

# Benjamin Grant White

As of November 2023

## Education

- **Ph.D.** in New Testament; University of Durham; Durham, UK 2019  
*Thesis:* Pain and Paradox in 2 Corinthians: The Transformative Function of Strength in Weakness  
*Supervisors:* John M.G. Barclay (primary) and Dorothea Bertschmann (secondary)  
*Examiners:* Jonathan A. Linebaugh and Francis Watson
- **M.A.** in Theological Studies; Regent College; Vancouver, Canada 2014  
*Comprehensive Exams:* Paul, Greco-Roman History, Luke-Acts  
*Supervisors:* Sven Soderlund and Mariam Kamell Kovalishyn

## Professional Appointments

- **Postdoctoral Fellow;** Harvard Divinity School; Cambridge, USA 2023 - present  
*Supervisor:* Giovanni Bazzana
- **Visiting Fellow;** Yale Divinity School; New Haven, USA 2022, 2023  
*Sponsor:* Miroslav Volf
- **Chair of Religious and Theological Studies;** The King's College, New York, USA 2021 - 2023
- **Visiting Scholar;** Princeton Theological Seminary; Princeton, USA 2021 – 2022
- **Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies;** The King's College; New York, USA 2018 - 2023

## Publications

### Books

- B.G. White, *Pain and Paradox in 2 Corinthians: The Transformative Function of Strength in Weakness*, WUNT II 555 (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2021).  
—Received Review Panel at 2022 British New Testament Conference; St Andrews, UK
- John M.G. Barclay and B.G. White, eds. *The New Testament in Comparison: Validity, Method, and Purpose in Comparing Traditions*, LNTS 600 (London: T&T Clark, 2020).

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- “Interpreting Pauline Paradox: A Response to Gorman’s Cruciformity Concept,” *Horizons in Biblical Theology* 44:2 (2022): 172-194.
- “The Varieties of Pain: Re-examining the Setting and Purpose of 2 Corinthians With Paul’s *λοπι*-Words,” *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* (JSNT) 43:2 (2020): 147-172.

## Book Chapters

- “Pleasing the Outsider (1 Cor. 14.24)? Paul and Barth on the Presence of Christ and the Eschatological Surprise of Difference” in Stanley Porter, ed., *Paul and Politics* (Leiden: Brill, TBA) [Invited]
- “Introduction” (with John Barclay) in *The New Testament in Comparison* (T&T Clark, 2020), 1-8.

## Dictionary Articles

- “2 Corinthians” in *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), eds. Scot McKnight et al. (IVP Academic, 2023).
- “Knowledge and Mind” (with Dru Johnson) in *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), eds. Scot McKnight et al. (IVP Academic, 2023).

## Presentations

- “Flinging Open the Doors of the Church: Pauline ‘Outsider Concern’ and the Quest for a Non-Sectarian Community,” Paul and Politics section at the 2022 Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting in Denver, CO.
- “Does Paul’s ‘Strength in Weakness’ Denigrate his Humanity? Exploring the Transformative Function of the Paradox in 1-2 Corinthians with Martin Luther,” joint session of the Theological Interpretation of Scripture and Pauline Theology sections at the 2022 SBL Annual Meeting in Denver, CO.
- “The Politics of Weakness: Identifying a Pauline Dimension in the Growth of Earliest Christianity,” NT Epistles section at the 2022 Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of SBL (on Zoom).
- “Jesus’s Depression? The Depth of ‘Sorrow’ and the Vindication of Mental Distress in Matthew’s Gethsemane,” NT Epistles section at the 2021 Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of SBL (on Zoom).
- “Does Paul Call Suffering ‘Good’? A Response to Gorman’s Cruciformity Concept,” Paul section at the 2019 ETS Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA.
- “A New Background for 2 Corinthians and the Function of Paul’s Strength in Weakness Paradox,” February 2018 Durham University New Testament Seminar in Durham, UK.
- “The Situational Origin of the Strength in Weakness Paradox: Relational Pain in 2 Corinthians 2:1-7 and the Interpretation of 12:9-10,” 2 Corinthians study group at the 2017 SBL Annual Meeting in Boston, MA.
- “Exploring Pauline Paradox: The Relationship Between Strength and Weakness in 2 Corinthians,” Paul section at the 2017 SBL International Meeting in Berlin, Germany.
- “Paul and the Problem of Pain: The Meaning of *Lup*- Words in 2 Corinthians,” Paul section at 2016 British New Testament Conference in Chester, UK.
- “What does Heidelberg have to do with Corinth? An Appraisal of Martin Luther's Glory/Cross Dichotomy Using 2 Corinthians 4:7-15 as a Case Study” at the 2016 Exploring God's Glory Conference at St. John’s College, Durham University in Durham, UK.
- “An Apologia or Pastoral Epistle? Reflections on Paul's Purpose in 2 Corinthians,” 2016 Durham-York-Manchester Biblical Studies Symposium at Durham University in Durham, UK.

## Selected Book Reviews

- Review of Scot McKnight and B.J. Oropeza, eds., *Perspectives on Paul: Five Views* (Baker Academic, 2020) in *Review of Biblical Literature* (August 20, 2022).

## Articles in Submission

- “Jesus’s ‘Sorrow’? The Severity of λύπη and the Vindication of Mental Distress in Matthew’s Gethsemane” [Submitted to *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* in April 2023].
- “Revelatory, Ontological, or Transformative? Luther’s Reading of 2 Cor. 12.9-10 and the Function of Paul’s Strength in Weakness Paradox” [Submitted to *New Testament Studies* in November 2023].

