

Thomas K. Johnson, M.Div, ACPE, Ph.D.
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Wife: Leslie Pett Johnson
Happily married since 1977.
3 children

Youthful Shaping Experiences:

1. Being overwhelmed by radical evil while touring a concentration camp gave me a compulsion to understand and engage culture.
2. Coming out of a cult through reading scripture and the Heidelberg Catechism enabled me to see evangelical theology as the explanation of God's grace.

Convictions: The Church always faces 2 crucial questions:

1. Will we truly trust in God's grace? (The key to theology.)
2. Will we properly engage our culture with the Word of God? (Key to worldview and ministry studies.)

Ministry experience: teaching ethics, phil. and religion in secular colleges, 14 years; Pastor, 10 years (including church planting). Foreign missionary (pastor/prof.), 9 years; 3 different Christian School Boards, including being founding chairman of a school; Campus ministry (IVCF staff); hospital chaplain; social analysis (writer for Chuck Colson).

Seminary Teaching Fields:

1. Ethics and Apologetics, basic and advanced courses, including the history of ethics and apologetics.
2. Systematic Theology and Church History, at the seminary core course level.
3. Reformation Theology and Ethics.

Method: When possible I prefer a dialogical or Socratic teaching method that emphasizes critical thinking and discernment skills.

Personal Role Model: Ezra 7:9,10 "The gracious hand of his God was on him. For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the Lord, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel."

I have written a number of articles, reviews, and book chapters for various projects in the English, Russian, Czech, German, and Lithuanian languages. I personally write only in English and German. I hope to continue to write both popular and academic materials, primarily in ethics, worldview studies, apologetics, and the application of a theology of grace to our experience of fallenness. I am currently writing a book length study "Natural Law after Barth: A Protestant Reassessment" that I may also submit as a "Habilitation," the European advanced doctorate.

I. Education and Training

A. Undergraduate education:

Continental Teen Challenge Bible School, 1973
Nieder-Woellstadt, Germany

Hope College; B.A. Cum Laude, 1974-77

B. Graduate and post-graduate education:

Covenant Theological Seminary; M.Div. Magna Cum Laude, 1977-81

Missouri Baptist Hospital, Dept. of Pastoral Care, Adv. CPE, 1981

U of Iowa, School of Religion, Qualifying Exam in the History of Christianity, 1983 (MA equivalent)

U of I, School of Religion, Qualifying Exam in Jewish, Protestant, and Catholic Theology and Ethics, 1983 (MA Equivalent)

U of I, School of Religion, Qualifying Exam in Religion and Personality, 1983 (MA Equivalent)

Eberhard-Karls Universitaet Tuebingen, Institut fuer christliche Gesellschaftslehre, 1985-86. For this time at Tuebingen I received a generous grant from the DAAD, the German equivalent of a Fulbright.

U of I, School of Religion, Ph.D. in Ethics and Philosophical Theology, 1987

C. Ordination: Licentiate and ordination as Teaching Elder, PCA, 1987.

II. Professional Experience:

A. Current Appointments:

International Institute for Christian Studies, 1994-present
Professor of Philosophy and Theology

Anglo-American College, Professor of Humanities and Business, 1996-02

Charles University, Institute for Fundamental Learning/Faculty of Humanities, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1998-02

B. Previous Academic Appointments

Tutor in theology, apologetics, and church history,
Chesapeake Theological Seminary, 1998-00

Visiting Professor of Philosophy, Theology, and Psychology,
European Humanities University, Minsk, Belarus, 1994-96

Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, Kirkwood Community
College, Iowa City, Iowa, 1991-93.

Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa, Undergraduate College, 1982-84.

Research Assistant, U. of Iowa, School of Religion, 1981-82,
and 1985-86. Worked in Buddhist Studies, Contemporary Theology,
Reformation Studies, and Post-biblical Jewish Studies.

Research Assistant, Hope College, 1976-77. Worked in social
psychology under David Myers.

B. Total years post-secondary teaching experience:

5 ½ years in the States. This was all part time.

