

Greg S. Peters

Biola University
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- EDUCATION:** 2003: Ph.D., University of St. Michael's College
Toronto, Ontario
Major Field of Concentration: Christian History – Medieval
Minor Field of Concentration: Christian History – Institutional/Social
History
- 1999: M.A., St. John's University School of Theology
Collegeville, Minnesota
Major Field of Concentration: Christian History
Minor Field of Concentration: Monastic Studies
- 1996: M.A., Dallas Theological Seminary
Dallas, Texas
Major Field of Concentration: Biblical Studies
- 1994: B.S., Philadelphia College of Bible
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Major: Biblical Studies

Ph.D. THESIS: “‘A Treasury of Divine Knowledge and Wisdom’: The Twelfth Century Byzantine Spiritual Theology of Peter of Damascus.”

The thesis examines the abundant writings of the twelfth century Byzantine monk Peter of Damascus (fl. ca. 1156/7), providing a synthetic exposition of his spiritual theology in relationship to earlier Byzantine spiritual authors.
Director: Professor T. Allan Smith, CSB

M.A. THESIS: “From Orthodoxy to Heresy: A Biblical and Historical Examination of *syneisaktism* in the Early Church.”

The thesis examines and contrasts Paul's teaching in 1 Corinthians 7 and fourth century arguments used against celibate men and women who cohabited together for mutual support and protection.
Director: Professor Columba Stewart, OSB

- EXPERIENCE:** Assistant Professor of Medieval and Spiritual Theology, Fall 2005 - Present
Torrey Honors Institute, Biola University - La Mirada, CA
Institute for Spiritual Formation, Talbot School of Theology - La Mirada, CA
- History and Traditions of Christian Spirituality
 - Augustine's *Confessions*
 - Dante's *Divine Comedy*
 - Spiritual Theology
 - History and Theology of the Anglican Tradition
- Director, Torrey Honors Institute – Rome, Italy, Spring 2007 - Present
- On the Nature and Form of Beauty (Interterm 2008)
 - Martyrs and Monks (Interterm 2009)
- Dean of the Faculty, Torrey Honors Institute, Fall 2008 – Present
- Adjunct Assistant Professor of Church History, Winter 2007 - Present
Nashotah House Theological Seminary - Nashotah, WI
- Church History Survey
 - History and Theology of Priestly Spirituality
- Adjunct Assistant Professor of Monastic Studies, Fall 2007
St. John's School of Theology - Collegeville, MN
- Medieval Monastic Spirituality
- Sessional Instructor, Spring 2004-2006
Trinity College, University of Toronto - Toronto, Ontario
- English Spirituality in the High and Late Middle Ages (2004)
 - Medieval Spiritual Theology: Anselm of Canterbury, Richard of St. Victor and Thomas Aquinas (2005)
- Visiting Professor, Fall 2002
Biola University, Institute for Spiritual Formation - La Mirada, CA
- History and Traditions of Christian Spirituality
- Collaborative Instructor, Fall 2000
University of St. Michael's College - Toronto, Canada
- Christian Monasticisms

TEACHING INTERESTS: Monasticism, History of Spirituality, Spiritual Theology, Medieval and Byzantine Theology, History of Christianity, Greek and Latin Patristic Theology

BOOKS: *Peter of Damascus: Byzantine Monk and Spiritual Theologian* (Toronto: Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, forthcoming)

Reforming the Monastery: Protestant Theologies of Religious Life (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, forthcoming)

ARTICLES:

“Benedict of Nursia, John Henry Newman and the Torrey Honors Institute of Biola University: An Examination of an Educational Approach to Christian Learning,” in *Newman Studies Journal* (Spring 2009; forthcoming)

“Religious Orders and Pastoral Care in the Late Middle Ages,” in Ronald J. Stansbury, ed., *Pastoral Care in the Late Middle Ages* (Brill, forthcoming)

