

JONATHAN LYONHART

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge, UK

- PhD Theology and Religious Studies (Viva Passed in Oct 2020) Cd.
 - Burney Scholarship in Philosophy of Religion (£48,000)
 - One of three Founders of the *New Trinitarian Ontologies Conference*, Cambridge
- MPhil Theology and Religious Studies, Distinction (2018)
 - M.Phil. Prize for being Top of the Class (2018)

REGENT COLLEGE

Vancouver, BC

- MA Christianity and Culture (2017)
- Graduate Diploma in Theological Studies (2017)

OZARK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Joplin, MO

- BTH New Testament Theology (2011)

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- *MonoTheism* (Cascade Books, Wipf & Stock, 2021, Accepted). A dialogical monograph on metaphysics and Trinitarian theology.

ARTICLES

- ‘Rethinking Truth: Assessing Heidegger’s Critique of Aquinas in light of Vallicella’s critique of Heidegger’, *New Blackfriars* vol. 101 (May 2020).
- ‘Being and Time-less Faith: Juxtaposing Heideggerian Anxiety and Religious Experience’, *Open Theology* 6, no. 1 (January 2020): 15-26.
- ‘The Monstrous Other and the Biblical Narrative of Ruth’, *Journal of Religion and Film* vol.24, no.2, art.3 (October 2020). With Jennifer Matheny.
- ‘Heidegger for the Perplexed: Some Possible Ways Forward After Being and Time’, *Crux: A Quarterly Journal of Christian Thought and Opinion*, vol. 56 (December 2020).

CHAPTERS

- “Alternative History and Eschatological Justice,” in *Ethics and Religion in Contemporary Speculative Fiction*. Ed. Sarah Gallant and Jennifer Matheny. (Fortress Press Academic/Lexington Books, 2021, Accepted).
- “The Defeat of Death: The Philosophy of Death in Mainstream Cinema.” in *The Infinity Saga and Philosophy*. Ed. Heather Rivera. (OpenCourt Pub., 2020)

- “Thanos is no Abraham: A Kierkegaardian Analysis of Ethics” in *The Infinity Saga and Philosophy*. Ed. Heather Rivera. (OpenCourt Pub., 2020)
- “The Modern Manichaeans: Binaries of Light and Dark in Contemporary Culture” In *Theology and the Star Wars Universe*. Ed. Ben Espinoza. (Fortress Press Academic/Lexington Books, 2020, Accepted)

EDITED WORKS

- *Noesis: Journal of Theology, Philosophy, and Poetics* Vol 7 (Graduate Society for the Study of Philosophical Theology and Systematics, Cambridge, UK: October 2020).
- *The Mirrored Hall* (Burnaby, BC: ShatterBooks Pub., April 2017).

BOOK REVIEWS

- Sean Carroll, *Something Deeply Hidden: Quantum Worlds and the Emergence of Spacetime* (Boston, MA: Dutton, 2019). Review in *Public Understanding of Science* Vol 29 (2020).
- Ron Cowen, *Gravity's Century: From Einstein's Eclipse to Images of Black Holes* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2019). Review in *Physics in Perspective* Vol 22 (2020).
- Brian Greene, *Until the End of Time: Mind, Matter and Our Search for Meaning in an Evolving Universe* (New York, Knopf, 2020). Review in *Theology and Science* Vol 18 (Accepted and Forthcoming 2021).
- Jim Al-Khalili, *The World According to Physics* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2020). Review in *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* Vol 69 (Accepted and Forthcoming 2021).
- Alister McGrath, *A Theory of Everything (That Matters): A Brief Guide to Einstein, Relativity, and His Surprising Thoughts on God* (Illinois: Tyndale, 2019). Review in *Science and Christian Belief* Vol 32 (2) (Accepted and Forthcoming 2021).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- ‘Wittgenstein on Divine Hiddenness’, *Noesis Review* Vol 7 (Graduate Society for the Study of Philosophical Theology and Systematics, Cambridge, UK: October 2020).
- ‘3rd Corinthians’, *Noesis Review* Vol 5 (Graduate Society for the Study of Philosophical Theology and Systematics, Cambridge, UK: November 2018). Republished.
- ‘3rd Corinthians’, *Et Cetera* Issue 9 (Regent College Student Association, BC: March 2017)
- Interview by *Regent Web* (June 2019) regarding the *New Trinitarian Ontologies Conference I* co-founded at Cambridge. Available here: <https://www.regent-college.edu/about-us/news/2019/regent-alumni-start-new-trinitarian-ontologies-conference-at-cambridge>

