

CURRICULUM VITAE

REV'D DR KAR YONG LIM

Lecturer in New Testament Studies
Dean, STM-KL Centre
Seminari Theoloji Malaysia
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EDUCATION

University of Wales, Trinity Saint David (Formerly University of Wales, Lampeter), Department of Theology & Religious Studies, Lampeter, United Kingdom (Oct 2003–Oct 2006)

- PhD in New Testament awarded in April 2007.
- Thesis: "The Sufferings of Christ are Abundant in Us (2 Cor 1:5a): A Narrative Dynamics Investigation of Paul's Sufferings in 2 Corinthians."
- Supervisors: Dr William S. Campbell and Dr Rollin G. Grams.
- Examiners: Dr David G. Horrell and Dr Paul Middleton.
- No amendments or corrections required except for minor typographical errors.

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, Massachusetts, United States of America (Sept 1998–May 2000)

- MA in New Testament (Summa Cum Laude), 2000.
- CGPA: 3.97.

Global University (Formerly ICI University), Irving, Texas, USA (Jan 1992–Jan 1998)

- BA (Bible/Theology) through part-time distance learning, 1998.
- Dean's List

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Skudai, Johor, Malaysia (July 1986–May 1991)

- B Surveying (Property Management) 2nd Class Upper Honours, 1991.

WORKING EXPERIENCE

Jan 2007–present

Lecturer in New Testament Studies (Jan 2007–present)

Director of Postgraduate Studies (Jan 2010–Dec 2022)

Founding Director of Centre for Bible Engagement (Jan 2017–Dec 2020)

Dean, STM-Kuala Lumpur Centre (Jan 2020–present)

Seminari Theoloji Malaysia (Malaysia Theological Seminary), Seremban

- **Lecturer in New Testament Studies:** Subjects taught include New Testament Survey/Introduction, Exegesis of Mark, Exegesis of Acts, Exegesis of Romans, Exegesis of 1 Corinthians, Parables of Jesus, Pauline Theology, Exegetical Methods, Bible and Archaeology, Advanced Hermeneutics, and New Testament

Theology; postgraduate supervision at Master of Theology (by research) and Doctor of Theology levels; external Master of Theology and PhD examinations; serving or served in numerous committees including Academic Committee, Library Committee, Postgraduate Committee, and Special Task Force for Seminary Development.

- **Director of Postgraduate Studies:** Academic administrative responsibilities and oversight for all postgraduate programmes including curriculum design and review leading to successful accreditation of the programme by Association for Theological Education in South-East Asia (ATESEA) in 2012, promotion for all postgraduate programmes, and chairing of examination committee for postgraduate programmes.
- **Director of Centre for Bible Engagement:** Responsible for establishing a new Centre for Bible Engagement, an interdisciplinary centre focusing on research, publication, postgraduate supervision, setting up a new biblical studies room showcasing archaeological replicas and pictorial exhibits related to biblical studies, organising seminars aimed at academic and popular levels, and leading study tours to Israel, Greece and Turkey.
- **Dean, Seminari Theoloji Malaysia–Kuala Lumpur Centre:** Responsible for setting up the seminary’s extension centre and postgraduate school located in Kuala Lumpur city centre, providing leadership and oversight of all academic programmes and public events at the centre, overseeing the digitalisation of students’ records and academic operation, and implementing online and hybrid courses.

Oct 2018–present

St Paul’s Anglican Church, Petaling Jaya

Non-stipendiary Priest

Jan 2007–Dec 2014

Pastor and Director of Christian Education

Petaling Jaya Evangelical Free Church, Malaysia

Joint appointment with Seminari Theoloji Malaysia

Aug 2000–May 2003

Executive Secretary

Graduates’ Christian Fellowship, Petaling Jaya

Feb 1994–Aug 1998

Assistant Manager – Marketing Research

Assistant Manager – Real Estate and Property

Tan & Tan Developments Bhd, Kuala Lumpur, one of the largest property developers listed on Bursa Malaysia, the Malaysian Stock Exchange.