“Walter Hilton,” “Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain” and “Nil Sorsky,” in G.T. Kurian, ed., *Encyclopedia of Christian Literature* (Hendrickson Publishers, forthcoming)

“Monasteries,” “Monastic Orders,” “Benedictines,” “Cistercians” and “Ascetical Theology,” in G.T. Kurian, ed., *Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization* (Blackwell-Wiley Publishers, forthcoming)

“Adalard, abbot of Corbie (d. 826),” “Almoner,” “Bruno the Carthusian,” “Caen (Cadomum),” “Cenobitism,” “Chapter (capitulum),” “Chapter of Faults,” “Charterhouse,” “Church, collegiate,” “Dijon,” “General Chapter,” “White Monks,” “Pontigny, abbey,” “Clairvaux (including abbey),” “Windesheim, abbey,” “Dunfermline, abbey,” “Holyrood, abbey,” “Maurus, St, (6th century) (and Maurists),” “Mellifont, abbey,” “Melrose, abbey” and “Sulpicius Severus (d. 420),” in Robert E. Bjork, ed., *The Oxford Dictionary of the Middle Ages* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming)

“The Place of Monasticism in the Thought of Donald Bloesch,” Proceedings of the Monastic Symposium in Rome, May 29-June 2, 2006 (*Studia Anselmiana*, forthcoming)

“The Rule of Benedict,” a review article in the *Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care* 1.1 (Spring 2008): 106-108.

“Benedictine abbey of Corbie” and “Peter of Damascus” in *International Encyclopedia for the Middle Ages – Online* (UCLA/Brepols Publishing, 2006)

“Recovering a Lost Spiritual Theologian: Peter of Damascus and the Philokalia,” *St. Vladimir’s Theological Quarterly* 49.4 (2005): 437-459.

“Peter of Damascus and Early Christian Spiritual Theology,” *Patristica et Medievalia* 26 (2005): 89-109.

“Towards a Definition of ‘Spiritual Theology’: A Historiography of Recent Writings on Byzantine Spirituality,” *Studia Monastica* 46.1 (2004): 25-41.

“Offering Sons to God in the Monastery: Child Oblation, Monastic Benevolence, and the Cistercian Order in the Middle Ages,” *Cistercian Studies Quarterly* 38.3 (2003): 285-295.

“Familial Relationships: The Writings of Theoleptos of Philadelphia to Irene Eulogia Choumnaina Palaiologina,” *Eastern Churches Journal* 10.1 (2003): 55-66.

“Spiritual Marriage in Early Christianity: 1 Corinthians 7:25-38 in Modern Exegesis and the Earliest Church,” *Trinity Journal* 23 NS (Fall 2002): 211-224.

**BOOK
REVIEWS:**

Review of Richard H. Schmidt, *God Seekers: Twenty Centuries of Christian Spiritualities* in *Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care* (forthcoming)

Review of Robert Davis Hughes, III, *Beloved Dust: Tides of the Spirit in the Christian Life* in *Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care* (forthcoming)

Review of Christoph Bultmann, Volker Leppin and Andreas Lindner, eds., *Luther und das monastische Erbe* in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* (forthcoming)

Review of Jeffrey F. Hamburger and Susan Marti, eds., *Crown and Veil: Female Monasticism from the Fifth to the Fifteenth Centuries* in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* (forthcoming)

Review of Karen Stöber, *Late Medieval Monasteries and their Patrons: England and Wales, c. 1300-1540* in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* (forthcoming)

Review of Margaret Harvey, *Lay Religious Life in Medieval Durham* in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* (forthcoming)

Review of Hannah Ward and Jennifer Wild, eds., *The Monastic Way: Ancient Wisdom for Contemporary Living, A Book of Daily Readings in Cistercian Studies Quarterly* 43.2 (2008): 224-226.

Review of Hilary Thimmesh, ed., *Saint John's at 150: A Portrait of this Place Called Collegeville, 1856-2006* in *Cistercian Studies Quarterly* 42.2 (2007): 237-239.

