

Bruce Riley Ashford

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Education

- Doctor of Philosophy (Theological Studies) Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (December 2003)
- Master of Divinity, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (June 2000)
- Bachelor of Arts (Mass Communications), Campbell University (May 1996)

Teaching & Administrative Experience

- *Independent writer and speaker.* Lecturer, Speaker, Book writer, columnist, speechwriter, political consultant. Raleigh, NC.
- *Professor of Theology & Culture*, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2015-October 2020.
- *Provost / Dean of the Faculty*, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, November 2012 – Summer 2020
- *Associate Professor of Theology & Culture*, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2010-2015.
- *Dean*, The College at Southeastern, 2009-2012
- *Director*, The Lewis A. Drummond Center for Great Commission Studies, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2005-2008.
- *Associate Professor of Philosophy and Intercultural Studies*, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2007-2010.
- *Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Intercultural Studies*, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2005-07.
- *Assistant Professor of Philosophy and History of Ideas*, The College at Southeastern, 2003-04. Taught core classes in the History of Ideas major. Specialized in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy and Literature.
- *Adjunct Professor of Philosophy and History of Ideas*, The College at Southeastern, 2001-03. Taught core classes in the History of Ideas major.
- *Adjunct Professor*, Kazan State University (Russia) campuses, 1998-2000.

Ph.D. Dissertation

- “Wittgenstein’s Impact on Anglo-American Theology: Representative Models of Response to Wittgenstein’s Later Writings”

Publications (Books)

- *Doctrine of Creation* (IVP Academic, November 2020). Co-authored with Craig Bartholomew.
- *How to Survive an Election Season: 10 Tips for American Christians* (LifeWay, 2020).

- *The Gospel of Our King: Bible, Worldview, and the Mission of Every Christian* (Baker Academic, 2019). Co-authored with Heath A. Thomas.
- *Letters to an American Christian* (B&H, 2018).
- *I Am Going* (B&H, 2016). Co-authored with Danny Akin.
- *One Nation under God: A Christian Hope for American Politics* (B&H Academic, December 2015). Co-authored with Chris Pappalardo.
- *Every Square Inch: An Introduction to Cultural Engagement for Christians* (Lexham, 2015).
- Editor, *The Theology and Practice of Mission* (Nashville: B&H Academic, September 1, 2011).
- Associate Editor, *A Theology for the Church*, 2d. ed. (Nashville: B&H Academic, 2014).

Publications (Articles and Chapters)

- “Why Church and State Should Be Separate but Religion and Politics Should Not,” in *Routledge Handbook of Church and State*, ed. Shannon Holzer (London: Routledge, 2021).
- “Habits of the Heart: A Reformational Approach to Politics & Public Life,” in *Reformed Theology and Public Life*, ed. Matthew Kaemingk (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2020).
- “The Future of Abraham Kuyper’s Lectures on Calvinism,” in *An Explorer’s Guide to Abraham Kuyper*, eds. Jessica R. Joustra and Robert J. Joustra (forthcoming, 2020).
- “Charles Taylor’s Apologetics for a Secular Age,” co-authored with Matthew Ng in *A History of Apologetics*, eds. Joshua Chatraw, James K. Dew, and Benjamin Forrest (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020).
- “Jordan Peterson: High Priest for a Secular Age,” in *Understanding Jordan Peterson: A Christian Perspective*, ed. Ron Dart (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2020).
- “The Single Greatest Cause of our Time: Bearing Witness to a Whole-Life, Pro-Life Ethic,” in *For God so Loved the World: A Blueprint for Kingdom Diversity*, eds. Dayton Hartman and Walter Strickland, III (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2020).
- “How to Make the Case for Religious Freedom in a Pluralistic Society,” in *Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty: What Belongs to God, What Belongs to Caesar*, eds. David Dockery and John Stonestreet (Fidelis Books, 2019).
- “Christian Higher Education, Missions, and the Local Church,” in *Christian Higher Education: Faith, Teaching, and Learning in the Evangelical Tradition*, ed. David Dockery (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2018).
- “Just War,” in *Christian Cultural Engagement*, eds. Joshua D. Chatraw and Karen Swallow Prior (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2018).
- “A Theological Sickness Unto Death: Philip Rieff’s Prophetic Analysis of Our Secular Age,” *Themelios* 42.4 (forthcoming, Spring 2018).

