



Professor Sotirios Despotis

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Profile

I was born in Athens in 1968. Studies at the Department of Theology in 1990. Postgraduate studies in Greece and in Mainz, Germany. Simultaneous studies in Byzantine Music at Skalkota Conservatory - member and soloist of the Greek Byzantine Choir.

In 1999 I was awarded a Doctor of Theology with the thesis "Heavenly Worship in the Apocalypse. 4-5". 1996-2001 I taught the course of Orthodox religious studies in German Schools in the state of Hessen and compiled the detailed Teaching Programs for the same course. Since 2001 I am Professor at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, focusing on the Interpretation of the New Testament and at the Hellenic Open University the module OP050 «The Historical Course of the Orthodox Church and Theology in the Wider Religious and Cultural Environment (Late Antiquity - 18th century) ». I am a member of the International and European Union of New Testament Scholars, and I have published articles in German and English. Publication list at <http://www.soctheol.uoa.gr/sotdespo.htm> & <https://en-uoa-gr.academia.edu/SotiriosDespotis>

Research Interests: APOCALYPTICS, NEW TESTAMENT AND POLITICS, NARRATOLOGY AND RHETORIC
BIBLE AND RELIGIOUS TOURISM, BIBLE AND MENTAL HEALTH, BIBLE AND PEDAGOGICAL, BIBLE AND LEADERSHIP

1. Education				
Degree	Year	Institution	Department	Final Project
Master of Theology	1997	National and Kapodistrian	Social Theology	"The Meaning of the Term 'Lamb' (Arnon) in the

		University of Athens		Revelation of John (Historical and Interpretive Approach)"
PHD of Theology	2000	National and Kapodistrian University of Athens	Social Theology	"Heavenly Worship in Revelation chapters 4-5"
Diplom of Byzantine Music	1990	SKALKOTAS CONSERVATORY in ATHENS		Member and Soloist of the Greek Byzantine Choir - Choirmaster Lykourgos Angelopoulos

2. Qualifications / Skills

	Description	Level
	Englisch	C1
	German	C1
Computer		
	meaeX	C1

1. Employment				
Duration of Employment		Employer		Position
From	Until			
1997	2001	MINISTRY OF EDUCATION of HESSEN (GERMANY) – HOLY CATHEDRAL OF GERMANY		TEACHER OF ORTHODOX RELIGIOUS IN EDUCATION
2001	today	National and Kapodistrian University of Athens		PROFESSOR (INTERPRETATION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT)
2001	TODAY	Hellenic Open University		Collaborating Educational Staff (CEP), and Coordinator of the Thematic Unit ORTH 51 "Orthodoxy in the 20th Century"

				and since 2020 the ORTH50: THE HISTORICAL PROGRESS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH AND THEOLOGY IN THE WIDER RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT (LATE ANTIQUITY-18th CENTURY) of the master's Program of Studies in orthodox Theology".
2019	today			Head of CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR ORTHODOX HERITAGE AND INTERFAITH DIALOGUE Head of Patriarchal Institute of Orthodox Mission in the Far East

2. Scholarships and Awards

DAAD	Writing a Commentary to the Romans Epistle with a focus on the comparative study of the Patristic and the modern Hermeneia
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens CAPODISTRIAS A', B', Γ' KALLIPOS	it financed for five years my Commentaries of the Revelation as well as the monograph Apostel Paul on the Hill of Mars Financing my Monograph "Enlightening the Identities of the Christians of the Mediterranean in the 1st and 2nd c. A.D. The Polyphony of Early Christianity". Humanities and Arts Invitation-VI1 Bioethical issues in the light of the biblical traditions of the Mediterranean. Humanities and Arts Invitation-VI1 (in collaboration with V. Fanara).

