**James E. Bowley**

Professor of Religious Studies Jackson MS 39210

Millsaps College, 1701 N. State Street james.bowley@millsaps.edu

**Education**

**Doctor of Philosophy** in Hebraic and Cognate Studies, 1992

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

Dissertation: “Abraham in Ancient Greek Historical Writings”

Advisors: Adam Kamesar, Ben Zion Wacholder

**Master of Philosophy** in Hebraic and Cognate Studies, 1990

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

**Graduate Certificate** in Ancient Middle Eastern Studies, 1986

Jerusalem University College, Jerusalem, Israel

**Bachelor of Arts** (Majors: Biblical Studies and Greek) *summa cum laude,* 1984

Grace College, Winona Lake, Indiana

**Professional Experience and Appointments**

2019-2020 Dissertation Advisor, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

2011-2018 Chair, Department of Religious Studies, Millsaps College

2011-2013 E.B. Stewart Family Chair of Language and Literature

2009-present Professor of Religious Studies, Millsaps College

2005-2008 Chair, Department of Religious Studies, Millsaps College

2007 Adjunct Professor, Spring Hill College, Graduate School of Theology

2002-2009 Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi

1999-2002 Associate Professor of Religion, King College, Bristol, Tennessee

2000 Instructor, Institute for Continued Learning, East Tennessee State University, Kingsport, Tennessee

1995-1999 Assistant Professor of Religion, King College, Bristol, Tennessee

1994 Instructor, College of Continuing Education, University of Cincinnati

1992-1995 Editor, Biblical Archaeology Society Dead Sea Scrolls Project

1991-1992 Adjunct Instructor of Judaic Studies, University of Cincinnati

1987-1992 Editorial assistant to Ben Zion Wacholder, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

1988 Tutor in Rabbinic Hebrew, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

**Boards, Leadership, and Administrative Experience**

2009-Present Board of Governors, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

2009-present Institute of Interfaith Dialog, Advisory Board, Jackson MS

2005-2009 President, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, School of Graduate Studies Alumni Association

2006-2009 Chair, Society of Biblical Literature Program Unity, Rethinking the Concept and Categories of “Bible” in Antiquity Consultation.”

2006-2009 Hebrew Union College, Graduate Studies Review Committee

2006-Present Founder Annual Lecture Series in Indian Culture. Millsaps College Hot Topics Community Enrichment Series

2006-Present Founder and Co-chair, Millsaps College Hot Topics Community Enrichment Series

2004-Present Member, Mississippi Holocaust Commission

2004-Present Representative, Institute of Interfaith Dialog, Jackson, MS, Houston

2003-2007 Member, Student Honorary Research Program, Millsaps College

2002-Present Member, Millsaps Institute of Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research

2002-Present Director, Millsaps Hillel, Jewish Cultural Organization

1999-2001 Chair, Human Subjects Research and Review Committee, King College

1997-1999 Chair, Honors and Honorary Degrees Committee, King College

1992-1995 Editor, Biblical Archaeology Society Dead Sea Scrolls Project

1987-1992 Editorial assistant to Ben Zion Wacholder, Hebrew Union College

**Grants, Awards, and Honors**

2023 Distinguished Graduate Award, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Insititute of Religion

2017 “Last Lecture Award”, selected by Senior Class, Millsaps College

2016 Millsaps College Distinguished Professor Award

2014 W. Charles Sallis Award for Distinguished Service to the College, Millsaps College

2013 Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation Research Grant, $3,000.00

2012 Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation Research Grant, $2,000.00

2011 Named E.B. Stewart Chair in Languages and Literature, Millsaps College

2010 ACS/Andrew W. Mellon Professional Development Grant, $8000.00,“The Shoah in 21st Century Europe: Memories and Memorials.”

2008 “Last Lecture Award”, selected by Senior Class, Millsaps College

2009 Mississippi Humanities Council Teachers Award

2009 Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation Research Grant, $6,000.00

2009 Alumnus in Residence, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

2008 Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation Research Grant, $4,000.00

2008 Jackson Jewish Welfare Fund Grant, $2000.00

2007 Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation Research Grant, $2,000.00

2007 Associated Colleges of the South Grant for “Interdisciplinary Program in Albania,” with Professors Galaty and Fiser, $8500.00.

