

Benjamin L. Merkle

Professor of New Testament & Greek
Dr. M. O. Owens, Jr. Chair of New Testament Studies

EDUCATION

Degree Earned	School	Year
Ph.D.	The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary	2000
M.Div.	Westminster Theological Seminary, CA	1997
B.R.E.	Kuyper College	1993

EMPLOYMENT

Date	Position	Place
2008–Present	Professor of NT & Greek	Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
2002–2008	Professor of New Testament	Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary
1999–2000	Instructor of New Testament	The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
1995–1997	Lecturer in New Testament Greek	Cathedral Bible College

PRIMARY PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Books (authored)

The Elder and Overseer: One Office in the Early Church. Ph.D. diss., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2000.

The Elder and Overseer: One Office in the Early Church. New York: Peter Lang, 2003.

40 Questions about Elders and Deacons. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2008.

40 Questions about Elders and Deacons (Malay Edition). Penang, Malaysia: MBTS, 2008.

40 Questions about Elders and Deacons (Spanish Edition). Grand Rapids: Portavoz, 2012.

40 Questions about Elders and Deacons (Korean Edition). Soul, Korea: Christian Literature Crusade, 2012.

Why Elders? A Biblical and Practical Guide for Church Members. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2009.

Ephesians. Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament. Nashville: B&H, 2016.

“Ephesians.” Pages 19–119 in *ESV Expository Commentary*, vol. 11 (Ephesians–Philemon). Wheaton: Crossway, 2018.

Exegetical Gems from the Biblical Greek: A Refreshing Guide for Grammar and Interpretation. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2019.

Discontinuity to Continuity: A Survey of Dispensational and Covenantal Theologies. Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2020.

United to Christ, Walking in the Spirit: A Theology of Ephesians. Wheaton: Crossway (forthcoming).

Exegetical Journeys in Biblical Greek: A Daily Guide. Grand Rapids: Baker (forthcoming).

Books (co-authored)

Understanding Prophecy: A Biblical-Theological Approach by Alan S. Bandy and Benjamin L. Merkle. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2015.

Going Deeper with New Testament Greek: An Intermediate Study of the Grammar and Syntax of the New Testament by Andreas J. Köstenberger, Benjamin L. Merkle and Robert L. Plummer. Nashville: B&H, 2016.

Charts for Intermediate Greek Grammar and Syntax: A Quick Reference Guide to Going Deeper with New Testament Greek Book Supplement by Andreas J. Köstenberger, Benjamin L. Merkle and Robert L. Plummer. Nashville: B&H, 2016.

Greek for Life: Strategies for Learning, Retaining and Reviving New Testament Greek by Benjamin L. Merkle and Robert L. Plummer. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2017.

40 Questions about the Great Commission by Daniel Akin, Benjamin Merkle, and George Robinson. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2020.

Hebrew for Life: Strategies for Learning, Retaining and Reviving Biblical Hebrew by Adam Howell, Benjamin L. Merkle and Robert L. Plummer. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2020.

Going Deeper with New Testament Greek: An Intermediate Study of the Grammar and Syntax of the New Testament. Revised Edition by Andreas J. Köstenberger, Benjamin L. Merkle and Robert L. Plummer. Nashville: B&H, 2020.

Beginning with New Testament Greek: An Introductory Study of the Grammar and Syntax of the New Testament by Benjamin L. Merkle and Robert L. Plummer. Nashville: B&H, 2020.

Books (edited)

40 Questions about Interpreting the Bible by Robert L. Plummer. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2010.

40 Questions about Christians and Biblical Law by Thomas R. Schreiner. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2010.

40 Questions about the End Times by Eckhard J. Schnabel. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2012.

40 Questions about Creation and Evolution by Kenneth Keathley and Mark Rooker. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2014.

40 Questions about the Historical Jesus by Marvin Pate. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2015.

40 Questions about Baptism and the Lord's Supper by John Hammett. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2015.

40 Questions about Church Membership and Church Discipline by Jeremy Kimble. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2017.

40 Questions about Salvation by Matthew Barrett. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2018.

40 Questions about Spiritual Warfare by John Gilhooly. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2018.

40 Questions about Heaven and Hell by Alan Gomes. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2018.

40 Questions about Calvinism by Shawn Wright. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2019.

40 Questions about the Great Commission by Daniel Akin, George Robinson and Benjamin Merkle. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2020.

