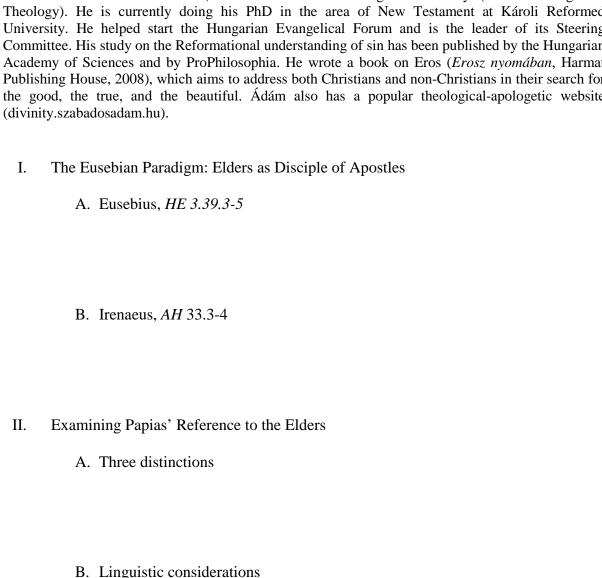
The Apostles as Elders of the Universal Church and the Authority of the New Testament

Many scholars argue that the second-century church had no direct access to the apostles. Is this correct? What did second-century church father Papias mean when he referred to the Elders - were they the apostles, or second-generation followers of Jesus? This talk will examine the relationship between the apostles and the next generation of church fathers.

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C. Conclusion

III.	Other References to the Apostles as Elders of the Church
	A. 1 Peter 5:1
	B. 2 John 1; 3 John 1
	C. Ignatius of Antioch
	D. Coptic Canons of Athanasius
	E. Revelation 4:4
IV.	Significance for our Access to Apostolic Evidence
	A. Closing the gap
	B. Apostolic "backbone" of normative tradition
Suggested Readings:	
Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 3.39. Irenaues, Adversus Heareses V.33. Letters of Ignatius of Antioch G. M. Lee, "Presbyters and Apostles," Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft und die Kunde der älteren Kirche 62 (1971), 122.	