3. Teaching

ΕΨΚ 511	Basic Principles of Orthodox Theology	
	My courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level at the University of Athens see https://en.soctheol.uoa.gr/	

4. Administrative Duties

2015-2020	Head of the DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL THEOLOGY AND RELIGION AND MEMBER OF THE SENAT OF THE National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
2005-TODAY	RESPONSIBLE FOR the INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE ERASMUS https://en.soctheol.uoa.gr/programmes_pathways/
2010-2015	DIRECTOR OF THE ΣΕΨΤΙΟΝ ΟΦ ΜΕΔΙΤΕΡΡΑΝΕΑΝ ΙΝΤΕΡΚΥΛΤΥΡΑΛ ΛΙΦΕ

7. Member of Research Boards and Professional Services

2015-today	Member of SNTS (Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas).
2011	Member of the EABS (European Association of Biblical Studies)
2002-today	Member of the Greek Association of Biblical Studies

8. Member of Conference Organising Committees

2016-2018	In collaboration with colleague Chr. Karakolis and Prof. Antonopoulos, we successfully organized the Conference of the International Association of New Testament Theologists SNTS (Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas) in Athens in 2018 with the participation of 250 members http://www.theol.uoa.gr/probolikdhlosewn/apo-to-73o-synedrio-ths-etaireias-studiorum-novi-testamenti-societas-sthn-a8ina.html
2005-2007	Co-organizer of the First World Bible Conference in Greece, which was successfully held September 21-24, 2007 in Corinth with the theme "Ap. Paul and Corinth". I co-edited the edition of the Proceedings by Psychogios publications (2009 http://www.psichogios.gr/site/Books/show?cid=22943) and in particular the Recommendations of the Greek Biblical and Patrologists For more see https://www.soctheol.uoa.gr/eventgate/publishing/

9. Reviewer for Journals

SingiLogos <https://singilogos.singidunum.ac.rs/singilogos-vol-1-no-1-october-2021/>

10. Research Programmes - Funding

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2020: Scientific Advisor and editor of 12 volumes of the European SKIVRE Program (Development of Skills for the Exploitation of Europe's Religious Heritage (www.skivre.eu)). https://skivre.eu/greek-orthodox-church-interested-in-skivre-training-material/
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020, ERMIS-ARISTEiA, Prof. Sotirios Despotis Project Coordinator in the Proposal, at the challenge of ELIDEK (selected, but not funded). • FOUNDATION OF PASTORAL TRAINING Archbishopric of Athens, Archdiocese of Athens, Holy Archdiocese of Athens. Call for expressions of interest to submit proposals for the conclusion of project lease contracts with the object of preparing training and certification training materials in the context of the implementation of the "Lifelong Learning Programs of Human Resources of the Church - Development of Open Online Courses" (MIS 5073422), which is co-financed by Greece and the European Union (European Social Fund) through the Operational Program "Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning", the no. Prot.: 137/2021 Agreement between us, I submit to you the design file of the educational program 08 PEDAGOGICAL USE OF BIBLICAL TEXTS https://www.ipe.gr/wp/epimorfotika_programmata-2/ cycle of the educational programs of the Foundation for Pastoral Education of the Holy Archdiocese of Athens for the years 2017-2021 https://www.ipe.gr/wp/oloklirwsi_praxis-2/
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020, ERMIS-ARISTEiA, Prof. Sotirios Despotis Project Coordinator in the Proposal, at the challenge of ELIDEK (selected, but not funded). • 2018, CacthME, in the COST program, as sub-proposer, (not funded). • 2018, Picking Winners, in the Erasmus KA+ program, as a partner, (not funded). • 2017, PEACE, Call H2020-SC6-CULT-COOP-2016-17, Head of the team of the Department of Social Theology, EKPA as a partner, (not funded). • 2017, ACORDES, Call H2020-SC6-CULT-COOP-2016-17, Coordinator (Professor Sotirios Despotis), Department of Social Theology EKPA, (not funded). • "Digital Paul: Romans Synchronic Interdisciplinary Approaches" Proposal acronym: Digital-PAROuSIA: Part 1: Proposal Extended Synopsis Scientific Area: Humanities / Philosophy, Ethics and Religion / Theology Principal Investigator: Dr. Sotirios Despotis, Professor at the University of Athens

