

**JONATHAN L. WALTON**

Harvard University  
The Memorial Church  
One Harvard Yard  
Cambridge, MA 02138

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church, Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences, 2012-  
Professor of Religion and Society, Harvard Divinity School, 2012-  
Assistant Professor of African American Religions, Harvard Divinity School, 2010-  
Resident Scholar, Lowell House, Harvard College  
Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, University of California, Riverside, 2006-2010  
Lecturer, Princeton University, Department of Religion and The Program in African American Studies, 2003-2006

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books:**

*Watch This! The Ethics and Aesthetics of Black Televangelism*, New York University Press, 2009.

Reviewed in *Journal of Religion, Media and Digital Culture, The Journal of Religion, Journal of American Ethnic History, Modern Theology, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Sociology of Religion, Religious Studies Review, Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture, Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies, The Black Scholar: Journal of Black Studies and Research*, and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

**Special Issues:**

*Will the Revolution Be Televised? TV Preachers, Profits and the Prophetic*, Special Issue of *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*, Vol. 33, number 2, 2011. Edited and Introduction by Jonathan L. Walton. Contributors: Jonathan L. Walton, Josef Sorett, Monique Moultrie, Debra J. Mumford, Darnell Moore and Anthea Butler.

**Journal Articles:**

“Stationed in the King’s Court: Evangelicals in the Age of Obama,” in *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society*, Vol. 16, numbers 1-2, 2014, pp. 79-98.

“The Greening of the Gospel (and Black Body): Rev. Ike’s Gospel of Wealth and Post-Blackness Theology,” in *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*, Vol. 33, number 2, 2011, pp. 181-199.

“For Where Two or Three (Thousand) Are Gathered in My Name! A Cultural History and Ethical Analysis of African-American Megachurches” in *Journal of African American Studies*, Vol. 15, number 2, 2011, pp. 133-154.

“Preachers’ Blues: Religious Race Records and the Reclamation of Authority on Wax” in *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*, Vol. 20, number 2, 2010, pp. 205-232.

“Black Theology and the Birmingham School: Revisiting a Conversation on Culture” *Black Theology: An International Journal*, Vol. 7, number 3, 2009, pp. 259-281.

**Book Chapters:**

“Have the Sons of Africa Have No Souls?: Manliness, Freedom, and Power in the Cultural Roots of Afro-Phallic Protestantism,” in *The Sexual Politics of Black Churches*, edited by Josef Sorett, The Institute for Religion, Culture and Public Life Series, Columbia University Press, submitted, anticipated 2015

“Liberation and the Prosperity Gospel,” in *The Oxford Handbook of African American Theology*, edited by Anthony Pinn and Katie G. Cannon, Oxford University Press, 2014, pp. 453-467.

“Stop Worrying and Start Sowing! A Phenomenological Account of the Ethics of ‘Divine Investment’” in *Pentecostalism and Prosperity: The Socio-Economics of Global Charismatic Movements*, edited by Amos Yong and Katy Attanasi, Palgrave Macmillan, 2012, pp. 107-129.

“Onward, Christian Soldiers! Race, Religion and Nationalism in Post-Civil Rights America,” in *Ethics that Matters: Christian Social Ethics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, edited by James Logan and Marcia Riggs, Fortress Press, 2011, pp. 139-158.

“TV’s Black Profits: The Impact of the Electronic Church Phenomenon on the Intellectual Activity of African American Religion” in *Creating Ourselves: African Americans and Hispanic Americans, Popular Culture and Religious Expression* edited by Anthony Pinn and Benjamin Valentin, Duke University Press, 2009, pp. 231-248.

**Reference works:**

“Prosperity and Economic Empowerment Gospel and African American Churches” in *Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*, edited by Daniel Patte, Cambridge University Press, 2010, pp. 1014-1015.

“Megachurch Phenomenon” in *African American Religious Cultures*, Vol. 2. edited by Anthony Pinn, ABC-CLIO, 2009, pp. 463-476.

**Magazine/Newspaper articles**

Op-Ed: "After Ferguson, When Will We Listen?" in *The New York Times* (The Opinion Pages/ On The Ground with Nicholas Kristof), November 26, 2014.

"Waking from a Dream," in the *Harvard Divinity Bulletin*, Vol. 41. Numbers 2 & 4, Summer/Autumn 2013, pp. 10-13.

Op-Ed: "The Shame of Behavioral Health" in *The Harvard Crimson*, 9/13/2012

Op-Ed: Three Words of Caution in the Wake of Another Mass Killing, The Huffington Post, 12/16/2012

"Staying Human in a Media Age," in the *Harvard Divinity Bulletin*, Vol. 39. numbers 3 & 4, Summer/Autumn 2011, pp. 8-11.

