

## ALLEN DWIGHT CALLAHAN

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### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Allen Dwight Callahan is an independent scholar, media commentator, and creative consultant. He holds a BA in Religion from Princeton University and MA and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University in the Study of Religion, and is an ordained minister of the Progressive National Baptist Convention. Dr. Callahan has taught and lectured throughout the United States and abroad; he is the author of three books and over fifty scholarly articles, and has appeared as an expert commentator in documentaries featured on PBS, the History Channel, and the Discovery Channel.

### EDUCATION

- 1992 Ph.D., Harvard University (Study of Religion)
- 1992 MA, Harvard University (Study of Religion)
- 1982 BA, Princeton University (Religion)

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2012-present Independent scholar and consultant
- 2010-2012 Visiting Professor of New Testament, Eden Theological Seminary
- 2008-2009 Professor of New Testament, Seminário Teológico Batista do Nordeste (Brazil)
- 2005-2007 Associate Chaplain, Brown University
- 2005 Visiting Associate Professor of Religious Studies, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- 2004 Visiting Associate Professor of Homiletics, Harvard Divinity School
- 2001-2003 Associate Professor of New Testament, Macalester College
- 1997-2001 Associate Professor of New Testament, Harvard Divinity School
- 1997 Theologian in Residence, Metropolitan Baptist Church (Washington, D.C.)
- 1992-1997 Assistant Professor of New Testament, Harvard Divinity School

## PUBLICATIONS

- 1990 "A Note on 1 Corinthians 7:21," *Journal of the International Theological Center* 17:2 (1989-90): 110-114.
- 1993a "Paul's Epistle to Philemon: Toward and Alternative *Argumentum*," *Harvard Theological Review* 86:4 (1993): 357-76.
- 1993b "*The Acts of Saint Mark: An Introduction and Translation*," *Coptic Church Review* 14:1 (1993): 3-10.
- 1995a Review of J. K. Elliott's *Apocryphal New Testament*, in *Bible Review* 11 (1995): 15-16.
- 1995b "John Chrysostom on Philemon: A Response to Margaret Mitchell," *Harvard Theological Review* 88:1 (1995): 149-56.
- 1995c "The Language of the Apocalypse," *Harvard Theological Review* 88:4 (1995): 353-70.
- 1995d "Again: The Origin of the *Codex Bezae*," *Codex Bezae Studies from the Lund Colloquium*, June 1994. Edited by S. C. Parker and G. B. Amphoux (New York: E. J. Brill), 56-64.
- 1997a *The Embassy of Onesimus*. Trinity Press International: Harrisburg, PA.
- 1997b "No Rhyme or Reason: The Hidden Logia of the *Gospel of Thomas*," *Harvard Theological Review* 90:4 (1997): 411-26.
- 1997c "Remembering Nehemiah," in *Black Zion: African American Religious Encounters with Judaism*, edited by Yvonne Chireau and Nathaniel Deutsche (New York: Oxford University Press), 153-167.
- 1998a "Dead Paul: The Apostle as Martyr in Philippi," in *Philippi at the Time of Paul*, edited by Charalambos Batkirtzis and Helmut Koester (Harrisburg, PA: Trinity Press International), 67-84.
- 1998b "Slave Resistance in Classical Antiquity," with Richard A. Horsley, in *Slavery in Text and Interpretation: Semeia* 83/84, edited by Allen Dwight Callahan, Richard A. Horsley, and Abraham Smith (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature), 133-151.
- 1998c "'Brother Saul': An Ambivalent Witness to Freedom," in *Slavery in Text and Interpretation: Semeia* 83/84, edited by Allen Dwight Callahan, Richard A.