11. Memoranda of Understanding

	<p>As director of the CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR ORTHODOX HERITAGE AND INTERFAITH DIALOGUE, an official Memorandum of Cooperation was signed on 24.05.2021 with the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of Orthodoxy https://eiao.org/deftera-24-maiou-2021-ypografi-mnimoniou-ka/</p> <p>And there is already a deluxe Edition "Agia Sophia: The Temples of God's Wisdom Around the World" Deluxe Edition translated into 10 languages edited by Prof. I. Stoufis Poulimenou. https://hub.uoa.gr/presentation-of-the-volume-hagia-sophia-review/</p>
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12. Research Interests

	<p>APOCALYPTICS, NEW TESTAMENT AND POLITICS, NARRATOLOGY AND RHETORIC</p>
	<p>BIBLE AND RELIGIOUS TOURISM, BIBLE AND MENTAL HEALTH, BIBLE AND PEDAGOGICAL, BIBLE AND LEADERSHIP</p>

Selected Publications

MONOGRAPHTES

1. *Jesus as Christ and Political Power in the Synoptic Evangelists*, Athens: Athos (2006), pp. 450
2. *The Revelation of John. Hermeneutical Approach to the Book of Prophecy. Vol. I & II*, Athens: Athos 2005 & 2007, pp. 243
3. *The Code of the Gospels. Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels and Practical Methods for their Interpretation*, Athens: Athos 2007, pp. 489
4. *Human Identity and Morality in the New Testament. The New Testament in the 21st century. Vol. II, Biblical Studies in Biblical Ethics*, Athens: Athos 2008
5. *The Apostle Paul in Athens. Synchronic Interpretation of Acts 17*, Athens: Athos 2009
6. *The Missionary Journeys of Paul in Greece (Macedonia-Achaia-Asia)*, Athens: Uranus 2010, pp. 367. Found also at: webdata.psichogios.gr/sample/9789604538812.pdf
7. *Commentary on 1 Timothy. Christianity and its "silent" Expansion*. Athens: Tremendum 2014, pp. 500
8. *The New Testament in the 21st century. Pauline Studies: On the traces of the Apostle of the Nations Vol. III*. Athens: Tremendum 2014, pp. 350 Studies in Pauline Theology. Athens: Ennoia 2017, pp. 350
9. *The New Testament in the 21st century. Essays on John: Poetry – Theology*. Athens: Ennoia 2017, pp. 350
10. *Bible and Pedagogical Approaches*. Athens: Ennoia 2017 pp 400.

See also

<https://en-uoa-gr.academia.edu/SotiriosDespotis>

[HTTP://WWW.OSDELNET.GR/RESULTS?AUTHOR_BIO=1&AUTHOR=1052872](http://www.osdelnet.gr/results?author_bio=1&author=1052872)

Selected ARTICLES

1. Panagopoulos, Johannis: *Artikel Orthodoxe Kirchen / Theologie*, in: *Neues Handbuch Theologischer Grundbegriffe. Neuauflage 2005*, hg.v. Peter Eicher. 4 Bände, München 2005. Κατά την καινούργια έκδοση του Λεξικού επιμελήθηκα την ενημέρωση της Βιβλιογραφίας σχετικά με την Ορθοδοξία.
2. Das Evangelium als Hörgeschehen, *Orthodoxes Forum* 20 (2006) 181-193. Πρόκειται για βελτιωμένη έκδοση του Τα Ευαγγέλια ως Λειτουργικά Ακροάματα, ΓΗΘΟΣΥΝΟΝ ΣΕΒΑΣΜΑ Αντίδωρον τιμής και μνήμης εἰς τὸν μακαριστὸν καθηγητὴν τῆς Λειτουργικῆς Ἰωάννην Μ. Φουντούλην († 2007) Τόμος Α', (επιμ. Π. Σκαλτσή, αρχιμ. Ν. Σκρέττα) Θεσσαλονίκη 2013, 527-548.
3. The Way to Emmaus (Lk. 24, 13-32) *Orthodoxes Forum* 22 (2008) 169-180. Πρόκειται για βελτιωμένη έκδοση του Η Πορεία προς Εμμαούς, *Εἰρμός (Ετήσια Επιστημονική Επετηρίδα Αποστολικῆς Διακονίας)* 1 (2004) 513-535.
4. Die Seefahrtperikope (Apostelgeschichte 27,1-28,10), *Orthodoxes Forum* 24:2 (2010) 153-160. Πρόκειται για την εργασία μου: Το ταξίδι του Παύλου στη Ρώμη και το Ναυάγιο στη Μελίτη. *Διακονία, Λειτουργία, Χάρισμα (Γ. Γαλάνης... Σ. Δεσπότης)*. Τιμητικό αφιέρωμα στον καθηγ. Γ. Γαλίτη, Λεβαδεία: Εν Πλώ 2006 189-201.
5. Paul of Acts and the Strategic of his Mission. *Ökumene ist keine Häresie. Theologische Beiträge zu einer ökumenischen Kultur*. Tübingen: Brill 2021, 562-580.

