

Rhyne R. Putman, Ph.D.

Vice President of Academic Affairs
Williams Baptist University

Professor of Theology and Culture
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Senior Pastor
Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Walcott, AR

56 McClellan Dr.
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476

rputman@williamsbu.edu
(504) 645-1100 (c)
(870) 759-4199 (o)



Personal

Born in Oxford, Mississippi (1983)
Married **Micah Danielle Elder** (2005)
Father of **Ben** (b. 2012) and **Annie** (b. 2017)
Licensed for Christian Ministry (2003)
Ordained for Pastoral Ministry (2006)

Education

2008–2012	New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Ph.D., Systematic Theology (major), New Testament (minor) Th.M., Systematic Theology	New Orleans, LA
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Dissertation: “Postcanonical Doctrinal Development as Hermeneutical Phenomenon”

Supervisor: Dr. Robert B. Stewart
Second Chair: Dr. Jeffrey B. Riley
External consultants: Anthony C. Thiselton, Kevin J. Vanhoozer

2005–2008	New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary M.Div., Biblical Languages	New Orleans, LA
2003–2005	Williams Baptist University B.A., Christian ministries, concentration in biblical languages; minor in communication studies	Walnut Ridge, AR
2001–2003	Arkansas State University Studies in print journalism	Jonesboro, AR

Academic Employment

2020–Present	Williams Baptist University Vice President of Academic Affairs (2023– Present) Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs (2020–2023) <i>Dean of faculty, chief academic officer, accreditation liaison, director of worldview formation, professor of Christian ministries</i>	Walnut Ridge, AR
2010–Present	New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Professor of Theology and Culture (2023– Present) Associate Professor of Theology and Culture (2017–2023) Assistant Professor of Theology and Culture (2012–2017) Instructor of Theology (2010–2012)	New Orleans, LA
2006–2010	New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Fellow for the Baptist Center for Theology and Ministry; Graduate Assistant	New Orleans, LA

Ministry Employment

2021–Present	Mt. Zion Baptist Church Senior Pastor	Walcott, AR
2016–2020	First Baptist Church Kenner Pastor of Preaching and Vision	Kenner, LA
2012–2016	Ames Blvd. Baptist Church Associate Pastor	Marrero, LA
2004–2021	Interim pastor, various SBC churches	Arkansas; Louisiana
2002–2004	Walnut Street Baptist Church Collegiate Ministry Intern	Jonesboro, AR

Selected Publications

Books

40 Questions About Christian Philosophy, with Jamie K. Dew. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, in process.

God and His World. Theology for the People of God, edited by David S. Dockery, Nathan A. Finn, and Christopher W. Morgan. Brentwood, TN: B&H Academic, 2025.

God the Father. Brentwood, TN: B&H Publishing, 2025 (trade).

Conceived by the Holy Spirit: The Virgin Birth in Scripture and Theology. Brentwood, TN: B&H Academic, 2024.

The Method of Christian Theology: A Basic Introduction. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2021.

When Doctrine Divides the People of God: An Evangelical Approach to Theological Diversity. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2020.

In Defense of Doctrine: Evangelicalism, Theology, and Scripture. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2015.

Book Chapters

“General Revelation.” In *A Theology for the Church*. 3d ed. Brentwood, TN: B&H Academic, edited by Danny Akin and Keith Whitfield, 2025.

“Human Sinfulness.” with R. Stanton Norman. In *A Theology for the Church*. 3d ed. edited by Danny Akin and Keith Whitfield. Brentwood, TN: B&H Academic, 2025.

“Anthropology: Recalling the Sacred Dignity of Every Human Being,” with Malcolm B. Yarnell III. In *Confessing Christ: An Introduction to Baptist Dogmatics*. Brentwood, TN: B&H Academic, 2024.

“Birth of the Church.” In *NET Study Bible*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2023.

“Satan and Demons.” In *NET Study Bible*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2023.

“Virgin Birth.” In *NET Study Bible*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2023.

“General and Special Revelation.” In *A Handbook of Theology*, edited by David S. Dockery, Nathan A. Finn, and Christopher W. Morgan. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2022.

“Baptists, *Sola Scriptura*, and the Place of the Christian Tradition.” In *Baptists and the Christian Tradition: Towards an Evangelical Baptist Catholicity*, ed. Matthew Y. Emerson, Christopher W. Morgan, and R. Lucas Stamps. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2020.

“Bart Ehrman.” In *Watchman Fellowship Profile Notebook*. Arlington, TX: Watchman Fellowship, 2016.

“Richard Dawkins.” In *Watchman Fellowship Profile Notebook*. Arlington, TX: Watchman Fellowship, 2016.

**Journal
Articles /
Book
Reviews**

“Jesus Paid It All. There’s Still So Much We Owe.” *Christianity Today*. September 2023.

“Is Everyone a Theologian?” *The Gospel Coalition*. September 2023.

“Can Baptists Be Catholic? An Evangelical Baptist Perspective.” *Modern Reformation* (November / December 2022): 20–25.

“Does an Affirmation of *Sola Scriptura* Entail the Regulative Principle of Worship?” *JBTM* 19.2 (Fall 2022): 229–43.

