

Curriculum Vitae

Ralph John Korner

c/o 11525 – 23 Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6J 4T3

ralph.korner@taylor-edu.ca; (780) 431-8694

I. Academic Background

Education:

B.A. in Religion (1978–1982), Taylor University College (Edmonton, AB).

M.Div., Pastoral Counseling Concentration, Taylor Seminary (Edmonton, AB): 58 of 96 credits completed part-time during two pastorates in Edmonton (1989–2001). M.Div. studies were discontinued once M.A. studies at TWU began.

M.A. in Biblical Studies, Trinity Western University (Langley, BC) (2001–2002).

Thesis: “The Prophetic Genre of the Apocalypse in Light of Visionary Literary Devices.”

Oral defense: 2002; Received an A+.

First Reader: James M. Scott; Second Reader: Craig A. Evans.

Ph.D. in Religious Studies, Early Christianity and Early Judaism (2014), McMaster University (Hamilton, ON).

Dissertation Title: “Before ‘Church’: Political, Ethno-Religious, and Theological Implications of the Collective Designation of Pauline Christ-Followers as *Ekklēsiai*.”

Dissertation Committee: Anders Runesson, Stephen Westerholm, Eileen Schuller

Languages Studied: Greek (Epigraphic, Attic, Koiné), Hebrew (Biblical, Qumran), Aramaic, French, German.

Academic Employment:

Taylor University College (Edmonton, AB)

2002–2007: Adjunct Instructor in New Testament.

Course titles: (100 level) New Testament Literature; (200 level) Introduction to Hermeneutics, Synoptic Gospels, Jesus in the Gospels, Paul and His Writings, General Epistles, Biblical World (ANE and Second Temple backgrounds to the HB and NT); (300 level) Interpreting Apocalyptic Literature and the Book of Revelation.

2005–06: Associate Director of Student Development (interim)

2000–2001, 2002–2006: Campus Pastor, Chair of the Faculty Chapel Committee, Faculty Council member (non-voting).

Taylor Seminary (Edmonton, AB)

Fall 2006: Adjunct Instructor in New Testament. Course title: Life of Christ.

Nov.1, 2014–Present: Academic Dean; Associate Professor of Biblical Studies

McMaster University, Religious Studies Department (Hamilton, ON)

2008–2009: Teaching Assistant. (1) Death and Dying: Cross-Cultural Comparisons; (2) The Jewish World at the Time of the New Testament.

2009–2010: Teaching Assistant. (1) Approaches to the Study of Religion; (2) Cults in North America.

Scholarly Activity:

(copies of all publications, conference abstracts, and course syllabi are available at <https://taylor-edu.academia.edu/RalphKorner/>):

Publications (blind peer reviewed):

2000—Article on the reiterative structure of the book of Revelation: “‘And I Saw...’ An Apocalyptic Literary Convention for Structural Identification in the Apocalypse,” *Novum Testamentum* 42/2 (2000): 160–183.

(1) Conference presentation and article publication on my *NovT* article by Margaret Mollett entitled: “Telescopic Reiteration: How Ralph Korner *Left Behind* a Linear Reading of the Visionary Content in the Apocalypse”:

(a) Conference: New Testament Society of Southern Africa (Sept. 10–13, 2013)—Christian Discourse and Culture group;

(b) Article: *Religion and Theology: A Journal of Contemporary Religious Discourse* 21/3–4 (2014) (Leiden: Brill).

