



# Dr. Jay A. Sklar

Vice President of Academics  
Professor of Old Testament



## Contact

To reach me, contact 314.434.4044 or [faculty@covenantseminary.edu](mailto:faculty@covenantseminary.edu).

## Faculty Member Since

2001

## Select Courses Taught

Hebrew in Exegesis  
Pentateuch  
OT Historical Books  
Psalms & Wisdom Books  
Covenant Theology

## Education

PhD, University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham, UK, 2001 (Old Testament Studies).

Advisor: Prof. Gordon Wenham

Dissertation: *Sin, Impurity, Sacrifice, Atonement: The Priestly Conceptions* (published 2005)

Awards: Religious Studies Studentship Award; Overseas Research Students Award

MDiv, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, S. Hamilton, MA, 1996

BA, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, 1993 (Philosophy)

## Current Employment

Vice President of Academics and Professor of Old Testament, Covenant Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO

## Teaching Experience

2011 (Jan.) Led a study tour to Israel with Drs. David Chapman and Brad Matthews

2001–present Assistant (2001–2006), Associate (2006–20012), and full (2012–present) Professor of Old Testament, Covenant Theological Seminary

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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- 1998 (Fall) Religious Studies Lecturer, Old Testament Survey, University of Gloucestershire
- 1998 (Spring) Greek Instructor, Introductory and Intermediate Greek, Whitefield Institute (Oxford, UK)
- 1995–1996 Old Testament Teaching Assistant, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, for Dr. Gordon Hugenberger
- 1994–1995 New Testament Teaching Assistant, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, for Dr. Greg Beale

### **Ecclesiastical Service**

- 2005 Adult Sunday School, Kirk of the Hills
- 2004–05 A series of devotionals on marriage for Two Becoming One (a marriage ministry)
- 2004 Ordained as a teaching elder, Presbyterian Church in America, MO presbytery
- 2003–06 Home group leader, Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church
- 2001–present Frequent speaker at churches, church conferences, college conferences/retreats
- 1991–93 Junior High ministry, Lakeshore Bible Chapel, Ontario, Canada
- 1990–92 Program Director, Conestoga Bible Camp (summers), Ontario, Canada

### **Faculty Committees and Service**

- 2017– VP of Academics, Dean of Faculty (until Dec. 2020), member of President’s Cabinet
- 2012–17 Dean of Faculty; member of President’s Cabinet and Academics Team
- 2012– Chair, curriculum committee
- 2008–12 Associate Dean of Academic Assessment
- 2008 Conference on assessment at the Higher Learning Commission; Chicago, Oct. 22–24
- 2006 Chairman of library committee for institutional self-study
- 2006 Web Committee, phase 2
- 2006 (Oct) Seminary delegate for the inauguration of GCTS president James White
- 2005 Ridgehaven family conference (presenter)
- 2004 Covenant Theological Seminary trip to Ireland and Scotland
- 2004–11 Director, ThM Committee
- 2003–07, ‘12 Tuesday Men’s Bible Study, Covenant Theological Seminary
- 2001–present Various articles for *Covenant* magazine
- 2001–present Faculty Committees, Covenant Theological Seminary: ThM committee (chair, 2005–11), *Presbyterian* committee (the Seminary’s journal)

### **Other Professional Service**

- 2022 Chair, Steering Committee, Evangelical Schools Deans’ Council
- 2021–23 Member, Steering Committee, Evangelical Schools Deans’ Council
- 2021 Member, Site Visit Team for the Association of Theological Schools (ATS)
- 2019– Board Member, Institute of Biblical Research (IBR)
- 2015– Member, Pentateuch Group Committee, Evangelical Theological Society (ETS)

### **Publications**

#### **Books: Author, Published, or Submitted**

- Exodus*, ESV Expository Commentary (Crossway, forthcoming).
- Additional Notes on Exodus in Crossway’s ESV Expository Commentary Series* (Gleanings Press, forthcoming).
- Numbers*, The Story of God Bible Commentary (Zondervan Academic, 2023).
- Additional Notes on Numbers in Zondervan’s Story of God Commentary Series* (Gleanings Press, 2023).