- Horsley, and Abraham Smith (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature), 235-250.
- 1999a “Apocalypse and Political Economy: Some Notes on Revelation 18,” *Horizons in Biblical Theology* 21:1 (June 1999): 46-65.
- 1999b “A Morte do Jesus Revolutionário,” *EPISTÊME: Revista do Seminário Teológico Batista do Nordeste*, 1:1 (1999): 59-72.
- 1999c “The Acts of Mark: Tradition, Transmission, and Translation of the Arabic Version,” in *The Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles*; editor François Bovon (Cambridge: Harvard University Press), 63-85.
- 2000 “Paul, Ekklesia, and Emancipation in Corinth,” in *Paul and Politics: Ekklesia, Israel, Imperium, and Interpretation*, edited by Richard A. Horsley (Harrisburg, PA: Trinity Press International), 216-223.
- 2001 “Coptic Scripts,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt*, edited by Donald B. Redford (New York: Oxford University Press), 3.214-218.
- 2003a “Perspectives for the Study of Black Religion: From the Valley of Dry Bones,” *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions* vol. 7, no. 1 (2003): 44-59.
- 2003b “Revelation 18: Notes on the State of Colombia,” in *Walk in the Ways of Wisdom: Essays in Honor of Elizabeth Schüssler-Fiorenza*, edited by Shelly Matthews, Cynthia Kittredge, and Melanie Johnson-DeBaufre (Harrisburg, PA: Trinity Press International), 269-285.
- 2003c “The Greatest Story Never Told,” film review, *The Gospel of John*, in *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly*: <https://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/2003/10/03/october-3-2003-film-review-the-gospel-of-john/11980/>.
- 2003d “Philemon,” *The New Interpreter's Study Bible* (Nashville: Abingdon Press), 2147-2150.
- 2003e “Doubting Thomas,” review of Elaine Pagels, *Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas*, in *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly*: <https://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/2003/11/21/november-21-2003-beyond-belief-the-secret-gospel-of-thomas/10371/>.
- 2004a Review of Raymond E. Brown's *An Introduction to the Gospel of John*,” *Harvard Theological Review* 97:2 (2004): 229-34.

- 2004b “Vashti,” in *Loving the Body: Black Religious Studies and the Erotic*, edited by Anthony B. Pinn and Dwight N. Hopkins (New York: Palgrave), 91-107.
- 2004c “The Arts of Resistance in an Age of Revolt,” in *Hidden Transcripts and the Arts of Resistance: Applying the Work of James C. Scott to Jesus and Paul*, edited by Richard A. Horsley (Semeia Studies 48; Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature), 29-40.
- 2005 *A Love Supreme: A History of the Johannine Tradition* (Minneapolis: Fortress).
- 2006a “Actes de Marc,” with François Bovon in *Écrits apocryphes chrétiens*, Volume 2 (Lausanne: Pleiade), 567-86.
- 2006b *The Talking Book: The Bible and African Americans* (New Haven: Yale University)
- 2006c “The Gospel of John as People’s History,” in *Christian Origins: A People’s History of Christianity*, edited by Richard Horsley (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress), 162-176.
- 2007a “The Gospel of John,” in *True to Our Native Land*, edited by Brian Blunt (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress), 186-212.
- 2007b “The Good Book: African Americans and the Bible,” *Kleine Texte* 23 (Berlin: AphorismA, 2007): 8-21.
- 2007c “The Letter to Philemon,” in *A Postcolonial Commentary on the New Testament*, Fernando Segovia and R. S. Sugitharaja, editors (London and New York: T & T Clark International), 329-337.
- 2008a “Introduction: ‘Figures of the True’,” in *African Americans and the Story of Nimrod*. Edited by Anthony Pinn and Allen Dwight Callahan (New York: Palgrave), 1-11.
- 2008b “‘The Strength of Collective Man’: Nimrod and the Tower of Babel,” *African Americans and the Story of Nimrod*. Edited by Anthony Pinn and Allen Dwight Callahan (New York: Palgrave), 147-162.
- 2008c “Philemon,” *The Discipleship Study Bible* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox), 2035-2038.

- 2008d “A Epístola de Paulo a Filemon: uma leitura da Bíblia num estado de colonizador branco,” *Estudos Teológicos* 48:1 (2008): 101-110.
- 2009a “Babylon Boycott: The Book of Revelation,” *Interpretation*, vol. 63, no. 1 (January, 2009): 48-54.
- 2009b “Onesimus,” *New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible*, Katherine Doob Sakenfeld, general editor (Nashville: Abingdon), 4:330-31.
- 2009c “A Teologia Joanina: Proposta e Sumário,” *EPISTÊME: Revista do Seminário Teológico Batista do Nordeste*, 11:1 (2009): 71-83.
- 2009d “The Real Paul: Review Essay,” in *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly*: <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/episodes/august-5-2009/the-real-paul/3839/>
- 2009e “Al negro norteamericano,” by Guillermo Nuñez, *Obsidian*, vol. 8, no. 1, (Spring/Summer 2007): 30-31.
- 2009f “Espwa,” by Patrick Sylvain, *Obsidian*, vol. 8, no. 1, (Spring/Summer 2007): 29.
- 2010 “Third Sunday of Advent (The Magnificat),” *The African American Lectionary*, <http://www.theafricanamericanlectionary.org/PopupCultural-Aid.asp?LRID=180>
- 2014 “‘Where the White Gleam of Our Star is Cast’: African American Biblical Interpretation,” *The Oxford Handbook of African American Theology*, edited by Katie G. Cannon and Anthony B. Pinn (New York: Oxford University Press), 27-39.
- 2017 “Figuring Scripture,” in *How Should Humanism Relate to a Non-Humanist World?* (The Institute for Humanist Studies; New York: Palgrave Macmillan), 171-189.
- 2019a Review of Karen Armstrong’s *The Lost Art of Scripture* and John Barton’s *A History of the Bible*, <https://books.substack.com/p/review-allen-callahan-on-two-new>
- 2019b Review of Scot McKnight’s *Reading Romans Backwards: A Gospel of Peace in the Midst of Empire*, <https://books.substack.com/p/review-allen-callahan-a-gospel-of/comments>

