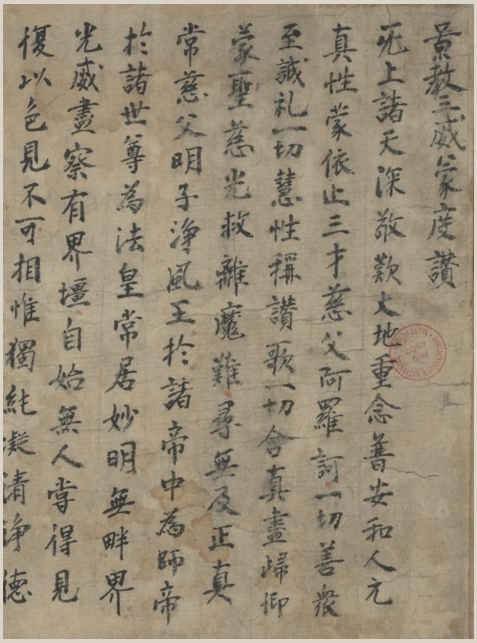
FACULTY OF DIVINITY

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Religion of Late Antiquity (Patristics) Seminar

Friday 6 November 2026, 11.30am–1.00pm GMT, Lightfoot Room, Faculty of Divinity & Online

Zoom · **Meeting ID:** 859 5760 9240 · **Passcode:** 3131



Jingjiao hymn in praise of the Trinity, Dunhuang. Pelliot chinois 3847, Bibliothèque nationale de France (public domain).

Christology in the Jingjiao Dunhuang Texts

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Abstract: What did the first Christians in China say about who Christ is, writing in Chinese and without the Greek and Syriac terms on which Ephesus, Chalcedon and the Persian synods turned? This paper reads the Jingjiao texts from Dunhuang for their grammar rather than their vocabulary, beginning with *Yishen lun* 一神論 (*Discourse on the One God*) and *Xuting Mishisuo Jing* 序聽迷詩所經 (*Book of Righteous Mediator*). In the passion of the *Discourse*, each act has its own subject: Mishihe dies in his body, the power of the Honored One of Heaven raises him, and the Honored One is never the one who dies. The *Mediator* says of one Mishihe what belongs to God and what belongs to a human being, with no fixed term for the natures that make the difference. Then the paper traces its theological root to the Church of the East and identifies its christological indebtedness to figures such as Babai the Great, while investigating its method of contextualization.



Jacob Chengwei Feng (PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary) is a Visiting Scholar in the Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, with the Cambridge Centre for Chinese Theology, and a Visiting College Research Associate at Wolfson College. He is an Affiliate Assistant Professor of Theology and Leadership at Fuller and an Affiliated Research Professor in the Public Theology and Science Council for East Asia at the International Public Theology Forum Center, and he leads the Theology Interest Group of the Society for Pentecostal Studies. His research spans systematic theology, religion and science, World Christianity, and Chinese Christianity. He is the author of *Science, Religion(s), and Spirit(s) in China* (Brill, 2026), *Spirit(s) and Chinese Religiosity: Retelling the History of Chinese Christianity from a Pentecost Perspective* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2026), and co-editor of *Chinese Christianity and Bible Translations* (Asia Research Center Press, 2026, forthcoming).