6. Paul and Zeno. Υπό έκδοση *International Journal of Orthodox Theology*. Αναπτύσσω κοινά στοιχεία του Παύλου όπως αυτός παρουσιάζεται από τον Λουκά στο Πρ. 17 με την «εικόνα» του ιδρυτή των στωικών Ζήνωνα. Βλ. Σωτήριος Σ. Δεσπότης, *Ο Παύλος στην Αθήνα*, εκδ. Άθως, Αθήνα 2009, 106-109. Ενσωματώθηκε και στο No. 36.
7. „Kommt und seht!“ *Ἔρχεσθε καὶ ὄψεσθε (Joh 1,35-39): Die ersten Worte Jesu im Johannesevangelium und die Formierung seines Jünger-Kreises* στον τόμο των εισηγήσεων του „Novum Testamentum in Vetere latet, Vetus Testamentum in Novo patet“. Sofia 11.-13.10.2018 International Conference of the Bibliotheca Biblica of Sofia (20th Anniversary).
8. Am Anfang war die Hochzeit: Jesus erstes Zeichen im Johannesevangelium". Die biblischen Assoziationen der Hochzeit in Kana (Joh. 2:1-12) *Orthodoxes Forum* 26 (2012) 7-25. Πρόκειται για βελτιωμένη έκδοση του *Βιβλικοί Συνειρμοί της περικοπής του Γάμου της Κανά* (2, 1-11) *ΕΕΘΣΠΑ* 36 (2011) 319-342. Κατόπιν εισήγησης του van de Watt θα δημοσιευθεί στο περιοδικό της New Testament Society of South Africa.
9. The Intimacy of Paul to the Thessalonians in 1Thess. 2: 7b-12 *ΕΛΠΙΣ Redakcja czasopisma teologicznego* (<http://elpis.edu.pl/autorom>) 16 (2014) 99-111. (<http://www.cceol.com/aspx/issuedetails.aspx?issueid=e9628be3-4c14-44c0-adc2-8235fa3b94d1&articleId=6fd48d98-5df5-465b-bfd3-b5e0468b7887>)
10. Doxologische Ethik im 1. Timotheusbrief. Eine orthodoxe Perspektive Metapher – Narratio – Mimesis – Doxologie Begründungsformen frühchristlicher und antiker Ethik Kontexte und Normen neutestamentlicher Ethik / Contexts and Norms of New Testament Ethics Band VII Herausgegeben von Ulrich Volp, Friedrich W. Horn und Ruben Zimmermann Tübingen 2016; 355-374
11. Die himmlische Liturgie (Apk. 4-5) in ihrem Kontext und die Interaktion mit der irdischen Liturgie *"Poetik und Intertextualität in der Apokalypse / Poetics and Intertextuality in the Book of Revelation"* (WUNT I; Mohr Siebeck; ed. by Tobias Nicklas, Stefan Alkier & Thomas Hieke). 437-457.
12. Philosophical Ethics and Christian Ethics, in A. Antonopoulos and S. Despotis, *Long Standing Principles of Eastern Orthodox Christian Theology*, engl. trans. by A. Antonopoulos (Patrai, GR.: Hellenic Open University Publications, 2015) 157-230.
13. Gal 3:6-9.23-29: Orthodox Readings of the Relevant Pauline Texts with Regard to the Debate between the Old and the New Perspectives. Participation, Justification and Conversion Eastern *Orthodox Interpretation of Paul and the Debate between Old and New Perspectives on Paul* (Hgg. A. Despotis), Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck 2017, 181-205.
14. Sotirios Despotis – Dr. P. Stamatopoulos, Intertextuality between two “forbidden” holy books: Canticum and Revelation “The Song of Song in the Jewish and Christian Literature” Symposium in Greece, Athens, Dourouteio Centre 19. 10. 2016. Athens: Social Theology and Religious Studies 2019, 25-35. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/18AzdCAQIWjehB1OnLEaTepDWwChuVQMR/view>
15. **Sotirios Despotis, Dr. Panagiotis Stamatopoulos**, From the Maccabees to Early Christians: the Witness as Martyr. «Ολοκαύτωμα: Διαχρονικές και Διεπιστημονικές Προσεγγίσεις». Διεθνές Συνέδριο του Τμήματος Κοινωνικής Θεολογίας του Εθνικού και Καποδιστριακού Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών υπό την αιγίδα της Ένωσης Μορφωτικών Ινστιτούτων της Ε.Ε. (EUNIC) και υλοποιείται σε συνεργασία με το Ινστιτούτο Θερβάντες, το Ινστιτούτο Γκαίτε και τις Πρεσβείες του Ισραήλ, της Πολωνίας και της Ρουμανίας στην Αθήνα. Η δράση εντάσσεται στους επίσημους εορτασμούς για τα 180 έτη από την ίδρυση του Εθνικού και Καποδιστριακού Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών. Υπό Δημοσίευση στα Πρακτικά.

