

Jeremiah Jay Johnston, PhD | Dallas, TX

President, **Christian Thinkers Society**

Associate Pastor of Apologetics and Cultural Engagement, **Prestonwood Baptist Church**

Dean of Spiritual Development, **Prestonwood Christian Academy**

Senior Fellow of Christian Origins, **Dallas Baptist University**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Keywords: Christian Thinker, Author, NT Scholar, Ministry Leader, Media Communicator, Passionate Follower of Jesus, Husband, and Father of Five

Calling: Jeremiah is known for his unique communication skills and infectious love for people in his God-given calling to inspire Christians to become thinkers and thinkers to become Christians. Pastors across numerous denominations have remarked on his ministry's effectiveness in their churches due to his compelling content and fresh presentation, equipping Christians to give intellectually informed accounts of what they believe.

Leadership Influence: Jeremiah is a contributor for Fox News, ministers and speaks internationally (most recent *Unanswered* two-year-tour sponsored by Museum of the Bible), and the President/Founder of Christian Thinkers Society. He was formerly a Resident Institute at Houston Baptist University, where he also served as Associate Professor of Early Christianity and Special Assistant to the President. Jeremiah has been a featured speaker with the Wilberforce Weekend (Colson Center for Christian Worldview) among a host of other national conferences.



Media: Jeremiah has distinguished himself by speaking in churches of all denominations and has authored articles in popular magazines, scholarly books, journals, and media programs. As a Bible scholar who has the unique ability to connect with people of all ages, and as a culture expert, he has been interviewed numerous times and contributed articles across a spectrum of national shows, including Fox News, Fox & Friends, Fox Business Network, CBN News, The 700 Club, NEWSMAX, CBS This Morning, Vanity Fair, RELEVANT magazine and podcast, Decision magazine, The Christian Post, Moody Radio Network (multiple interviews), Salem Radio Network, American Family Radio, and numerous network affiliate television stations, and he has been quoted in *USA Today* and their associated "Faith and Reason" blog. Jeremiah is contracted with Baker Publishing/Bethany House for multiple books. Jeremiah hosted "The Jeremiah Johnston Show" (a nationally syndicated radio program on Faith Radio Network). Jeremiah and Christian Thinkers Society have an email newsletter list with thousands of subscribers. The newsletter is a reliable proactive and reactive source—reactive with respect to new developments, discoveries, and challenges, and proactive in articulating and clarifying important biblical truths and the evidences that confirm them.

Scholarship: As a New Testament scholar, Johnston has published with Oxford University Press, E. J. Brill, Bloomsbury T & T Clark, Macmillan, and Mohr Siebeck. He completed his doctoral residency in Oxford in collaboration with Oxford Centre for Missions Studies and received his PhD from Middlesex University (UK). He also earned advanced degrees in theology from Acadia University (Canada) and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (USA). His 93,000-word PhD thesis on the resurrection of Jesus was published as an academic monograph in 2016.

PRELIMINARIES

Birthdate:	1 August 1981
Married in 2004:	Audrey Lynn Feild, M.Div.
Children:	Lily Faith (2009); Justin (2012); Abel, Ryder and Jaxson (2016)
Telephone:	(c) +1.615.717.7092
Personal Email:	PHDJJJ@gmail.com
Professional Email:	Jeremiah@ChristianThinkers.com
Website:	www.ChristianThinkers.com
Home Address:	2616 Rolling Mdw, Carrollton, TX 75010
Twitter:	@JeremiahJ
Public Facebook Page:	@ChristianThinkersSociety
Instagram:	@JeremiahJ
YouTube:	@ChristianThinkersSociety



DOWNLOADABLE MEDIA KITS AND PRESS CAMPAIGNS

Body of Proof: The 7 Best Reasons to Believe in the Resurrection of Jesus – and Why It Matters Today

Unleashing Peace: Experiencing God's Shalom in Your Pursuit of Happiness

Unanswered: Lasting Truth for Trending Questions International Tour with Jeremiah Johnston

Unimaginable: A World Without Christianity International Tour with Jeremiah Johnston

EDUCATION

PhD – Middlesex University/Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, Oxford (2012)