40 Questions about Islam by Matthew Bennett. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2020.

40 Questions about Typology and Allegory by Mitchell Chase. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2020.

40 Questions about Biblical Theology by Jason DeRouchie, Oren Martin, and Andrew Naselli. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2020.

40 Questions about Pastoral Ministry by Phil A. Newton. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2021.

40 Questions about Interpreting the Bible, rev. ed. by Robert L. Plummer. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2021.

- 40 Questions about Roman Catholicism* by Gregg Allison. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about Arminianism* by Matthew Pinson. Grand Rapids: Kregel, (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about Prayer* by Joe Harrod. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about Women in the Church* by Sue Edwards and Kelley Matthews. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about the Text and Canon of the New Testament* by Charles Quarles and Scott Kellum. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about Bible Translation* by Mark Strauss. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about the Apostle Paul* by Miguel Echevarria and Benjamin Larid. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about the Trinity* by Matthew Y. Emerson and Luke Stamps. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about the Mormonism* by Kyle Beshears. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about the Suffering and Evil* by Greg Welty. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- 40 Questions about Warfare and the Justice of God* by Joshua Philpot. Grand Rapids: Kregel (forthcoming).
- Those Who Must Give an Account: A Study of Church Membership and Church Discipline.* Edited by John S. Hammett and Benjamin L. Merkle. Nashville: B&H, 2012.
- Shepherding God's Flock: Biblical Leadership in the New Testament and Beyond.* Edited by Benjamin L. Merkle and Thomas R. Schreiner. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2014.
- Linguistics and New Testament Greek: Key Issues in the Current Debate.* Edited by David Alan Black and Benjamin L. Merkle. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2020.
- New Testament editor for the *Grace and Truth Study Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2021.

Chapters in Books

- “Ecclesiology in the Pastoral Epistles.” Pages 173–98 in *Entrusted with the Gospel: Paul's Theology in the Pastoral Epistles*. Edited by Andreas J. Köstenberger and Terry L. Wilder. B&H, 2010.

- “The Biblical Basis of Church Membership.” Pages 31–52 in *Those Who Must Give an Account: A Study on Church Membership and Church Discipline*. Edited by John S. Hammett and Benjamin L. Merkle. Nashville: B&H, 2012.
- “Paul’s Ecclesiology.” Pages 56–73 in *Paul’s Missionary Methods: In His Time and Ours*. Edited by Robert L. Plummer and John Mark Terry. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.
- “Patterns of Leadership in Acts and Paul’s Letters to Churches.” Pages 59–87 in *Shepherding God’s Flock: Church Leadership in the New Testament and Beyond*. Edited by Benjamin L. Merkle and Thomas R. Schreiner. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2014.
- “The Scriptural Basis for Elders” (pages 243–52), “The Biblical Qualifications of Church Elders” (pages 253–70), “The Biblical Role of Elders” (pages 271–89), and “The Office of Deacon” (pages 311–24) in *Baptist Foundations: Church Government for an Anti-Institutional Age*. Edited by Mark Dever and Jonathan Leeman. Nashville: B&H, 2015.
- “Ecclesiology & Missions.” Pages 433–43 in *Missiology: An Introduction*, 2nd ed. Edited by John Mark Terry. Nashville: B&H, 2015.
- “Leadership in Early Church Polity.” Pages 381–94 in *Biblical Foundations of Leadership*. Edited by Benjamin K. Forrest and Chet Roden. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2017.
- “A Typological, Non-Future–Mass-Conversion View.” Pages 161–208 in *Three Views on Israel and the Church: Perspectives on Romans 9–11*. Edited by Jared Compton and Andrew David Naselli. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2018. Also see responses in 85–96, 151–60.
- “Verbal Aspect and Imperatives: Ephesians as a Test Case.” Pages 34–51 in *New Testament Philology: Essays in Honor of David Alan Black*. Edited by Melton Bennett Winstead. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2018.
- “The Centrality of Romans in the Life and Theology of Martin Luther.” Pages 139–152 in *Always Reforming: Reflections on Martin Luther and Biblical Studies*. Edited by Channing L. Crisler and Robert L. Plummer. Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2021.
- Notes for Ephesians in the *Grace and Truth Study Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2021.
- “*Presbuteroi* in James, 1 Peter and the Johannine Letters.” In *Presbyters in the Early Church: The First Two Centuries*, WUNT 2, ed. Edwina Murphy, Bart Koet, and Murray Smith. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck (forthcoming).
- “The Kingdom of God in Luke/Acts.” In *Progressive Covenantalism, Part 2*, ed. Brent Parker and Stephen Wellum. Nashville: B&H (forthcoming).

