

ETHAN C. JONES

EDUCATION AND POSITION

Visiting Scholar

University of Cambridge 2018–2019
Hebrew Studies Department
Sponsor: Dr. Geoffrey Khan (Regius Professor of Hebrew)

Associate Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary 2021–Present

Don and Helen Bryant Chair of Old Testament and Hebrew

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary 2022–Present

Chair of Biblical Studies Division

Scarborough College 2020–2021

Assistant Professor of Old Testament

Scarborough College 2015–2020

Instructor of Old Testament

Scarborough College 2013–2014

PhD

Old Testament Major; Biblical Theology Minor 2016
Dissertation: “Valency of the Niphal and Hithpael:
The Contribution of Valency to Lexicography”
SWBTS
Supervisor: Dr. George Klein (Major)
Supervisor: Dr. Joshua Williams (Minor)

MDiv SWBTS

2011

BA

Mississippi College 2007
Christian Studies and Philosophy Major; Music Minor
Bible Concentration

Additional Studies at Goethe Institute in Göttingen, Germany 2014

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Valency of the Hithpael: The Contribution of Valency to Lexicography in *Arbeiten zu Text und Sprache im Alten Testament* series. St. Ottilien: EOS, 2017.

(Editor) *The Unfolding of Your Words Gives Light: Studies on Biblical Hebrew in Honor of George L. Klein*. University Park, PA: Eisenbrauns / Penn State University Press, 2018.

(Editor) *Poetry in the Hebrew Bible* in *Brill Reader in Biblical Studies*. Brill. In preparation.

Psalms in an Age of Distraction: Experiencing the Restorative Power of Biblical Poetry. Baker Academic, 2024.

*A Spanish translation has been contracted.

Psalms as Poetry: The Language of Prayer and Wonder. Baylor University Press. Forthcoming, 2026.

Reading Narrative: On Recent Studies of Hebrew Language and Linguistics. Fortress Academic. Due October 2024.

Jonah in the Text of the Hebrew Bible series. Sheffield Phoenix Press. Due 2025.

Proverbs in the Kregel Exegetical Library series. Kregel Academic. In preparation. Due 2026.

1.Könige: Biblischer Kommentar in series *Edition C Altes Testament*. SCM Press. In preparation, due fall 2026. [In German]

(Co-Editor with John Cook). *Valency Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. In preparation. Multi-year collaborative project.

Peer Reviewed Articles and Essays

“Direct Reflexivity in Biblical Hebrew: A Note on נִפְעַל.” *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* 129 (2017): 411–26.

“Zeit, Raum und Völker: זֶמַן וּמָקוֹם in Ps 117.” *Biblische Notizen* 178 (2018): 103–10. [In German]

- “Bound Pronominal Objects in Biblical Hebrew: Clarification and Critique.” *Journal of Semitic Studies* 64 (2019): 363–75.
- “The Middle and Passive Voice: Semantic Distinctions of the Niphal in Biblical Hebrew.” *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft* 132 (2020): 427–48.
- “He May Do Harm . . . : A Note on 2 Sam. 12:18.” *The Bible Translator* 71 (2020): 303–19.
- “Hearing the Voice of the Niphal: A Response to Ellen van Wolde” *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 45 (2021): 291–308.
- “Where Pragmatics and Grammar Meet: A Study of Predicate Adjectives in Biblical Hebrew” in *New Perspectives in Hebrew Linguistics and Philology Semitic Languages*, edited by Geoffrey Khan and Aaron Hornkohl. Cambridge Semitic Languages and Cultures. Cambridge: University of Cambridge / Open Books, 2021, 391–430.
- “1 Sam. 2:6: Time and Wayyiqtol in Hannah’s Song.” *Vetus Testamentum* 72 (2022): 26–46.
- “Sound and Meaning in the Hebrew Bible: Exegetical Implications.” *Journal of Northwest Semitic Languages* 47 (2021): 19–36.
- “Forming the Imagination: Reading Psalms with Poets.” *Scottish Journal of Theology* 75 (2022): 329–346.
- “Where the Centaur Walks: Psalms and the Poetic Imagination.” *Irish Theological Quarterly* 88.3 (2023): 270–286.
- “Viewing the Psalms through the Lens of Poetry: Recent Trends in Psalms Study,” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 66.3 (2023): 439–453.
*Invited article
- “A Tender Rebuke: A Note on Ruth 1:11–13.” *Revue Biblique* 131.2 (2024): 290–292.
- “What is Elijah Doing?: On עֲלִיָּהוּ in 1 Kgs 17,21 (Again).” *Revue Biblique* 131.3 (2024) 362–369.
- “A Kingdom Torn: On the Agency of 2 Kgs 17.21.” *Journal of Northwest Semitic Languages*. Forthcoming, 2024.
- “Ambiguity and Poetry: Psalms as Witness,” *Perichoresis*. Special Issue on Psalms. Forthcoming, 2024.
*Invited article.