Awarded with “Commendation”

Thesis: *The Resurrection of Jesus in the Gospel of Peter: A tradition- historical study of the Akhmîm Gospel Fragment.*

Visiting Scholars Program – Yale Divinity School, Yale University, New Haven (2011–2012)
Visiting PhD Research Scholar Program

M.A. (Thesis) – Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia (2012)
earned with “Distinction”

M.Div. – Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City (2009)
Awarded with “Highest Honors”

B.A. – Spurgeon College (formerly Midwestern Baptist College, Kansas City (2006)

Examining MSS – Extensive experience studying manuscripts, papyri, and codices at Oxford University Griffith Papyrology Lab, Beinecke Rare Manuscript Library of Yale University, Magdalen College (Oxford) Old Library, John Rylands Library of Manchester University (2009-present)

CSNTM – Jeremiah experienced training at the Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts by Prof. Daniel B. Wallace in the art of making digital photographs of extant Greek NT MSS for preservation and access by scholars.

FAITH EXPERIENCE

Jeremiah came to personal faith in Jesus Christ in October 1987 at First Baptist Church of Euless, Texas. He was later baptized by immersion at Rehobeth Baptist Church by Dr. Richard Lee in Tucker, Georgia. He responded to the call of ministry on his life at Falls Creek Youth Camp (Oklahoma) in June of 1994. Jeremiah was ordained into the Gospel Ministry in April of 2002 (SBC).

BOOKS

(Authored, Coauthored, and Edited)

1. *Body of Proof: A Study on the Resurrection of Jesus* (Nashville: Lifeway) + video access of Dr. Johnston teaching at the resurrection site of Jesus in Jerusalem; releasing February 2024. Filmed in Israel, September of 2023.
2. *The Peace of God Bible* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson/Harper Collins), forthcoming.
3. *Body of Proof: The 7 Best Reasons to Believe in the Resurrection of Jesus — and Why It Matters Today* (Minneapolis: Bethany House, 2023).
*Best Seller List, #11, June of 2023.
4. *Unleashing Peace: Experiencing God's Shalom in Your Pursuit of Happiness* (Minneapolis: Bethany House, 2021).
5. *Scribes and Their Remains*, editor, with Craig A. Evans (Studies in Scripture in Early Judaism and Christianity 21/LSTS 94; London and New York: Bloomsbury T & T Clark, 2020) xv + 320 pp.
6. *Answers to Tough Questions: Defending What You Believe*, Bible Studies for Life series (Nashville: LifeWay Press, 2019), 78 pp + six video lectures.
7. *"Unimaginable: What Our World Would Be Like Without Christianity"* (Minneapolis: Bethany House, 2018), 238 pp.
8. *The Dark Side*, Bible Studies for Life series (Nashville: LifeWay Press, 2017), 79 pp + six video lectures.
9. *The Resurrection of Jesus in the Gospel of Peter: A Tradition-Historical Study of the Akhmîm Gospel Fragment* (Jewish and Christian Texts in Contexts and Related Studies 21; London and New York: Bloomsbury T & T Clark, 2016) vii + 220 pp.
10. *Jesus and the Jihadis: Confronting the Rage of ISIS*, with Craig A. Evans (Shippensburg: Destiny Image Publishers, 2015) 171 pp.
11. *UnAnswered: Lasting Truth for Trending Questions* (Bible study book, Nashville: LifeWay Publishing, 2015), 217 pp.
12. *UnAnswered: Lasting Truth for Trending Questions* (New Kensington: Whitaker House, 2015), 141 pp. + six video lectures.

13. *Searching the Scriptures: Studies in Context and Intertextuality*, editor, with Craig A. Evans, *Studies in Scripture in Early Judaism and Christianity* 19; LNTS 543; SSEJC 19; London and New York: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2015), xxi + 348 pp. [Reviewed in *NTA* 60 (2016) 138–39; *JSNT* 38 [2016] 16.]

