

Curriculum Vitae

Jerry L. Walls

Department of Philosophy
Houston Baptist University

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 1989
S.T.M. Yale Divinity School, 1981
M.Div. Princeton Seminary, 1980
B.A. Magna Cum Laude, Houghton College, 1977

TEACHING AREAS

Philosophy of Religion
Metaphysics
Ethics

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Professor of Philosophy; Scholar in Residence, Houston Baptist University, 2011-

Adjunct Professor, University of Notre Dame, 2011

Visiting Scholar, The Center for Philosophy of Religion, The University of Notre Dame, 2010-2011.

Senior Research Fellow, The Center for Philosophy of Religion, The University of Notre Dame, 2009-2010.

Professor of Philosophy of Religion, Asbury Theological Seminary, 1987-2008

Senior Speaking Fellow, Morris Institute for Human Values, 1998-

RELIGIOUS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Member, Society of Christian Philosophers

HONORS

Christianity Today Book Award, best book in apologetics and evangelism for *Good God: The Theistic Foundations of Morality* (co-authored with David Baggett), 2012.

Research Fellowship, Center for Philosophy of Religion at Notre Dame, 2009-2010

Grawemeyer Award Nomination for *Hell: The Logic of Damnation*, 1992

John Wesley Fellowship, for Graduate Study at Notre Dame, 1984-1987

First Place in poetry division, of Christianity and Literature Writing Contest, 1976

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS

Purgatory: The Logic of Total Transformation, Oxford University Press, 2011.

Good God: The Theistic Foundations of Morality, (co-authored with David Baggett), Oxford University Press, 2011.

Why I Am Not a Calvinist, (co-authored with Joseph R. Dongell), Intersociety Press, 2004.

Heaven: The Logic of Eternal Joy, Oxford University Press, 2002.

C.S. Lewis and Francis A. Schaeffer, (co-authored with Scott R. Burson), Intersociety Press, 1998.

Hell: The Logic of Damnation, University of Notre Dame Press, 1992.

The Problem of Pluralism: Recovering United Methodist Identity, 1986, Bristol Books. Second Edition, 1988.

PUBLICATIONS: EDITED BOOKS

The Oxford Handbook of Eschatology, Oxford University Press, 2008. In addition to editing this volume, I also wrote the Introductory essay and the entry on Heaven.

C.S. Lewis As Philosopher: Truth, Beauty, and Goodness, co-edited with David Baggett and Gary Habermas. Intervarsity Press, 2008. Wrote the Introduction.

Basketball and Philosophy, co-edited with Gregory Bassham, University of Kentucky Press, 2007. I wrote an essay for this volume entitled "The Wizard Versus the General: Why Bob Knight is a Greater Coach than John Wooden"

The Chronicles of Narnia and Philosophy, co-edited with Gregory Bassham. Open Court, 2005.

PUBLICATIONS: CURRENT BOOK PROJECTS

The Odd Couple: Naturalism and Ethics with David Baggett. Contracted with Oxford University Press.

Heaven, Hell and Purgatory: Life as Comedy, Life as Tragedy, Life as Journey. Contracted with Brazos books.

Tarantino and Theology, (co-edited with Jonathan L. Walls). Contracted with Gray Matter books.

PUBLICATIONS: PHILOSOPHICAL AND THEOLOGICAL ESSAYS

"Universalism in Origen's *First Principles*," *Asbury Seminarian*, 36 (1981), 3-13.

"John Wesley's Critique of Martin Luther," *Methodist History*, 30 (1981), 29-41

"The Free Will Defense, Calvinism, Wesley, and the Goodness of God," *Christian Scholar's Review* 13 (1983), 19-33.