“A More Polite Suggestion: The Lengthened Imperative in Biblical Hebrew.” J.C.E. Watson et al. (eds.), *Interconnected Traditions: Semitic languages, literatures, cultures*. Cambridge, UK: Open Book Publishers. Forthcoming, 2025.

*Invited essay

“A Short Note on the So-Called Agentive ׀2.” *Hebrew Studies*. Initially accepted and awaiting my corrections.

“From Text to Theory and Theory to Text: *Wayyiqtol* in Recent Scholarship” in *Tense, Aspect, and Modality in Biblical Hebrew: Recent Advances*, edited by Cynthia Miller-Naudé and Jacobus Naudé. University Park, PA: Eisenbrauns. In press.

“Psalms” in *Oxford Handbook of the Divine Attributes in Christian Theology*, edited by Tim Baylor and Tyler Wittman. Oxford University Press. Due 2026.

“Niphal and Hithpael *binyanim* in Biblical Hebrew”. Essays on verbal stems (*binyanim*) in Biblical Hebrew for the revision of *Gesenius’ Syntax (GKC)*, edited and led by Geoffrey Khan. Oxford University Press. Submitted.

“Prayer, (Im)politeness, and Emotion in Psalm 7.” Submitted.

Translator. “The Narrated World and *Wayyiqtol*” by Gregor Geiger, originally published in *Εν πάσῃ γραμματικῇ καὶ σοφίᾳ (En pāsē grammatikē kai sophiā): Saggi di linguistica ebraica in onore di Alviero Niccacci, ofm*, edited by Gregor Geiger. Franciscan Printing Press. 2012. In preparation.

Other

(Translator) “Towards the Function of the Reflexive-Passive Stems in Biblical Hebrew” by Ernst Jenni in *The Unfolding of Your Words Gives Light: Studies on Biblical Hebrew in Honor of George L. Klein*. University Park, PA: Eisenbrauns, 2018.

“More Than Before: Semantics and Syntax of לִפְנֵי.” In *The Unfolding of Your Words Gives Light: Studies on Biblical Hebrew in Honor of George L. Klein*. University Park, PA: Eisenbrauns, 2018.

Testimonial: “Reading Biblical Hebrew and a Life of Slowness” in *The Rewards of Learning Greek and Hebrew*, eds Cathy McDowell and Philip Towner. Hendrickson, 2021.

*Invited contribution

Introduction and Notes for the *New English Translation* Study Bible (Thomas Nelson Bibles)
for 1-2 Kings.

*Invited contribution

Poetry

“Matter(s)” *Theology* 127.4 (2024): 283.

“Sabbath” *Theology* 127.4 (2024): 284.

“Unfilled” *Theology* 127.4 (2024): 284.

“Liebe” *Ekstasis* Winter (2023)

Reviews

D. T. Tsumura. *Vertical Grammar of Parallelism in Biblical Hebrew* (Ancient Israel and Its Literature 47, SBL Press). In *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*. Forthcoming, 2024.

*Invited review

W. Wilson. *Ancient Wisdom* (Eerdmans). In *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*. Forthcoming, 2024.

*Invited Review

T. Muraoka. *Syntax of Qumran Hebrew*. In *Revue de Qumran* (2022).

*Invited Review

Daniel J. Fuller. *A Discourse Analysis of Habakkuk*. *Studia Semitica Neerlandica*. In *Journal for the Evangelical Theological Society* (2020).

*Invited Review

Jan Joosten, Daniel Michiela, and Jean-Sébastien Rey (eds). *The Reconfiguration of Hebrew in the Hellenistic Period: Proceedings of the Seventh International Symposium on the Hebrew of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Ben Sira at Strasbourg University, June 2014*. In *Review of Biblical Literature* (2020).

