

Michael R. Licona

Curriculum Vitae

Updated 1 March 2019

Education

- Ph.D. in New Testament Studies, University of Pretoria (2009), completed with distinction and the highest mark (External Reader: Richard Hays, Duke; dissertation published by IVP Academic, 2010)
- M.A. in Religious Studies, Liberty University (2000)
- B.A. in Applied Music, Liberty University (1983)

Positions Held

- Associate Professor of Theology, Houston Baptist University (August 2012— Present)
- Extraordinary Associate Professor, Faculty of Theology, North-West University, South Africa (Potchefstroom Campus) (January 2014—Present)
- External Research Collaborator, Faculty of Theology, North-West University, South Africa (Potchefstroom Campus) (December 2010—December 2013)
- Research Professor of New Testament, Southern Evangelical Seminary, Charlotte, NC (June 2009—October 2011)
- Apologetics Coordinator, North American Mission Board (Jan. 1, 2005—Dec. 31, 2011)

Professional Memberships

- Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas
- Society of Biblical Literature
- Institute for Biblical Research
- Evangelical Theological Society

Publications

Books

- *Why Are There Differences in the Gospels? What We Can Learn from Ancient Biography* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017)

- *The Resurrection of Jesus: A New Historiographical Approach* (Downers Grove: IVP Academic, November 2010).
- *Evidence for God: 50 Arguments for Faith from the Bible, History, Philosophy, and Science* (co-edited with William A. Dembski, Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010). Four essays of mine are included: “Can We Be Certain That Jesus Died on a Cross? A Look at the Ancient Practice of Crucifixion”; “Were the Resurrection Appearances of Jesus Hallucinations?”; “Is Jesus the Only Way?”; “What About Those Who Have Never Heard the Gospel?”
- *Paul Meets Muhammad* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2006).
- *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus* (with co-author Gary Habermas, Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2004). Recipient of *Christianity Today*’s “Award of Merit” (i.e., second place for “Book of the Year”) in Apologetics.

Essays/Chapters in Books

- “Did Jesus Think He Was God?” in Chris Tilling and Darren Sumner, eds. *T&T Clark Companion to Christology*. London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2019 (projected).
- “Jesus’s Resurrection, Realism, and the Role of the Criteria of Authenticity” in Darrell Bock and Ed Komoszewski, eds. *Jesus, Skepticism, and the Problem of History: Criteria and Context in the Study of Christian Origins* [working title], Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019 (projected).
- “Habermas, Gary R” in *Dictionary of Christian Apologists and Their Critics*, Hokoken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell, 2019 (projected).
- “Compositional Techniques Within Plutarch and the Gospel Tradition” in *Christian Origins and the Establishment of the Early Jesus Movement* (EHC 4), Stanley E. Porter and Andrew W. Pitts, eds. (Leiden, Netherlands: Brill, 2018), 134-48.
- “Viewing the Gospels as Ancient Biographies Resolves Many Perceived Contradictions,” pp. 319-24 in *Biographies and Jesus: What Does It Mean for the Gospels to be Biographies?* Craig S. Keener and Edward T. Wright, eds. (Lexington, KY: Emeth Press, 2016).
- “A New Starting Point in Historical Jesus Research: The Easter Event” in *The Quest for the Real Jesus*, Jan van der Watt, ed. (Leiden, Netherlands: Brill, 2013), 99-127.
- “Paul on the Nature of the Resurrection Body” in *Buried Hope or Risen Savior: The Search for the Jesus Tomb*, Charles L. Quarles, ed. (Nashville: B&H Academic, 2008), 177-198.

Journal Articles

- “Are the Gospels ‘Historically Reliable’? A Focused Comparison of Suetonius’s *Life of Augustus* and the Gospel of Mark. *Religions* 2019, 10, 148.
- “Is the Sky Falling in the World of Historical Jesus Research?” in *Bulletin for Biblical Research* 26.3 (Fall-Winter 2016), 353-68.
- “What are the Primary Sources for Jesus’s Resurrection” in *The City: Resurrection* 9:1 (Spring 2016), 23-30.
- “What Jesus’ Enemies Said About Him” in *The City: Jesus and His Enemies* 8.1 (Summer 2015), 92-100.
- “Historians and Miracle Claims” in *Journal for the Study of the Historical Jesus* 12 (2014), 106-129.
- “In Reply to Habermas, McGrew, and McCullagh” in *Southeastern Theological Review* 3.1 (2012), 55-69.
- “A Roundtable Discussion with Michael Licona on *The Resurrection of Jesus: A New Historiographical Approach* (Danny Akin, Craig Blomberg, Paul Copan, Michael Kruger, Michael Licona, and Charles Quarles)” in *Southeastern Theological Review* 3.1 (2012), 71-98.
- “Did Jesus Predict His Death and Vindication/Resurrection?” in *Journal for the Study of the Historical Jesus* 8.1 (2010), 47-66.
- “The adjudication of miracles: Rethinking the criteria of historicity” with Jan G. van der Watt in *Hervormde Theological Studies* 65.2 (2009).
- “Historians and miracles – the principle of analogy and antecedent probability reconsidered” with Jan G. van der Watt in *Hervormde Theological Studies* 65.1 (2009).

