

Kenneth N. Ngwa, Ph.D.
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CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor, Hebrew Bible, Drew University Theological School (2007-Present)

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Princeton Theological Seminary, May 2005
- Th. M, Princeton Theological Seminary, May 2000
- Maîtrise en Théologie, Faculty of Protestant Theology, Cameroon (1995)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- *JBL* Editorial Board Member (2017-)
- Co-Chair, African Biblical Hermeneutics Section, SBL (2014-Present)
- Board Member, International Meetings, SBL (2014-2017)
- Board Member, Mid Atlantic Regional SBL (2017-Present)
- Board Member, African Renaissance Ambassador Corp. (NGO)
- Reviews of Journal submissions (*JTSA*, *JBL*) and Book (*Horizons*)
- External Reviewer of Dissertation (University of KwaZulu-Natal) and Faculty (University of South Africa)

ACADEMIC AWARDS/GRANTS

- Wabash Center, Minority Scholars Peer Mentoring Grant, 2016
- General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church Scholar/Teacher of the Year Award (2013).
- Wabash Center Research Grant (Topic: “The Spirituality of Critical Thinking: Exodus, Knowledge, and Theological Education”), 2010.
- Drew Theological School’s Center for Christianities in Global Contexts (funded by the Henry Luce Foundation) “Exodus” Course Development Grant, 2008.

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

The Hermeneutics of the ‘Happy’ Ending in Job 42:7-17. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2005.

Essays/Articles

- “Exodus as a Door of (No) Return” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 136/1 (2017), 213-220.
- “Towards Healing the Whole Person and Community” in *Global Oncology: Harvard Global Health Catalyst Summit Lecture Notes* eds. Wilfred Ngwa and Paul Nguyen (2017)
- “The Story of Exodus and its Literary Kinships,” in Danna Nolan Fewell ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Biblical Narrative* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), 125-136.

- “The Making of Gershom’s Story: A Cameroonian Postwar Hermeneutics Reading of Exodus 2,” *JBL* 134/4 (2015): 899-920.
- “Knowledge.” In *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Theology* (OEBT) Volume 2, KIN-WOR ed., Samuel Balentine (Oxford: OUP, 2015), 13-19.
- Ethnicity, Adoption, and Exodus: A Socio-Rhetorical Reading of Exodus 2:1-10,” *JSOT* 38/2 (2013), 163-187.
- “Haggai” in Hugh R. Page et al eds., *The Africana Bible: Reading Israel’s Scriptures from Africa and the African Diaspora* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2009), 204-205.
- “Did Job Suffer for Nothing? The Ethics of Piety, Presumption and the Reception of Disaster in the Prologue of Job,” *JSOT* 33/3 (2009), 359-380.
- “What do People Say the Bible Says? And You, What do You Say?” *Teaching Theology and Religion* 14/2 (April, 2011), 157.
- “Using Bible Commentaries in the Classroom” Panel discussion published in *Teaching Theology and Religion* 16/1 (2013), 52-65.
- “Superabundance,” *The Living Pulpit* 22 (Winter, 2013), 4-6.

Online/Blog Post

- “Ferguson, Bible, and the ‘Long Division’ of Race.” Posted 9/22/2014;
http://wabashcenter.typepad.com/antiracism_pedagogy/2014/09/fergusson-bible-and-the-long-division-of-race.html

WRITING WORK IN PROGRESS

Book Projects

- *Let My People Live: Africana Reading of Exodus* (Westminster John Knox Press; anticipated publication date, October 2018).
- Co-editor of *Navigating African Biblical Hermeneutics: Themes and Trends* (Cambridge Scholars Press; anticipated publication, November 2017)
- Co-editor of *Africana Studies and Religion: Critical Explorations* (Fordham Press, 2018)

Essays at Publication level

- “Bible and Colony-Related Necropolitics” in *Bible and Colonialism* eds. Fernando Segovia and Tat-Siong Benney Liew (Lexington Books, 2018)
- “Children in the book of Proverbs,” in Sharon Betsworth and Julie Faith Parker eds., *Handbook of Children and Childhood in the Biblical World* (Bloomsbury T&T, 2018)

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- “African Biblical Hermeneutics in Global Christian Landscape: A Diasporic Approach.” Conference on World Christianity and Missions (Princeton Theological Seminary, Jan 2018)
- 2017 Global health Catalyst Panel (Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical

School) “Religion and Global Health”

- 2015 Panel Discussion (Union Theological Seminary): “God, Scripture, and the Colonized.”
- 2014 SBL Presentation: “Bible after Gunshots: Towards a Postwar Hermeneutics.”
- 2012 AAR Panel discussion: “The Bible and Colonialism: Africa and the Middle East.”
- 2012 SBL Presentation: “Political Transformation and Paradox in the Postcolony: A Reading of Exodus 2:11-15.”
- 2012, Paper presented at Old Testament Research Colloquium at Princeton Theological Seminary “Ethnicity and Identity Construction in Exodus 2:1-10.”
- 2011, Tipple Vosburgh Lectures, Drew Theological School: “Who Made You Ruler over us? Identity and the Construction of a Nation-State.”
- 2011, Guest Lecturer Princeton Theological Seminary: “Proverbs and Methods of Interpretation.”
- 2010, SBL Presentation: “Personification as Pedagogy in Proverbs 1-9.”
- 2010, SBL Presentation: “Hermeneutics of the Impossible: Interpreting Job through a Cameroonian Cultural Lens.”
- 2010, Wabash Center Panel discussion on teachings goals and methods using Bill Placher’s commentary on Mark. “Commentaries in the Classroom: Reading the Bible Theologically.”
- 2008 Presentation at New York Theological Seminary. February: “Multiethnicity in the Bible: The Case of Hagar and Abraham.”
- “Struggling to Reconstruct: The Art of Samuel Bak and the Epilogue of Job.” (Tipple Vosburgh Lectures, Drew Theological School. August, 2009)

AREAS OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTEREST

- African Biblical Hermeneutics
- Africana critical theory
- Ancient Israelite Wisdom Literature
- Liberation and Exodus Traditions
- Hebrew Bible Exegesis
- Postcolonial Theory and Interpretations
- African Religions, epics Narratives and Proverbs
- History of Interpretation (Jewish and Christian)
- Literary Theory, Psychoanalyses, and Cultural Memory

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)
- American Academy of Religion (AAR)
- Board Member African Renaissance Ambassador (ARA) www.araforchange.com

DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

Presbyterian

LANGUAGES

- Modern: English, French, German (reading knowledge)
- Ancient: Hebrew, Koine Greek, Syriac/Aramaic, and Ugaritic