16. Leadership in Matthew's Gospel. A Socio-Rhetorical Approach to the Sermon of Mount (Matt. 5-7) Dr. S. S. Despotis – L.M. Domestichos *The Journal of Biblical Perspectives in Leadership* (JBPL) <https://www.regent.edu/acad/global/publications/jbpl/>

 17. Artemis and Thecla. The Meeting of the ancient Goddess with the Christian female apostolic Saint in the first four Centuries of Christianity (Historical and comparative Reflections). *International Scholarly Conference Proceedings Corinth 23-25 June 2014* <http://www.pemptousia.gr/2014/06/ένα-διεθνές-συνέδριο-για-την-απόκρυφη-ΕΛΠΙΣ> **Redakcja czasopisma teologicznego** (<http://elpis.edu.pl/autorom>) <https://elpis.uwb.edu.pl/index.php/Elpis/index> **24 (2022) 127-130**

 18. The Interpretation of the Bible in the East in the Life of the Greek Orthodox Church: An Overview of Current Status - Tomorrow's prospects. *SingiLogos Vol 2 N° 1 – October 2022, 10-20*

 19. T. Mavromoustakos, S. Despotis The six stone water-pots containing two or three firkins a piece. A contribution to the understanding of the numbers of the John Gospel (2:6). *THEOLOGY AND CULTURE* (College University Logos), 4 (2022) 43-56.

 20. T. Mavromoustakos, S. Despotis Jesus burial and resurrection according to John Gospel. The significance of the numbers two and one hundred. *THEOLOGY AND CULTURE* (College University Logos) 4 (2022) 81-94.

 21. The ΒΙΑΣΜΟΣ of the Kingdom of Heaven in Mt. 11, 12 <https://www.dropbox.com/s/0met3pnwm5rviqv/YIIO%20EKΔΟΣΗ%20XENES%20NEO%20TELOS%20BIASMOS.pdf?dl=0> ChAT. *Theological Yearbook (Christian theological Academy in Warsaw)*.

 22. "The islamic Bible". Σε συνεργασία με τον Δ. Αθανασίου *Al Qasemi Journal of Islamic Studies* 6 (2022) 61-78.
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