- “Tyloring Christian Politics in Our Secular Age,” *Themelios* 42.3 (2017): 446-51.
- “Politics and Public Life in a Secular Age,” in Collin Hansen, ed., *Our Secular Age: Ten Years of Reading and Applying Charles Taylor* (Deerfield, IL: TGC, 2017), 87-98.
- “Ludwig Wittgenstein,” in *Zondervan Dictionary of Christianity and Science*, eds. Paul Copan, Tremper Longman, Chris Reese, and Mike Strauss (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017): 687-88.
- “What Hath Nature to Do with Grace? A Theological Vision for Higher Education,” in *Southeastern Theological Review* 7:1 (Summer 2016): 3-22.
- “Missiological Method,” co-authored with Scott Bridger, in Mark Terry, ed. *Missiology*, 2d ed. (Nashville: B&H, 2015).
- “Theological Method,” in Daniel Akin, ed. *A Theology for the Church*, 2d ed. (Nashville: B&H Academic, 2014).
- “Oh Henry!” a review of *Recovering Classic Evangelicalism* in *First Things* 236 (October 2013): 53-55.
- “The Church in the Mission of God,” in eds. Kendell Easley and Chris Morgan, *The Community of Jesus* (Nashville: B&H, 2013).
- Review of *Remythologizing Theology: Divine Action, Passion, and Authorship*, by Kevin Vanhoozer. *Southeastern Theological Review* 3:1 (Summer 2012).
- “General Revelation,” an article in the forthcoming HCSB Worldview Study Bible.
- “Creation Care Founded on the Biblical Narrative (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration),” in *TheoEcology* 1:1 (January 2012).
- “A Review Essay of Michael Goheen, *A Light to the Nations: The Missional Church and the Biblical Story*, in *The Southeastern Theological Review* 2:2 (Winter 2011), 117-126.
- “The Church as God’s Missional People,” co-authored with Danny Akin, in John Hammett and Ben Merkle, eds., *Those Who Must Give an Account: A Study of Church Membership and Church Discipline* (Nashville: B&H, 2012).
- “A SBC Vision for the Fulfillment of the Great Commission,” co-authored with Danny Akin in Larry McDonald and Matt Queen, eds., *A Passion for the Great Commission: Essays in Honor of Alvin L. Reid*, (Nashville: Towering Oaks Books, 2014).
- “Meaning, Reference, and Textuality: An Evangelical Appropriation of Hans Frei,” in *The Scottish Bulletin of Evangelical Theology* 28:2 (November 2010).
- “Theologically-Driven Missiology,” in Chuck Lawless and Adam W. Greenway, eds., *The Great Commission Resurgence: Fulfilling God’s Mandate in Our Time* (Nashville: B&H, 2010).
- Review of *The Shia Revival: How Conflicts within Islam Will Shape the Future*, by Vali Nasr. *Iran & The Caucasus* 12:2 (2008): 407-410.
- “Hans Frei,” “George Lindbeck,” “David Tracy,” and “Ludwig Wittgenstein,” in *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*.

- “Stanley Hauerwas” and “James Wm. McClendon, Jr.,” in *The Hendrickson Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*.
- “Wittgenstein’s Theologians? A Survey of Ludwig Wittgenstein’s Influence on Theology.” *The Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 50, no.2 (June 2007) 357-75.
- “Worldview, Anthropology, and Gender: A Call to Broaden the Parameters of the Discussion.” *The Journal for Biblical Manhood and Womanhood* XII, Issue 1 (Spring 2007) 7-9.