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

- *Burney Scholarship in Philosophy of Religion* (£48,000) University of Cambridge, 2018-21
- *Bethune-Baker Fund* (£1500) University of Cambridge, 2020
- *Divinity German Language Fund* (£1000) University of Cambridge, 2020
- *University of Fribourg* (£4000) Major Conference Grant, 2019
- *Cambridge Faculty of Divinity Trust Fund* (£2500) Major Conference Grant, 2019
- *Greta Burkill Fund* (£2000) Major Conference Grant, 2019
- *Pontifical University of the Holy Cross, Italy* (€4600) Major Conference Grant, 2019

- *Cambridge Colleges Grants* (£1100) Five Minor Conference Grants, 2019
- *Societies Syndicate Technical Committee Grant* (£350), Minor Conference Grant, 2019
- *MPhil Prize* for being Top of the 2018 Graduate Class at the University of Cambridge
- *Economics and Morality Academic Colloquium Grant* (£300) Acton Institute, 2018
- *Williamson Man of the Year Award*, Ozark Christian College, 2011
- *Trustees Scholarship* (\$4000) Ozark Christian College, 2007-2011

TEACHING

Links to Sample Lectures:

- Opening Talk at the *New Trinitarian Ontologies Conference*, 2019. “The Necessity of Trinitarian Theology.” (<https://youtu.be/s0ulsBsH7kY?t=116>)
- Lecture at the *Cambridge Festival of Ideas*, 2019. “God is Dead?” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=je9ExtCSI1s>)

University of Cambridge, Regular Guest Lecturer in *Philosophy of Religion* (2017-2020)

- Sample Feedback:
 - “Many were quite simply stunned at the quality... [he left us] in stunned silence.”
 - “Absolutely brilliant speaker - knowledgeable (which one would expect) but also excellent delivery and very engaged with the audience - very impressed.”
 - “Jonathan was simply marvellous... I cannot speak highly enough of him. It was an utter privilege to have heard him speak.”

Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, University of Cambridge, Adjunct

- Course: *History of Early Modern Science* (2020. Online)
- Course: *Religion, Science, and Contemporary Culture* (2020. Online)
- Course: *Mind and Matter* (2020)
- Sample Feedback:
 - “Really enjoyed being taught by him... a testament to that is the fact that I still remember most of it.”
 - “Very engaging.”
 - “Great use of analogies. Succeeded in breaking complicated ideas down into their easily-digestible constituent parts. Loved the use of diagrams and visual tools as well.”
 - “Dr Lyonhart was very kind and created a friendly learning environment where I was not afraid to voice my opinion.”

University of Cambridge, Department of Philosophy, Teaching Supervisor

- Course: *Metaphysics* (2020-2021. Online)
- Course: *Early Modern Philosophy* (2020-2021. Online)
- Course: *Philosophy of Science II* (2020-2021. Online)

Public Programs (6-9 Month courses I taught for the public), BC Mennonite Brethren

- Course: *Religion and Film* (2016-2017)
- Course: *Theology of the Old Testament* (2016-2017)

- Course: *History of Western Thought* (2015-2016)
- Course: *Apologetics* (2016)
- Course: *The Book of James* (2016)
- Course: *World Religions* (2015)
- Course: *Psalms* (2015)
- Course: *Theology of Gender and Sexuality* (2014)
- Course: *The Gospel of Luke* (2013-2014)
- Course: *Philippians* (2012-2013)
- Sample Feedback:
 - “He’s the best teacher I’ve ever had.”
 - “The moment I heard him speak I knew I’d need to hear him speak again.”
 - “Jonathan put a lot more effort into his job than the teachers I’ve had in the past and teachers I currently have. He went above and beyond what was required of him to make sure that his students grow as people.”
 - “I would say that he is by far the best teacher I’ve had so far. He is engaging, friendly, and very helpful.”
 - “I have never met a teacher that is as passionate and dedicated as Jonathan.”
 - “He’s extremely creative, integrating visual aids (props, etc.), multimedia, and so on... It makes it hard to ever get bored!”
 - “He made history really fun.”
 - “He is intellectual without showing up as obnoxious or unapproachable.”
 - “...has the professionalism of a university professor, with the passion of an elementary school teacher.”
 - “Jonathan was always really encouraging of different opinions. He was extremely patient and caring, which made everyone feel safe to express their beliefs or their concerns.”