2006 Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation Research Grant, $25,000.00

2005-2006 Faculty Commendations in Teaching and College Service, Millsaps College

2005 Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation Research Grant, $15,000.00

2004 Jackson Jewish Welfare Fund Grant, $3000.00

2004 Dead Sea Scrolls Foundation Research Grant, $10,000.00

2004 Hearin Fellowship Grant, Millsaps College, $4000.00

2003 Hearin Fellowship Grant, Millsaps College, 4000.00

2001 Chosen by the Student Newspaper (The Kayseean) as “Best Convocation Lecture, 2000-2001” for “Explorations in Humor and Ambiguity,” 29 November 2000, King College

2000 Elected by student body as Outstanding Faculty Lecturer, King College.

1999 Awarded grant (Lilly Foundation) for design of cross-disciplinary (religion, literature, psychology, science, history) introductory course on the history of Christianity and culture.

1997 Awarded $10,000 grant for community lecture series and course on the Bible in Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions

1996 Elected by student body as Outstanding Faculty Lecturer, King College

1996 Awarded travel grant by Appalachian College Association/Andrew Mellon Foundation

**Publications**

“Fixing a God’s Mess: Jewish Tikkun Olam and Interreligious Action,” in *Post-Christian Interreligious Liberation Theology*, ed. Loye Ashton and Husami Timani. Edinburgh: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.

“Justus of Tiberias” in *Encyclopedia of Second Temple Judaism*, ed. Loren T. Stuckenbruck and Daniel M. Gurtner. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 2019.

“Longinus [*On the Sublime*]” in *Encyclopedia of Second Temple Judaism*, ed. Loren T. Stuckenbruck and Daniel M. Gurtner. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 2019.

“Prophets, Kittim, and Divine Communication in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Condemning the Enemy Without, Fighting The Enemy Within” in *Enemies and Friends of the State: Ancient Prophecy in Context, ed.* Christopher A. Rollston. University Park, Penn: Pennsylvania State University, 2018.

“Prophecy, False Prophecy, and War in the Dead Sea Scrolls” in The War Scroll, War and Peace in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Related Literature, ed. Kyung S. Baek, Kipp Davis, Peter W. Flint, and Dorothy M. Peters. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2016.

*The Dead Sea Scroll Concordance Volume II*, with Martin Abegg Jr. and Edward Cook, in consultation with Emanuel Tov. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2015.

“Bible,” in *The Oxford Dictionary of the Books of the Bible*, ed. Michael Coogan. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

*The Dead Sea Scroll Concordance Volume III*, with Martin Abegg Jr. and Edward Cook, in consultation with Emanuel Tov. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2010.

“Abraham,” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2010.

“Apollonius Molon,” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2010.

“Aristobolus,” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2010.

“Artapanus,” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2010.

“Berossus,” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2010.

“Cleodemus Malchus,” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2010.

“Justus of Tiberius,” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2010.

“Nicolaus of Damascus” in *The Dictionary of Early Judaism*, ed. John J. Collins and Daniel C. Harlow. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2010.

*Introduction to Hebrew Bible: A Guided Tour of Israel’s Sacred Library*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2008.

*Dead Sea Scrolls Biblical Manuscripts*, with Martin Abegg Jr. and Edward Cook. Accordance: Altamonte Springs, Florida, 2007.

“Rethinking the Concept of ‘Bible’: Some Theses and Proposals.” With John C. Reeves. *Henoch: Studi storicofilologici sull’ebraismo / Historical and Philological Studies on Judaism* 25 (2003): 3-18.

*The Dead Sea Scroll Concordance Volume I*, associate editor with Edward Cook and Martin Abegg, Jr., general editor, in consultation with Emanuel Tov. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2003.

“Moses in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Living in the Shadow of God’s Anointed,” in *The Bible at Qumran: Text, Shape, and Interpretation*, ed. Peter Flint and Martin Abegg, Jr. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 2000, pp. 159-181.

“Heroes,” in *Dictionary of New Testament Background.*  Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 2000.,pp. 494-496.

“Pax Romana,” in *Dictionary of New Testament Background.*  Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 2000, pp. 771-775.

“Purification Texts (Dead Sea Scrolls),” in *Dictionary of New Testament Background.*  Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 2000, pp. 873-874.

*Living Traditions of the Bible: The Story of the Bible in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Communities*. Editor. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1999.