Review of Philipp W. Rosemann, *Peter Lombard* in *Calvin Theological Journal* 41.2 (2006): 406-407.

Review of Dániel Deme, *The Christology of Anselm of Canterbury* in *Toronto Journal of Theology* 21.2 (2004):

Review of Rik van Nieuwenhove and Joseph Wawrykow, eds., *The Theology of Thomas Aquinas* in *Calvin Theological Journal* 41.1 (2006): 167-169

Review of Regis J. Armstrong, O.F.M. Cap., J. A. Wayne Hellmann, O.F.M. Conv., William J. Short, O.F.M., eds., *The Francis Trilogy of Thomas of Celano: The Life of Saint Francis (1228-1229), The Remembrance of the Desire of a Soul (1245-1247), The Treatise on the Miracles of Saint Francis (1250-1252)* in *Calvin Theological Journal* 41.1 (2006): 173-174

Review of Bernard V. Brady, *Christian Love: How Christians through the Ages Have Understood Love* in *Toronto Journal of Theology* 20:2 (2004): 258-259

Review of Anselm Stolz, *The Doctrine of Spiritual Perfection* in *Toronto Journal of Theology* 20:1 (2004): 118-119

Review of Richard Landes, Andrew Gow, and David C. Van Meter eds., *The Apocalyptic Year 1000: Religious Expectation and Social Change, 950-1050* in *Toronto Journal of Theology* 20:1 (2004): 84-85

Review of Walter E. Kaegi, *Heraclius: Emperor of Byzantium* in *Fides et Historia* 36:2 (2004): 141-143

Review of Warwick Gould and Marjorie Reeves, *Joachim of Fiore and the Myth of the Eternal Evangel in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries* in *Fides et Historia* 35:1 Winter/Spring (2003): 139-140

Review of Bernard McGinn, *The Mystical Theology of Meister Eckhart: The Man From Whom God Hid Nothing* in *Toronto Journal of Theology* 18:2 (2002): 282-283

Review of Peter King, *Western Monasticism: A History of the Monastic Movement in the Latin Church* in *Toronto Journal of Theology* 17:2 (2001): 307-308

PAPERS GIVEN: “Do as I say, not as I do: Monastic *Vitae* as Reforming Documents.” 44th International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2009.

“The Journey of Our Life: Dante as a Spiritual Theologian of Grace.” 60th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, November 2008.

“‘Pure religion and undefiled...is this’: Religious Orders and Pastoral Care in the Late Middle Ages.” 42nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2007.

“The Holy Spirit in Spiritual Theology: An Examination of the Sources.” 58th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, November 2006.

“The Place of Monasticism in the Thought of Donald Bloesch.” The Monastic Institute 2006: Church, Society and Monasticism, June 2006.

“Familial Relationships in the Writings of Theoleptos of Philadelphia to Irene Eulogia Choumnaina Palaiologina.” 27th Annual Byzantine Studies Conference, November 2001.

“Evangelicalism without Boundaries: Tradition and Authority in Spiritual Theology.” Toronto School of Theology, Advanced Degree Student Association Seminar, October 2001 and 53rd Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, November 2001.

“‘Offering Sons to God in the Monastery’: Oblation as Monastic Benevolence.” 36th International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2001.

“Christodoulos of Patmos: Servant of Christ, Lover of Humankind?” Conference on Byzantine Monasticisms, University of St. Michael’s College, March 2001.

“Poetic Precursors and a Postscript to Bernard of Clairvaux’s *Apologia ad Guilelmum abbatem*.” 34th International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 1999.

“The Gift of Teaching in Cistercian Theology.” 50th Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, November 1998.

“An Examination of Fourth Century Arguments against *Syneisaktism*: Search for Understanding.” Twenty-Third International Conference on Patristic, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, October, 1998.

**LECTURES
GIVEN:**

“Newman and Luther on Reforming the Monastery.” Torrey Honors Institute, November 2008.

Peter of Damascus: Byzantine Monk and Spiritual Theologian.” Torrey Honors Institute, October 2008.