- "Examining the Case for Pluralism," *Asbury Seminarian* 38 (1983), 22-45.
- "Can God Save Anyone He Will?" *Scottish Journal of Theology* 38 (1985), 155-172.
- "What is Theological Pluralism?" *Quarterly Review* 5 (1985), 44-62.
- "A Fable of Foreknowledge and Freedom," *Philosophy* 62 (1987), 67-75.
- "The Moral Obligation of Belief," *The Asbury Theological Journal*, 43 (1988), 79-94.
- "Divine Commands, Predestination, and Moral Intuition" in *The Grace of God, the Will of Man*, ed. Clark H. Pinnock, Zondervan, 1989, 261-276.
- "Hume on Divine Amoralism," *Religious Studies* 26 (1990), 257-266.
- "Is Molinism As Bad As Calvinism?" *Faith and Philosophy* 7 (1990), 85-98. Reprinted in *Middle Knowledge: Theory and Applications*, eds William Hasker, David Basinger and Eef Dekker, Peter Lang, 2000.
- "Will God Change His Mind?" in *Through No Fault of Their Own? The Fate of Those Who Have Never Heard*, eds. William V. Crockett and James G. Sigountos, Baker, 1991, 61-69.
- "Why Plantinga Must Move From Defense to Theodicy," *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 51 (1991), 375-378. Reprinted in *The Problem of Evil: Selected Readings*, ed. Michael L. Peterson, Notre Dame, 1992.
- "On Keeping The Faith" in *God and the Philosophers*, ed. Thomas V. Morris, Oxford, 1994, 102-112.
- "The Flight From Truth in New Testament Scholarship," *Christian Scholar's Review* 25 (1995), 180-196.
- "How United Methodism Must Change," in *Unity, Liberty and Charity: Building Bridges Under Icy Waters*, eds. Donald E. Messer and William J. Abraham, Abingdon, 1996, 145-152.
- "As the Waters Cover the Sea: John Wesley On The Problem of Evil," *Faith and Philosophy* 13 (1996), 534-562.
- "Must The Truth Offend?" *First Things* 84 (1998), 34-37.
- "What role does doctrine play in shaping United Methodist Identity?" *Quarterly Review* 21 (2001), 81; 85-7.
- "Purgatory for Everyone," *First Things* 122 (2002), 26-30.

“Eternal Hell and the Christian Concept of God,” in *Contemporary Debates in Philosophy of Religion*, eds. Michael L. Peterson and Ray VanArragon, Blackwell, 2004, 268-278.

“A Philosophical Critique of Talbott’s Universalism,” in *Universal Salvation? The Current Debate*, eds. R. Parry and C. Partridge, Paternoster and Eerdmans, 2004, 105-124.

“A Hell of a Choice: A Reply to Talbott,” *Religious Studies* 40 (2004), 203-216.

“A Hell of a Dilemma: rejoinder to Talbott,” *Religious Studies* 40 (2004), 225-227.

“Evil,” in *Dictionary of the Old Testament Historical Books*, eds. Bill T. Arnold and Hugh Williamson, Intervarsity Press, 2005, 272-274.

“Heaven and Hell,” in *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, Second Edition, Macmillan, 2005.

“Can Postmodernism Handle the Truth? A Review Essay,” *The Asbury Journal* 61 (2006): 105-112.

“Heaven and Hell,” in *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Religion*, eds. Chad Meister and Paul Copan, Routledge, 2008, 585-594.

“Outrageous Evil and the Hope of Healing: Our Practical Options” in *Immersed in the Life of God: The Healing Resources of the Christian Faith*, eds. Paul L. Gavrilyuk, Douglas M. Koskela, and Jason E. Vickers, Eerdmans, 2008, 186-201.

“Heaven and Hell,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophical Theology*, eds. Thomas Flint and Michael Rea, Oxford University Press, 2009, 491-511.

“John Wesley on Predestination,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Methodist Studies*, eds. William Abraham and James Kirby, Oxford University Press, 2009, 618-632.

“How Could God Create Hell?” in *God is Great, God is Good*, eds. William Lane Craig and Chad V. Meister, Intervarsity Press, 2009, 155-166.

“Heaven and Hell,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Philosophical Theology*, eds. Charles Taliaferro and Chad V. Meister, Cambridge University Press, 2010, 238-251.

“Annihilationism: A Philosophical Dead End?,” co-authored with Claire Brown, in *The Problem of Hell*, ed. Joel M. Bunting, Ashgate, 2010, 45-64.

"The Great Divorce," *The Cambridge Companion to C.S. Lewis*, eds. Robert MacSwain and Michael Ward, Cambridge, 2011, 251-264.

"Eschatology," "Heaven," "Hell," "Purgatory," "Resurrection," "Salvation," "Universalism," in *A Dictionary of Philosophy of Religion*, eds. Charles Taliaferro and Elsa J. Marty, Continuum, 2010.

"Why No Classical Theist, Let Alone Orthodox Christian Should Ever Be A Compatibilist," *Philosophia Christi* 13:75-104.