May 1991–Sept 1993

Valuation Executive

KGV-Lambert Smith Hampton, Johor Bahru.

ACADEMIC INTERESTS

Paul and Pauline Literature, especially the Corinthian Letters
Social Identity Formation and Early Christianity
Space and Archaeology in the New Testament
Parables of Jesus
Gospel of Mark
Contextual Reading of the New Testament from Asian Perspective

PUBLICATIONS

Books Authored

Following Jesus: An Illustrated Guide to the Places of the Holy Land According to the Gospel of Mark. Seminari Theoloji Malaysia Series 14. Singapore: Armour Publishing, 2019.

Metaphors and Social Identity Formation in Paul's Letters to the Corinthians. Eugene: Pickwick, 2017.

Jesus the Storyteller: Hearing the Parables Afresh Today. Seminari Theoloji Malaysia Series 9. Singapore: Armour Publishing, 2015.

"The Sufferings of Christ are Abundant in Us" (2 Cor 1:5): A Narrative Dynamics Investigation of Paul's Sufferings in 2 Corinthians. Library of New Testament Studies Monograph Series No 399. London/New York: T&T Clark, 2009.

Book Edited

Sermons on the Psalms: A Special Publication Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Seminari Theoloji Malaysia. Edited by Lim Kar Yong, Peter H. W, Lau, and Elaine Goh Wei Fun. Singapore: Armour Publishing/ Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, 2018.

Chapters in Books/Articles in Journals

"Remain in the Calling in which You were Called" (1 Cor 7:20): The Continuation of Social Identities in 1 Corinthians." Special Issue: Reading New Testament Writings Through Non-Supersessionist Lenses. *Religions*. Forthcoming.

"The Politics of Honoring the 'Good' and Resisting the 'Evil' - Reading Romans 13 as a Hidden Transcript in the Malaysian Context." Co-authored with Hii Kong Hock. Pages 274–88 in *Scripture, Cultures, and Criticism: Interpretive Steps and Critical Issues Raised by Robert Jewett*. Edited by K. K. Yeo and Kathy Ehrensperger. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2022.

"The New Testament and the Socio-Cultural and Religious Realities of the Asian Contexts." Pages 5–28 in *Asian Introduction to the New Testament*. Edited by Johnson Thomaskutty. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2022.

"For All of You are One in Christ Jesus (Gal 3:28): Paul's Vision for Inclusivity or Diversity?" Pages 83–116 in *From Malaysia to the Ends of the Earth: Southeast Asian and Diasporic Contributions to Biblical and Theological Studies*. Edited by Elaine Wei Fun Goh, Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan, Jonathan Yun-Ka Tan and Amos Yong. Claremont, CA: Claremont Press, 2021.