“A Putrid Smell’: An Olfactory Response to the Grand Inquisitor.” Torrey Honors Institute, April 2007.

“Dante’s Need for Bernard of Clairvaux: On Loving God.” Torrey Honors Institute, October 2007.

“Late Medieval Pastoral Care: Trying to Make Sense of Chaucer’s Clerics and Monks.” Torrey Honors Institute, April 2007.

“Thomas Aquinas and the Pattern of Medieval Dominican Preaching.” Torrey Honors Institute, April 2007.

“From the City to the Desert and Back Again: Monasticism from 100 to 1000.” Early Church Guild, Biola University, October 2006.

“On Reading Hagiography.” Torrey Honors Institute, September 2006.

“Russian Monasticism and Dostoyevsky’s Father Zosima.” Torrey Honors Institute, March 2006.

“Spirituality in the Early Church.” Torrey Honors Institute, February 2006.

“Peter of Damascus.” Torrey Honors Institute, October 2005.

“The Lives of Francis of Assisi.” Torrey Honors Institute, October 2005.

“Reading Aquinas with the Readers of Aquinas.” Torrey Honors Institute, September 2005 and September 2006.

GRANTS:

Newman Scholarship, National Institute of Newman Studies
August 2008 (\$2500)

Research and Development Grant, Biola University
Fall 2007 (\$4100), Spring 2006 (\$750), Fall 2006 (\$1450)

Peer-Learning Group, Seminars in Christian Scholarship, Calvin College
September 2005 (\$200; amount matched by the Torrey Honors Institute)

Faculty Spiritual Direction Grant, Institute for Spiritual Formation, Talbot
School of Theology (\$300)
October 2005 - May 2006

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Chair, Ecclesiology Consultation, Evangelical Theological Society

Organized Sponsored Session entitled “Monastic Life and Monastic *Lives*,”
for the 44th International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2009.

Consulting Editor, *Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care* (2007-Present)

Organized Special Session entitled “Monastic Benevolence: Comparisons
West and East” for the 36th International Congress on Medieval Studies, May
2001.

Co-organizer with T. Allan Smith of Conference on Byzantine Monasticisms,
University of St. Michael’s College, March 30 - April 1, 2001.

WORKSHOPS:

“The Role of Scripture in a Christian University: Personal, Professional, and
Integrative”

Biola University, Summer Faculty Theology Integration Seminar, June 2006
Led by Wayne Grudem and Michael J. Wilkins

“Musical Theology: Past Lessons, Present Perspectives”
Calvin College, Seminars in Christian Scholarship, June 2005
Led by Richard Plantinga and Clayton Schmit

ACADEMIC HONORS: Toronto School of Theology, John M. Kelly Award, 2002-2003
University of St. Michael’s College, Faculty of Theology Fellowship,
1999-2003
University of St. Michael’s College Conference Travel Grant, May
2001 and November 2001
St. John’s School of Theology Fellowship, 1997-1999
Graduate Theological Studies Travel Grant, St. John’s School of
Theology, October 1998 and May 1999
M.A. *with honors*, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1996

ACADEMIC SERVICE: President, Advanced Degree Student Association - Toronto School of
Theology, 2000-2002
Student Representative, Toronto School of Theology - Advanced Degree
Council, 2001-2002
Student Representative, University of St. Michael’s College, Dean
Search Committee, 2000-2001
Student Representative, Toronto School of Theology - Historical
Department, 1999-2001
Student Representative of the Association of Theological Schools
Subcommittee on Curriculum and Library at St. John’s School of
Theology, 1997-1998
President, Student Theological Society - Philadelphia College of Bible,
1992-1993

MEMBERSHIPS: Spirituality International (Titus Brandsma Institute, Nijmegen)
Medieval Academy of America
American Catholic Historical Association
Byzantine Studies Conference
American Society of Church History
American Benedictine Academy
Society of the Study of Anglicanism
Evangelical Theological Society