"Tax Exempt?" Lifestyles of the Rich and Religious," in *The Christian Century*, Vol. 125. Issue 2, 1/29/2008, p. 13.

"Empowered: The entrepreneurial ministry of T.D. Jakes," in *The Christian Century*, Vol. 124. Issue 14, 7/10/2007, pp. 25-28.

**Book reviews:**

*The Rise to Respectability: Race, Religion, and the Church of God in Christ. The Rise to Respectability: Race, Religion, and the Church of God in Christ*, Calvin White, Jr, University of Arkansas Press, reviewed in *Journal of American History*, Vol. 100. Number 3, 2013.

*The Color of Christ: The Son of God and the Saga of Race in America* by Edward J. Blum and Paul Harvey in the *Christian Century*, vol. 129, no. 22, 2012, p. 34.

*Darker Than Blue: On the Moral Economies of Black Atlantic Culture*, Paul Gilroy, Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, reviewed in *Black Theology: An International Journal*, Vol. 9. Issue 1, 2011, pp. 119-121.

*Becoming King: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Making of a National Leader*. Troy Jackson. University Press of Kentucky, reviewed in *Journal of African American History*, Vol. 95. Issue 2, 2010, pp. 271-273.

*The Fire Spreads: Holiness and Pentecostalism in the American South*. Randall J. Stephens. Harvard University Press, reviewed in *Journal of American History*, Vol. 96. Issue 4, March 2010, pp. 1198-1199.

*T.D. Jakes: America's New Preacher*. Shayne Lee. New York University Press, reviewed in *Scottish Journal of Theology*. Vol. 62. Issue 2, 2009, pp. 253-255.

*Shamanism, Racism, and Hip Hop Culture: Essays on White Supremacy and Black*

*Subversion*. James W. Perkinson. Palgrave MacMillan, reviewed in *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions*, Vol. 13. number 1, 2009, pp. 115-117.

*James Baldwin's God: Sex, Hope and Crisis in Black Holiness Culture*. Clarence Hardy. University of Tennessee Press, reviewed in *The Princeton Seminary Bulletin*, Vol. 36. number 3, 2005, pp. 349-351.

*Righteous Riches: The Word of Faith Movement in Contemporary African American Religion*. Milmon Harrison, Oxford University Press, reviewed in *The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Vol. 44. Issue 4, 2005, pp. 500-501.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND COURSE OFFERINGS

### Harvard Divinity School:

Power & Piety: Evangelicals and Politics in the Contemporary U.S.

Martin, Malcolm and Masculinity

The Burden of the Black Church

Black Exodus: The Great Migration, Immigration and Religious Imagination

Pentecost and Prosperity: The Ethics of Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements

Beyond Peasants and Proletarians: Black Religions and the Social Sciences of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

African American Religions: An Introduction

### University of California, Riverside:

Introduction to African American Religions and Culture

Religious Myths & Rituals

Black Exodus: The Great Migration and Religious Imagination

Evangelical Religion, Media and Culture in America

Martin, Malcolm & Masculinity

Religious Cultures in Modern America

The Tragic and Prophetic: African American Voices of Resistance

Ethics & Politics in African American Religion

Religion, Politics & Public Discourse

Advanced Topics in North American Religion

### Princeton University (teaching assistant):

Contemporary African American Religion, Princeton University, Spring, 2005, Eddie Glaude

Introduction to African American Cultural Practices, Princeton University, Spring & Fall, 2004, Cornel West

Race, Class and Intelligence in America, Princeton University, Fall 2003, Howard Taylor Philosphic, Religious and Literary Dimensions of Du Bois, Baldwin & Morrison, Princeton University, Spring 2003, Cornel West

**Princeton Theological Seminary (teaching assistant):**

The Theology and Ethics of Martin Luther King, Jr., Princeton Theological Seminary, Fall 2002, Peter Paris

**GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS**

Young Scholars in American Religion 2009-2011, Center for Religion and American Culture, Indiana University-Purdue University  
Resident Fellow, Center for Ideas and Society, UC Riverside, 2007.  
*Summa Cum Laude*, Princeton Theological Seminary, 2006  
Princeton Theological Seminary Princeton Doctoral Fellowship, 2002-2006  
Dissertation Fellow, The Fund for Theological Education, 2005-2006  
Doctoral Fellow, The Fund for Theological Education, 2002-2004  
Dissertation Research Grant, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, 2004  
Dissertation Research Grant, The Program in African American Studies, Princeton University, 2004  
The Jean Anne Swope and James L Meachem Prize in Christian Social Ethics, Princeton Theological Seminary, 2002.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**Recent conferences, panels and invited lectures**