(2) Cited in twelve publications since 2002: (i) Johnson Puthussery, *Days of Man and God’s Day: An Exegetico-Theological Study of hēmara in the Book of Revelation* (Rome: Georgian University Press, 2002), 168 n. 210; (ii) Dan Liroy, *The Book of Revelation in Christological Focus* (New York: Peter Lang, 2003), 204 n. 8; (iii) McKnight and Osborne (eds.), *The Face of New Testament Studies* (2004), 498; (iv) E. R. Wolfson in *The Idea of Biblical Interpretation: Essays in Honor of James L. Kugel* (Brill, 2004), 194 n. 64; (v) F. Tavo, *NovT* 47/1 (2005): 49 n. 11, 56 n. 30; (vi) Ronald Herms, *An Apocalypse for the Church and for the World* (BZBW/KAK; Berlin: de Gruyter, 2006), 137 n. 46; (vii) Ellie Maria Louw-Kritzinger, *Die Eskatologiese/Apokaliptiese oorlog tussen goed en kwaad in die Zoroastrisme, die Judaïsme (Qumran) en ‘n vroeë-Christelike geskrif (Die apokalips)* (Stellenbosch University Dissertation, March 2008), 104; (viii) Alan Bandy, *JSNT* 31.4 (2009): 472 n. 9, 475, 477 n. 22; (ix) Margaret Mollett, *Creeping Crusade: Interpretation, Discourse and Ideology in the Left Behind Corpus. Rhetoric and Society in Light of Revelation 7* (UNISA Dissertation, Feb. 2010), 168–171; (x) Leif Hongisto, *Experiencing the Apocalypse at the Limits of Alterity* (Leiden: Brill, 2010), 91, 243 n. 3; (xi) Mary Manjikian, *Apocalypse and Post-Politics: The Romance of the End* (Plymouth, UK: Lexington Books, 2012), 147; (xii) Heather Macumber, *Angelic Intermediaries: the Development of a Revelatory Tradition* (University of St. Michael’s College Dissertation, December 2012), 138 n. 459.

2011—“The ‘Great Earthquake’ Judgment in the Apocalypse: Is There an Urzeit for this Endzeit?” *ARC* 39 (2011): 143–70. Special eschatology issue of *ARC* sponsored by the Religious Studies department of McGill University (Montréal, QC, Canada).

2014—“The *Ekklēsia* of Early Christ-Followers in Asia Minor as the Eschatological New Jerusalem: Counter-Imperial Rhetoric?” in *Urban Dreams and Realities in Antiquity: Remains and Representations of the Ancient City* (Mnemosyne, Supplements, History and Archaeology of Classical Antiquity 375; ed. Adam Kemezis; Leiden: Brill): 455–499.

Publications (non-blind peer reviewed):

2012—Four entries in the *Dictionary of the Bible and Western Culture: A Handbook for Students* (ed. Michael Gilmour and Mary Ann Beavis; Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2012): “Unknown God”; “Abba”; “Seven Churches of Revelation”; “Whore of Babylon.”

- 2013—“The ‘Exilic Prophecy’ of Daniel 7: Does it Reflect Late Pre-Maccabean or Early Hellenistic Historiography?” Pages 333–53 in *Prophets, Prophecy and Ancient Israelite Historiography* (ed. Mark J. Boda and Lissa M. Wray Beal; Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2013).
- 2018—Invited to submit a volume on the book of Revelation for the forthcoming 12 volume series *New Testament Interpretation after Supersessionism* (Cascade Books, Eugene, OR; 2015–2019). Editors are J. Brian Tucker (Moody Theological Seminary), Justin Hardin (Oxford, Wycliffe Hall), Rabbi David Rudolph (Richmond, VA), and Joel Willitts (North Park University).

Publications (online):

- 2009—Book review for Bryn Mawr Classical Review (2009.07.42): *Paul and the Creation of Christian Identity* by William S. Campbell (T&T Clark, 2006).

Acknowledgments:

- 2002—Acknowledgment by Peter Flint (TWU) for my assistance with his chapter on Revelation and the Dead Sea Scrolls (James C. VanderKam and Peter Flint, *The Meaning of the Dead Sea Scrolls* [HarperSanFrancisco]).
- 2011—Acknowledgment by J. Brian Tucker (Moody Theological Seminary) for my *ekklēsia* research (*Remain in Your Calling: Paul and the Continuation of Social Identities in 1 Corinthians* [Eugene, OR: Pickwick]).
- 2012—Acknowledgment by George H. van Kooten (U of Groningen) for my *ekklēsia* research (“Εκκλησία τοῦ θεοῦ: The ‘Church of God’ and the Civic Assemblies [ἐκκλησίαι] of the Greek Cities in the Roman Empire. A Response to Paul Trebilco and Richard A. Horsley,” *New Testament Studies* 58/4 [Oct. 2012]: 522–48).