8 ½ years in central and eastern Europe

C. Pastoral Ministry:

1 year, hospital chaplain

1 ½ years, part-time, Christ Church, Iowa

7 years, Hope Evangelical Church (PCA), as church planter

2 years, part-time Minsk International Christian Fellowship

III. Selected courses taught:

A. Anglo-American College:

Business Ethics

Introduction to Philosophy

Philosophy of Religion

Christian Ethics

Ethics in Western Culture

B. Charles University, Institute of Fundamental Learning/Faculty of Humanities:

Philosophy of Religion

Questions in Philosophy and Religion
The Struggle to Believe: A History of the Phil. of Religion
History of Ethics
Reassessing Doubt and Belief: 20th Century Phil. of Religion
20th Century Ethics

C. European Humanities University:
Medical Ethics
Political Ethics
Varieties of Modern Atheism
History of Protestantism (Orthodox Theology Faculty)
Psychology and Religion (Psychology Faculty)
Being Human: Theories of Human Nature
The Philosophy of Alasdair MacIntyre

C.. Thesis supervision (at AAC and Charles U.)
I have worked with students on thesis writing in several fields:
philosophy, political theory, culture studies, and Christian history

IV. Professional Standing

A. Academic Awards and Honors:

1. Delta Phi Alpha (German Honor Society), 1977
2. Covenant Grant for Graduate Theological Studies, 1981
3. Direktstipendium, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, 1985-86.
(German Fulbright Scholarship)

B. Memberships in Professional Organizations

1. Fulbright Selection Committee, U. of Iowa, 1983-84.
2. ETS, 1987-1994, 2000-
3. Calvin Studies Society, early 90's
4. Evangelical Philosophical Society, 2000
5. International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education (IAPCHE), 2000
6. Czech ETS, 1999

V. Other Areas of Service:

A. Founding Board Chairman, Komensky Institute of Prague, 1999-02

This is the IICS subsidiary.

- B. Founding Board Chairman, Komensky Academy of Prague, 1997-01
This was the English language Christian school serving MK's other children. It is now merged with Riverside.
- C. Member, Board of Governours, Riverside School, 1997-00; 01-02
This is a British oriented Christian school serving primarily children from unchurched homes with a Christian education.
- D. Founding Presbyter (one of three), Presbytery of the Czech Republic (MTW related), 1998-02; Moderator, 01-02
- E. IICS, Academic Review Committee, 2000-
- G. Founding School Board, Heritage Christian School, Iowa, 1992-93.

VI. Research and Scholarly Accomplishments:

A. Publications:

1. Articles:

"The Family as a Biblical Model for Pastoral Relationships,"
SALT, 9:2, 1981.

"Poverty and Chastity in Reformed Ethics,"
PRESBYTERION, 16:1, 1990. (This is the Covenant Seminary journal.)

"Praying for the Church," OUTLOOK, 41:5, 1991.

"Why the Virgin Birth?" OUTLOOK, 41:11, 1991.

"The Moral Crisis of the West: Reflections from Francis Schaeffer and Helmut Thielicke," PRESBYTERION, 17:2, 1991.

"A Neglected Nugget," (on parenting) OUTLOOK, 42:6, 1992.

"Should We Celebrate Thanksgiving?" OUTLOOK, 42:11, 1992.

"Francis Schaeffer's Contribution to our View of the Church,"
OUTLOOK, 43:11, 1993.

"The Gospel of the Virgin Birth," OUTLOOK, Dec. 97.

"Abortion, Postmodernism, and the Sexual Revolution,"

OUTLOOK, Feb., 1998.

“The Sexual Revolution and Modern Research,”
OUTLOOK, March, 1998.

“Talking About Euthanasia,” Webjournal of the World Reformed
Fellowship, www.WRFnet.org, August, 2001.

“Written in Stone (1): The Ten Commandments for Today,”
www.WRFnet.org, October, 2001.

“Written in Stone (2): Proper Uses of God’s Law,”
www.WRFnet.org, November, 2001.

“Written in Stone (3): No Other Gods!”
www.WRFnet.org, December, 2001.

“Written in Stone (4): Our Other Gods,”
www.WRFnet.org, February, 2002.