Marie Turner. *Ecclesiastes, An Earth Bible Commentary: Qoheleth’s Eternal Earth*. In *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* (2018).

*Invited Review

Robert D. Holmstedt and John Screnock. *Esther: A Handbook on the Hebrew Text*. In *Review of Biblical Literature* (2018).

Gordon Wenham. *The Psalter Reclaimed: Praying and Praising with the Psalms*. In *Southwestern Journal of Theology*, 58.1 (2015).

Allen Ross. *A Commentary on the Psalms*, vol. 2. In *Southwestern Journal of Theology*, 58.1 (2015).

Rolf A. Jacobson and Karl Jacobson, *Invitation to the Psalms: A Reader's Guide for Discovery and Engagement*. In *Southwestern Journal of Theology*, 57.2 (2015).

Konrad Schmid, *Jesaja 1-23*. In *Journal for the Evangelical Study of the Old Testament* 3.2 (2014).

Ernst Jenni. *Studien zur Sprachwelt des Alten Testaments III*. In *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 57.1 (2014).

Mark S. Gignilliat, *A Brief History of Old Testament Criticism*. In *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 56.2 (2014).

John A. Cook. *Time and the Biblical Hebrew Verb*. In *Journal for the Evangelical Study of the Old Testament* 2.2 (2013).

James Nogalski. *The Book of the Twelve: Hosea-Jonah*. In *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 56.1 (2013).

Jo Ann Hackett, *A Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. In *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 55.2 (2013).

PAPERS

“The Imaginative World of the Elohist Psalter: Metaphor and Meaning.” Book of Psalms Section. Society of Biblical Literature. To be presented, fall 2024.

“Reading Joy: A Comparative Study of Modern Poetry and Psalms.” Biblical Hebrew Poetry Section. Society of Biblical Literature. To be presented, fall 2024.

“Ambiguity in Narrative: On Method, Theology, and Virtue.” Old Testament Study Group of the Tyndale Fellowship (Cambridge, England). Summer 2024.

- “Ambiguity and Poetry: Psalm 62 as Witness.” Invited as paper in Special Section of Psalms and Hebrew Poetry, *Evangelical Theological Society*. Fall 2023.
- “Jonah, Jesus, and Nicene Christology: Exploring Jonah’s Biblical ‘Pressure.’” Christian Doctrine Study Group of the Tyndale Fellowship (Cambridge, England). Summer 2023.
- “Psalms as Poetry: Recent Trends.” Invited paper in Themed session of Psalms and Hebrew Poetry section, *Evangelical Theological Society*. Fall 2022.
- “A Divine Mockery: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (1 Kgs 18:27–28),” in Early Historical Books Section. Institute for Biblical Research. Fall 2022.
- “A More Polite Suggestion: The Lengthened Imperative in Biblical Hebrew—Revisited,” in Joint Session of Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew & the National Association of Professors of Hebrew. Society of Biblical Literature. Fall 2022.
- “Where the Centaur Walks: Re-Imagining the Psalms as Poetry.” Southeast Regional ASOR/SBL Meeting in session on Between God and Man: Relationships in the Biblical Text. Spring 2022.
- “Integrating Divergent Approaches to Verbal Complementation: Promise or Peril?” Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew Unit. Society of Biblical Literature. Fall 2021.
- “(Im)Politeness and Emotion: Psalm 7 as a Test Case.” Biblical Hebrew Poetry Section. Society of Biblical Literature. Accepted and to be presented Fall 2021.
- “Reading Hebrew Poetry with Poets: The Contributions of Modern Poetry on the Study of Psalms.” Evangelical Theological Society. Fall 2021.
- “Divine Immanence?: The Meaning of Ps. 8.5.” Biblical Hebrew Poetry Section. Society of Biblical Literature. Fall 2020.
- “The Contribution of Linguistics to Biblical Studies.” Keynote Lecture at the North Texas Colloquium on Biblical Studies. Fall 2019.
- “Where Pragmatics and Grammar Meet? A Study of Predicate Adjectives in Biblical Hebrew.” Presented at the International Conference on Semitic Linguistics at the University of Cambridge. Summer 2019.

“Toward a Taxonomy of the Niphal in Biblical Hebrew.” Presented to the Semitic Philology Seminar at the University of Cambridge. Fall 2018.

“The Niphal Anew?: A Critique of a Novel Proposal for the Niphal in Biblical Hebrew.” Presented at the SW Regional Meeting of ETS. Spring 2018.

