

January 30, 2025

Dear Professor Vicini,

I write to introduce myself and to express my interest in teaching at Boston College should an adjunct position become available. I am a scholar of the New Testament and Christian Theology, and I recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard Divinity School. I have five years of teaching experience in a liberal arts context, and I hold the Ph.D. from Durham University, where I studied under the Lightfoot Professor of Divinity Emeritus, John M.G. Barclay, FBA.

My teaching record includes a Faculty Teaching Award at a prior institution and high student ratings, with averages of 4.7/5 (professor rating) and 4.6/5 (class rating). My portfolio includes:

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Exploring the New Testament (Spring 2024, Spring 2025)

The King's College, New York City

Introduction to New Testament (twenty times [two sections per semester from 2018-2023])

Principles of Biblical Interpretation (eight times [typically once per semester])

Systematic Theology (Fall '19, Fall '21)

Biblical-Theological Exegesis (Winter '19)

Considering my experience, I would be qualified to teach courses at B.C. such as THEO 1421 Inscribing the Word: The New Testament, THEO 1422: The Sacred Page: The Bible, and possibly THEO 1402 God, Self, and Society. For your consideration, I include my C.V. below.

Warmly,



Benjamin Grant White, Ph.D.

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203-506-0740

Benjamin Grant White

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

Professional Appointments

- **Adjunct Professor of New Testament**, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary 2024 - present
- **Postdoctoral Fellow**; Harvard Divinity School 2023 - 2024
Supervisor: Giovanni Bazzana
- **Visiting Fellow**; Yale Divinity School 2022, 2023
Sponsor: Miroslav Volf
- **Visiting Scholar**; Princeton Theological Seminary 2021 - 2022
- **Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies**; The King's College (New York) 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 in St Andrews, Scotland
 - Review by Ulrich Heckel, *Theologische Literaturzeitung* 148 (2023): 58-60.
 - Review by Cory M. March, *Religious Studies Review* 49 (2023): 210.
 - Review by Matthew Jackson-McCabe, *Review of Biblical Literature* (February 2023).
 - Review by Joshua Bloor, *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 44 (2022): 56-57.
 - Review by J. de Waal Dryden, *Bulletin for Biblical Research* 32 (2022): 472-474.
 - Review by Isaac Soon, *Reviews of Biblical and Early Christian Studies* (Feb. 2022)
- 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).
 - Review by Jonah Bissell, *Religious Studies Review* 48 (2022): 394.
 - Review by Charles Nathan Ridlehoover, *Bulletin of Biblical Research* 31 (2021): 101-102.
 - Review by Joshua Jipp, *Review of Biblical and Early Christian Studies* (2020).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- “Jesus’s ‘Sorrow’ (Matt. 26.37-8)? Exploring the Connotations of a Tabooed Emotion,” *Biblical Interpretation* [Accepted]
- “Revelatory, Ontological, or Transformative? Luther’s Reading of 2 Cor. 12.9-10 and the Function of Paul’s Strength in Weakness Paradox,” *Journal of Theological Studies* [Accepted]
- “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 *λυπ*-Words,” *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* (JSNT) 43:2 (2020): 147-172.

Book Chapters

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

Conference Presentations

- “A ‘Resilient’ Paul? Social Science Theory and Paul’s Strength in Weakness Paradox in Conversation,” at the Canadian Society for Biblical Studies Annual Meeting on June 2, 2023.
- “Flinging Open the Doors of the Church: Pauline ‘Outsider Concern’ and the Quest for a Non-Sectarian Community,” Paul and Politics section at the SBL Annual Meeting on Nov. 21, 2022.
- “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 SBL Annual Meeting on Nov. 20, 2022.
- “The Politics of Weakness: Identifying a Pauline Dimension in the Growth of Earliest Christianity,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of SBL on March 11, 2022 [on Zoom].
- “Jesus’s Depression? The Depth of ‘Sorrow’ and the Vindication of Mental Distress in Matthew’s Gethsemane,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of SBL on March 12, 2021 [on Zoom].
- “The Situational Origin of the Strength in Weakness Paradox: Relational Pain in 2 Corinthians 2:1-7 and the Interpretation of 12:9-10,” SBL Annual Meeting in Boston, USA on November 21, 2017.
- “Exploring Pauline Paradox: The Relationship Between Strength and Weakness in 2 Corinthians,” SBL International Meeting in Berlin, Germany on August 7-11, 2017.
- “Paul and the Problem of Pain: The Meaning of *λυπ*- Words in 2 Corinthians,” British New Testament Conference 2016 in Chester, UK on September 2, 2016.
- “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,” Exploring God’s Glory Conference at St. John’s College, Durham University on July 7, 2016.
- “An Apologia or Pastoral Epistle? Reflections on Paul’s Purpose in 2 Corinthians,” the Durham-York-Manchester Biblical Studies Symposium at Durham University on May 13, 2016.

Selected Periodical and Newspaper Articles

- “Why Christians Shouldn’t Try to Become Great Again,” *The Boston Globe*, Dec. 1, 2024.
- “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].

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

- “On the Roles of the ‘Outsider’ in Pauline Ethics” [Submitted to *International Journal of Systematic Theology* in November 2024].

Articles in Preparation

- “Did the Early Church Destroy a Pillar of Its Faith? On the Reception of Paul’s Power in Weakness and the Rise of Constantine” [for submission to *Harvard Theological Review* in Spring 2025].

Book Manuscripts in Preparation

- *A Strange and Fragile Power: Retelling the Story of the First Christians* [Invitation to submit to Baker Academic; plan to submit proposal and sample chapters to Harvard University Press in 2026].

Invited Lectures and Papers

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

Teaching Experience

- **Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary**; South Hamilton, MA
 - Exploring the New Testament (Winter ’24, Winter ’25)
- **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)

- **Lindisfarne Regional Training Partnership (Church of England/Durham University);** South Shields, UK
 - Introduction to Paul (Spring 2018)
- **Cranmer Hall, Durham University;** Durham, UK
 - New Testament Greek I (Fall 2017)
 - New Testament Greek II (Winter 2018)

Honours

- **Review Panel** for *Pain and Paradox in 2 Corinthians* at BNTC; St. Andrews, UK 2022
- **Guest Editor w/ Walter Moberly;** *Journal of Theological Interpretation* (Spring 2020 issue) 2020

Awards

- **Sir Robert Falconer Award;** Canadian Society for 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
- **Faculty Teaching Award** (nominated); The King's College, New York, USA 2022
- **Faculty of the Year Award** (nominated); The King's College, New York, USA 2022
- **Legacy Travel Award;** Durham University; Durham, UK 2017
- **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

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

- **50% PhD Studies Examination,** MF Norwegian School of Theology 2024
- **Peer Review,** *Evangelical Quarterly* 2023
- **Peer Review,** *Journal for the Study of New Testament* 2022

Selected Campus Talks

- Book Launch: *Pain and Paradox in 2 Corinthians* w/ response from Larry Welborn (Fordham) 2022
- Book Launch: *The New Testament in Comparison* 2021
- Q&A on the Book of James, Publius Society 2020
- Faculty Panel on The Bible and Compassion, Publius Society 2020
- “The Paradoxes of Redemption,” Public Lecture 2019

University Service

- 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