

JOSEF SYKORA

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A. EDUCATION

2016 **Durham University**, Department of Theology and Religion, Durham, UK

- PhD in the Old Testament
- Thesis: "The Unfavored: Judah and Saul in the Narratives of Genesis and 1 Samuel"

Supervisor: R. Walter L. Moberly

2006 **Asbury Theological Seminary**, Wilmore, KY

- MA in Biblical Studies
- MA in Theological Studies
 - Award for Excellence in Biblical Studies
 - Member of Eta Beta Rho, Hebrew Society
 - Member of Theta Phi, Theological-Philosophical Society (president of Asbury chapter, 2005-2006)

2002 **Schloss Mittersill Study Centre**, Mittersill, Austria

- Diploma in Christian Studies

1997 **Masaryk University**, Brno, Czech Republic

- Master's in Law (MGR)

B. WORK EXPERIENCE

2020-present **Associate Professor of Biblical Interpretation**, Northeastern Seminary, Rochester, NY (tenured May 2020)

2015-2021 **Director, Doctor of Ministry Program**, Northeastern Seminary, Rochester, NY

2015-2020 **Assistant Professor of Biblical Interpretation**, Northeastern Seminary, Rochester, NY

2011-2015 **Senior pastor**, Cirkev bratská, Bratislava, Slovakia

2006-2015 **Missionary, responsible for theological education**, Free Methodist World Missions, Indianapolis, IN

2006-2011 **Associate Pastor**, Cirkev bratská, Bratislava, Slovakia

1997-2001 **Lecturer**, Czech student ministry, Brno, Czech Republic

C. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Biblical Interpretation**
 - Genesis 37–50
 - Numbers (online)
 - Deuteronomy (onsite and online)
 - 1 Samuel
 - Wisdom Literature (online)
 - Isaiah (online)
 - Jeremiah (onsite and online)
 - James
- **Biblical Languages**
 - Hebrew I + II (onsite and online)
 - Greek I (onsite and online)
- **Historical Theology**
 - Relevant theological ideas from the first 1,500 years (onsite and online)
 - Relevant theological ideas from the Reformation era
- **Research and Methodology**
 - Introduction to Qualitative Research
 - Literature Review
 - Foundations in Biblical and Theological Research
 - Advanced Biblical and Theological Research (all: DMin level, online)
- **Custom Classes**
 - The Courage to Be Human (exploring the issue of human vulnerability and limitedness from biblical and pastoral perspectives, co-taught with Mandy Smith; DMin level, hybrid model)

D. RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theological Interpretation of Scripture; Theology of Election; Violence in the Bible

E. PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Unfavored: Judah and Saul in the Narratives of Genesis and 1 Samuel. Siphrut 25. University Park, PA: Eisenbrauns, 2018.

Reviewed by Nicol, George G. *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 43.5 (2019): 154
Cartledge, Tony W. *Review of Biblical Literature* 8/8/2019
Harger, Adam. *Expository Times* 130.10 (2019): 472–473
Curtis, Tony. *Journal of Theological Studies* 71.2 (2020): 814–816
Wénin, André. *Revue théologique de Louvain* 52.2 (2021): 286–87

Book Chapters

“Deuteronomy,” 35,000 words commentary in Constantineanu, Corneliu, ed. *Central and Eastern European Bible Commentary*. Langham Global Library, forthcoming (October 2022).

“David’s Shadow in the Rejection of Saul: A Hermeneutical Thought-Experiment in 1 Samuel 13–15.” *Topics of Theology of the Hebrew Scripture II*. SBL Press, forthcoming.

Articles

“Only Be like the Philistine Priests!: A Comparison of the Philistines’ Offering in 1 Sam 6 and the Sacrificial Actions of Eli’s House in 1 Sam 2–4,” *Vetus Testamentum* 69.4–5 (2019): 702–721.

“Mission that Transforms: Joseph’s Development in Genesis 37–50,” *Canadian Theological Review* 4.2 (2015): 11–18.