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. “The Existence of God: A Biblical Perspective,” in *A Handbook of Theology* edited by David S. Dockery, Daniel Akin, and Nathan Finn (Nashville: B&H, 2023).
2. “How Early Critics and Objectors Support the Easter Story,” Festschrift. Contracted with E. J. Brill. Thomas Hatina and Stanley Porter, eds.
3. “Hilarion’s Letter to His Wife, Child Exposure, and Early Christianity,” in *Scribes and Their Remains*, editor, with Craig A. Evans, (*Studies in Scripture in Early Judaism and Christianity* 21/LSTS; London and New York: Bloomsbury T & T Clark, 2019), 146–162.
4. “The Cultural Implications of Theism versus Naturalism,” with Paul Copan, in Paul Copan and Charles Taliaferro, eds., *The Naturalness of Belief: New Essays on Theism’s Rationality* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Press [Rowman & Littlefield, 2019]), 197–213.

Original German:

5. C. A. Evans and J. J. Johnston, “Gottesherrschaft,” in Jens Schröter and Christine Jacobi (eds.), *Jesus Handbuch* (Theologen-Handbücher; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2017), 369–78.

English translation:

6. C. A. Evans and J. J. Johnston, “The Kingdom of God,” in J. Schröter and C. Jacobi (eds.), *The Jesus Handbook*, tr. Robert L. Brawley (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2022), 366–75.
7. “The Testimony of the Spirit in Biblical Literature,” with Craig A. Evans, in R. Douglas Geivett and Paul K. Moser, eds., *The Testimony of the Spirit: New Essays* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017), 32–53.

8. "Can We Talk to the Dead?" in Sean McDowell's (ed.) *CSB Apologetics Study Bible for Students* (Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers, 2017).

ACADEMIC REFERENCE WORKS AND SERIALS

1. "The Case for Resurrection," with C. A. Evans, in Donald M. Borchert, James Petrik, and Arthur Zucker (eds.), *Macmillan Interdisciplinary Handbooks: Philosophy* (MIH 8; Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan, 2017), 261–76.
2. "Resurrection," with Craig A. Evans, in R. Brawley (ed.), *Oxford Encyclopedia of Bible and Ethics* (2 vols., Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014) vol. 2, cols. 208–12.
3. "Kingdom of God/Heaven," with Craig A. Evans, in S. E. Balentine (ed.), *Oxford Encyclopedia of Bible and Theology* (2 vols., Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), vol. 2, cols. 1–9.
4. "Intertestamental Backdrop to the Later Development of the Christian Sacraments," with Craig A. Evans, in Hans Boersma and Matthew Levering (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Sacramental Theology* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), 37–51.
5. "Kingdom of God," with Craig A. Evans, in David G. Hunter, Paul J. J. Geest, Bert Jan Lietaert Peerbolte (eds.), *Brill Encyclopedia of Early Christianity: Authors, Texts, and Ideas* (Leiden: Brill, 2022).

ARTICLES AND OP-EDS:

(representative, not exhaustive)

1. 'Hamas' is in the Bible - and the terrorist group lives up to the name. Washington Times.
2. Fox News: 5 reasons why you should still go to church on Sunday, even if it's Christmas
3. Fox News: Texas school shooting begs the question: Where is God?
4. "Modern Day Martyrs: A Non-Christian's Chronicle of China's Dark Side," *Christian Research Journal* 35 (2012), 60.

5. "The Gospel of Peter: The Importance of a North African Discovery," *Sapientia Logos* 3 (2011), 183-215.
6. "Why are so many Christians biblically illiterate?" *Fox News Opinion* (February 11, 2016).
7. "The Bible returns to Cuba. How history was made in February 2016," *Fox News Opinion* (March 18, 2016)
8. "Let's save lives: Here's a strategy of compassion, concern and intervention to stop suicide," *Fox News Opinion* (September 9, 2016)
9. "Why an incredible new discovery proves the Dead Sea Scrolls belong to Israel," with Craig A. Evans, *Fox News Opinion* (February 10, 2017)
10. "Houston father: 'How am I supposed to get five small children up on my roof?'" *Fox News Opinion* (September 25, 2017).
11. "What mainstream media, cultural elites just don't get: If there's no God, then there really is no humanity," *Fox News Opinion* (November 29, 2017)
12. "My daughter prayed to Alexa—Here's the incredible thing that happened next," *Fox News Opinion* (September 1, 2018)
13. "The Church of Invisible Diseases" *Relevant Magazine* (April 5, 2016).
14. "A Light in the Darkness: How We Can All Help Prevent Suicides," *Breakpoint Colson Center* (September 12, 2019)
15. "Jesus of Nazareth, Whose Messianic Message Captivated Thousands, Dies at About 33" by Sam Roberts in *Vanity Fair* (March 25, 2016). Jeremiah was one of thirteen scholars who contributed to this unique obituary of Jesus.