“A Library of Tradition: The Beginnings of the Bible,” in *Living Traditions of the Bible: The Story of the Bible in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Communities*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1999, pp. 7-34.

“Prophets and Prophecy at Qumran” in *The Dead Sea Scrolls after Fifty Years*, ed. James VanderKam and Peter Flint. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1998, vol. 2:354-378.

*A Preliminary Edition of the Unpublished Dead Sea Scrolls: The Hebrew and Aramaic Texts of Cave Four*, Fascicle 4, with Martin Abegg, Jr. and Ben Zion Wacholder. New York: Biblical Archaeology Society, 1996.

“Ur of the Chaldees in Pseudo-Eupolemus.” *Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha* 14 (1996): 55-63.

“The Compositions of Abraham,” in *Tracing the Threads: Studies in the Vitality of Jewish Pseudepigrapha*. Ed. John Reeves. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1994, pp. 215-238.

“Josephus’ Use of Pagan Sources” in *Pursuing the Text: Studies in Honor of Ben Zion Wacholder*. Ed. John Kampen and John Reeves. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1994, pp. 202-215.

**Book Reviews**

*The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bible*. By James C. VanderKamGrand Rapids, Mich.: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2012. Journal of the American Oriental Society, 2013.

*Otherworldly and Eschatological Priesthood in the Dead Sea Scrolls* by Joseph L. Angel. Vol. 86 in Studies on the Texts of the Desert of Judah, ed. F. G. Martinez. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2010. H-Net Reviews, 2012

*The Studia Philonica Annual: Studies in Hellenistic Judaism XX*, ed. Runia, David T. and Sterling, Gregory E. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2008. Review of Biblical Literature, 2010.

*The Studia Philonica Annual: Studies in Hellenistic Judaism XIX*, ed. Runia, David T. and Sterling, Gregory E. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2007. *Review of Biblical Literature*, 2008.

*From Revelation to Canon: Studies in the Hebrew Bible and Second Temple Literature*, by James C. VanderKam. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2000. *Religious Studies Review* 32 (2006): 253.

*Aspects of Empire in Achaemenid Sardis* by Elspeth R. M. Dusinberre. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003. *Religious Studies Review* 30 (2004).

*Myth and History in Ancient Greece: The Symbolic Creation of a Colony* by Claude Calame. Translated by Daniel W. Berman. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003. *Religious Studies Review* 30 (2004).

*The Open Book and the Sealed Book: Jeremiah 32 in its Hebrew and Greek Recensions* by Andrew G. Shead. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2002. *Hebrew Studies* 45 (2004) 331-333.

*Integrating Women into Second Temple History* by Tal Ilan. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1999. *Hebrew Studies* 45 (2004) 362-364.

*Introducing the Old Testament,* revised edition, by John Drane. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2001. *Review of Biblical Literature* 2003.

*Qumran Cave 4 XXI: Parabiblical Texts, Part 4: Pseudo-Prophetic Texts* ed. Devorah Dimant. *Discoveries in the Judaean Desert XXX*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2001. *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies* 21 (2003): 169-171.

*Zemah and Zerubbabel: Messianic Expectations in the Early Postexilic Period* by Wolter H. Rose. JSOTSup 304. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2000. *Hebrew Studies* 43 (2002): 265-267.

*Qumran Cave 4 XI: Psalms to Chronicles* ed. Eugene Ulrich, Frank M. Cross, Joseph A. Fitzmyer, Peter W. Flint, Sarianna Meteso, Catherine M. Murphy, Curt Niccum, Patrick W. Skehan, Emanuel Tov, and Julio T. Barrera. *Discoveries in the Judaean Desert XVI*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2000. *Hebrew Studies* 43 (2002): 304-306.

*Holiness: Rabbinic Judaism and the Graeco-Roman World* by Hannah K. Harrington. Religion in the First Christian Centuries. London and New York: Routledge, 2001. *Religious Studies Review*, 28 (2002): 285.

*Jews, Christians, and Polytheists in the Ancient Synagogue: Cultural Interaction during the Greco-Roman Period* edited by Steven Fine. Baltimore Studies in the History of Judaism. London and New York: Routledge, 1999. *Religious Studies Review*, 28 (2002): 285.