## Articles in Preparation

- “Pauline Weakness and Resilience Theory: Christ, Faith, and Social Science” (with Nathan H. White) [planned submission to *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* in Winter 2024].
- “The Politics of Weakness: Identifying a Pauline Dimension in the Growth of Earliest Christianity” [planned submission to *Early Christianity* in Spring 2024].

## Book Manuscripts in Preparation

- *Strange Power: Retelling the Story of the First Christians* [Invitation to submit to Baker Academic; plan to submit proposal and sample chapters to Oxford University Press in 2025].

## Other Academic Articles

- “Pursuing God Incarnate: Reflections on Prosperity, Depression, and Jesus’s Humanity,” *Bulletin for Ecclesial Theology*, 7:2 (Dec. 2020).

## Selected Periodical Articles

- “Why the Earliest Christians Pursued a Different Political Power” *RELEVANT Magazine*, July 7, 2020 [Online].
- “Fighting Anxiety with the Old Testament” *Christianity Today*, April 2020 Issue [Print & Online].
- “A Father for the Romans” *Christianity Today*, June 19, 2015 [Online].

## Digital and Print Media Coverage

- Book Review, *Review of Biblical Literature* (2023).
- Book Review, *Theologische Literaturzeitung* (2023).
- Book Review, *Bulletin for Biblical Research* (2023).
- Book Review, *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* (2022).
- Book Review, *Reviews in Biblical and Early Christian Studies* (2022).
- Podcast Interview, *On Biblical Scholarship Podcast* (2021).
- Interview, *Logos Academic Blog* (2021).
- Podcast Interview, *Center for Pastor Theologians Podcast* (2021).
- Podcast Interview, *The Biblical Mind Podcast* (2020).
- Conference Review, *Logos Academic Blog* (2018).

## Teaching Experience

- **The King's College;** New York, NY
  - Introduction to New Testament Literature (twenty times [two sections per semester])
  - Principles of Biblical Interpretation (eight times [typically one section per semester])
  - Christianity and the City (Winter '20, Spring '21, Fall '21, Spring '22, Fall '22, Spring '23)
  - Systematic Theology (Fall '19, Fall '21)
  - Biblical-Theological Exegesis (Winter '19)
- **Cranmer Hall at Durham University;** Durham, UK
  - New Testament Greek I (Fall 2017)
  - New Testament Greek II (Winter 2018)
- **Durham University;** Durham, UK
  - Introduction to the Bible (seminar) (Fall 2016)

## Invited Lectures and Talks

- Invited Paper, Harvard Divinity School 2024
- Invited Lecture, Princeton Theological Seminary 2023
- Invited Paper, Columbia University New Testament Seminar 2023
- Invited Lecture, Westminster Theological Seminary 2022
- Invited Lecture, Cranmer Hall, Durham University 2018

## Honours & Awards

- **Sir Robert Falconer Award;** Canadian Society of Biblical Studies; Kingston, Canada 2023
- **The Sanford and Priscilla Reid Trust's Grant for Theological Education;** Ancaster, Canada 2023
- **Faculty Teaching Award;** The King's College; New York, USA 2023
- **Guest Editor;** *Journal of Theological Interpretation* (Spring 2020 issue) 2020
- **Religions & Theology Studentship Award;** Trinity College Dublin [award declined] 2015
- **Summa cum laude;** Regent College; Vancouver, Canada 2014
- **Dean's Honours List;** University of Waterloo; Waterloo, Canada 2011

## Conference and Other Research Experience

- **'Closing the Gap' Conference Co-organizer;** University of Durham; Durham, UK 2018
- **Research Assistant to Prof. John Barclay;** University of Durham; Durham, UK 2017
- **Research Assistant to Dr. Frances Clemson;** Cranmer Hall, Durham; Durham, UK 2016

## Other Academic Activities

- **Member**, Columbia University New Testament Seminar; New York, NY 2019 – present
- **Participant**, Paul Tillich Reading Group; Harvard Divinity School 2023
- **Master’s Thesis Secondary Reader**, Cranmer Hall, Durham; Durham, UK 2018

## Other Professional Experience

- **Fellow**; The Center for Pastor Theologians; Chicago, USA 2017 - present
- **Pastoral Tutor**, St. John’s College; Durham, UK 2015 - 2018

## Service to Profession

- **Peer Review**, *Evangelical Quarterly* 2023
- **Peer Review**, *Journal for the Study of New Testament* 2022

## University Service

- 12+ reference letters for successful graduate school applications 2019 - 2023
- Middle States Accreditation Renewal Committee 2022 - 2023
- Title IX Designated Confidential Employee 2020 - 2023
- Faculty Advisor for International Justice Mission Campus Chapter 2020 - 2023
- First Year Student Experience Committee 2020 - 2023
- Academic Affairs Committee 2019 - 2020
- Leader for ‘Passages’ Bible/Archaeology Trip to Israel 2019

## Languages

- NT Greek (reading comprehension)
- Ancient Hebrew (reading with dictionary)
- Modern German (reading with dictionary)
- Modern French (reading with dictionary)

## Professional Memberships

- American Academy of Religion
- Society of Biblical Literature
- Institute for Biblical Research
- Canadian Society for Biblical Studies