Regent College

- Course: *Augustine* (2013). Teaching Assistant.

Regent College

- Helped teach and oversee the graduate writing program, tutoring masters students (2011-2012)

Ozark Christian College

- Course: *Religion and Science* (2009-2010). Teaching Assistant and Guest Lecturer.
- Sample Feedback:
 - “I was most impressed with his preparation and content. Mr. Lyonhart was a tremendous benefit [to us].”

Teaching Courses and Seminars Attended

- *Supervisor Training* – University of Cambridge – Department of Philosophy – 2019
- *Leadership and Sexual Ethics* – Mennonite Brethren of British Columbia – 2016
- *Annual Leadership Seminar* – Mennonite Brethren Chinese Churches Assoc. – 2013-2016
- *Curriculum Planning* – Ozark Christian College – 2011
- *Leadership, Team Building, & People Development* – Ozark Christian College – 2011

- *Graduate Tutor Training* – Regent College – 2011
- *Advanced Biblical Communication* – Ozark Christian College – 2011
- *Strategies for Teaching* – Ozark Christian College – 2010
- *Expository Preaching* – Ozark Christian College – 2009
- *Self-Disclosure in Teaching and Preaching* – Ozark Christian College – 2009
- *Pastoral Counselling* – Ozark Christian College – 2009
- *Homiletics* – Ozark Christian College – 2008
- *Speech II* – Ozark Christian College – 2007
- *Leaders in Training* – Artaban Society – 2007

Select Conference Lectures:

- “*The Trinity and Cosmology.*” (EUARE, Münster, August 2021)
- “*Locke and Cudworth on Innate Ideas.*” (John Locke Conference, Naples, June 2021)
- “*Introduction to Philosophy of Religion.*” (Divinity Online, University of Cambridge, June 17, 2020)
- “*Hemsterhuis on Space: A response to Adrian Mihai.*” (The D Society, University of Cambridge, November 15, 2019)
- “*God is Dead? An introduction to Philosophy of Religion.*” (Cambridge Festival of Ideas, Oct 17, 2019)
- “*Heidegger and Aquinas on the location of Truth.*” (AHRC ‘Trust and Truth’ International Interdisciplinary Conference, Peterhouse College, Cambridge, September 18-20, 2019)
- “*The On-going Necessity of Trinitarian Ontology.*” (New Trinitarian Ontologies Conference, University of Cambridge, September 13-15, 2019)
- Panel Chair for “*Evolution and Pan(en)theism*” discussion, feat. Celia Deane-Drummond and Johannes Hoff. *New Trinitarian Ontologies Conference*, University of Cambridge, September 13-15, 2019.
- “*Nietzsche, Cosmos and Morality.*” (Sutton Trust, University of Cambridge, August 23, 2018)
- “*John Locke and Ralph Cudworth on the source of Reason and Morality.*” (Lehrstuhl für Religionsphilosophie und Wissenschaftstheorie, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany, May 11, 2019)
- “*Wrangling about Innate Ideas? Reflections upon Locke and Cudworth.*” (British Society for the History of Philosophy Annual Conference, King’s College London, April 24, 2019)
- Response to Christian Hengsternann’s “*Holiness and Love – Divine Sensation and Agency in Ralph Cudworth’s Early Sermons,*” (‘Ralph Cudworth at the Crossroads of Modernity’, conference co-sponsored by the British Academy, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, March 11, 2019)
- “*Arguments for and against the Existence of God.*” (University of Cambridge, Outreach at Mill Hill, November 9, 2018)
- “*Cudworth on Atoms, Motion and Nothingness.*” (Beierwaltes Seminar, Claire College, Cambridge, October 20, 2018)
- “*What is Philosophy of Religion?*” (Sutton Trust, University of Cambridge, August 15, 2018)
- “*Re-evaluating the Cosmological Argument.*” (July 26, 2018, University of Cambridge, UK)
- “*God is dead? Surveying the Status of God in Recent Philosophy.*” (Hewett Academy, Norwich, March 29th 2018)

- Response to Gavin Hyman’s “*Between Hegel and Wittgenstein: Reflections in the Wake of Gillian Rose and Rowan Williams*,” (The D Society, University of Cambridge, February 2, 2018)
- “*Is Duns Scotus responsible for Onto-Theology, Immanence and Nihilism?*” (Academic Symposium, Regent College, Canada, March 2017)