Publications (Selected Essays)

- [“The Intellectual in Canada Who Unmasked Political Idolatry in America,”](#) *The Gospel Coalition* (March 24, 2017).
- [“Can a Faithful Evangelical Be a Political Nationalist?”](#) (March 13, 2017).
- [“How Can a Faithful Evangelical Be a Political Conservative?”](#) (Feb 21, 2017).
- [“Powerful Witness from a Position of Weakness,”](#) *The Gospel Coalition* (December 1, 2016).
- [“The Jewish Intellectual Who Predicted America’s Social Collapse,”](#) *The Gospel Coalition* (April 25, 2016).
- [“The \(Religious\) Problem with American Politics,”](#) a 7-part blog series published at *Canon & Culture* (January 2016).
- [“How Richard John Neuhaus Changed the Way I Think,”](#) *Canon & Culture* (Feb 16, 2015).
- [“How a Man Named Lesslie Changed the Way I Think,”](#) *Canon & Culture* (Feb 25, 2015).
- [“Lessons from Father Abraham \(Kuyper\): Christianity, Politics, & the Public Square,”](#) *Canon & Culture* (March 6, 2015).
- [“Augustine for the Americans: Lessons on Christianity & Public Life from a Fifth-Century North African Theologian,”](#) *Canon & Culture* (April 20, 2015).

Publications (Selected Opinion Pieces)

- [“Christian Witness from the Cultural Margins,”](#) *First Things Magazine* (Nov 19, 2020).
- [“A Baptist Reflection on Reformation Day,”](#) *First Things Magazine* (Oct 21, 2020).
- [“Should the Southern Baptist Convention Change Its Name?”](#) (Sept 23, 2020).
- [“The Case for Amy Coney Barrett,”](#) *First Things Magazine* (Sept 22, 2020).
- [“My Ten \(Or So\) Favorite Cultural Critics,”](#) *First Things Magazine* (Jan 23, 2020).
- [“Jesus and Easter: Why the resurrection is the most important truth in the world,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (April 15, 2017).
- [“What’s so ‘good’ about Good Friday?”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (April 14, 2017).
- [“Four reasons why Neil Gorsuch may be even better on the Supreme Court than Antonin Scalia,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (April 10, 2017).

- [“8 Reasons Planned Parenthood is Detrimental to Society,”](#) *Faithwire* (April 6, 2017).
- [“Why Americans Should Be Cautious about Our Nation’s Expanding Military Footprint,”](#) (March 30, 2017).
- [“Here’s Why Ben Carson is the Best Surgeon for an Ailing HUD,”](#) (March 7, 2017).
- [“Valentine’s Day: Parents, teach your children about different types of love,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Feb 14, 2017).
- [“Four reasons why Betsy DeVos will be a welcome remedy for our nation's education woes,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Feb 10, 2017).
- [“Don’t Hold Your Mom Down While the Doctor Kills Her,”](#) (Feb 7, 2017).
- [“God is Not a White Supremacist,”](#) (Feb 1, 2017).
- [“Three things every Christian owes President Trump,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Jan 20, 2017).
- [“Christians, Here are Four Reasons You Should Support the BRIDGE Act,”](#) (Jan 18, 2017).
- [“Three essential things parents should share with their kids on New Year's Day,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Dec 30, 2016).
- [“Three essential things parents should share with their kids about Christmas,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Dec 22, 2016).
- [“Skip it? Hey American Atheists, here are five reasons to come to church this Christmas,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Dec 21, 2016).
- [“Trump’s Supreme Court Nominee Should Meet Two Criteria,”](#) *The Daily Caller* (Nov 30, 2016).
- [“Just Mercy: Why Christians Should Support Immigration Reform,”](#) *The Daily Caller* (Nov 30, 2016).
- [“It's Trump: A post-election blueprint for evangelical conservatives,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Nov 10, 2016).
- [“Who’s the Bigot Now? The Christianophobia of the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights,”](#) (Oct 23, 2016).
- [“The one thing Christians must do this election season,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Oct 20, 2016).
- [“Pence is Right about Constitutional Interpretation,”](#) *The Daily Caller* (Oct 17, 2016).
- [“The one thing that could tip the balance in the next presidential debate,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Oct 6, 2016).
- [“Four Flawed Secular Models for Dealing with Racism,”](#) (Sept 8, 2016).
- [“America is 'exceptional': Why Hillary Clinton is right... and wrong,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Sept 2, 2016).
- [“Black and Tired, Blue in the Face: An Evangelical Response to the Shootings,”](#) (July 9, 2016).
- [“Evangelicals, Here’s Why the Clinton Email Scandal Still Matters \(Even after The F.B.I. Closed its Case\),”](#) (July 5, 2016).

