

JAE HEE HAN

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2018- Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Judaic Studies, Brown University

EDUCATION

- 2018 Ph.D. program in Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania
Dissertation: *Rethinking Prophecy in Late Antique Syria*
Committee: Annette Yoshiko Reed (advisor), David Stern, Peter Struck
Examinations: Prophets and Prophetic Literature; Rabbinic Judaism; Greek and Roman Divination
- 2012 Master of Theological Studies in Jewish Studies, Harvard Divinity School
Advisor: Peter Machinist
- 2009 Bachelor of Arts in Religion, Certificate in Judaic Studies, *cum laude*, Princeton University
Advisor: Peter Schäfer

MONOGRAPHS

- Prophets and Prophecy in the Late Antique Near East* (Cambridge University Press, 2023)
- Manichaean Literature in Late Antiquity* (Tentative Title: In Progress)

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- “Mani and the Myth of the Perpetual Foreigner,”
Journal of Early Christian Studies 32.4 (2024): 605-34.
- “Elchasai, a Missing Link? Between the Manichaeans and the Rabbis,”
Gnosis: Journal of Gnostic Studies 9.2 (2024): 159-83.
- “‘Hail Bema of Victory, Great Sign of our City!’: Toward a Comparative Liturgical Approach to the Manichaean Bema Psalms,”
Studies in Late Antiquity 7.3 (2023): 407-44.
- “Mani the Anchorite, Mani the Apostle: The *Cologne Mani Codex* and Syrian Asceticism,”
Vigiliae Christianae 77.1 (2023): 47-68.
- “‘Once Again He Speaks’: Performance and the Anthological Habit in the Manichaean *Kephalaia*,” *Journal of Late Antiquity* 14.2 (2021): 435-70.

“Mani’s *Metivta*: Manichaean Pedagogy in its Syro-Mesopotamian Context,”
Harvard Theological Review 114.3 (2021): 346-70.

“The Baptist Followers of Mani: Reframing the *Cologne Mani Codex*,”
Numen 66 (2019): 243-70.

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Histories from Contradiction: Introduction to the Twenty-Year Retrospective on *The Ways that Never Parted* volume,” *Studies in Late Antiquity*, Forthcoming.

“The Central Role of Mani’s Books in the Manichaean Bema Festival” in *Manichaean Liturgical Texts and Practices*, ed. Iain Gardner, Majella Franzmann, and Gunner Mikkelsen, CFM, Analecta Manichaica 3 (Turnout: Brepols, Forthcoming in 2025).

“Rethinking Christian Origins in Mesopotamia through Mani’s Letters,” in *Festschrift in honor of John C. Reeves*, ed. Jason BeDuhn and Annette Yoshiko Reed, Submitted.

with Annette Yoshiko Reed, “Reorienting Ancient Judaism,”
Journal of Ancient Judaism 9.2 (2018): 144-54.

(ed., with Annette Yoshiko Reed), “Reorienting Ancient Judaism: Syrian, Mesopotamian, and Persian Perspectives,” special issue of *Journal of Ancient Judaism* 9.2 (2018): 144-310.

BOOK AND EXHIBITION REVIEWS (NON-PEER REVIEWED)

Sue Brunning, Luk Yu-ping, Elisabeth R. O’Connell, *Silk Roads Exhibition at the British Museum*, Sept. 26, 2024 – Feb. 23, 2025, *Studies in Late Antiquity* (Submitted).

Rea Matsangou, *The Manichaeans of the Roman East: Manichaeism in Greek Anti-Manichaica and Roman Imperial Legislation*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 33.1 (2025): 176-78.

Kevin T. van Bladel, *From Sasanian Mandaean to Šābians of the Marshes*, *Ancient Jew Review*, March 5, 2018.

<<https://www.ancientjewreview.com/read/2017/11/13/book-note-from-sasanian-mandaean-to-bians-of-the-marshes>>

Martha Himmelfarb, *Jewish Messiahs in a Christian Empire: A History of the Book of Zerubbabel*, *Ancient Jew Review*, March 29, 2017.

<<https://www.ancientjewreview.com/read/2017/3/26/book-note-jewish-messiahs-in-a-christian-empire-a-history-of-the-book-of-zerubbabel>>

OTHER NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Manichaean Precedents in Light of Simcha Gross’s *Babylonian Jews and Sasanian Imperialism in Late Antiquity*,” *Ancient Jew Review*, February 14, 2025
<<https://www.ancientjewreview.com/read/2025/2/14/manichaean-precedents-in-light-of-gross-babylonian-jews-and-sasanian-imperialism-in-late-antiquity>>

“Publication Preview: Beyond the ‘Cessation of Prophecy’ in Late Antiquity,” *Ancient Jew Review*, April 9, 2024
<<https://www.ancientjewreview.com/read/2024/4/8/publication-preview->>

“On the Erasure of Whiteness in Responses to Convicted Pedophile Jan Joosten, a White Man,” *Religion Dispatches*, July 1, 2020 <<https://religiondispatches.org/on-the-erasure-of-whiteness-in-responses-to-convicted-pedophile-jan-joosten-a-white-man/>>

REFERENCE

“Man of God in Rabbinic Judaism,” in *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*, vol. 17, ed. C. Helmer et al. (De Gruyter, 2019).

PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

“Reassessing the ‘Religious Persecution’ of the Manichaean Church in the Sasanian Empire,” Nastaran Akhavan Symposia on Ancient Iranian Religions, University of California Irvine, June 2025

“Did the Manichaeans Set a Precedent? Rethinking the Sasanian Persecution of Manichaeans in Light of Simcha Gross’s *Babylonian Jews and Sasanian Imperialism in Late Antiquity*,” Association for Jewish Studies Conference, December 2024

“A *Barhadbashabba* among the Manichaeans,” SBL Conference, San Diego, November 2024

“The Use of Rabbinic Literature to Study Early Christianity,” SBL Conference, November 2024

“A Manichaean *Stam*? Between Manichaean and Rabbinic Editorial Practices,” *Mani in Cambridge 3*, Ancient India and Iran Trust, Cambridge UK, May 2024

“Panel Review of Jae Hee Han’s *Prophets and Prophecy in the Late Antique Near East*,” SBL Conference, San Antonio, November 2023

“The Use of Rabbinic Literature in the Study of Early Christianity,” SBL Conference, San Antonio, November 2023 (Panel Cancelled)

“Elchasai, a ‘Missing Link?’ Between the Rabbis and the Manichaeans,” SBL Conference, Denver, November 2022

Respondent to “Ancient Education: Social, Intellectual, and Material Context,” SBL Conference, Denver, November 2022

Panelist for “Teaching the Traditions of the Late Antique East: A Strategy Swap,” AAR Conference, Denver, November 2022

“A Manichaean Stam? Towards a Description of the Anonymous Redactors of the Manichaean *Kephalaia*,” European Association of Biblical Studies Conference, Online/Toulouse, July 2022.

“Mani and the Myth of the Perpetual Foreigner,” The North American Patristics Association Annual Conference, Chicago, May 2022

“The Use and Abuse of Late Antiquity: Modern Manichaeism,” AAR Conference, Online, November 2021

Presenter for “Prospects for Biblical Studies: Imagining the Next Ten Years,” Regional SBL Conference, Boston, March 2020

Respondent to “Manichaeism and the Dublin Kephalaia: Review of the *Chapters of the Wisdom of my Lord Mani*,” SBL National Conference, San Diego, November 2019

“Ideologies of Oral Revelation in Late Antique Syro-Mesopotamia,” SBL National Conference, San Diego, CA, November 2019

“Prophetological Discourse in the Kephalaic Corpus,” International Association of Manichaean Studies (IAMS) Symposium: Manichaeism in Egypt, The Medinet Madi Library after 90 Years, Dublin, Ireland, October 2019

“Revisiting Baraies’ Homily in the *Cologne Mani Codex*,” ARAM Society for Syro-Mesopotamian Studies, Oxford, UK, July 2019

“The Cologne Mani Codex and Late Antique Mesopotamian Christianity,” Eighth North American Syriac Symposium, Providence, RI, June 2019

“Between *Midrash* and the *Kephalaia*: Overlapping Practices of Ordering Knowledge among Rabbis and Manichaeans,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, December 2018

“From Borders to Borderlands: Christians in Manichaean Territory,” North American Patristics Society, Chicago, IL, May 2018

“Jewish-Christianity, Late Antiquity, and *Nativist Prophets of Early Islam*,” SBL National Conference, Boston, MA, November 2017

“Constructions of Prophecy and Prophethood in Late Antique Syria: Iamblichus’ *De Mysteriis* and the *Pseudo-Clementine Homilies*,” SBL National Conference, San Antonio, TX, November 2016

“Bardaisan and Mani: Human Nature and Nomos in *The Laws of Countries* and the Cologne Mani Codex” Dorushe Graduate Conference in Syriac Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI, May 2016

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

“From Apostle to Martyr: Mani and the Bema Festival in Late Antiquity,” Binghamton University, October 9, 2024.