Presentations:

- 2004—Formal debate with David Aune (Notre Dame) on the genre of the book of Revelation at a Trinity Western University Graduate Seminar (March 2004). Dr. Aune’s 3 volume Word Biblical Commentary on the book of Revelation formed the basis for our interaction. For details contact James M. Scott (TWU).
- 2004—Taylor University College, Religion and Culture public lecture series: “Understanding the Book of Revelation: Don’t be *Left Behind*.” While anchoring my presentation in the original audience’s historical and literary contexts, I critique the hermeneutical assumptions and structural implications of the best-selling *Left Behind* book series.
- 2007—St. Mary’s College (University of St. Andrews, Scotland). Conference theme was “Evangelicals and Eschatology: Edwards’ *History of the Work of Redemption* to LaHaye/Jenkins’ *Left Behind*” (April 30). Presentation: “Understanding the Reiterative Structure of the Book of Revelation: Don’t be *Left Behind*.” For details contact Bruce Longenecker (now at Baylor University).
- 2009—Theological Research Seminar (McMaster Divinity College, Feb. 10). “Understanding the Reiterative Structure of the Book of Revelation: Don’t be *Left Behind*.”

- 2009—Canadian Society of Biblical Studies (May 24–26, Carleton University, Ottawa).
 (1) Ancient Historiography seminar on Prophets and Prophecy: “The ‘Exilic Prophecy’ of Daniel 7: Does it Reflect Late Pre-Maccabean or Early Hellenistic Historiography?”
 (2) General Program (New Testament): “Understanding the Reiterative Structure of the Book of Revelation: Don’t be *Left Behind*.”
- 2009—Theological Research Seminar (McMaster Divinity College, Oct. 17).
 “The Gospel of John’s Jesus: the Way into a Place, into a People, or to a Person?”
- 2009—Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference (Nov. 21–24, New Orleans, LA).
 (1) Pseudepigrapha program unit: “Some Structural Implications of Visionary Literary Devices in *4 Ezra*.”
 (2) Johannine Literature program unit: “The Gospel of John’s Jesus: the Way into a Place, into a People, or to a Person?”
- 2010—Evangelical Theological Society Annual Conference (Nov 17–19, Atlanta, GA).
 (1) Book of Revelation program unit: “‘And I Saw...’ a Visionary Literary Device for the Reiterative Structuration of the Apocalypse.”
 (2) Johannine Theology program unit: “Jesus in the Gospel of John: The Way into a Place, into a People, or to a Person?”
- 2010—Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference (Nov. 19–23, Atlanta, GA).
 Romans through History and Cultures program unit: “Making Room for Sacred Space in Jewish – Christian Reconciliation.”
- 2011—*Emerging Normativities: Examining the Formation of Proto-Orthodox Christianities and Rabbinic Judaisms 200–800 CE* (Sept. 21-22, St. Thomas More College, Saskatoon, SK). A SSHRC funded conference hosted by the Religion and Culture department.
 Presentation: “The Collective Identification of Early Christ-Followers as *Ekklēsia*: An Affirmation of Jewish Normativity?”
- 2011—*Urban Dreams and Realities: An Interdisciplinary Conference on the City in Ancient Cultures* (Oct. 21-22, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB). A SSRHC funded conference hosted by the Department of History and Classics Graduate Program—Ancient Societies and Cultures Specialization.
 Presentation: “The *Ekklēsia* of Early Christ-Followers in Asia Minor as the Eschatological New Jerusalem: Counter-Imperial Rhetoric?”
- 2013—Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference (Nov. 22–26, Baltimore, MD)
 Institute for Biblical Research, Emerging Scholarship (New Testament) session: “The *Ekklēsia* of Early Christ-Followers in Asia Minor as the Eschatological New Jerusalem: Counter-Imperial Rhetoric?”
- 2014— Society of Biblical Literature Annual Conference (Nov. 22–25, San Diego, CA)
 Paul and Judaism Consultation (Invited Session): “*Ekklēsia* as a Jewish Synagogue Term: Some Implications for Paul’s Socio-Religious Location.”
 Respondents: Philip Esler, L. Michael White, and Erich Gruen.