JJJ PREACHING LINKS

[My Word for 2024 – What it Means to "Wait" on God – Prestonwood Baptist Church.](#)

[AACC World Congress with Dr. Tim Clinton and 7,000 Counselors](#)

[WoodsEdge Community Church – Unleashing Peace – Shalom](#)

[Houston's First Baptist Church – Does Absolute Truth Exist?](#)

[Life Today with Sheila Walsh – The Resurrection](#)

[Grace Fellowship Church – Habakkuk and Living By Faith in God's Promises](#)

[Prestonwood Baptist Church – Man Up Conference](#)

Houston's First Baptist Church – Broken For You (Easter Weekend)

Faith Family Church – The Peace/Shalom Plan (Book Launch Sermon)

Houston's First Baptist Church – Your Inner Strength – The Filling of the Holy Spirit

Colson Center Webinar – Unimaginable: What Our World Would Be Like Without Christianity

REFERENCES

Lee Strobel (known Lee since 2001)
949-842-0596 (mobile)
LPStrobel@gmail.com (personal email)

Dr. Jay Sekulow (known Jay since 2007)
Chief Counsel and Founder of the American Center of Law and Justice
www.ACLJ.org
202.494.3297 (mobile)
sekulow.jay@gmail.com (personal email)
(A personal note: Jay Sekulow was instrumental in assisting Jeremiah and Audrey launch the nonprofit ministry Christian Thinkers Society.)

Prof. Craig A. Evans, Ph.D., D.Habil. (known Craig since 2006)
Bisagno Distinguished Professor of New Testament
Houston Baptist University
craig.a.evans@outlook.com (personal email)
713-962-4330 (mobile)

Dr. Paul Foster, BSc DipEd BEd BD MSt DPhil (known Paul since 2009)
Professor in New Testament Language, Literature & Theology
University of Edinburgh
Paul.Foster@ed.ac.uk
+44 (0)131 650 8917 (office)
(Paul served as Jeremiah's U.K., PhD supervisor)

W. Mark Lanier, esq. (known Mark since 2014)

Founder of The Lanier Law Firm
The Lanier Theological Library
281-477-8400
Mark.Lanier@LanierLawFirm.com

Dr. Robert J. Morgan

Teaching Pastor/ Author of *Red Sea Rules* (and other titles)
615.642.5995 (mobile)
rob@donelson.org
robertjmorgan828@gmail.com (personal email)

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

May 2022 – Present

- Pastor of Apologetics and Cultural Engagement at Prestonwood Baptist Church
- Dean of Spiritual Development, Prestonwood Christian Academy

See:

[Is Texas megachurch's new staff hire a sign of things to come?](#)

[Jack Graham's Church hires Jeremiah Johnston as the new pastor of apologetics.](#)

[Sean McDowell, Alisa Childers and Jeremiah Johnston Take Part in Apologetics Conference at Jack Graham's Church](#)

February 2011–Present

Founder and President of the Christian Thinkers Society, Inc. — a nonprofit 501(c)3 apologetics, media, and educational organization known for live events, speaking tours, media productions, conferences, broadcasts, and publications to resource and equip the church with the mission to *Teach Pastors and Christians to Become Thinkers and Thinkers to Become Christians*. The mission of Christian Thinkers Society is to inspire followers of Jesus to love God with all of their heart, soul, and mind (Matthew 22:37).

