



**PAYNE** THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY

**Michael Joseph Brown, Ph.D.**  
**Academic Dean and Interim President**



Michael Joseph Brown, Ph.D. Academic Dean and Interim President at Payne Theological School in Wilberforce, Ohio is an internationally recognized biblical scholar, minister, and public intellectual. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, and a Master of Divinity, and Doctor of Philosophy degree, specializing in the New Testament and Christian Origins from the University of Chicago.

He is a highly sought-after preacher and public speaker, whose passion for community uplift-inspires people around the United States. Coming from five generations of ministers, Dr. Brown has a unique perspective on African American society and religion. He writes widely about the topic of higher education, generally, and the education of African

Americans, specifically. His membership in the historic Omega Psi Phi Fraternity also aids in his insights on the future of African American education, as well as the challenges confronting Greek life.

Prior to joining Payne, Dr. Brown was Associate Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Emory University in Atlanta for 12 years, an Associate Dean at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana, and the Director of its Malcolm X Institute on Black Studies from 2011- 2013.

Dr. Brown has authored four books, *What They Don't Tell You: A Survivor's Guide to Academic Biblical Studies*, *Blackening of the Bible: The Aims of African American Biblical Scholarship*, *The Lord's Prayer through North African Eyes: A Window into Early Christianity* and *The Lord's Prayer*, and *God's Vision for the World: Finding Your Purpose through Prayer*. In addition, he was a leading contributor to the *New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*.