Journal Editor

Southeastern Theological Review (since 2015)

Articles

“Romans 11 and the Future of Ethnic Israel.” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 43.4 (2000): 709–21.

“Implications for Missions from Paul’s Ministry in 1 Corinthians.” *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* 6.3 (2002): 30–43.

“Hierarchy in the Church? Instruction from the Pastoral Epistles concerning Elders and Overseers.” *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* 7.3 (2003): 32–43.

“Hierarchy in the Church? Instruction from the Pastoral Epistles concerning Elders and Overseers.” *Journal for Baptist Theology and Ministry* 2.1 (2004): 45–62.

“The Victory Belongs to the Lord: The Purpose and Theme of Revelation.” *Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary Theological Journal* 2 (2004): 135–40.

“Is It Every WRONG to Serve God?” *Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary Bulletin*, 2004.

“Could Jesus Return at Any Moment? Rethinking the Imminence of the Second Coming” *Trinity Journal* 26 (2005): 279–292.

“The Need for Theological Education in Missions: Lessons Learned from the Church’s Greatest Missionary.” *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* 9.4 (2005): 50–61.

“The DaVinci Code and the Reliability of the Bible.” Bible Society of Malaysia, 2006.

“Paul’s Arguments from Creation in 1 Corinthians 11:8–9 and 1 Timothy 2:13–14: An Apparent Inconsistency Answered.” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 49.3 (2006): 527–48.

“The Greatest Need for Preachers.” *Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary Bulletin*, 2007.

“Should Elders Be Ordained?” *9News* 4.2 (February 2007).

“Is Romans Really the Greatest Letter Ever Written?” *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* 11.3 (2007): 18–32.

“Biblical Eldership and Church Planting.” *Global Missiology* 1.7 (October 2009).

“The Biblical Qualifications and Responsibilities of Deacons.” *9News* (May–June 2010).

“Do We Need to Use the Titles “Elder” and “Deacon?” *9News* (May–June 2010).

- “Who Will Be Left Behind? Rethinking the Meaning of Matthew 24:40–41 and Luke 17:34–35.” *Westminster Theological Journal* 72.1 (2010): 169–79.
- “The Meaning of *Ekklēsia* in Matthew 16:18 and 18:17.” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 167.3 (2010): 282–93.
- “Old Testament Restoration Promises Regarding the Nation of Israel: Literal or Symbolic.” *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* 14 (2010): 14–25.
- “Amillennialism and Revelation.” In *The Baptist Messenger.com* (Sept. 19, 2011).
- “What Is the Meaning of ‘Idols’ in 1 John 5:21.” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 169 (July–Sept 2012): 328–40.
- “Are the Qualifications for Elders or Overseers Negotiable?” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 171 (2014): 172–88.
- “Hermeneutical Challenges for a Premillennial Interpretation of Revelation 20” by Benjamin L. Merkle and W. Tyler Krug. *Evangelical Quarterly* 86.3 (2014): 210–26.
- “The Great Commission According to Paul” by Benjamin L. Merkle and Michael Guyer. *The Journal: Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary* 1 (2014): 51–66.
- “Should Women Wear Head Coverings,” The Gospel Coalition, August 25, 2015.
- “The Abused Aspect: Neglecting the Influence of a Verb’s Lexical Meaning on Tense-Form Choice.” *Bulletin for Biblical Research* 26.1 (2016): 57–74, 83 (“Response to Porter”).
- “The Start of Instruction to Wives and Husbands: Ephesians 5:21 or 5:22?” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 174 (2017): 179–92.
- “Deacons to the Rescue,” *Tabletalk* (June 2018): 66–67.
- “Why the Great Commission Should Be Translated ‘Go!’ and Not ‘As You Go,’” *Southeastern Theological Review* 9.2 (2018): 21–32.
- “Introduction to the New Testament,” “Introduction to the Epistles and Revelation,” “Organization of the Church,” and “The Teachings of Jesus” for The Gospel Coalition’s *Concise Theology* (2019).
- “The Authority of Deacons in Pauline Churches,” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 64.2 (2021): 309–25.

Dictionary Entries

- “Bishop,” Pages 200–21 in *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003.

“Deacon.” Pages 398–99 in *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003.

“Offices in the New Testament.” Pages 1212–13. In *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers, 2003.