Book Reviews

Benjamin D. Giffone, ‘Sit at My Right Hand’: The Chronicler’s Portrait of the Tribe of Benjamin in the Social Context of Yehud, *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 28.1 (2021): 57–59.

John Kaltner and Steven L. McKenzie, Sleuthing the Bible: Clues that Unlock the Mysteries of the Text, *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 27.2 (2020): 255–257.

Isaac Kalimi, Writing and Rewriting the Story of Solomon in Ancient Israel, *AJS Review* 44.1 (2020): 187–189.

L. Daniel Hawk, The Violence of the Biblical God, *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 26.4 (2019): 642–644.

F. PRESENTATIONS

2022 “Where Are My Roots?: Reading Jeremiah 17:5–10 with Karl Rahner.” Virtual EGLBS, March 18.

2021 “Hope for Dogs: The Syrophoenician Woman in Mark 7:24–30 as the Unchosen Who Saves Her Children.” SBL Annual Meeting. The Gospel of Mark unit, San Antonio, November 22.

“Like Fish in an Evil Net: Ecclesiastes 9:11–12 and Coping with Unfavorable Circumstances.” SBL Annual Meeting. The Bible and Practical Theology unit, San Antonio, November 20.

“Like Fish in an Evil Net: Ecclesiastes 9:11–12 and Coping with Unfavorable Circumstances.” Virtual EGLBS, March 18.

- 2020 “A Different Kind of Crusade: Jesus’s Commissioning of His Disciples in Luke 10:1–24 as the Reworking of the Rules for Warfare in Deuteronomy 20:10–14.” Virtual SBL Annual Meeting, The Intertextuality and the Hebrew Bible unit, December 2.
- 2019 “The Sword of God’s Judgment: Romans 13:1–7 and the Song of Moses.” SBL Annual Meeting, The Intertextuality in the New Testament unit. San Diego, November 25.
- “Honoring the God of the Ark: Comparing the Ritual Actions of the Philistines (1 Sam 6) with Those of Eli’s House (1 Sam 2–4).” SBL Annual Meeting, The Books of Samuel unit. San Diego, November 24.
- “Who Bears the Sword?: Romans 13:1–7 and the Song of Moses.” EGLBS. Akron, OH, March 14.
- 2018 “David’s Shadow in Saul’s Rejection: A Hermeneutical Thought-Experiment in 1 Samuel 13–15.” SBL Annual Meeting, The Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures unit. Denver, November 18.
- “Judah’s Rewriting of Israel’s Tradition: The Composition of Genesis 37–50 and the Concept of Election.” Institute for Biblical Research, The Pentateuch unit. Denver, November 16.
- “Only Be like the Philistine Priests! A Comparison of the Philistine Offering in 1 Sam 6 and the Sacrificial Actions of the Elides in 1 Sam 2–4.” EGLBS. Akron, OH, March 16.
- 2017 “David’s Shadow in Saul’s Rejection: A Hermeneutical Thought-Experiment in 1 Samuel 13–15.” EGLBS. Akron, OH, March 17.
- 2016 “The Mission of Joseph, the Character of God: Joseph’s Development in Genesis 37–50.” Participating in God’s Mission Conference. Northeastern Seminary, March 19.
- 2015 “Like King, Like Priest: Eli’s and Saul’s Rejection in 1 Samuel.” Durham Old Testament Seminar. Durham, UK, March 3.

G. SKILLS

Fluent in Czech, Slovak, and English
 Reading knowledge of Hebrew, *Koine* Greek, and German

H. CHURCH AFFILIATION

Ordained in Cirkev bratská, Slovakia
 Ordination transferred to the Free Methodist Church of North America

I. PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

Editorial board of Canadian-American Theological Review since 2019

Member of Canadian-American Theological Association since 2019

Member of Institute for Biblical Research since 2018

Member of Society of Biblical Literature since 2013

J. TRAINING

ATS workshop for mid-career faculty (May 2021)