

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Emma Wasserman

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### Education

Ph.D., Yale University in New Testament; December, 2005; dissertation: “The Death of the Soul in Romans 7: Sin, Death, and the Law in Light of Hellenistic Moral Psychology.”

A.B., Brown University in Religious Studies and Classics: Greek; 1997

### Academic Appointments

2014– Associate Professor of Religion, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ  
2008–2014 Assistant Professor of Religion, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ  
2006–08 Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion, Reed College  
2006 (Spring) Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Brown University  
2005 (Summer) Instructor, Yale Divinity School

### Publications

#### A. Books

*Apocalypse as Holy War: Divine Politics and Polemics in the World of Paul* (Anchor Yale Bible Series; New Haven: Yale University Press, 2018).

*The Death of the Soul in Romans 7: Sin, Death, and the Law in Light of Hellenistic Moral Psychology* (WUNT 2.56; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2008)

#### B. Articles and Book Chapters

“Class Rhetoric in the Study of Paul’s Apocalypticism,” to be published in *The Struggle over Class: Socioeconomic Interpretation of Ancient Jewish and Christian*, ed. G. Anthony Keddie, Michael Flexsenhar III, and Steven J. Friesen (Atlanta, GA: SBL Press, forthcoming 2019).

“Paul and Religion,” entry for *The Oxford Handbook of Pauline Studies* (ed. R. Barry Matlock and Matthew Novenson; Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2019); 20 pages.

“Gentile Gods at the Eschaton: A Reconsideration of Paul’s ‘Principalities and Powers’ in 1 Corinthians 15:23–28,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 136 (2017): 751–770.

“Paul Among the (Ancient) Philosophers: the Case of Romans 7,” in *Paul in Philosophy and Culture* (ed. Ward Blanton, Hent De Vries; Fordham University Press, 2013), 69–83.

“Beyond Apocalyptic Dualism: Ranks of Divinities in *1 Enoch* and Daniel,” in *The One Who Sows Bountifully: Essays in Honors of Stanley K. Stowers*, ed. Caroline Johnson Hodge, Saul M. Olyan, Daniel Ullucci, and Emma Wasserman (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013), 189–199

“Paul Beyond the Judaism/Hellenism Divide? The Case of Pauline Anthropology in Romans 7 and 2 Corinthians 4–5,” in *Christian Origins and Hellenistic Judaism: Social and Literary Contexts for the New Testament*, ed. Stanley E. Porter and Andrew W. Pitts (Leiden: Brill, 2012), 259–279

“‘An Idol is Nothing in the World’ (1 Cor 8:4): The Metaphysical Contradictions of 1 Corinthians 8:1–11:1 in the Context of Jewish Idolatry Polemics,” in *Portraits of Jesus: Essays on Christology, Festschrift for Harold W. Attridge* (ed. Susan Myers; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2012), 201–227

“Paul Among the Philosophers: The Case of Sin in Romans 6–8,” *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 30.4 (2008): 387–415

“The Death of the Soul in Romans 7: Revisiting Paul’s Anthropology in Light of Hellenistic Moral Psychology,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 126.4 (2007): 793–816

### C. Encyclopedia and Other Contributions

“Galatians: Introduction and Annotation,” published in the fifth edition of the *New Oxford Annotated Bible*, Oxford University Press, 2018.

“Paul,” in the *Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*, ed. Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro. Wiley Blackwell (Online, 2018).

### D. Book Reviews

Review of T. Engberg-Pedersen, *Cosmology and Self in the Apostle Paul: The Material Spirit* (Oxford, 2010) in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 77.2 (2015): 368–379

Review of S. Pearce, *The Land of the Body: Studies in Philo’s Representation of Egypt* (Mohr Siebeck, 2007) in *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 43.1 (2012): 121–122

Review of N. Elliott, *The Arrogance of the Nations: Reading Romans in the Shadow of Empire* (Fortress, 2008) in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 72.2 (2010): 371–372

### D. Co-edited Volumes

*Musar to Paideia: Pedagogy in Early Judaism and Early Christianity*, ed. Karina M. Hogan, Matthew Goff, and Emma Wasserman (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2016)

*The One Who Sows Bountifully: Essays in Honors of Stanley K. Stowers*, ed. Caroline Johnson Hodge, Saul M. Olyan, Daniel Ullucci, and Emma Wasserman (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013).