"Theistic and Anti-Theistic Arguments from Evil" (with Trent Dougherty), in *The Routledge Companion To Theism*, eds. Charles Taliaferro, Victoria Harrison, and Stewart Goetz, Routledge, 2012, 369-382.

"It is Reasonable to Believe in Heaven and Hell," in *Debating Christian Theism*, eds. J. P. Moreland, Khaldoun A. Sweis, and Chad V. Meister, Oxford University Press, 2011, 523-533.

"The Wisdom of Hope in a Despairing World," in *The Wisdom of the Christian Faith*, eds. Paul K. Moser and Michael T. McFall, Cambridge University Press, 2012, 244-263.

"Eschatology," (with Philip Tallon) in *The Routledge Companion to Modern Christian Thought*, eds James Beilby and Chad Meister, Routledge, 2013, 435-444.

"God and Hell Reconciled," (with Kyle Blanchette) in *God and Evil*, eds. Chad Meister et al, Intervarsity Press, 2013, 243-258.

PUBLICATIONS: MAGAZINE ARTICLES AND POP CULTURE ESSAYS

"C.S. Lewis and Evangelical Ambivalence," *Wittenburg Door*, August-September 1981, 20-25.

"Liberalism and Miracles," *Good News*, March/April 1991, 11.

"On Recovering the Message of Scriptural Holiness" in *Challenge to Evangelism Today*, Summer 1993, 3.

"C.S. Lewis on Holiness," *Good News* 28 (1995), 29-31.

"Making Sense of Evil" in *The Asbury Herald* 106 (1995), 3-5.

- “A Faith Worth Disbelieving,” *Touchstone* 9 (1996), 21-24.
- “Can We Be Good Without Hell?” *Christianity Today*, 41 (1997), 22-27. Reprinted in *Moral Soundings*, ed. Dwight Furrow, Rowan & Littlefield, 2004.
- “Has Hell Frozen Over?” *Dallas Morning News*, July 26, 1997.
- “Wiping Away Our Tears” *The Asbury Herald* 112 (2001), 3-6.
- “Can We Ever Be Holy Enough?” in *Modern Reformation*, May/June 2003, 44-46.
- “Heaven, Hell and Harry Potter” in *Harry Potter and Philosophy*, eds. David Baggett and Shawn Klein, Open Court, 2004, 63-76.
- “Christ’s Atonement: Washing Away Human Sin,” in *Mel Gibson’s Passion and Philosophy*, ed. Jorge Gracia, Open Court, 2004, 25-39.
- “Flying Without a Map: Chasing Amy and the Quest for Satisfying Relationships,” in *Movies and the Meaning of Life*, eds. Kimberly Blessing and Paul Tudico, Open Court, 2004, 137-150.
- “Superman and Kingdom Come: The Surprise of Philosophical Theology,” co-authored with Philip Tallon, in *Superheroes and Philosophy*, eds. Tom Morris and Matt Morris, Open Court, 2005, 207-220.
- “Hollywood Discovers Narnia,” co-authored with Philip Tallon, in *Good News*, November-December 2005, 10-13.
- “Tsunamis, morality, and the question of God” in *Good News*, March-April 2005, 14-17
- “An Interview with Jerry Walls” *Modern Reformation*, September/October 2006, 28; 30-31
- “Why Not Live in the Holodeck?” co-authored with Philip Tallon, in *Star Trek and Philosophy: The Wrath of Kant*, eds. Jason T. Eberl and Kevin S. Decker, Open Court, 2008, 161-172.
- “What to say about hell: A symposium” *The Christian Century*, June 3, 2008, 22.
- “Takin’ ‘er Easy for all us Sinners’: Laziness as a Virtue in *The Big Lebowski*,” co-authored with Matthew R. Douglass, in *The Philosophy of the Coen Brothers*, ed. Mark T. Conard, University of Kentucky Press, 2008, 147-162.
- “Beyond Godric’s Hollow: Life After Death and the Search for Meaning” co-authored with Jonathan L. Walls, forthcoming in *Harry Potter and Philosophy: Hogwarts for Muggles*, ed. Gregory Bassham, Wiley Blackwell, 2010. This essay will also appear in

Introducing Philosophy Through Pop Culture: From Socrates to South Park, From Hume to House, ed William Irwin, Wiley Blackwell, 2010.