- "2 Corinthians." Pages 327–54 in *T&T Clark Social Identity Commentary on the New Testament*. Edited by J. Brian Tucker and Aaron Kuecker. London: T&T Clark, 2020.
- "A Theology of Suffering and Mission for the Asian Church." Pages 181–98 in *Asian Christian Theology: Evangelical Perspectives*. Edited by Stephen T. Pardue and Timoteo Gener. Carlisle: Langham Publishing, 2019.
- "The Fellowship of Christ's Sufferings" (Phil 3:10): Politics, Sufferings, and Social Identity Formation in Philippians." Pages 127–51 in *Suffering in Paul: Perspectives and Implications*. Edited by Siu Fung Wu. Eugene: Pickwick, 2019.
- "The Divine Courtroom (Psalm 50)." Pages 15–24 in *Sermons on the Psalms: A Special Publication Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Seminari Theoloji Malaysia*. Edited by Lim Kar Yong, Peter H. W. Lau, and Elaine Goh Wei Fun. Singapore: Armour Publishing/Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, 2018.
- "Paul the Economist? Economic Principles in Pauline Literature with the Jerusalem Collection as a Test Case." *Evangelical Review of Theology* 41 (2017):19–31.
- "Reading Romans 13:1–7 in a Multi-Faith Context: Some Reflections from Malaysia." Pages 37–47 in *What Young Asian Theologians Are Thinking*. Edited by Leow Theng Huat. CSCA Christianity in Southeast Asia Series 7. Singapore: Trinity Theological College, 2014.
- "'If Anyone is in Christ, New Creation: The Old has Gone, the New has Come' (2 Cor 5:17): New Creation and Temporal Comparison in Social Identity Formation in 2 Corinthians." Pages 289–310 in *T&T Clark Handbook to Social Identity and the New Testament*. Edited by J. Brian Tucker and Coleman A. Baker. London: T&T Clark, 2014.
- "Folly and Fools in the New Testament." Pages 354–55 in *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*. Vol 9. Edited by Dale C. Allison, Jr., Christine Helmer, Jens Schröter, Thomas Chr. Römer, Choon-Leong Seow, Barry Dov Walfish and Eric Ziolkowski. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2014.
- "Living as Christians under Civil Law: The New Testament Letters, Law, and Politics." Co-authored with David M. Smolin. Pages 209–38 in *Law and the Bible: Justice, Mercy and Legal Institutions*. Edited by Robert F. Cochran Jr. and David VanDrunen. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2013.
- "Generosity from Pauline Perspective: Insights from Paul's Letters to the Corinthians." *Special Edition on Contagious Generosity, Evangelical Review of Theology* 37 (2013): 20–30.
- "The Agape Meal: A Sacramental Model for Ministry drawn from Romans 13:8." Co-authored with Ezra Kok. Pages 447–54 in *From Rome to Beijing: Symposia on Robert Jewett's Commentary on Romans*. Edited by K. K. Yeo. Lincoln: Kairos Studies, 2013.

“Rethinking How We Teach the Bible in Church.” Co-authored with Tee Meng Yew. *Church and Society in Asia Today* 16/2 (2013): 111–21.

“οἵτινες καταγγέλλουσιν ὑμῖν ὁδὸν σωτηρίας (Acts 16:17): Is Paul Proclaiming the Way or A Way of Salvation?” *Malaysian Association of Theological Schools Journal* (2010): 73–86.

“Paul’s Use of Temple Imagery in the Corinthian Correspondence: The Creation of Christian Identity.” Pages 189–205 in *Reading Paul in Context: Explorations in Identity Formation, Essays in Honour of William S. Campbell*. Edited by Kathy Ehrensperger and J. Brian Tucker. Library of New Testament Studies Monograph Series No 428. London/New York: T&T Clark, 2010.

“Is There A Place For Suffering In Mission? Perspectives from Paul’s Sufferings in 2 Corinthians.” Pages 64–78 in *The Soul of Mission: Perspectives on Christian Leadership, Spirituality and Mission in East Asia; Essays in Appreciation of Dr David Gunaratnam*. Edited by Dr Tan Kang San. Petaling Jaya: Pustaka Sufes, 2007.

Book Reviews

The Social Significance of Reconciliation in Paul’s Theology: Narrative Readings in Romans. Library of New Testament Studies 421. By Corneliu Constantineanu. London/New York: T&T Clark, 2010. *Transformation* 31/4 (2014): 304–306.

In the Footsteps of Judas and Other Defectors: The Gospels, Acts, and Johannine Letters. *Apostasy in the New Testament Commentaries*. Vol. 1. By B. J. Oropeza. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2011. *Evangelical Quarterly* 86/2 (2014): 183–85.

1 & 2 Timothy and Titus. *African Bible Commentary Series*. By Samuel M. Ngewa. Grand Rapids, Michigan: HippoBooks, 2009. *Transformation* 30/3 (2013): 217–18.

Discovering Jesus in the New Testament. By Keith Warrington. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 2009. *Transformation* 30/4 (2013): 300–301.

Remember the Poor: Paul, Poverty, and the Greco-Roman World. By Bruce W. Longenecker. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 2010. *Evangelical Review of Theology* 37 (2013): 88–89.