“Are the Gods Afraid of Black Sexuality,” Religion and the Burden of Black Sexual Politics, Columbia University, New York, 10/24/2014

Keynote Address: *Pentecostal and Prosperous: Empowering Marginalized Protestant Bodies*,” International Society for Religion Media and Culture, Keynote Address, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, 8/4/2014

Keynote Address, The Geddes W. Hanson Lecture, Princeton Theological Seminary, 10/21/2014

Keynote Address: Baccalaureate Service, Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA, 5/17/2014

Keynote Address: Princeton Doll Family Lecture on Religion and Money, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, 4/24/2014

Keynote Address: Kelly Miller Smith Institute Social Justice Forum, Vanderbilt University Divinity School, 4/12/14

Keynote Address: The Carl Lecture Series, First United Methodist Church, Schenectady, New York, 3/30/2014

Keynote Address: The Barbara Holmes Lecture Series in African American Studies, Memphis Theological Seminary, 2/24-25/2014

Keynote Address: The Fred Turnage Lecture Series—Conversations on Christian

Citizenship, Lakeside Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, North Carolina, 1/12-13/14

“Religious Diversity and the Common Good,” Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life, Boston College, 11/13/21013

*The Black Mega-Church: Theology, Gender, and the Politics of Public Engagement*, Howard Divinity School, Washington, D.C., 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Convocation, 10/16-17/2013

“*The Du Boisian Dilemma: Sacrificing the Faith in order to Save the Race*,” Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL, The C. Shelby Rooks Lecture, 10/10/13

“*The Present Hereafter*,” Duke University Chapel, Durham, N.C., Duke University Homecoming Weekend, 9/29/13

“*Lifestyles of the Not So Rich and Religious: Theological Prosperity in an Age of Economic Inequality*,” Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, Maxine and Jonathan Marshall Speaker on Religion and Conflict Endowed Lecture Series, 10/4/12

“*The Lenses of Visionary Leadership*,” Shaw University, Raleigh, NC, The Bessie Boyd Holman Lecture Series in Ethics and Values, 9/23-24/12

“*Stop Worrying and Start Sowing: The Ethics of a ‘Recession Proof’ Gospel*,” Washington University, John C. Danforth Center on Religion & Politics, 2/23/12

“*Scapegoating the Faith: Early Social Scientific Approaches to the ‘Negro Problem’*,” Washington University, John C. Danforth Center on Religion & Politics, 1/11/2012

“*Scapegoating the Faith: Early Social Scientific Approaches to the ‘Negro Problem’*,” Emory University, Department of Religion, 11/11/2011

“*For Where Two or Three (Thousand) Are Gathered in My Name! Black Megachurches in America*,” Furman University, 04/18/2011

“*Preachers’ Blues: Religious Race Records and the Reclamation of Authority on Wax*,” Eastern Nazarene College, 04/13/2011

“*Black Gods of the Mediasphere*,” University of Virginia, Carter G. Woodson Institute 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, 04/07/2011

“*Stationed in the King’s Court: Black Evangelicals in the Age of Obama*,” Garrett Evangelical Seminary, Evanston, IL, 02/2010, and Evangelical Theology Group, AAR 2009 Annual Meeting

Participant, “Arcus Roundtable on the Sexual Politics of Black Churches,” Union Theological Seminary, New York, 6/30/2010

*“Negotiating Tradition and Change: Managing Ecclesiology and Technology,”* Keynote Address, Princeton Theological Seminary, Alumni Week, 10/2009

*“Blogging While Brown: Jena 6 and Youth Cultures of Resistance,”* Center for African American Studies, Princeton University, Faculty/Grad Colloquium, 10/2009

*“Deliver Us From Evil”:* *An Assessment of the Hermeneutical and Methodological Creativity of Emilie Townes in Uncovering/Dismantling Culturally Produced Evil*, Ethics Section and Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group, AAR, 2008 Annual Meeting

### **PROFESSIONAL BOARDS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Board of Trustees, Princeton Theological Seminary

National Advisory Board, John C. Danforth, Center on Religion & Politics, Washington University in St. Louis

The American Academy of Religion

AAR Nominations Committee Member (Chair 2011-2012)

Religion, Media & Culture Group Steering Committee

Afro-American Religious History Group Steering Committee