“An Ecumenical Purgatory” *University of Notre Dame Center for Philosophy of Religion Newsletter*, Spring, 2010, 6-7.

PUBLICATIONS: REVIEWS

Alvin Plantinga, *God, Freedom, and Evil* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977) in *Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation* 32 (1980), 40.

Lawrence W. Wood, *Pentecostal Grace* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1980) in *Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation* 33 (1981), 191-192.

Thomas V. Morris, ed., *The Concept of God* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987) in *The Asbury Theological Journal* 43 (1988), 138-140.

Luis de Molina, *On Divine Foreknowledge*, trans. Alfred J. Freddoso (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1988) in *The Asbury Theological Journal* 44 (1989), 93-95.

Thomas V. Morris, ed., *Philosophy and the Christian Faith* (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1988) in *The Asbury Theological Journal* 45:2 (1990), 94-95.

D.A. Carson, *How Long O Lord? Reflections on Suffering and Evil* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1990) in *The Asbury Theological Journal* 46:2 (1991), 103-104.

Alan E. Bernstein, *The Formation of Hell* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1993) in *First Things* 46 (1994), 64-68.

Jonathan L. Kvanvig, *The Problem of Hell* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993) in *International Journal For Philosophy of Religion* 37 (1995), 118-120.

Thomas R. Schreiner and Bruce A. Ware, eds., *The Grace of God: The Bondage of The Will*, 2 Volumes, (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1995) in *The Asbury Theological Journal*, 51 (1996), 123-125.

Alan G. Padgett, *God Eternity and the Nature of Time*, (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1992) in *The Asbury Theological Journal* 51 (1996), 122-123.

John G. Stackhouse, *Can God Be Trusted? Faith and the Challenge of Evil*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998) in *First Things* 88 (1998), 55-58.

William J. Abraham, *Canon and Criterion in Christian Theology: From the Fathers to Feminism*, (Oxford: Clarendon, 1998) in *Theology Today* 56 (2000), 616-620.

Marilyn McCord Adams, *Horrendous Evils and the Goodness of God*, (Ithaca: Cornell, 1999) in *Christian Scholar's Review* 29 (2000), 786-788.

Edward William Fudge and Robert A. Peterson, *Two Views of Hell: A Biblical and Theological Dialogue*, (Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2000) in *Philosophia Christi* 3 (2001), 293-295.

Colin Brown, *Christianity and Western Thought, vol 1: A History of Philosophers, Ideas and Movements: From the Ancient World to the Age of the Enlightenment* (Downers Grove, Intervarsity Press, 1990) and Steve Wilkens and Alan Padgett, *Christianity and Western Thought, vol 2: Faith and Reason in the Nineteenth Century* (Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2000) in *Catalyst* 27 (April 2004), 5-6

Lindsey Hall, *Swinburne's Hell and Hick's Universalism*, (Burlington, VT: Ashgate, 2003) in *Ars Disputandi: The Online Journal for Philosophy of Religion*.

Alan F. Segal, *Life After Death: A History of the Afterlife in Western Religion*, (New York: Doubleday, 2004), *First Things* 159 (2006):52-56.

John Saward, *Sweet and Blessed Country: The Christian Hope of Heaven*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005), *The Asbury Journal* 62 (2007): 124-126.

Donald Ray Pollock, *The Devil all the Time*, (New York: Doubleday, 2011), *Books and Culture* website, July 2011.

Sharon Baker, *Razing Hell: Rethinking Everything You've Ever Been Taught about God's Wrath and Judgment* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2010), *Conversations in Religion and Theology* (2011): 22-30.

PUBLICATIONS: MOTIVATIONAL AND INSPIRATIONAL

Wisdom from the Hardwood: Defining a Success Worth Shooting For, Gray Matter Books, 2012.

PUBLICATIONS: POETRY AND DRAMATIC SCRIPTS

I have Published Several Poems in magazines

Who Watch For The Morning, (poetry chapbook) Finishing Line Press, 2009.

“The Great Debate of Forty-Eight.” Script for a dramatic re-enactment of the Lewis-Anscombe Debate, co-authored with Philip Tallon. Performed in Oxford at the 2005 C. S. Lewis Institute Oxbridge Event.

“Addison’s Walk: A Mythic Conversation.” Script for a dramatic re-enactment of the famous conversation between C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien and Hugo Dyson, co-authored with Philip Tallon and Reno Lauro. Performed in Oxford at the 2008 C. S. Lewis Institute Oxbridge Event.