Book Reviews

- A review of Richard Bauckham, *Jesus and the Eyewitnesses: The Gospels as Eyewitness Testimony*, Second Edition by Richard Bauckham in *The Journal of Theological Studies* (forthcoming)
- *An Overview of Perplexing Matters Related to Jesus’ Resurrection*. A review of Lidija Novakovic, *Resurrection: A Guide for the Perplexed* in *The Expository Times* 128.3 (December 2016), 149-50.
- *Why Resurrection (When There Is A Better Way)?* A review of Carlos Blanco, *Why Resurrection? An Introduction to the Belief in the Afterlife in Judaism and Christianity* in *The Expository Times*, Volume 124, Number 4, January 2013, 191.
- *The Reliability of the New Testament: Bart Ehrman and Daniel Wallace in Dialogue* by Robert B. Stewart, ed. (*Review of Biblical Literature [RBL]*, August 12, 2011).

- *Revisiting the Empty Tomb: The Early History of Easter* by Daniel A. Smith (RBL, December 15, 2010).
- *The Resurrection: History and Myth* by Geza Vermes (RBL, July 5, 2008).
- *The Empty Tomb Tradition of Mark: Text, History, and Theological Struggles* by Mark W. Waterman (RBL, March 31, 2007).
- *Lo, I Tell You a Mystery: Cross, Resurrection, and Paranesis in the Rhetoric of 1 Corinthians* by David A. Ackerman (RBL, September 16, 2006).
- *The Resurrection of Jesus: John Dominic Crossan and N. T. Wright in Dialogue* by Robert B. Stewart, ed. (RBL, September 9, 2006).
- *Resurrecting Jesus: The Earliest Christian Tradition and Its Interpreters* by Dale C. Allison (RBL, August 12, 2006).
- *Text and History: Historiography and the Study of the Biblical Text* by Jens Bruun Kofoed (RBL, February 18, 2006).
- *Exegetical Essays on the Resurrection of the Dead* by Samuel M. Frost (RBL, November 5, 2005).
- *Historiography and Hermeneutics in Jesus Studies: An Examination of the Work of John Dominic Crossan and Ben F. Meyer* by Donald L. Denton (RBL, June 11, 2005).
- *The Resurrection of the Son of God* by N. T. Wright (RBL, June 19, 2004).

Papers Read

- “Compositional Devices in Ancient Biography: Reading Gospel Differences in View of Compositional Devices vs. Harmonization” delivered at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (Institute of Biblical Research) on November 16, 2018 in Denver, CO.
- “What Do We Mean By The Term ‘Historically Reliable’? A Proposal of Definition and Criteria,” delivered at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society on November 13, 2018 in Denver, CO.
- “Synthetic Chronological Placement in Ancient Biography,” delivered at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society on November 18, 2015 in Atlanta, GA.
- “A Critical Review of *Reading the Gospels Wisely* by Jonathan Pennington” delivered as part of a panel discussion at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society on November 19, 2014 in San Diego, CA.
- “Viewing the Gospels as Ancient Biographies Resolves Many Perceived Contradictions (Part 2),” delivered at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society on November 21, 2013 in Baltimore, MD.
- “Is it Appropriate for Biblical Scholars to Speak of Supernatural Causation?” Delivered at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society on November 19, 2013 in Baltimore, MD.

- “Did Jesus Claim to be God in Some Sense?” Delivered at North-West University (Potchefstroom, SA) on August 20, 2013.
- “Viewing the Gospels as Ancient Biographies Resolves Many Perceived Contradictions (Part 2),” delivered at Stellenbosch University on August 16, 2013.
- “Viewing the Gospels as Ancient Biographies Resolves Many Perceived Contradictions,” delivered at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society on November 15, 2012 in Milwaukee, WI.
- “When the Saints Go Marching In: Historicity, Apocalyptic Symbol, and Biblical Inerrancy,” delivered at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society on November 17, 2011 in San Francisco, CA.
- “The Resurrection of Jesus: A New Historiographical Approach,” delivered at the Evangelical Philosophical Society on November 18, 2010 in Atlanta, GA.
- “What are Historians to do with Miracle Claims,” delivered at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Philosophical Society on November 14, 2007 in San Diego, CA.

Colloquiums

- Viewing the Gospels as Ancient Biographies Resolves Many Perceived Contradictions (Houston Baptist University; February 21, 2013)
- Are there contradictions in the Gospels? (University of South Africa; May 2010)

Adjunct Teaching

- Biola University (June 2011-2013)
- Luther Rice Seminary (January, 2010)
- Southern Evangelical Seminary (June 2009-October 2011)

Awards

- Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary 2010 “Alumnus of the Year”
- *Christianity Today* 2005 Award of Merit (i.e., Second Place, Book of the Year in Apologetics) for *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus*

Website

- RisenJesus.com