“Mutual Representations: Judaism and Christianity in Late Antiquity,” Jewish-Catholic Theological Exchange Colloquium, Providence College, May 1-2, 2024.
<https://youtu.be/KA69N6U8-Go?si=9KPe-2_5fwfd7jCo>

“What does Oral Revelation Look Like? Comparing Rabbinic and Manichaean Textualities,” Brooklyn Institute for Social Research Language Learning and Critique Program, April 2024. <<https://vimeo.com/936773703>>

“On Prophets and Prophecy in the Late Antique Near East, hosted by Michael Motia,” New Books Network Podcast, April 2024.
<<https://newbooksnetwork.com/prophets-and-prophecy-in-the-late-antique-near-east>>

“The Apocalyptic Roots of Manichaean Empiricism,” Law, Religion and Sciences/Knowledge Conference, Between Encyclopaedia and Epitome – Talmudic strategies of knowledge-making in the context of ancient medicine and sciences Project Research Network, Online, November 2023

“Rethinking Christian Origins in Mesopotamia through Mani’s Letters,” Westar Christianity Conference on Borders, Boundaries, and Encountering Others, Westar Institute, Online, October 2023

“Contextualizing Manichaean Literature,” Jewish Studies Graduate Student Lecture, Yale University, October 2023

“On Christianity,” Religious Literacy Project, Brown University, Providence, April 2023

“Redescribing Christian Origins in Third Century Mesopotamia through Mani’s Letters,” Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean Presentations, Harvard University, March 2023

Respondent for *Models of Piety in Late Antiquity*, Denver, November 2022

“A Manichaean Reads Polycarp: Making a Martyr of Mani in the Roman Near East,” in Philadelphia Seminar on Christian Origins, October 20, 2022

Interview with Dr. Shirley Paulson for *Early Christian Texts: The Bible and Beyond* podcast, <https://earlychristiantexts.com/manichaeans/>, September, 2022

“Mani and the Myth of the Perpetual Foreigner,” Providence Patristics Group, Providence, September 2022

“Augustine and the Manichaeans,” Amherst College, Amherst, May 2022

“On Christianity,” Religious Literacy Project, Brown University, Providence, April 2022

“Contextualizing the Manichaean Bema Festival in the Roman Empire,” for the *Elizabeth A. Clark Center for Late Ancient Studies*, Duke University, Durham, March 2022

“Reading Rabbinic and Manichaean Literatures Together: Rav Kahana and Goundesh as Bearers of Eastern Wisdom,” in *Ancient Laws Ancient Contexts: Situating Israelites and Jews in Normative Discourses*, Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, December 2021

Respondent to “Poetics and Persuasion Panel” in *Tracing Christians in Global Late Antiquity Conference*, Online, May 2021

Respondent to *Death: A Graduate Student Conference*, Brown University, Providence, March 2020

Presenter for *Manichaeism for Rabbinicists* Workshop, organized by Michal Bar-Asher Siegal (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev) and Moulie Vidas (Princeton University), San Diego, November 2019

“Once Again He Speaks: The Anthological Habit in the Manichaean *Kephalaia*,” Brown Seminar on the Culture and Religion of the Ancient Mediterranean, Providence, RI, November 2019

“Relevancy, Diversity, and Creativity in the New Testament and Early Christianity Classroom,” New Testament and Early Christian Studies Day, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 2019

“Manichaeans and the Invention of Prophethood: Religious Change in Late Antique Mesopotamia,” Providence Patristics Group, Providence, RI, February 2019

Invited Response to “Gregory Shaw – Philosophy and Religion in Later Platonism: Who were the Bacchoi?” SBL National Conference, Denver, CO, November 2018

“Prophethood and Polemic in the Cologne Mani Codex,” in *Between Heaven and Earth: Divination, Prophecy, and Oracles in the Ancient World*, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 2017

“The Birth of Manichaeism from the Spirit of Jewish-Christian Elchasaite Baptists,” organizer and presenter at *Annette Reed’s Fallen Angels: A Conference in Honor of Prof. Annette Yoshiko Reed*, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, April 2017

AWARDS

2024 Henry Merritt Wriston Fellowship
2017 Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2016 Penfield Dissertation Research Fellowship
2014 Brenner Research Award
2014 Religious Studies Research Grant
2012 Benjamin Franklin Graduate Fellowship

RELEVANT LANGUAGES

Coptic (Lycopolitan): Proficient
Ancient Greek: Proficient
Aramaic (Syriac, Jewish Palestinian and Babylonian Aramaic): Proficient
Hebrew (biblical, rabbinic, and modern): Proficient
Middle Persian (Pahlavi): Elementary
Mandaic: Elementary
French: Proficient
German: Sufficient for Professional Research

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Fall, 2024

JUDS 0608: The Parting of the Ways? Questioning Jewish/Christian Difference (15, 1 TA)
RELS 2000B: Method and Theory in the Study of Religion: Interpreting Religion (13)
Concentration Advisees (1)

Spring, 2024

RELS 1330: The Life and Afterlives of the Apostle Paul (11)
RELS 2055: Reality, Rhetoric, and Religion in Late Antiquity (3)
Second Year Advisees (4), Concentration Advisees (3)
Secondary Advisor for History Senior Thesis
Secondary Advisor for Middle East Studies Senior Thesis