*Leviticus: A Discourse Analysis of the Hebrew Bible*, Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament (Zondervan Academic, 2023).

*Additional Notes on Leviticus in the Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament* (Gleanings Press, 2023).

*Exodus*, The Gospel Coalition Commentary, <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/commentary/exodus/>.

*Jonah*, The Gospel Coalition Commentary, April 2023, <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/commentary/jonah/>.

*Leviticus Bible Study: A Companion to Leviticus: An Introduction and Commentary*, co-authored with Scott Behm (Gleanings Press, 2018).

*Jonah*, ESV Bible Expository Commentary (Crossway, 2018).

*NIV Biblical Theology Study Bible – Numbers notes* (Zondervan, 2015).

*Leviticus*, Tyndale Old Testament Commentary Series (IVP, 2013).

*ESV Study Bible – Leviticus Notes*; partial contributor (Crossway, 2008).

*Sin, Impurity, Sacrifice, Atonement: The Priestly Conceptions* (Sheffield Academic Press, 2005); paperback version published in 2015.

### Books and Journals: Editor or Editorial Board

*Bulletin of Biblical Research*, Editorial Board. (2018–present)

*ESV Bible Expository Commentary*, a 12-volume commentary covering the whole Bible. Co-editor with Iain Duguid and James Hamilton. Project started in 2012; projected finish in 2023.

*ESV Study Bible – Leviticus Notes* (Crossway, 2008).

### Academic Articles: Author

"The Prohibitions against Homosexual Sex in Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13: Are They Relevant Today?" *BBR* 28.2 (2018): 165–98.

"Pentateuch," in *T&T Clark Companion to the Doctrine of Sin*, ed. Keith L. Johnson and David Lauber (Bloomsbury/T&T Clark, 2016), 3–35.

"Sin and Atonement: Lessons from the Pentateuch," *BBR* 22.4 (2012): 467–91.

"Sin and Impurity: Atoned or Purified? Yes!" in Baruch J. Schwartz, David P. Wright, Jeffrey Stackert, and Naphtali S. Meshel, eds., *Perspectives on Purity and Purification in the Bible* (London; New York: T&T Clark International, 2008), 18–31.

### Dictionary and Study Bible Articles

"Sacrifice," in *NIV Biblical Theology Study Bible* (Zondervan, 2018).

*NIV Biblical Theology Study Bible—Numbers Notes* (Zondervan, 2018). Originally published as *NIV Study Bible*, 2015.

"Sin," in Samuel E. Balentine, ed), *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Theology*, vol. 2 (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), 297–308.

*ESV Gospel Transformation Study Bible—Leviticus Notes* (Crossway, 2013)

*ESV Study Bible—Leviticus Notes* (Crossway, 2008). Partial contributor.

"Sacrifice," in *Dizionario di teologia evangelica* (Italy: Alfa and Omega, 2006).

### Video Courses

"Leviticus," a Faithlife Mobile Education course, approximately 12 hours in length. April 2019.