November 2023–Present

- **Appointed Senior Fellow for Christian Origins, Dallas Baptist University.**

August 2014–February 2019

- Houston Baptist University
- Special Assistant to the President, President's Office, Dr. Robert Sloan

- Associate Professor of Early Christianity, HBU School of Christian Thought

President Robert Sloan brought Jeremiah to HBU to serve alongside him as his Special Assistant and the university partnered with Christian Thinkers Society as a Resident Institute. Jeremiah found the work rewarding, even exhilarating. Also, as Associate Professor of Early Christianity in the School of Christian Thought, Jeremiah maintained an active schedule of research, speaking, teaching, and publishing. Jeremiah's responsibilities also included expanding the university's media presence, developing curriculum and publishing partners/distribution, serving on the taskforce for online development, and using the platform of CTS to raise national exposure for HBU and recruit new students, while also putting the president in contact with potential major new donors and other key influencers. While doing this, Jeremiah continued—with Dr. Sloan's blessing and encouragement—to expand the ministry and reach of CTS.

2013–2014

Jeremiah provided consulting services to ministries and institutions in Christian Apologetics, teaching, mentoring senior leaders, advancement (academic and organizationally), content improvement, media documentaries, social media strategy, and high-capacity donor development.

- Crossroads Television Systems, 100 Huntley Street, and Crossroads USA program launch in 150+ markets
- American Center of Law and Justice—Dr. Jay Sekulow. Jeremiah consulted on the establishment of the Oxford Centre for Law and Public Policy

2012–2013

Acadia Divinity College, Acadia University: Jeremiah served as Senior Lecturer in Biblical Studies and Special Assistant to the President. Jeremiah and his family moved to Halifax on a term contract to work alongside Prof. Craig Evans in the Biblical Studies department. According to a letter of recommendation from the president (dated June 1, 2013), Jeremiah's student evaluations were stellar. The school was disappointed they could not retain him permanently in Canada (due to his short-term Canadian work permit).

2009–2012

Jeremiah enrolled and matriculated in full-time, PhD research. He completed his doctoral residency in England (Oxford) and research for his PhD studies with Middlesex University and the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies while traveling periodically between the US, UK, and Canada with his family.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION, RESEARCH, AND PUBLICATION

- Apologetics
- Shalom—Mental Wellness
- Practical Theology
- Life of Jesus and the Apostles
- Historical Jesus
- Extra-Canonical gospels
- Resurrection
- Synoptic Gospels
- Dead Sea Scrolls
- Scriptural Intertextuality; Use of OT in the NT
- New Testament Background, esp. Early Judaica
- Gospel of John
- Afterlife Beliefs—First Century

AREAS OF TEACHING COMPETENCE

- Christian Apologetics
- New Testament Survey, Language, and Introduction
- Old Testament Survey and Introduction
- Hermeneutics; Exegetical Method
- Jesus and the Synoptic Gospels, Miracles and Supernatural
- Dead Sea Scrolls and the New Testament
- Scriptural Intertextuality
- Early Judaism; Jewish and Christian Relations
- Archaeology and the New Testament
- Gospel of John
- The Antilegomena
- Pauline Corpus
- Intertestamental Literatures
- Gnosticism and the New Testament
- The Emergence of the Notion of Resurrection in a Judeo-Christian Motif

AREAS OF LEADERSHIP INFLUENCE

- High-Capacity Donor Cultivation and Development
Pastoral Training and Equipping
- Professional Development of Christian Education Faculty and Staff (K-12th grade)
- Major Live Events (in North America and the United Kingdom)
- Multi-media Events
- Broadcast Events (TV, nationally syndicated radio, and cross-channel production)

- Partnerships (Christian Thinkers Society and Jeremiah partnering with numerous organizations in the US and UK across all denominations to disciple the mind)
- Teaching and implementing ministry/organizational branding

ACADEMIC AWARDS

2009 LifeWay Publishing Leadership Award for Academic Excellence. Award voted by the faculty of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (May 2009).

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS PREVIOUSLY HELD

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| • British New Testament Society | • Evangelical Philosophical Society |
| • The Institute of Biblical Research | • The North American Patristics Society |
| • Society of Biblical Literature | |
| • Evangelical Theological Society | |

ENDORSEMENTS

See books and more at www.ChristianThinkers.com