- 2020a Review of Edward L. Greenstein’s *Job: A New Translation*, <https://books.substack.com/p/review-allan-callahan-on-the-book>
- 2020b Review of Esau McCaulley’s *Reading While Black*, <https://books.substack.com/p/review-allen-callahan-on-reading>
- 2020c “Acts 27.1-44: ‘A Rough Rude Sea’,” *The Visual Commentary on Scripture*: <https://thevcs.org/rough-rude-sea>
- 2020d “Nehemiah 7.73-8:18: ‘To Meet with Joy in Sweet Jerusalem’,” *The Visual Commentary on Scripture*: <https://thevcs.org/meet-with-joy-sweet-jerusalem>
- 2021a “Les évangéliques et la Bible en Amérique latine,” *Fondation Jean Jaurès* (16 April, 2021), <https://www.jean-jaures.org/publication/les-evangeliques-et-la-bible-en-amerique-latine/>
- 2021b Review of Henry Louis Gates, Jr.’s *The Black Church*, <https://books.substack.com/p/review-allen-callahan-on-henry-louis>
- 2021c “Micah 1:1-3:12: ‘To the Edge of Doom’,” *The Visual Commentary on Scripture*, <https://thevcs.org/edge-doom>
- 2022a “God’s Only-Begotten Thug,” in “*Bitter the Chastening Rod*”: *Africana Biblical Interpretation after Stony the Road We Trod in the Age of BLM, SayHerName, and MeToo*, Mitzi Smith, general editor (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books), 39-52.
- 2022b “Cristãos mal-educados: evangelicalismo não alforria os pretos,” *Observatorio Evangélico* (26 de maio), <https://www.observatorioevangelico.org/cristaos-mal-educados-evangelicalismo-nao-alforria-os-pretos-allen-dwight-callahan-26-05/>
- 2023a “*r > g*,” in *Divided Worlds? Interdisciplinary and Contemporary Challenges in Classics and New Testament Studies*, Tat-siong Benny Liew, general editor (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature Semeia Studies), 203-215.
- 2023b “Cimarronaje, anarquía y utopía,” *D’Palenque: literatura y afrodescendencia* (Año VII — N.º 7, 2023), 64-67.
- 2023c Review of Aaliyah Bilal, *Temple Folk* and Safiya Sinclair, *How to Say Babylon*, <https://books.substack.com/p/review-allen-callahan-on-temple-folk>
- 2024a Review of Candida Moss’s *God’s Ghostwriters*, <https://books.substack.com/p/review-allen-callahan-on-gods-ghostwriters>

- 2024b Review of William M. Schiedewind's *Who Really Wrote the Bible*, <https://books.substack.com/p/review-allen-callahan-on-who-really>
- 2025a Review of Catherine Conybeare's *Augustine the African*, [https://open.substack.com/pub/books/p/review-allen-callahan-on-augustine?utm\\_campaign=post-expanded-share&utm\\_medium=web](https://open.substack.com/pub/books/p/review-allen-callahan-on-augustine?utm_campaign=post-expanded-share&utm_medium=web)
- 2025b Callahan, Allen Dwight. *O Bom Livro* (Porto Seguro, Brazil: Editora e Livraria Inclusividade)
- 2026a "Poetic License, Visual Images, and Black Knowledge Production: Choice, Poetry, Embodiment," in *The OUP Handbook on the Bible, Race & Diaspora* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press) [forthcoming].
- 2026b "The Bible and Violence: Modern Black Readers, Art, and Black Liberation Theology," *The Bible and Violence* (London: Bloomsbury T & T Clark) [forthcoming].

#### **TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY APPEARANCES**

- 1999 "From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians" (PBS)
- 2001 "The Roman Empire in the First Century" (PBS)
- 2003 "Peter and Paul: The Christian Revolution" (PBS)
- 2008 "Who Was Jesus?" (Discovery Channel)
- 2011 "Jesus: The Lost 40 Days" (History Channel)