“Women, Foreigners, and Famine: A Theology of Work in the Book of Ruth.” Presented at the Land Center Lecture Series. Fall 2017.

“Which is the Best Translation? And other Silly Questions.” Presented to Southwestern Society of Biblical Studies. Spring 2017.

“More Than Before: Semantics and Syntax of לִפְנֵי.” Presented at SW Regional Meeting of ETS. Spring 2017.

“Hithpael: Methodological Considerations.” Presented at SW Regional Meeting of ETS. Spring 2014.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Served as Blind Peer Reviewer:
Journal of American Oriental Society
Cambridge Semitic Cultures and Languages series
Journal of Hebrew Scriptures
Vetus Testamentum
Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society
Old Testament Essays

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of Biblical Literature
Evangelical Theological Society
Institute for Biblical Research

National Association of Professors of Hebrew
Tyndale Fellowship (Cambridge, England)

LANGUAGES

Research Languages –
Ancient and Modern Hebrew, Ugaritic, Aramaic, Ancient Greek, Latin, German, French, Spanish

Speaking/Writing Languages –
English and German

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Research Professor of the Year – New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (2022-2023)
Lenaz Grant – awarded for research in Cambridge, England (summer 2023)
Lenaz Grant – awarded for research in Cambridge, England (summer 2022)
Professor of the Year – Scarborough College (2015-2016)

CLASSES TAUGHT

Phd Research Seminars:

Hebrew Language & Texts
Jonah: History, Text, and Interpretation
Psalms: Text, Poetry, and Theology
Biblical Hebrew Poetry

Graduate and Undergraduate Courses:

Biblical Hebrew I, II, III, IV
Exegesis of Amos
Exegesis of Hosea
Exegesis of Psalms
Introduction to the Old Testament I, II, III
Bible Study Methods (Hermeneutics)
The Christian Life

MINISTRY

Preacher/Teacher

Spring 2019

- Teach Introduction to Old Testament to University Students in Zagreb, Croatia
- Preach in local church in Zagreb
- Train Local Pastors in Croatia on how to Preach the Old Testament

Teacher/Speaker for Churches

June 2014–Present

- Teach Scripture to Young Adults at least bi-weekly at Wedgwood Baptist Church
- Training Teachers on how to study and teach the Old Testament
- Teach/preach at churches upon request

College/Young-Adult Pastor

Summer 2010–May 2014

Wedgwood Baptist Church, Fort Worth

- Teach college students, seminary students, and young adults
- Develop a team of teachers
- Train and send missionary teams to Puerto Rico, Cambodia, and North Dakota
- Develop Curriculum with a team for all Sunday School classes
- Preach (fill in for pastor on Sunday nights)

Discipleship Pastor

Fall 2007–Spring 2010

Bear Creek Community Church, Fort Worth

- Teach young and elderly families
- Develop a team of teachers
- Train and send missionary teams to Puerto Rico, Louisiana, and Mississippi
- Develop Curriculum for all Sunday School classes
- Preach (fill in for pastor on Sunday mornings)

Preacher

Summer 2009–Summer 2010

World Changers, Puerto Rico

- Preach (week-long series of messages)

World Changers, New Orleans

- Preach (week-long series of messages)

Missionary

Summer 2004–Summer 2005

North American Mission Board, Grand Canyon

- Teach
- Develop a team of teachers
- Lead worship (Sunday mornings and nights)

North American Mission Board, Las Vegas

- Teach in various church plants

OTHER

Ordained and Licensed, Slayden Baptist Church, Sladyen, MS

Spring 2010

REFERENCES

Geoffrey Khan

Regius Professor of Hebrew
University of Cambridge (England)
gk101@cam.ac.uk

Ernst Jenni

Professor Emeritus of Hebrew and Old Testament
University of Basel (Switzerland)
ernst.jenni@unibas.ch

Ellen van Wolde

Professor of Textual sources of Judaism and Christianity
Chair of Exegesis of the Old Testament
Radboud University (The Netherlands)
e.vanwolde@ftr.ru.nl

Elizabeth Robar

Research Fellow
Tyndale House (Cambridge, England)
elizabeth.robar@tyndalehouse.com

Holger Gzella

Professor and Chair of Old Testament Theology
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (Germany)
holger.gzella@lmu.de

George Klein

Senior Professor of Old Testament
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
gklein@swbts.edu