*The Jewish Dialogue with Greece and Rome: Studies in Cultural and Social Interaction* by Tessa Rajak. Arbeiten zur Geschichte des antiken Jundentums und des Urchristentums, Leiden: E.J. Brill, 2001. *Religious Studies Review*, 2002.

*Sixth Ezra: The Text and Origin* by Theodore A. Bergren. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. *Religious Studies Review*, 2002.

*Conflicts and Challenges in Early Christianity* by Donald Hagner et al. Harrisburg, Penn.: Trinity Press International. *Review of Biblical Literature*, 2001.

*The Studia Philonica Annual: Studies in Hellenistic Judaism Volume XI* ed. David T. Runia and Gregory E. Sterling. Brown Judaic Studies, Atlanta: Scholars Press. *Review of Biblical Literature*, 2001.

*Old Testament Parallels: Laws and Stories from the Ancient Near East*. Victor H. Matthews and Don C. Benjamin. New York: Paulist, 1997. facultyonline.com, 2001.

*Who Wrote the Bible*?Richard Elliott Friedman. New York: HarperCollins, 1997. Faculty Online, 2001.

*Holy Bible (NRSV with Apocrypha)*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1977. Faculty Online, 2001.

**Scholarly Presentations**

“The Dead Sea Scrolls Again.” Mississippi Humanities Council presentation, 27 April 2023.

“Pedagogy of Close Reading: Genesis 1-3.” University of Chicago, Divinity School. 25 February 2022.

“Demons and Dijinn, Ghosts and Golems.” Podcast speaker for “Interfaith-ish.” 28 October, 2021.

“Voices Against Extremism Project.” Parliament of World’s Religions, Toronto, 2 November 2018.

“[What's an authoritative text? What's a scripture?](javascript:void%20window.open('abstract.aspx?id=38731','new','scrollbar=yes,status=yes,width=500');) Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, 21 November 2016.

“Destroying the Bible to Save the Ancient Israelites (and ourselves).” Mississippi State University, 15 September 2016.

“The Really Real of Sickness and Religions.” Health Care That Connects Series, first year medical students, University of Mississippi Medical Center, 29 April 2015.

“Missing Books and Their Ancient Libraries”. Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, November 2014.

“The Really Real of Sickness and Religions.” Health Care That Connects Series, first year medical students, University of Mississippi Medical Center, 30 April 2014.

“Dialog and Global Peace.” Distinguished Speaker Series, University of Alabama, Turkish Student Association, 8 November 2012.

“Apocalypse Averted.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, 19 November 2011.

“Top Ten Reasons Not to Study Religion,” University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS. Theta Alpha Kappa Inaugural Induction Ceremony.

“Living By Fragments,” 21 October 2009, the Mississippi Humanities Council, Millsaps College

“The Future of a Field and Our Unit.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Boston MA, November 2008.

“Terminating Terminology: Reforming Academic Nomenclature for Ancient Israelite and Jewish Literatures.” American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Diego CA, November 2007.

“Destroying the Bible to Save Ancient Israel” Millsaps College, Friday Forum 9 November 2007.

“Rethinking the Concept of Bible.” American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. November 2006.

“The Use of Diverse Ancient Jeremiah Traditions in Later Jewish and Christian Sources.” American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Toronto, 2002.

“Ancient Egypt: History, Culture, Religion.” East Tennessee State University, Continuing Education Program, 2000.

“Teaching the Bible to Undergraduates.” Seminar for undergraduate professors, Montreat College, Montreat, North Carolina, 1997.

“The Patriarchs and Their Scrolls.” Dead Sea Scroll Institute, Trinity Western University, Langley, British Columbia. 1996.

“The Priestly Blessing.” The Louise Almond Biblical Archaeology Lecture Series, Kingsport, Tennessee, 1996.

“The Decline of Judaism in Greek Historiography.” American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, New Orleans, 1996.

“Ur of the Chaldees in Pseudo-Eupolemus.” American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco, 1992.

“Abraham in the Dead Sea Scrolls.” American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Anaheim, 1989.

**Newspaper Columns**

“Religious expression in politics rising, research shows.” *Clarion-Ledger,* October 25, 2008.

“We are confusing our games over politics.” *Clarion Ledger*, September 14, 2008.

“Do you harbor religious, moral stereotypes? It's time to reject them.” *Clarion-Ledger,* August 9, 2008.