“Written in Stone (5): Mixed Religion and the Second Commandment,”
www.WRFnet.org, March, 2002.

“Written in Stone (6): Do you know God’s Name?”
www.WRFnet.org, March, 2002

“Written in Stone (7): Do you exhibit God’s name?”
www.WRFnet.org, June, 02.

“Written in Stone (8): Do You Really Need a Break?”
www.WRFnet.org.

“Written in Stone (9): Sabbath and the Quest for Meaning.”
www.WRFnet.org

“Written in Stone (10): Honor or Shipwrecked Lives.”
www.WRFnet.org

The “Written in Stone” series is forthcoming in Lithuanian through
the ministry of “Prizme.”

“Adam and Eve, Who Are You? A Study in Theological Anthropology,”
Website of HOPE 21 Theology Consultation in conjunction with Martin
Bucer Seminary, www.bucer.de/theologyconsultation, June 2002.

“Adam und Eva, Wer Bist Du? Eine Studie zur theologischen
Anthropologie,” (in German) Website of HOPE 21.
Both the English and German versions of this article are forthcoming

at the website of WRF.

Forthcoming: "Dutch Reformed Philosophy in North America: Three Varieties in the Late Twentieth Century," Communio Viatorum, Journal of the Protestant Faculty of Charles University. This article should also appear, perhaps in revision, at the WRF website.

2. Book chapters:

"Why is Human Life Valuable?" (in Russian) in Man and the Christian Worldview, (Simferopol: Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, 1996).

"Dialogue with Kierkegaard in Protestant Theology: Francis Schaeffer, Helmut Thielicke, and Donald Bloesch," (in Russian) in Kierkegaard and The Present, (Minsk, 1996).

"Introduction" (in Russian) to the Russian edition of Michael Novak's Spirit of Democratic Capitalism, (Minsk: Luchi Sophii, 1997).

"Introduction" (in Russian) to the Russian edition of Thomas Oden's After Modernity, (Minsk: Luchi Sophii, 1998).

Forthcoming: "Marriage Ethics: The Unity of Science and Religion," (in Russian), I do not know the title of the book, probably from the Ukrainian Academy of Science, 2002. This article is forthcoming in both Russian and English at WRF.

3. Academic Conference Papers:

"Internal Tensions in Helmut Thielicke's Doctrine of Law and Gospel," ETS Midwestern Regional Meeting, Spring, 1992.

"Religious and Philosophical Roots of the Abortion Crisis," Iowa RTL Convention, November, 1992.

"Die Rolle der Kirche in der Gesellschaft," (written and presented in German) Theology Conference, Internationale Bildungs-und Begegnungsstaette, Minsk, Belarus, Nov. 1994.

"Grundlegung einer theologischer Interpretation der Medizin," (written and presented in German) IBB conference on medical ethics, Minsk, Belarus, Dec. 1994.

"Dialogue with Kierkegaard in Protestant Theology," Soros Foundation

Kierkegaard Conference, Minsk, Belarus, 1995. (Published, see above.)

“Why is Human Life Valuable,” Crimea-American College Conference, Simferopol, Ukraine, May, 1995. (Published, see above.)

“Church, State, and Education: A Pluralist Model,” IBB conference on the role of NGO’s in society, Spring, 1996. I also served as the German-English translator for this conference.

“Faith and Reason,” SEN conference on epistemology, Bratislava, Slovakia, Dec. 7, 2000.

“What is Religion?” SEN conference on epistemology, Bratislava, Slovakia, Dec. 7, 2000.

“Adam and Eve, Who Are You? A Study in Theological Anthropology/ Adam und Eva, Wer Bist Du? Eine Studie zur theologischen Anthropologie.” Written in both English and German, presented in English. Theology Consultation of HOPE 21, Budapest, Hungary, April 28-30, 2002. (Both versions published, see above.)

4. Literature Reviews:

Review of The Transforming Vision: Shaping a Christian World View, by Brian Walsh and J. Richard Middleton, PRESBYTERION, 12:2, 1986.

Review of Education, Christianity, and the State, by J. Gresham Machen, PRESBYTERION, 15:1, 1989.

