

## JESSE J. RAINBOW

The Honors College  
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### EDUCATION

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Ph.D., Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 2012

- Dissertation: *Textual Loss and Restoration in the Hebrew Bible*. Director: Jon D. Levenson

M.A., Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 2011

**Westminster Theological Seminary**, Glenside, Pennsylvania

Th.M., Hebrew Bible, 2007

M.A.R., Biblical Studies, 2004

**University of Houston**, Houston, Texas, 1999

B.A., History (Spanish minor), *summa cum laude*, with membership in the Honors College

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Articles and Book Chapters

“John, Elijah, and Naboth: What Does 1 Kings 21 Have To Do with Matthew 14?” Chapter in *Searching the Scriptures: Studies in Context and Intertextuality*. Edited by Craig A. Evans and J. J. Johnston. Studies in Scripture in Early Judaism and Christianity 19; Library of New Testament Studies. London and New York: T & T Clark, forthcoming.

“Sarah Saw a Hunter: The Venatic Motif in *Genesis Rabbah* 53:11.” Pages 155–79 in *Midrash and the Exegetical Mind: Proceedings of the 2008 and 2009 SBL Midrash Sessions*. Edited by Lieve Teugels and Rivka Ulmer. Judaism in Context 10. Piscataway, N.J.: Gorgias, 2010.

“The Derivation of *kordiakos*: A New Proposal.” *Journal for the Study of Judaism in the Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman Periods* 39 (2008): 255–66.

“Male μαστοί in Revelation 1.13.” *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 30 (2007): 249–53.

“The Song of Songs and the *Testament of Solomon*: Solomon's Love Poetry and Christian Magic.” *Harvard Theological Review* 100 (2007): 249–74.

## **Other Publications**

Contributor, *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*, Vol. 2, “Asaramel” and “Asphar.” Edited by Hans-Josef Klauck et al. Walter de Gruyter, 2009.

Review of David T. Lamb, *Righteous Jehu and His Evil Heirs: The Deuteronomist's Negative View of Dynastic Succession* (Oxford Theological Monographs; Oxford, 2007), *Religion* 39 (2009): 398–99.

Contributor, *Baker Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Edited by Tremper Longman III, Peter Enns, and Mark Strauss. Articles totaling about 40,000 words. Baker, forthcoming.

## **TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**The Honors College, University of Houston**, Houston, Texas

*Visiting Assistant Professor*, 2012–

“Bible and Western Culture I,” Spring 2013

“The Human Situation: Modernity,” Spring 2013

“The Human Situation: Antiquity,” Fall 2012

“Magic and Divination in the Bible and Its Worlds,” Fall 2012

**Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study**, Cambridge, Massachusetts

*Graduate Fellow*, 2011–2012

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, Massachusetts

*Teaching Fellow*, 2008–2011

“Intermediate Hebrew”

“The Hebrew Bible”

- Awarded Certificate of Distinction in Teaching

“Introduction to Syriac”

“The Bible and Its Worlds”

- Awarded Certificate of Distinction in Teaching

## **Other Teaching Experience**

Private tutor in Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic, Latin, and Syriac, 2002–2011

High school teacher, 1999–2004

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Radcliffe Graduate Fellowship, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, 2011–2012

Bowdoin Prize for Graduate Essays in the English Language, Harvard University, 2010

National Merit Scholarship, University of Houston, 1995–1999

The P.C. and Josephine Del Barto Scholarship, Department of History, University of Houston, April 1998

## **TEACHING AWARDS**

Harvard University Certificates of Distinction in Teaching, 2009, 2011

- Based on student evaluations of overall teaching excellence

Nominated for the Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize, Harvard University, 2011

- Nominated by undergraduate students

Nominated for the Derek C. Bok Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Teaching of Undergraduates, Harvard University, 2011

- Nominated by departmental faculty

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Academic**

“Jeremiah’s Two Scrolls and the Idea of Scripture.” Jewish Studies Program Kutchin Seminar Series, Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania. 11 February 2013.

“The Ezra Legend in Four Traditions.” Jewish Studies lecture at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi. 4 February 2013.

“The Hardening of Pharaoh’s Heart: A Ritual Explanation.” Houston Colloquium, Lanier Theological Library, Houston, Texas. 11 October 2012.

“A Twice-Told Tale: The Two Scrolls of Jeremiah and the Idea of Scripture.” Lost Texts: A Graduate Student Conference, Jewish Theological Seminary. 29 April 2012.