Professional Association Memberships:

- Since 2008—Canadian Society of Biblical Studies
 Since 2008—Society of Biblical Literature
 Since 2010—Evangelical Theological Society
 Since 2013—Fellow of the Institute for Biblical Research

Academic Journal Editorial Committee:

2014—Forum Director for the Editorial Committee of the *Journal of the Jesus Movement in Its Jewish Setting: From the First to the Seventh Centuries (JJMJS)* (Eisenbrauns).

The Co-Editors are Paula Fredriksen (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Torleif Elgvin (NLA University College, Oslo), Anders Runesson (McMaster University), and Alexei Sivertsev (DePaul University).

Academic Scholarships:

2008—McMaster University, Department of Religious Studies, Entrance Scholarship: \$1500.

McMaster University, Department of Religious Studies, Graduate Scholarship: \$9500.

Ontario Graduate Fellowship (in lieu of McMaster's Graduate Scholarship): \$12,000.

McMaster University, Department of Religious Studies, Teaching Assistantship: \$9800.

2009—McMaster University, Department of Religious Studies, Graduate Scholarship: \$9500.

McMaster University, Department of Religious Studies, Teaching Assistantship: \$9800.

2010–2012—Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Doctoral Award: \$20,000 per year.

2011—Graduate Scholarship, Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies: \$1000.

2012–2013—Ontario Graduate Scholarship: \$15,000.

Conference Administration:

2009—Conference Administrator for the international conference, “Mark and Matthew. Texts and Contexts, Conference II: Hermeneutics, Reception History, Theology” (Nov. 17–18; McMaster University, Hamilton, ON). Conference I was held in Aarhus, Denmark (2008). This SSHRC funded conference hosted prestigious scholars from Europe, Great Britain, the United States, and Canada (e.g., A. Y. Collins, J. Verheyden). A proceedings volume was published by Mohr Siebeck in 2012.

Academic Committees: McMaster University (Hamilton, Ontario)

2008–2009: Chair of the Teaching Assistant Evaluation Committee (Graduate Student Association, Religious Studies)

2008–2010: Public Relations Committee (Religious Studies), Graduate Student Representative

Awards (academic):

1982—Valedictorian for the graduating class of Taylor University College (Edmonton, AB).

Awards (non-academic):

2005—Inaugural recipient of Taylor's premiere employee award, “Outstanding Example of Fulfilling the Mission of Taylor University College.”

II. Professional Church Ministry

2000–2001 *Lauderdale Community Pastor, Northgate Baptist Church (Edmonton, AB)*

- A one year 1/2 time sponsorship by Northgate Baptist Church of my wife and myself as community pastors for the Lauderdale Community in which we lived from 1989 until 2006.

1998–2000 *Pastor of Church Ministries (Interim), Greenfield Baptist Church (Edmonton, AB)*

- I was the Lead Pastor in a co-pastoral team. Responsibilities: (1) Overseer of church leadership and program directions; (2) Counseling and Pastoral Care; (3) Administration and Office Management; (4) Small Groups Resource Person; (5) Community Outreach Facilitator; (6) Preaching (1/3 of Sundays).

1989–1998 *Associate Pastor, Northgate Baptist Church (Edmonton, AB)*

- Responsibilities included: (1) Youth (1989–1995); (2) Counseling and Pastoral Care, Administration, Community Outreach Facilitator, and Preaching and Teaching (1989–1998); (3) Pastor of the Contemporary Sunday Service (1992–1998); (4) Small Groups Resource Person (1994–1998); (5) Social Justice Facilitator (1996–1998).