“Elder.” Pages 474–76 in *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*, rev. and exp. ed. Nashville: B&H, 2015.

“Elders.” In *T&T Clark Encyclopedia of Second Temple Judaism*. Edited by Daniel M. Gurtner and Loren T. Stuckenbruck. Vol. 2. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 2019.

“Apposition,” “Daniel Wallace,” and “Genitive Construction.” In *Encyclopedia of Biblical Greek Language and Linguistics*. Grand Rapids: Baker (forthcoming).

Reviews

Review of *Gospel-Centered Hermeneutics*. Graeme Goldsworthy. InterVarsity, 2005. In *The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology* 11.4 (2007): 114–16.

Review of *A Pauline Theology of Church Leadership* by Andrew D. Clarke. Library of New Testament Studies, vol. 362. London: T&T Clark, 2008. In *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 52.2 (2009): 391–93.

Review of *Women in the World of the Earliest Christians*. By Lynn H. Cohick. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009. In *The Journal for Biblical Manhood and Womanhood* 16.1 (Spring 2011): 52–54.

Review of *Women, Slaves, and the Gender Debate: A Complementarian Response to the Redemptive-Movement Hermeneutic* by Benjamin Reaoch. Phillipsburg: P&R, 2012. In *The Journal for Biblical Manhood and Womanhood* 18.2 (Fall 2013): 30–31.

Review of *Embracing Shared Ministry: Power and Status in the Early Church and Why It Matters Today* by Joseph H. Hellerman. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2013. In *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 57.4 (2014): 847–50.

Review of *The Original Bishops: Office and Order in the First Christian Communities* by Alistair C. Stewart. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2014. In *9 Marks Journal* (2/23/16).

Review of *Wealth in Ancient Ephesus and the First Letter to Timothy: Fresh Insights from Ephesiaca by Xenophon of Ephesus* by Gary G. Hoag. Bulletin for Biblical Research Supplement 11. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2015. In *STR* 7.2 (2016): 132–34.

Newspaper References

“Blood Moon” Lunar Eclipse Not a Sign, Baptist Professors Say.” Baptist Press, April 15, 2014.

“Scalia’s Legal Views Said to Buttress Christianity.” Baptist Press, February 16, 2016.

“Pope Critiques Lord’s Prayer Translation.” Baptist Press, December 11, 2017.

Videos

“The Apostles.” BibleMesh, 2009.

“New Covenant.” BibleMesh, 2009.

“The Teaching of Jesus.” BibleMesh, 2009.

ETS Paper Presentations

2000 Regional Conference (Union University), “Romans 11 and the Future of Ethnic Israel.”

2000 National Conference (Nashville, TN), “Romans 11 and the Future of Ethnic Israel.”

2005 Regional Conference (Louisville, KY), “Paul’s Arguments from Creation in 1 Corinthians 11:8–9 and 1 Timothy 2:13–14: An Apparent Inconsistency Answered.”

2008 National Conference (Providence, RI), “Who Will Be Left Behind? Rethinking the Meaning of Matthew 24:40–41 and Luke 17:34–35.”

2009 National Conference (New Orleans, LA), “Did Jesus Go to Church? ἐκκλησία in Matthew 16:18 and 18:17.”

2010 National Conference (Atlanta, GA), “1 John 5:21 as an Interpretive Key to John’s First Epistle.”

2012 Southeastern Regional Conference (Wake Forest, NC), “Biblical Theology and Prophecy.”

2012 National Conference (Milwaukee, WI), “Are the Qualifications for Elders or Overseers Negotiable?”

2013 National Conference (Baltimore, MD), “Hermeneutical Challenges for a Premillennial Interpretation of Revelation 20.”

2015 National Conference (Atlanta, GA), “Wifely Submission or Mutual Submission: Does Paul’s Instruction to Wives and Husbands Begin in Ephesians 5:21 or 5:22?”

2016 National Conference (San Antonio, TX), “Verbal Aspect and Imperatives: Ephesians as a Test Case.”

2019 National Conference (San Diego, CA), “The Centrality of Romans in the Life and Theology of Martin Luther.”

2020 National Conference (virtual), “The Authority of Deacons in Pauline Churches.”

EMS Paper Presentations

2018 Southeastern Regional Conference (Wake Forest, NC), “Why the Great Commission Should Be Translated “Go” and Not “As You Go.”

Book Content Editor

Broadman & Holman

Cambridge University Press