Paul Unbound: Other Perspectives on the Apostle. Edited by Mark D. Given. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2010. *Evangelical Quarterly* 85/1 (2013): 83–84.

Great Commission Companies: The Emerging Role of Business in Missions. By Steve Rundle & Tom Seffen. Downers Grove: Inter-Varsity Press, 2003. *Mission Studies* 22/1 (2005): 164–66.

The Church in Mission: Universal Mandate and Local Concerns. Edited by Thomas Malipurathu & L. Stanislaus. Gujarat: Gujarat Sahitya Prakash, 2002. *Mission Studies* 21/2 (2004): 317–18.

Cruciformity: Paul's Narrative Spirituality of the Cross. By Michael J. Gorman. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003. *Journal of Beliefs and Values* 25/1 (2004): 114–16.

**CURRENT
WRITING/RESEARCH
PROJECTS**

“Living as Sojourners and Exiles: Reading 1 Peter from A Malaysian Perspective.” In *Reading Hebrews and 1 Peter from Global Perspectives*. Edited by Abeneazer G. Urga. Submission date: December 2022. Publisher to be confirmed.

Contributor for 2 Corinthians: NIV Messianic Study Bible. Contracted. Submission date: July 2023. To be published by Zondervan.

“Reading the New Testament in Malaysia” in *Reading the New Testament in Asia*. Edited by Johnson Thomaskutty. Contracted. Submission date: August 2023. To be published by Langham Publishing.

Re-mapping Philippians: Intersection between Imperial Language and Social Identity Formation. A major monograph incorporating critical geography and social identity formation theories in reading Paul's Letter to the Philippians. Currently under contract negotiation. Expected date of submission 2024.

1 Peter. Social Identity Commentary on the New Testament. Contracted. Submission date: March 2026. To be published by T&T Clark.

Reading 1 Corinthians After Supersessionism. New Testament after Supersessionism Series. To be contracted. Expected submission date: 2027. To be published by Cascade, an imprint of Wipf & Stock.

**PAPERS, LECTURES
AND PRESENTATIONS
(SELECTED)**

“The Influence of Context on Reading Paul's Labelling of ἄπιστοι in his Letters to the Corinthians: Some Considerations from Malaysia.” Paper presented at the *Seminar on Reading Paul's Letters in Context: Theological and Social-Scientific Approaches, Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas, Leuven, Belgium*. July 25–29, 2022.

“The Fellowship of Christ's Sufferings” (Phil 3:10): Politics, Sufferings, and Social Identity Formation in Philippians.” Paper presented at the *Paul and Pauline Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Helsinki, Finland*, July 30-August 3, 2018.

“What's in A Name? The Empire Decides!” Paper presented at the *Society of Asian Biblical Studies Meeting, Malang, Indonesia*. July 16–20, 2018.

“Paul the Economist? Economic Principles in Pauline Literature with the Jerusalem Collection as a Test Case.” Paper presented at the *Paul and Pauline Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Berlin, Germany*, August 7–11, 2017.

“You are the Body of Christ” (1 Cor 12:27): Metaphor and Social Identity Formation.” Paper presented at the *Paul and Pauline Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Seoul, South Korea*, July 3–7, 2016.

“Paul's 'Remembering the Poor' as Rituals in the Corinthian Letters.”

Paper presented at the *3rd Biblical Studies Seminar: Bible and Wealth and Poverty, Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, Seremban, March 7, 2016.*

“Earthly Stories with Heavenly Meaning?: Rethinking the Parables of Jesus.” Lecture delivered at the *Official Launch of Jesus the Storyteller: Hearing the Parables Afresh, Centre for Theological Education by Extension, Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, Luther Centre, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, May 30, 2015.*

“Space, Politics, and Social Identity Formation in Philippians.” Paper presented at the *2014 International Congress of Ethnic Chinese Biblical Scholars, Divinity School of Chung Chi, Chinese University of Hong Kong, August 18–20, 2014.*