III. Other Work Experience

May 2013–Oct. 2014. *Foreman, Stellar Electrical Contractors (Edmonton, AB)*

2000–2013 *Electrician, Tempo Electrical Contractors, Stellar Electrical Contractors*

- Employed as a journeyman electrician for three months each year during doctoral studies (Sept. 2008–Jan. 2013).
- Employed full-time as an electrical apprentice August 2006–August 2008. I received my certification as a Journeyman Electrician and my Red Seal classification in July 2008.
- Employed as an electrical apprentice during the summers (May to August) for four of the five years that I was Adjunct Instructor at Taylor University College (2002–2006).

1982–1989 *Sales Representative, Nedco (div. of Westburne Industries) (Calgary, AB)*

- Nedco is a national electrical/telecommunications wholesaler. Responsibilities included: Shipping/Receiving, Parts Counter, Inventory Control (1982); Inside Sales (1983–1984); Outside Sales (electrical) (1984–1985); Outside Sales (electrical/telecommunications) and Technical Support (telecommunications–Southern Alberta) (1986–1989).

IV. Volunteer Service (Alberta)

Para-Church Volunteering

1. Pulpit Supply

- Opportunities include requests from individual churches of the North American Baptist and Baptist General Conferences.
- Interim preacher for Landsdowne Chinese Baptist Church (July–Dec. 2007, English service, Baptist General Conference).

2. *Weekend Retreat Speaker*

- Central Baptist Church College and Career Retreat (2007); Thornhill Baptist Church Family Camp (2005); Zion Community Baptist Church Family Camp (2005); Greenfield Baptist Church Family Camp (2000).

3. *Camp Ministry* (Camp Caroline; Caroline, AB)

- Camp Pastor for week-long Junior High summer camps (approx. 180 youth; 1990, 1991, 1995).

4. *Keynote Speaker*

- College and Career rally for the Chinese Alliance churches of Edmonton (2005).
- Devotional leader for Staff Training Day (North Edmonton Christian Reformed School, 2003).

5. *North American Baptist Youth Triennial Conference (Edmonton 1997)*

- Co-Chair of the Youth Local Arrangements Committee and Coordinator of the Security Team. The combined attendance of high school aged youth and adult sponsors was 950 people.

Church Volunteering:

1. *Thornhill Baptist Church* (Calgary, AB; 1976–89)

- Junior Deacon, Chair of the Deacon Board, Chair of the Community Outreach Committee, Sunday School Teacher (Adult and Youth)

2. *Northgate Baptist Church* (Edmonton, AB; 1989–present)

- Song leader, Bass player, Young Adults group (ages 19-26) co-sponsor with my wife, Sound Technicians Coordinator, Community outreach events volunteer

Community Volunteering:

1. *Queen Elizabeth Public High School* (1989–98; Edmonton Public School Board)

- Christian Club Co-Sponsor (1989–1998)
- Senior Boys Soccer Coach (1990–1995)
- Junior Girls Basketball Assistant Coach (1990)
- Pastoral representative for the High School's Crisis Intervention Team
- Taught eight class sessions per semester (1991–1994) on "What is Spiritual Well-Being?" for the mandatory Career and Life Management course
- Counseling Department referral for youth with spiritual issues.

2. *Lauderdale Elementary School* (1992–1998)

- Lauderdale School Key Communicator for the Edmonton Public School Board (1994)
- Parents Advisory Committee member, along with my wife (1992–1998).

3. *Lauderdale Community* (1993–2004)

- Soccer Coach for Under 7's (1996–1998)
- Soccer Field Lining Coordinator (1996–1998)
- Block Parent (1994–1998)
- Heart and Stroke Foundation canvasser (1993–1998)
- Spiritual Columnist for the monthly Lauderdale Community Newsletter (1999–2004).