## Popular Articles: Author

- "Preparing for Easter from Leviticus, Part I," Covenant Seminary blog, March 2018, <https://www.covenantseminary.edu/preparing-easter-leviticus-part/>
- "Preparing for Easter from Leviticus, Part II," Covenant Seminary blog, March 2018, <https://www.covenantseminary.edu/preparing-for-easter-from-leviticus-part-ii/>
- "Preparing for Easter from Leviticus, Part III," Covenant Seminary blog, March 2018, <https://www.covenantseminary.edu/preparing-for-easter-from-leviticus-part-iii/>
- "How to Be Sound in Doctrine, Have Regular Devotions, and Still Be Unholy," Covenant Seminary blog, December 2017, <https://www.covenantseminary.edu/sound-doctrine-regular-devotions-still-unholy/>
- "R-Rated: Preaching on Sacrifice from Leviticus: Why it Matters and How to Do It," at *Preaching Today* on-line, August 2015, <http://www.preachingtoday.com/skills/2015/august/r-rated-preaching-on-sacrifice-from-leviticus.html>.
- "R-Rated: Eating with God: Old Testament Sacrifices Point Us to Deeper Love and Joy in Covenant and Community," a sermon on Leviticus 3, at *Preaching Today* on-line, August 2015, <http://www.preachingtoday.com/sermons/outlines/2015/august/r-rated-eating-withgod.html>.
- Devotionals on three passages in Leviticus for *The ESV Men's Devotional Bible* (Crossway, 2015).
- "4 Things That Happen When You Study Leviticus for More Than Ten Years," invited blogpost at The Gospel Coalition, <http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/four-things-happen-whenstudy-leviticus-ten-years>.
- "Sacrifice," in the *NIV Study Bible* (Zondervan, 2015).
- ESV Gospel Application Bible* – Leviticus notes (Crossway, 2013).
- "Daring to Delight in Leviticus," interview of me by Collin Hansen for The Gospel Coalition, published April 1, 2011, <http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/daring-to-delight-inleviticus/>.
- "Why Does a Good God Permit Evil?" *byFaith* (23): March, 2009.
- "The Lord is Against Me! A Sermon on the Book of Ruth", in *All for Jesus: A Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Covenant Theological Seminary* (Christian Focus, 2006).

## Reviews

- Review of Douglas K. Stuart, *Exodus*, The New American Commentary, vol. 2 (Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2006), in *Presbyterion* (2012).
- Review of Roy Gane, *Cult and Character* (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2006), in *Review of Biblical Literature* (2007), [http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/5068\\_6109.pdf](http://www.bookreviews.org/pdf/5068_6109.pdf).
- Review of Kenton L. Sparks, *The Pentateuch: An Annotated Bibliography*, ed. Craig A. Evans (Baker: Grand Rapids, 2002), in *Presbyterion* (2004).
- Review of Cornelis Houtman, *Exodus – Volume Three*, in *European Journal of Theology*.
- Review of Michael Fishbane, *Biblical Text and Texture – A Literary Reading of Selected Texts*, in *European Journal of Theology* VIII, 2 (1999): 194–96.

## Notes

- Exegetical note on Leviticus 17:11, in Gary D. Pratico and Miles V. Van Pelt, *Basics of Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001).

## Papers and Lectures

2012

"The Lord's Grace in Leviticus: The Testimony of the Sacrificial System," Evangelical Theological Society, Pentateuch section (invited paper), Chicago, IL, November 2012.

2010

"Sin and Atonement: What does the Pentateuch Teach Us?" Institute for Biblical Research, Old Testament Plenary Paper (invited paper), Atlanta, GA, November 20, 2010.

"How Can a Good, All-Powerful God Allow Suffering?" The Journey Church, for their "Resurgent Resources" series, St. Louis, MO, October 2010; Washington University in St. Louis Student's Group, St. Louis, MO, October, 2010; Webster University Student's Group, February, 2010.

2008

"Numbers 15:30-31 as Background for Hebrews 10:26," Society of Biblical Literature, Biblical Law Section, November 2008. "How Can a Good, All-Powerful God Allow Suffering?" The Journey Church, St. Louis, MO, Oct. 14, 2008.

2007

"How Many Types of Sin Are There in the Priestly Literature?" Evangelical Theological Society, Biblical Theology Section.

2006

"Verbs for Purification, Consecration, and Atonement: Is There a Difference?" Evangelical Theological Society, Old Testament section.

2005

"Sin and Impurity: Atoned or Purified? Yes!", Society of Biblical Literature, Pentateuch Section; Evangelical Theological Society, Old Testament Section. "Propitiation or Expiation? Yes! Sacrificial Atonement in Leviticus and its Implications for Christ's Atoning Work," Evangelical Theological Society, Old Testament Section.

2004

Panel presenter on The Passion of the Christ, University of Missouri-St. Louis. Presentation on Handel's Messiah, for the Francis Schaeffer Institute, Borders in Creve Coeur, MO.

2000

"The Meaning of the Verb *asam* in Leviticus 4 and 5," Society of Biblical Literature, Pentateuch Section; Evangelical Theological Society, Old Testament Section.

## Professional Organizations

Institute for Biblical Research  
Evangelical Theological Society  
Society of Biblical Literature