

Title: In Memory of Amalek: Biblical Allusions in the I/P Conflict

In the discipline of biblical studies the majority of research tends to focus on understanding the ancient past and the cultural milieu from which biblical religious texts were produced. As of the past few decades attention has expanded to evaluating the *afterlives* of the Bible and its political, cultural, and religious usage throughout history. This type of research is called reception history: how communities receive and deploy the Bible. Because the Bible is a powerful rhetorical repertoire that performs political, educational, and religious functions both in times of war and in times of relative peace it is important to examine the ways in which the Bible also serves nationalistic functions. In this paper I explore the ways in which biblical texts are being used in the ongoing crisis in I/P and how different groups address the complexities of narratives of violence in religious texts.



Bio

Mónica Isabel Rey (she/her/ella) is an adjunct professor in Women's and Gender Studies at Babson College and Wheaton College (MA). A feminist biblical scholar with a PhD in Religious Studies from Boston University (2024), her research focuses on the intersection of gender, genocide, and the Hebrew Bible (and its afterlives). Rey has published on the law of the foreign female captive (Deut 21:10–14) as genocidal rape in the *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* and has an article forthcoming on just war theory in Deuteronomy in the *Journal of Genocide Research*. Rey is also publishing in *The Bible and Violence* (Bloomsbury T&T Clark) on "Genocidal Language in the Hebrew Bible: A Reappraisal," (2025) as well as a chapter on beauty in warfare in *The Oxford Handbook of the Hebrew Bible, Gender and Sexuality* (2024). Her first book, *Gendering Genocide in the Hebrew Bible* is forthcoming with Routledge in the book series *Rape Culture, Religion and the Bible*. Rey is a 2023-2024 Charles E. Scheidt Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention Faculty Fellow (Binghamton) and currently co-chair of the *Feminist Studies in Religion Co Laboratory*.