- [“It's Trump: Here's what evangelicals should do now,”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (May 4, 2016).
- [“Not Trump: Should conservative Evangelicals consider voting for a third party candidate?”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (March 15, 2016).
- [“Evangelicals, Take Off Your Beer Goggles Before You Vote,”](#) *The Daily Caller* (January 29, 2016).
- [“2016 Race: Is looking for faith in a candidate the wrong way to approach the voting booth?”](#) *Fox News Opinion* (Jan 21, 2016).

Media Features

- Featured as a Regular Contributor for *First Things Magazine*, *Fox News Opinion*, *The Gospel Coalition*. Occasional contributor at *The Daily Signal* and *The Daily Caller*.
- Featured guest on hundreds of radio shows, including *National Public Radio (NPR)*, *Fox Radio*, and *The Eric Metaxas Show*.
- Featured on hundreds of podcasts, including *The Exchange* (Ed Stetzer) and *The Calling* (*Christianity Today*'s Richard Clark).
- Featured at the National Press Club and in *FoxNews*, *CRTV*, *The USA Today*, *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and other outlets.

Military Seminar Participation and Presentations

- “The Greatest Cultural Challenges to the Maintenance of a Just Warrior Ethic.” Series of articles for the chaplaincy of the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM).
- “The Greatest Military Leadership Challenge of Our Day: Cultivating the Warrior Ethic Sustaining Military Power.” Invited Attendee. Ethical Leadership Lecture Series. Defense Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C. Wednesday, August 30, 2017.
- “Just War and the Persian Gulf War.” Seminar Participant. USNA Postdoc/Fellows Seminar (2.5 hours). United States Naval Academy. Annapolis, Maryland. March 20, 2011.

Selected Public Lectures and Presentations

- “The Church’s Role in Political Engagement,” November 16, 2020, The Ignite Movement (ZOOM).
- “Christian Political Witness in a Secular Age,” October 19, University of San Diego Campus Outreach (ZOOM).
- “Christianity and Politics,” October 4, Holy Trinity Anglican’s “New City Fellows” Forum, (Raleigh, NC).
- “Nationalism and Socialism as Idolatrous Ideologies,” September 2, 2020 Redemption Church Tempe (ZOOM).
- “How Christians Should Engage in Culture,” August 5, 2020, Coral Ridge Presbyterian (ZOOM).