“Don't be fooled ... doubt is an important component of all religions.” *Clarion-Ledger* May 24, 2008.

“'Judeo-Christian' a problematic term, recent invention of politics.” *Clarion-Ledger* March 8, 2008.

“Forget dour images; humor a vital part of religious landscape.” *Clarion-Ledger,* 22 December 2007.

“Protests in Myanmar reach beyond religion, culture.” *Clarion-Ledger,* 6 October 2007.

“America has spiritual fervor, but even more religious ignorance.” *Clarion-Ledger,* 21 July 2007.

“The children of Abraham: Mormons may expand the definition.” *Clarion-Ledger,* 5 April 2007.

“My-god-better-than-your-god mentality a risky one.” *Clarion-Ledger,* 10 February 2007.

“Differing religious values at institutions enhance culture.” *Clarion-Ledger*, 2 December, 2006.

“Debate over country's Christian roots rages on.” *Clarion-Ledger*, 9 September 2006

“Are You an ‘Insider’ or ‘Outsider’?” *Clarion-Ledger*, 12 May 2006.

“Blessed Super Bowl to All, and to All a Good Game.” *Clarion-Ledger*, 18 February 2006.

“Interpreting scriptures in any religion a challenging task.” *Clarion-Ledger*, 19 November 2005.

“Why use labels 'conservative' or 'liberal'? We're both.” *Clarion-Ledger*, 3 September 2005.

“Gospel of ‘Lethal Weapon’ More Accurate.” Review of Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ.” *Clarion-Ledger* 16 March 2004.

**Educational Programming and Speaking**

“History of Angels” for the Mississippi Museum of Art’s “Between God & Man, Angels in Italian Art.” 2 October 2007.

Audio voice tour guide for “Between God and Man: Angels in Italian Art,” Mississippi Museum of Art

Plan and emcee for the “Interfaith Coalition of Jackson and Habitat for Humanity Festival of Faiths,” Ascension Lutheran Church, 26 August 2007.

2002-2009 Millsaps Institute of Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research

2005 Study tour of Turkey

2004-2005 Design Consultant for “The Dead Sea Scrolls” Exploreum Museum, Mobile AL.

2004 Design Concentration in Jewish Studies, Millsaps College

2004 Led students in 5-week archeological research Tel Zeitah, Israel

1996, 1998, 2000 Co-leader of three-week academic tour to Egypt and Israel

1997 Designed Minor in Biblical Languages, King College

**Memberships and Boards**

2004-present Member, Mississippi Holocaust Commission

Society of Biblical Literature

Association for Jewish Studies

National Association of Professors of Hebrew

American Academy of Religion

**Areas of Teaching Experience (Undergraduate and Graduate)**

Introductions/Surveys

♦Introduction to Religious Studies

♦History of Bibles and Biblical Interpretation

♦Hebrew Bible Survey

♦Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture

♦New Testament Survey

♦Greco-Roman World

♦Judaism: Religion, Culture, History

♦Christian History and Culture

Upper Level

♦Biblical Interpretation in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

♦Literature and Ideology of Israelite Wisdom Literature

♦Ancient Hebrew Poetry

♦Literature and Community of the Dead Sea Scrolls

♦Literary Studies in Pentateuch, Prophetic Literature

♦Women and Biblical Literature

♦Apocrypha/Deuterocanonicals: Literature, History, Art

♦History, Geography, and Archaeology of Israel and ANE

♦Children of Abraham, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Mormonism(?)

♦Egypt, Jordan, Israel Study Tour

♦Thematic Courses in Holy Violence, Sacred Writings, Women in Antiquity, ANE Geography, Traditions of Abraham, Midrash, Jewish-Christian Studies, Ancient Prophetic Practices

Languages

♦Classical Hebrew, Beginning and Advanced

♦Hellenistic Greek, Beginning and Advanced

**Special Research Interests**

Dead Sea Scrolls; Jewish-Christian Studies; History of Biblical Interpretation; Ethnic, Religious, and Intellectual Interaction in the Greco-Roman World; History of Biblical Interpretation; The Bible and Modern Culture

**Student Honors**

1987-1991 Richard Scheuer Fellowship, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute or Religion

1986-1987 Rose Skillman Fellowship, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

1983 Alpha Chi Honor Society Inductee, Grace College