## Honors and Awards

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for the Albright Institute for Archeological Research, 2019–20 (one semester, to be taken Sp. 20).  
DAAD German language scholarship, 2015  
NEH Summer Seminar, “Problems in the Study of Religion,” (held at the University of Virginia), fellow, Summer, 2014  
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, fellow 2011–12

## Papers Delivered

"Early Christianity and Theories of Rationalization" to be read at the Annual Conference of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York City, August, 2019.

"Philosophy and Early Christianity," invited lecture for the series, "Wisdom in the Ancient World," at Pennsylvania State University; April 11, 2019.

"Philosophical Polemics, the Worship of Creation, and Idolatry in the Wisdom of Solomon," read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, Denver, CO, November, 2018.

"Divine Presence and Self-Mastery in the Testament of the 12 Patriarchs," read at the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies meeting, Los Angeles, CA, June 2018.

“Class Rhetoric in the Study of Paul’s Apocalypticism,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, Atlanta, TX, November, 2016

“Myths of Victory” Powers of evil in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Theology,” read at the Italian Centre for Advanced Studies on Religions, Bertinoro, Italy, 2016

“Review of *Paul Within Judaism: Restoring the First-Century Context to the Apostle*, ed. M. Nanos and M. Zetterholm,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, November, 2015

“Gods, Religions, and Divine Exceptionalism: The Case of So-called Idolatry,” read at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Religion (co-sponsored by the Society of Biblical Literature), San Diego, CA, November, 2014.

“The Introspective Conscience of the West? Rethinking Sin and Self in Romans 7,” invited paper read at the Biblical Symposium in the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Florida Southern College, April 1, 2014, Lakeland, FL.

“Myths of Victory: Sin and Apocalyptic Battle in Paul’s Letters,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, Baltimore, November, 2013

“Beyond Christian Ideology: ‘The New Testament’ as Evidence for Ancient Religion,” read at the conference Religious Studies 50 Years After Schempp: History, Institution, Theory, Bloomington, Ind., September, 2013

“Are *Daimonia* Apocalyptic Powers? A Reconsideration of Paul’s Language about Gods in 1 Cor 8–11:1,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2012

“What is Apocalypticism? ‘Cosmic Dualism’ in *1 Enoch*, Daniel 10, and 1 Corinthians 15,” presented to the Boston Patristics Group, February 2012

“Suffering and Victimization in Paul’s Letters,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2011

“Does Christian Apocalyptic Further Progressive Politics? Cosmic Hierarchy, Apocalypticism, and Subjectivity in the Letters of Paul,” read at the Modern Languages Association Annual Meeting, January 2011

“A Reconsideration of ‘Cosmic Dualism’ in *1 Enoch*, Daniel 10, and 1 Corinthians 15,” read at the Columbia University New Testament Seminar, February 2011

“Cosmic Hierarchy and Rebellion in 1 Corinthians 15,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2010

“Evil Everywhere? Demons, Spirits, and Powers in the Letters of Paul,” invited lecture in the Blake Lecture Series, Virginia Commonwealth University, October 2010

“Cosmic Hierarchy in the Apocalypticism of the Apostle Paul,” read at the International Association for the History of Religions Quinquennial World Congress, August 2010

“Does Paul Have a Consistent Anthropology? Appropriation and Synthesis of Philosophical Traditions in Romans 7 and 2 Corinthians 4–5,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2009

“Situating the Subject in Paul’s Letter to the Romans: The Lutheran Interpretation of Paul and its Legacies in Contemporary Thought,” read at the joint meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion and the Society for Psychological Anthropology, March 2009

“What is an Apocalyptic Cosmology? Human and Non-Human Agents in *1 Enoch* and *Jubilees*,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2008

“Demons Yes, Powers No: An Historical Critique of the Notion of Sin as a ‘Power’ in Romans,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2008

“Paul Among the Philosophers: The Case of Sin in Romans 6–8,” read at the International Society of Biblical Literature Meeting, July 2007