- “A Christian Hope for the Public Square,” February 22, 2020, Texas A&M (College Station, TX).
- “The Political Idol of Our Age,” February 5, 2020, Missional Training Center (Phoenix, AZ).
- “Renewal in Christian Higher Education: Transpherical, Transdisciplinary, Transnational,” January 2020, International Association for Christian Education (Orlando, FL).
- “Christian Politics in a Secular Age,” October 2019, Family Policy Council (Winston Salem, NC).
- “Christian Politics in a Secular Age,” September 18, 2019, College of the Ozarks (Lookout Point, MO).
- “Why Socialism Induces Poverty and Suppresses Society,” August 2019, North Carolina State University Chapter of College Republicans (Raleigh, NC).
- “How the Local Church Can Faithfully Fulfill Its Public Role,” August 8, 2019, Acton Institute (Grand Rapids, MI).
- “The Child in Relation to Family and State,” July 17, 2019, Action Institute (Grand Rapids, MI).
- “A Christian Hope for a Secular Age,” May 2019, Welch College (Gallatin, TN)
- “Ministering in an Age of Gender Confusion,” Sept 2018, Focus on the Family (Richmond, VA).
- “An Alternative to ‘The Benedict Option’,” August 2018, the Institute on Religion & Democracy (Washington, DC).
- “Christian Ministry in a Secular Age,” March 2018, Acts 29 Regional Network (Richmond, VA).
- “What Hath Nature to Do with Grace? A Theological Vision for Higher Education,” January 30, 2018, The Scudder Lectures, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Kansas City, Missouri).
- “Public Witness from a Position of Political Weakness: A Theological Vision for Christianity and Politics,” January 31, 2018, The Scudder Lectures, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Kansas City, Missouri).
- “Islam, Christianity, and Natural Law,” October 10, 2008, at Yerevan State University and Arya International University (Yerevan, Armenia).
- “21st Century Global Christianity: Tensions in Doctrine and Practice,” October 9, 2008, at the Armenian Orthodox Seminary (Etchmiatzin, Armenia).
- “Christian Philosophy in an Eastern European Context,” lecture series, October 6-10, 2008), at the Theological Seminary of Armenia (Ashtarak, Armenia).
- “Fundamental Questions for Maintaining a Stable Society,” October 11, 2007, at the University of Craiova (Craiova, Romania).
- “Religion and the Public Square: A Discussion of Religious Belief, the Public Square, and Perennial Questions in Political Philosophy,” October 10, 2007, at the University of Constantin Brancusi (Targu-Jiu, Romania).

- “Communicating Christian Doctrine in a Multi-Cultural Western Context,” September 27, 2007, at Beeson Divinity School of Samford University (Birmingham, AL).

Awards & Grants

- Co-recipient of a creative teaching grant from Yale Divinity School’s Center for Faith and Culture (2004).
- Author of two grant requests, totaling nearly 1 million dollars, approved by the Kern Family Foundation for Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (2014, 2015).

Affiliations

- Trustee, *The Institute on Religion and Democracy* (2020-)
- Theological Advisor, *Prison Fellowship* (2018-present).
- Senior Fellow in Public Theology, *The Kirby Laing Centre for Christian Ethics* (2018-present).
- Fellow in Theology, *The St. George’s Center for Biblical and Public Theology* (2015-17).
- Participant, The Dulles Colloquium of *The Institute on Religion and Public Life* (2015-present).
- Research Fellow, *Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission* (2013-2020).
- Fellow in Theology, *The Paideia Center for Public Theology*, (2012-2015).
- Editorial Board, *Christian Higher Education: An International Journal of Research, Theory, and Practice* (2011-present).
- Editorial Board, *TheoEcology* (2011-2015).

Honors

- Honorary Doctorate, University of Constantin Brancusi, Targu-Jiu, Romania (October 2007).

Miscellaneous

- Has delivered papers or spoken on various college campuses, including the campuses of Yale University, UNC-Chapel Hill, University of Florida, Texas A&M, Liberty University, Appalachian State University, Methodist College, UNC-Wilmington, UNC-Greensboro, Gardner-Webb University, North Carolina State University, Campbell University, Marshall University, West Virginia University, Louisburg College, Peace College, College of the Ozarks, Welch College, and Kazan State University (Russia).
- Speaker at various conferences and church services for Anglican, Episcopal, Mennonite, Baptist, United Methodist, Presbyterian, and other traditions.
- Keynote speaker for non-profit organizations.
- Has studied, worked in, or toured: The Pacific Rim (Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam), North Africa & The Middle

East (Bahrain, Egypt, Morocco, Jordan, Oman, United Arab Emirates), West Africa (Ivory Coast, Liberia), Sub-Saharan Africa (Botswana, Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda), Central Asia (Armenia, Turkey, Uzbekistan), South Asia (India), East Asia (China), Central & Eastern Europe (Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Russia), Western Europe (France, Germany, Great Britain, The Netherlands, Switzerland) and the Caribbean (The Bahamas, Jamaica).

Personal

- Date of Birth: June 28, 1974
- Place of Birth: Norfolk, VA
- Married to Lauren since August 11, 2007
- Three children: Riley Noelle, Anna Katherine, and John Paul Kuyper