“Spaces of Identity: Real and Imagined Spaces and Social Identity Formation in Philippians.” Paper presented at the *Paul and Pauline Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Vienna, July 6–10, 2014.*

“Space and Social Identity Formation in light of Paul’s Anti-Imperial Rhetoric with Philippians as a Test Case.” Paper presented at the *Inaugural Biblical Studies Seminar: Politics in the Bible, Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, Seremban, March 10, 2014.*

“Paul's 'Remembering the Poor' as Ritual in the Corinthian Letters.” Paper presented at the *Seminar on Reading Paul's Letters in Context: Theological and Social-Scientific Approaches, Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas, Perth, July 21–24, 2013.*

“Paul’s Use of Temple Imagery in the Corinthian Correspondence and the Formation of Christian Identity: A Contextual Reading from the Perspectives of A Chinese Malaysian.” Paper presented at the *Contextual Interpretation of the Bible (Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and New Testament) Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, London, July 4–8, 2011.*

“Is There A Place For Suffering In Mission? Perspectives from Paul’s Sufferings in 2 Corinthians and the Malaysian Experience.” Lecture delivered at the *Postgraduate Seminar, Redcliffe College, Gloucester, November 23, 2010.*

“Reading Romans 13:1–7 with Multiple Lenses: Some Reflections from A Multi-Faith Context with Malaysia as A Test Case.” Paper presented at the *Paul and Pauline Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Rome, June 30–July 4, 2009.*

“A Chinese Cultural Reading of the Quotation of Genesis 2:24 in the Household Codes of Ephesians: A Message to the Parents?” Paper presented at the *Paul and Pauline Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Auckland, July 6–11, 2008.*

“A Response to Robert Jewett’s Paper: The Agape Meal; A Sacramental Model for Ministry Drawn from Romans 13:8.” Paper presented at the *Symposium on Romans: The Relevance of Hermeneia Commentary on Romans for Malaysian Culture and Theology, Sabah Theological*

Seminary, April 14–15, 2008.

“Was Jesus Political? A New Testament Perspective.” Paper presented at the *Inaugural Dialogue of Oriental Hearts and Mind Study Institute, Petaling Jaya*, September 15, 2007.

“The Corinth that St Paul Saw.” Lecture delivered for the *MA in Biblical Interpretation Module, Department of Theology & Religious Studies, University of Wales, Lampeter*, March 26–29, 2007.

“The Corinth that St Paul Saw: The Impact of the City on the Corinthian Letters.” Special Public Lecture delivered at *Seminari Theoloji Malaysia, Seremban, Malaysia*. February, 2007.

“The Function of Paul’s Citation of Isaiah 49:8 (2 Corinthians 6:2) in Light of His Apostolic Sufferings in 2 Corinthians.” Paper presented at the *Paul and Pauline Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Edinburgh*, July 2–6, 2006.

“The Sufferings of Christ are Abundant for Us’ (2 Cor 1:5a): Paul’s Suffering in 2 Corinthians.” Paper presented at the *Paul and Pauline Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Singapore*, June 29–July 1, 2005.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Biblical Literature

- Member since 2005.
- International Cooperation Initiative (ICI) Liaison for Malaysia, 2010–present.
- Chair of Paul and Pauline Literature Section for International Meeting, 2016–2022.

Society of Asian Biblical Studies

- Member since 2016.
- Member, Executive Board since 2018.

Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas

- Elected as Member since 2021.

OTHER ACADEMIC INVOLVEMENTS

Adjunct Lecturer

- Anglican Training Institute, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
- Bible College Malaysia, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- Malaysia Bible Seminary, Kundang, Malaysia
- Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary, Penang, Malaysia
- Biblical Graduate School of Theology, Singapore
- Myanmar Evangelical Graduate School of Theology, Yangon.

Anglican Training Institute, Diocese of Sabah, Malaysia
Advisor to the Board (2013–present)

Asia Graduate School of Theology Alliance
Committee Member of the Biblical Studies Programme (2013–2017)