“When Doctrine Divides.” *Modern Reformation* 31.4 (July/August 2022): 20–26.

“Will My Lost Neighbor Have Another Chance to Receive Jesus After Death?” *Christianity Today*. August 2021.

“Who Does God Say I Am? Theological Anthropology and Christian Disciple-Making.” *SWJT* 63.2 (Spring 2021).

“Before and After Nicaea: Arianism as a Test Case for the Ongoing Development of Heresy.” *Criswell Theological Review* 18, no. 1 (2020): 3–22.

“The Bible and the University: *Sola Scriptura* and Interdisciplinary Engagement,” with Keith Whitfield. *SWJT* 62.2 (Spring 2020): 53–75.

Professional Activities / Denominational Service

2023	Resolutions Committee, Arkansas Baptist State Convention
2017–2021	Member, Research Institute, The Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention
2012–Present	Trustee, Watchman Christian Fellowship
2015–2016	President, Evangelical Theological Society, Southwest Region
2014–2015	Program Chair, Evangelical Theological Society, Southwest Region
2013–2014	Vice-President, Evangelical Theological Society, Southwest Region

Academic Presentations

Presenter

“Where is God When It Hurts? Exploring the Problem of Evil.” Lead / Defend, Little Rock, March 2, 2024.

“Was Jesus Really ‘Born of a Virgin’?” Defend Conference. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. January 5, 2024.

“The Perpetual Virginity of Mary and Theological Anthropology in the Protestant Tradition.” Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 15, 2023.

"The Incomprehensible Truth of the Trinity." Lead / Defend, Little Rock, AR, March 4, 2023.

"Kissing Jesus Goodbye: Why Some People are 'Deconstructing' and How to Think About It." Lead / Defend, Little Rock, AR, March 2022.

"Does an Affirmation of *Sola Scriptura* Entail the Regulative Principle of Worship?" Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX, November 16, 2021.

"Becoming an Intellectually Virtuous Disciple." Coe Honors Society Meeting. Williams Baptist University. April 25, 2021.

"Is Democracy a Gift or a Curse? More Theological Reflections on the Rule of the People." ERLC Research Institute. October 3, 2019.

"A Response to Luke Stamps's 'A Theological Anthropology for Baptist Political Witness.'" ERLC Research Institute. October 11, 2018.

"Challenges to Biblical Perspicuity from Contemporary Hermeneutical Theory." Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Providence, RI, November 15, 2017.

"Does the Gospel of Mark Affirm the Deity of Jesus?" Lead/Defend, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, Arkansas, February 25, 2017.

"The Search for Identity in a Gender-Confused World." Lead/Defend, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, Arkansas, February 25, 2017.

"Confirmation Bias in Theological Method." Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 15, 2016.

"The Role of Abductive Reasoning in Theological Method." Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 17, 2015.

"Epistemic Disagreement and Biblical Interpretation." Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 17, 2015.

"Where Does Inerrancy Fit in the 'Doctrinal Triage'? Bibliology, Ecclesiology, and Doctrinal Taxonomy." Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 20, 2013.

"Is Overpopulation a Christian Concern? 'Be Fruitful and Multiply' in Redemptive Movement and Theodramatic Perspectives," with Jeffrey

B. Riley. Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, November 14, 2012.

“Evangelicals and Gadamerian Hermeneutics: Promises and Perils.” Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November 16, 2011.

“Pulp Gospels and Pop Theology: Assessing Christology and Popular Piety in Second- and Third-Century Apocryphal Gospel Traditions.” Southwest Regional Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, New Orleans, LA, February 26, 2010.

“Get Real, Professor Hick: Evaluating the ‘Critical Realism’ of John Hick.” Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 20, 2009.

“‘Through Whom He Also Made the Aeons and Everything’: Uncovering Arius’s Anthropocentric Cosmology.” Evangelical Philosophical Society. New Orleans, LA, March 27, 2009.

**Panelist /
Moderator**

“Theological Faculty in the Southern Baptist Convention.” Moderator. Evangelical Theological Society National Meeting, November 13, 2018.

“Is the Baptist Faith & Message 2000 Sufficient for Today?” Evangelical Theological Society National Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 16, 2016.

“What Does it Mean to be a Person?” National Youth Workers Convention, Atlanta, GA, November 19, 2011.

“How Do Culture and Theology Relate?” National Youth Workers Convention, Atlanta, GA, November 19, 2011.

Response to “Thomas Grantham’s Theology of Atonement: An Arminian Penal Substitutionary View.” Baptist Center for Theology and Ministry, New Orleans, LA, February 25, 2011.