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

CO-FOUNDER OF THE NEW TRINITARIAN ONTOLOGIES CONFERENCE

University of Cambridge, 2019

- One of three founders of the New Trinitarian Ontologies Conference, featuring Rowan Williams, David Bentley Hart, Graham Ward, John Milbank, Catherine Pickstock, Judith Wolfe, Emmanuel Falque, Andrew Louth, Thomas Joseph White, et al.
- Liaised with speakers to coordinate lectures, arrange panels, and live-stream the proceedings
- Promoted the conference worldwide, while arranging travel, catering and accommodations for hundreds of incoming guests
- Handled over £30,000 in ticket sales and grants, acquiring proficiency in online ticketing and event management

SSHRC RESEARCH ASSISTANT, GERMAN MYSTICISM IN EARLY MODERN ENGLAND

Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada, Cambridge/McGill, 2020-2023

- Co-ordinated with dozens of international researchers at Cambridge and McGill—including project leaders Dr. Douglas Hedley and Dr. Torrance Kirby—for this massive and ongoing SSHRC project (\$177,000), exploring the fundamental influence of German mysticism on English religious thought, chiefly in the 17th-century.

EDITOR OF NOESIS

University of Cambridge, 2019-Present

- Worked as one of the lead editors of *Noesis*, Cambridge Divinity’s annual *Journal of Theology, Philosophy, and Poetics*.

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION SUBJECT COMMITTEE

University of Cambridge, 2019-2021

- Organized programming, collected student response data, helped construct course curriculum and syllabi, raised concerns in committee, and coordinated with faculty and staff

WRITING CONSULTANT

ShatterBooks Publishing, 2015-2017

- Functioned as a consultant for a local publishing house, participating in the ongoing effort to publish anthologies and novels

MEDIA AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Designed and hosted a personal website (jdlyonhart.com) enabling the public to engage with my on-going content (2018-Present)

- Published an on-going YouTube channel ([JD Lyonhart](#)), featuring over 60 of my lectures, dramatizations, public debates and sermons (2014-Present).

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

MINISTER

Vancouver Christian Logos Church, 2012-2017

- Served as the full-time minister over a Chinese congregation of inner-city immigrants.
- Acquired essential skills in cross-generational and intercultural communication as the youngest and only Caucasian pastor in our denomination.
- Gained valuable communication experience, averaging 46 Sundays preaching a year for five years in a row.
- Garnered useful counselling, pastoring, teaching and interpersonal skills.
- Oversaw numerous teams, as well as hiring ministry staff, delegating responsibilities, and equipping leaders.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

College Heights Christian Church/Missouri Southern State University, 2009-2011

- Fostered administrative abilities through organizing programs for nearly 300 young adults.
- Created and ran my own staff teams, including organizing a weekly homeless ministry involving over 20 students.
- Refined public speaking and interpersonal abilities through consistent weekly teaching and regular preaching

YOUTH MINISTRY

Camp Artaban, 2005-2008, 2011, 2016

- Gained experience working with youth (grades 3-11) through counselling, teaching, running programs, and leading discussions

NON-FOR-PROFIT WORK

- Helped equip a local homeless and drug-rehabilitation ministry in inner city Vancouver (2015, 2017)
- Served on an impoverished Native Reservation in the mountains of Phoenix, Arizona, running free programs for youth, building homes, volunteering at a Sex-Slave rehabilitation home while receiving special training in the subject. (2011)
- Spent several months supporting a struggling community during the failed 2010 revolution in Bangkok, Thailand, ministering in the slums and protest zones. (2010)
- Rebuilt homes in Galveston, Texas, in the wake of Hurricane Ike. (2009)
- Served with Living Waters, a Non-for-Profit in Manhattan, New York, working to provide clean water around the globe. Simultaneously, assisted small groups for recovering drug addicts. (2008, 2010, 2011)
- Helped a local ministry serve the poor and disenfranchised in Matamoros, Mexico, particularly through construction projects and running community programs for local youth. (2007)

REFERENCES

- Dr. Douglas Hedley - Professor of the Philosophy of Religion, University of Cambridge, UK
01223 763028 / rdh26@cam.ac.uk
- Dr. Craig Gay - Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Regent College, Canada
604 221 3352 / cmgay@regent-college.edu
- Dr. Charles Taliaferro - Professor of Philosophy, St. Olaf College, USA
taliafer@stolaf.edu (Prefers Email Contact)
- Dr. Sarah Coakley - Former Norris-Hulse Professor of Divinity, University of Cambridge, UK
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