Fall, 2023

RELS 0014: Jesus (23, 1 TA)
Second Year Advisees (4), Concentration Advisees (3)

Spring, 2023

JUDS 0608: The Parting of the Ways? Questioning Jewish/Christian Difference (7)

First Year Advisees (4), Concentration Advisees (3)

Extra-curricular Syriac Instruction (3)

Primary Advisor for Religious Studies Senior Thesis (1)

Secondary Reader for Religious Studies Senior Thesis (2)

Fall, 2022

RELS 1315: Religious Authority in an Age of Empire (9)

RELS 2000B: Method and Theory in the Study of Religion: Interpreting Religion (6)

First Year Advisees (4), Concentration Advisees (3)

Extra-curricular Syriac Instruction (3)

Spring, 2022

RELS 1325: Educating Bodies in Ancient Christianity (7 students)

RELS 2050: Religious Identities in Sasanian Persia (2 students)

Concentration Advisees (3)

Summer, 2021

RELS 0014: Jesus (14 students)

First Year Advisees (5), Second Year Advisees (2)

Spring, 2021

RELS 0290: Defense against the Dark Arts in the Ancient World (64 students, 3 TA's)

RELS 1330: The Life and Afterlives of the Apostle Paul (13 students)

First Year Advisees (5), Second Year Advisees (2), Concentration Advisees (1)

Spring, 2020

RELS 1325: Educating Bodies in Ancient Christianity (3 students)

RELS 1500: From Moses to Muhammad: Prophets of the Ancient World (3 students)

First Year Advisees (5)

Fall, 2019

RELS 0014: Jesus (18 students)

RELS 1315: Religious Authority in an Age of Empire (5 students)

First Year Advisees (5)

Spring, 2019

RELS 1500: From Moses to Muhammad: Prophets of the Ancient World (1 student)

RELS 2050: Religious Identities in Sasanian Persia (2 students)

Honors Thesis Secondary Reader (1 student)

Fall, 2018

RELS 0290: Defense against the Dark Arts in the Ancient World (16 students, 1 TA)

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Mikail Berg, “Ethnicity and Crisis: Syriac Christianity and the Representation of the Ethnic Other,” Ongoing

Chavi (Kelly) Banker, “Erotic Impressions: Towards a Jewish Mystical Soma-Poetics of Sexual Encounters,” Ongoing

Timothy Gilmartin, “The Pentateuchal Tithing Laws and Their Early Interpretive Life,” Ongoing

Josiah Bisbee, “Innumerable Gods in Heaven: Divine Hierarchies from the Hebrew Bible to the Hekhalot Literature,” Defended in Spring 2025

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2025- Book Review Editor for *Studies in Late Antiquity* Journal
2022- Steering Committee for the SBL Christian Apocrypha Group
2021-2024 Chair of the SBL Jewish-Christianity / Christian Judaism Group
2019- Steering Committee for AAR Traditions of Eastern Late Antiquity Program Unit
2018-2021 Co-Chair of the SBL Jewish Christianity/Christian Judaism Group
2019 Local Steering Committee, The Eighth North American Syriac Studies Symposium, Brown University

SERVICE TO BROWN UNIVERSITY

2024-2025
Organizer and Convenor (Fall), Brown Seminar on Culture and Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean (CRAM)
Steering Committee Member, Center for Middle East Studies (Fall)

2023-2024
Graduate Admissions Director for the Religious Studies Department
Brown Judaic Studies Editorial Board
Judaic Studies Prize Committee (Fall)
Bishop McVickar Prize Committee, Department of Religious Studies

2022-2023
Graduate Admissions Director for the Religious Studies Department
Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean Subfield Coordinator
Brown Judaic Studies Editorial Board
Judaic Studies Prize Committee (Celia & Carl Michaelson Essay Prize, Undergraduate and Graduate Research Grants)
Bishop McVickar Prize Committee, Department of Religious Studies

2021-2022

Bishop McVickar Prize Committee, Department of Religious Studies
Judaic Studies Prize Committee (Celia & Carl Michaelson Essay Prize)

2020-2021

Presidential Scholar Mentor (2 students)
Advisor for Graduate Proctorship on Career Diversity, Department of Religious Studies
Bishop McVickar Prize Committee, Department of Religious Studies

2019-2020

Presidential Scholar Mentor (2 students)
Bishop McVickar Prize Committee, Department of Religious Studies

2018-2019

Bishop McVickar Prize Committee, Department of Religious Studies

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)
American Academy of Religion (AAR)
North American Patristics Association (NAPS)
Association for Jewish Studies (AJS)
International Association of Manichaeic Studies (IAMS)