Courses Taught

Ph.D.	Christology in the Early Church Philosophical Hermeneutics Readings in Historical Theology Readings in Philosophical Theology Readings in Systematic Theology (20th-century theology)
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	Theological Interpretation of Scripture Theological Method
D.Min.	Christian Worldview, The Doctrinal Foundations for Christian Ministry The Problem of Evil and Suffering Project in Ministry Design
Masters	Ancient and Medieval Theology Apologetic Method Christian Apologetics Contemporary Hermeneutical Theory Cult Theology Historical Jesus Jehovah's Witnesses Mormonism Philosophy of Religion Reformation and Modern Theology Revelation, the Doctrine of Systematic Theology I Systematic Theology II Theological Method Theological Research and Writing
Undergraduate	Biblical Story Christian Doctrine Christian Ethics Christian Worldview, The Disciple-Making Church (with Micah Putman) Introduction to Student Ministry (with Micah Putman) Person and Work of Christ, The Preaching

Awards and Honors

2015	Ola Farmer-Lenaz Research Grant Recipient, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
2012	The Marvin Jones Award for Excellence, Outstanding Research Professor, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
2008	The Broadman & Holman Seminarian Award
2008	Thru the Bible Communicator of the Year Award
2005	The H.L. Waters Award of Religion, Williams Baptist University

Book Endorsements

From *Conceived by the Holy Spirit*:

“In this new and important volume, Rhyne Putman tells us why, through Scripture and Christian history, this beautiful truth has animated the church's gospel witness. Long an under-emphasized, under-covered aspect of the incarnation, Putman helps recover this doctrine for a new generation. Written with clarity and conviction, *Conceived by the Holy Spirit* is an essential book for every pastor's library.”

– Daniel Darling, director of the Land Center for Cultural Engagement,
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

“I am grateful for Rhyne Putman's new book, *Conceived by the Holy Spirit*. It sets forth both the beauty and necessity of Jesus's virgin birth in a refreshing, compelling manner. I highly recommend it.”

– Steve Gaines, senior pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis TN

From *The Method of Christian Theology*:

“Simply stated, *The Method of Christian Theology* is a splendid book. Rhyne Putman, one of the truly outstanding young evangelical theologians of our day, has given us a masterful introduction to the task of doing theology for the church. Blending head and heart, this engaging and illuminating volume provides guidance, clarity, and insight for pastors, students, and all who are interested in the work of Christian theology. It is a genuine delight to recommend this excellent work, which should be essential reading for ministerial students and seminarians across the country.”

– David S. Dockery, president, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

“In *The Method of Christian Theology*, Rhyne Putman has provided the church with an accessible, user-friendly introduction to one of theology's perennial questions: what is the best way to study and articulate Christian doctrine? Rather than some dry discussion of ethereal issues, though, this book engages the heart, soul, and hands as well as the mind as Putman seeks to form Christlike theologians through their systematic handling of God's Word. This book should be used in any classroom or church setting in which the topic of conversation centers on theological method. I cannot recommend it highly enough.”

– Matthew Y. Emerson, professor of religion and dean, Hobbs College of Theology and
Ministry, Oklahoma Baptist University

“When I think of Rhyne Putman, what comes to mind is a trusted scholar who can speak deep truths to regular people. There seems to be a large gap in the theological reading realm between popular level books, and those books only read and understood by trained theologians. Dr. Putman is able to speak to both ends of the spectrum, providing a middle level approach that is

so greatly missing. Pastors, seminary students, and church members desiring to take a deeper step into theological reading, will all benefit from this book.”

—Dean Inserra, lead pastor, City Church, Tallahassee, FL

“Evangelical Christians have neglected theological method for generations – and that is a harmful neglect. Rhyne Putman offers a serious consideration of theological method that will make a lasting mark in evangelical theology. This is a major contribution to theological discussion.”

—R. Albert Mohler Jr., president, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

“‘Show me the way to go home.’ Rhyne Putman probably didn’t have the lyrics to this song in mind when he was writing this book, but he could have. A method is a way of doing something, and his book provides everything newcomers to Christian theology need to embark on their way home – back to God, for whom our hearts are restless until they find rest in him. It also provides precious practical help along the way – the preparation, procedures, and practices pilgrims and disciples need for understanding, formulating, contextualizing, and even preaching doctrine. Anyone interested in interpreting Scripture for knowing God will benefit from the clear signage Putman provides along the way.

—Kevin J. Vanhoozer, research professor of systematic theology, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

From When Doctrine Divides the People of God:

“Rhyne Putman is one of the best Baptist theologians writing today, and he has given us a superb study on two themes central to Scripture: Christian unity and doctrinal diversity. Seldom have these topics been dealt with together in a more coherent way. This is an important book.”

—Timothy George, Distinguished Professor of Divinity, Beeson Divinity School

“With keen historical and philosophical insight, Rhyne Putman probes deeply the roots of Protestantism’s disputatious and division-making nature. He asks the right questions and addresses the roots of the problems that have prevented even evangelical Christians with a high view of Scripture from uniting in common causes for the sake of the gospel. Without diminishing or downplaying our differences and their consequences, he calls us to once more heed the call of Wesley in his famous ‘Catholic Spirit’ letter and reach across the theological divides and say ‘if your heart is as my heart, give me your hand’ in things we can do together for the sake of Christ. Here is a practical study of how to disagree in love, without becoming disagreeable, much less foes. Highly recommended!”

—Ben Witherington III, Jean R. Amos Professor of New Testament for Doctrinal Studies, Asbury Theological Seminary

References

Available upon request.