- Competitive travel grant awarded by the conference committee

“Who Reinscribed the Stone Tablets? A Solution to the Problem of Exodus 34:28.” New England/Eastern Canada Regional Meeting of the SBL, Newton Centre, Massachusetts. 27 April 2012.

“‘Many Bulls Surround Me’: Anthropomorphic War Animals and Theriomorphic Warriors in the Hebrew Bible.” Kill, Eat: Relating to Animals Across Religious Traditions, Columbia University Religion Graduate Student Conference. 20 April 2012.

“Textual Loss and Recovery in the Hebrew Bible.” Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Cambridge, Massachusetts. 26 March 2012.

“Cargo Cult Grammar: Philology and Authentication in the Internet Age.” Authenticity, Origins, and Authority in the Practice and Study of Religion, graduate student conference at the Brown University Religious Studies Department. 17 March 2012.

“The Genealogy of Jesus in the *Book of the Cave of Treasures*.” Syriac Literature Section, SBL Annual Meeting, San Francisco. 19 November 2011.

“Fahrenheit 586 (BCE, that is): The Hebrew Bible Burned and Restored.” Harvard-Yale Graduate Seminar in Book History. Harvard University, 5 May 2011.

“Enemy Speech in the Song of the Sea (Exodus 15:9).” New England Regional Meeting of SBL, Newton Centre, Massachusetts. 29 April 2011.

“The Implied Context of Enemy Speech in Biblical Poetry.” Hebrew Bible Workshop, Harvard University. 11 April 2011.

“John, Elijah, and Naboth: What Does 1 Kings 21 Have To Do with Matthew 14?” Intertextuality in the New Testament Consultation, SBL Annual Meeting, Atlanta. 21 November 2010.

“The Stone Tablets, Visual Arts, and Biblical Scholarship from 1500 to the Present.” Bible and Visual Art Section, SBL Annual Meeting, Atlanta. 22 November 2010.

- Competitive travel grant awarded by the Harvard University Graduate Student Council

“‘All Noblemen Who Have Gone Wrong’: A Very Short Handbook for Surviving Capture by Pirates.” Piracy: Eighth Annual Graduate Conference, Department of English and American Literature, Brandeis University. 22 October 2010.

“Rewriting Jesus’ Genealogy in the *Book of the Cave of Treasures*.” New England Regional Meeting of SBL, Newton Centre, Massachusetts. 16 April 2010.

“Scriptures That Might Have Been: Downs and Ups in the History of God’s Written Word.” Divining the Message/Mediating the Divine: Columbia University Religion Graduate Student Conference. Columbia University, 2 April 2010.

“Presbyopia, Purity, and Patriarchal Piety: The Priestly Status of Isaac in the Sahidic *Testament of Isaac*.” History of Interpretation Section, SBL Annual Meeting, New Orleans. 23 November 2009.

“Crisis and the Emergence of Scripture.” States of Crisis: Seventh Annual Graduate Conference, Department of English and American Literature, Brandeis University. 9 October 2009.

“Royal Hunting in Biblical Israel: Did They or Didn’t They?” New England Regional Meeting of SBL, Newton Centre, Massachusetts, 24 April 2009.

“The Land of Šîr as the Home of Matthew’s Magi.” Dorushe Annual Graduate Student Conference on Syriac Studies. Yale University, 29 March 2009.

“The Fabulous Land of Σειρίς (*Ant.* 1.71).” Judaism in Antiquity Workshop, Harvard University. 17 March 2009.

“Sarah Saw a Hunter: The Venatic Motif in *Genesis Rabbah* 53:11.” Midrash Section, SBL Annual Meeting, Boston. 23 November 2008. An earlier version was read at the New England Regional Meeting of SBL, Newton Centre, Massachusetts, 18 April 2008.

### **Major Community Presentations**

“Cracking the Ancient Codes: Stories of Three Great Decipherments of Ancient Scripts.” Community lecture in Visalia, California. 27 October 2011.

“Stories in Stained Glass.” Community lecture on the Wilbur H. Burnham Studio windows at All Saints’ Episcopal Church, Belmont, Massachusetts. 28 March 2009.

### **ADDITIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Participated in a semester-long interdisciplinary seminar, “Designing the Course of the Future,” Spring 2011

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel  
Course in Hebrew at the Rothberg International School, Summer 2003

College of the Sequoias, Visalia, California  
Course in special education, Fall 2002

University of California, Berkeley, California  
The Greek Workshop, Summer 2002