Review of Medical Ethics: Principles, Persons, and Problems, by John Frame, PRESBYTERION, 15:2, 1989.

Comparative Review of Creation Regained: Biblical Basics for a Reformational Worldview by Albert M. Wolters, and Faith and Fragmentation by J. Philip Wogaman, PRESBYTERION, 15:2, 1989.

Review of Speak up for Just War or Pacifism by Paul Ramsey with an epilogue by Stanley Hauerwas, JETS, 33:2, 1990.

Review of Peace and Revolution: The Moral Crisis of American Pacifism, by Guenther Lewy, JETS, 33:2, 1990.

Review of The Rest of Success, by Denis Haack, PRESBYTERION, 16:2, 1990.

Comparative Review of Christian Ethics in the Protestant Tradition, by Waldo Beach, Christian Moral Judgment by J. Philip Wogaman, and Dilemmas: A Christian Approach to Moral Decision Making by Richard Higginson, JETS, 33:4, 1990.

Review of The Scattered Voice: Christians at Odds in the Public Square by James Skillen, PRESBYTERION, 17:1, 1991.

Review of Ethics and Community by Enrique Dussel (Liberation theology), JETS, 35:1, 1992.

Review of Peace and Certainty: A Theological Essay on Deterrence, by Oliver O'Donovan, JETS, 36:4, 1993.

Review of Modern Faith & Thought by Helmut Thielicke, partly in comparison with Karl Barth's Protestant Theology in the Nineteenth Century, JETS, 36:4, 1993.

Review of The Life and Death Debate by J. P. Moreland and Norman Geisler in comparison with Matters of Life and Death by John Cobb, Jr., JETS, 36:3, 1993.

N.B. some of the following reviews appeared when I was in Belarus and had almost no communications. I never received exact publication info.

Review of The Myth of Religious Neutrality: An Essay on the Hidden Role of Religious Belief in Theories by Roy A. Clouser, in Reformed Review.

Review of Citizen Christians: The Rights and Responsibilities of Dual Citizenship ed. by Richard D. Land and Louis A. Moore, in comparison with No Longer Exiles: The Religious New Right in American Politics ed. by Michael Cromartie, JETS.

Review of Anarchy and Christianity by Jacques Ellul in Reformed Review.

Review of The Earth is the Lord's: Christians and the Environment ed. by Richard D. Land and Louis A. Moore in comparison with Healing the Earth: A Theocentric Perspective on Environmental Problems and their Solution by Richard A. Young, in JETS.

Review of Dialogues on the Word: The Bible as Literature according to Bakhtin by Walter L. Reed, in the Russian Bakhtin Journal.

Review of Foundations of The Christian Faith by James Boice (in Czech), in Evangelikalni Forum, sbornik evangelikalnich teologu, 2/2000.

Forthcoming, review of The American Paradox: Spiritual Hunger in An Age of Plenty by David G. Myers, in Critique.

5. Other publications:

Translation copy edited (German to English) the English version of Adolf Schlatter's Gottes Gerechtigkeit: Ein Kommentar zum Roemerbrief, (Boston: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995).

Served as a Researcher/Writer for BreakPoint Radio with Chuck Colson, 1993. Fields: Religion and Society, Ethics and Society. Wrote radio commentaries for 1 million listeners.

Several op/ed pieces for various newspapers.

B. Scholarly Presentations:

1. Special University Lecture, EHU, Minsk, Winter, 1996:
"Human Rights and Christian Ethics."
2. Special University Lecture, Linguistic University, Minsk, Spring, 1996:
"Religion in America."
3. Colloquium on Medical Ethics, Medical Faculty No. 2, Prague, Nov. 1996.
Sponsored by the Templeton Foundation.
4. Special Lecture, Evangelical Theological Seminary, Prague, March, 2002.
"Theology that is Practical: Law and Gospel in Reformation Thought."
5. Special Lecture, Evangelical Theological Seminary, Prague, March, 2002.
"Faith and Reason: Different Paradigms." This was similar to a SEN conference paper from Dec., 2000.