“*Akrasia*, *akolasia*, and Self-Contradiction in Romans 7,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2005

“Sin, Death, and the Law in Light of Platonic Moral Psychology,” presented to the Seminar on Culture and Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean, Brown University, October 2005

“The Limits of Law: Written Law in Romans 7,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2003

“Unwritten Law and Custom in Philo’s *Hypothetica*,” read at the New England Regional Society of Biblical Literature Meeting, May 2003

“Paul and the Introspective Manhood of the West: The Inner Man of Romans 2,” read at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference, November 2001

### **Research Interests**

Early Christian literature; the social description of ancient intellectuals; demonology in early Judaism and Christianity; Philo of Alexandria; Jewish wisdom literature; Hellenistic philosophy, especially ethics and cosmology; the Christian appropriation of philosophy.

Theories of religion, especially as applied to the study of early Christian groups and their histories; strong interest in particular types of social theory, especially Emile Durkheim, Max Weber, Anthony Giddens, Pierre Bourdieu, Jonathan Z. Smith, and Theodore Schatzki.

### **Languages:**

Greek; Latin; Biblical Hebrew; Classical Ethiopic (Ge‘ez); Syriac; German; French.

### **Courses Taught**

Religion 101: Gods, Myths, and Religions in a Secular Age  
Origins of Religion: The Axial Age (co-taught, 1 credit seminar)  
Origins of Hell in the Christian West  
Early Christianity/Introduction to the New Testament  
Apocalypse: Christian Movements and the End of Time  
The Origins of Western Morality  
Paul and His Interpreters

### **Service**

#### **A. Service to the University**

Member, Department of Religion curriculum committee, 2013–  
Undergraduate Director, Department of Religion, Fall 2010–Spring 2018  
Faculty Evaluator for School of Graduate Studies Diversity Fellowships, Spring 18–  
Dissertation Committee for Katherine Whitcomb (Classics), 2016.  
Search committee for Assistant Professor in American Religion, 2009 and 2010; in Christian Thought, 2015  
Thesis co-advisor for Christopher Mercurio “New Approaches in the Interpretation of Genesis 4: Cain and Abel,” winner of the Henry Rutgers Scholars award, 2010  
Independent Study on Pauline Christianity with Bethany Januszka, Fall 2009; Nesrullah Calis, Sp. 2017; Fall 18  
Department organizer for Rutgers Day, 2009–10  
Byrne Seminars: Apocalypse Now? Religious Movements and the End of Time, Spring 2010 and Fall 2012; Origins of Religion, co-taught with Tao Jiang (Spring 2016)  
Honors Seminars: The Origins of Western Morality, Fall 2009; Apocalypse Now? Religious Movements and the End of Time, Fall 2010; Origins of Hell in Western Tradition, Spring 2014

Affiliated Faculty, Jewish Studies Department  
Graduate faculty, Classics and Medieval Studies departments

## **B. Service Outside the University**

Editorial board member, *Journal of Biblical Literature*, 2015–

Editorial board member, *Journal For the Study of the Jesus Movement in Its Jewish Setting*,  
2016–

Outside Dissertation Reader, Fuller Theological Seminary, Spring 19

Outside peer-reviewer for Oxford University Press, the Social Sciences and Humanities  
Research Council of Canada; and Rutledge

Society of Biblical Literature Wisdom and Apocalypticism Section, steering committee, 2014–  
and co-chair of steering committee from Fall 18–

Columbia New Testament Seminar, co-chair 2012–

Society of Biblical Literature Pauline Epistles group, planning committee 2008–  
and co-chair of planning committee, 2010–17

Society of Biblical Literature Hellenistic Moral Philosophy and Early Christianity Group,  
steering committee, 2006–2011

Panelist for “Teaching Introduction to the Bible” at the Center for the Study of World Religion,  
Harvard Divinity School, April 2012

Organized an interdisciplinary panel on apocalypticism for the International Association for the  
History of Religions Quinquennial World Congress, August 2010

Panelist for “Success in the Academic Job Market” at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual  
Conference, November 2008

Society of Biblical Literature Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, student  
member, 2004–2005