ADMINISTRATIVE, MOTIVATIONAL AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Chair, Division of Theological Studies, Asbury Seminary

Chair, Academic Committee, Asbury Seminary

Chair, Admissions Committee, Asbury Seminary

Member of Faculty/Board Communication Task Force appointed in wake of a notation Asbury received for governance issues from the Association of Theological Schools. This Task Force was expanded to produce the document to respond to the notation.

Coordinator of Philosophy Symposium, Oxbridge, 2005 and 2008

Have done numerous keynote and motivational speeches for business and professional groups over the past decade for such clients as Federated Investors, Sun Trust Mortgage, CASE, Kodak, Pfizer, Arthroscopic Association of North America, and the European Directors of McKinsey and Company.

SELECTED ADDRESSES AND ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Contemporary Issues in Hell” University of Notre Dame, “Food for Thought” event, Spring 2010.

“Whole Truth for a Fragmented World” Liberty University Faculty Chapel, October 1, 2008.

“Recent Issues in Heaven and Hell” Roberts Wesleyan College, September 24, 2007.

“Wisdom from the Hardwood” Keynote Speech for Asset Marketing Systems, July 17, 2007, Las Vegas.

“Wisdom from the Hardwood” Sun Trust Mortgage, May 5, 2007, Colorado Springs

“What’s Wrong with Calvinism?” Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky, November, 2006.

“The Quest for Happiness in the 21st Century: Heavenly Hopes and Shriveled Secular Substitutes” University of Kentucky, October, 2006.

“If Aristotle Ran General Motors” Keynote Speech for McKinsey and Company, Athens, Greece, September 8, 2006

“Hot Topics and High Stakes” and “Heaven: an Essential Moral Resource” Keynote Addresses for Wheaton College Philosophy Conference, October 20-22, 2005.

“If Aristotle Ran General Motors” Keynote Speech for College and University Professional Association for Human Resources, Mobile, Alabama, April 11, 2005

“Tragic evil and the God of Love” Keynote Address for King’s College Philosophy Conference, Scranton, Pennsylvania, April 17, 2004.

“Whole Truth for a Fragmented World” Indiana Wesleyan University, February, 2004.

“Divine Command Morality, Calvinism, and Human Nature,” (with David Baggett), Conference on Religion and Ethics Co-sponsored by the British Society for Philosophy of Religion and The Society of Christian Philosophers, Oxford, August 2003.

“Tragic Evil and the God of Love” Hampden Sydney College, April 18, 2003.

“Wisdom from the Hardwood” Federated Investors Chairman’s Club, Palm Beach, Florida, April 4, 2003

“Heaven, Hell and the Meaning of Life” Regent University, Virginia Beach Virginia, March 14, 2003.

“True Success: A New Philosophy of Excellence” Keynote Speech for CASE District Conference, Boston, January 30, 2000.

RADIO AND TELEVISION INTERVIEWS

I have been interviewed on the radio numerous times, three times on NPR, including two recent appearances as guest on “Talk of the Nation.” 2009 and 2011, and on the Drew Marshall Show in 2012.

I have been a guest on the television program “Faith Under Fire” hosted by Lee Strobel, 2004.

I was interviewed for the documentary film “Hellbound?” which was released in 2012.

MUSIC AND VIDEO PROJECTS

Interviewed as part of a roundtable discussion for a thematic documentary on C. S. Lewis’s *The Great Divorce*. This was produced in DVD and distributed to over a thousand attendees at a performance of “The Great Divorce” at the University of Kentucky in 2005 and later distributed through “Apple Seed Ministries.”

Participated in a debate on Calvinism with Joe Dongell, Bruce Ware and Thomas Schreiner, that was taped and produced in DVD, and later distributed through Apple Seed Ministries. 2005.

Executive Producer for “Prisoners of Hope: A Modern Collection of the Hymns of Charles Wesley,” 2007.

REFERENCES

Professor William J. Abraham
Southern Methodist University
wabraham@smu.edu

Professor Bill T. Arnold
Asbury Seminary
bill.arnold@asburyseminary.edu

Professor Thomas P. Flint
University of Notre Dame
Thomas.P.Flint.1@nd.edu

Professor Paul Griffiths
Duke Divinity School
pgriffiths@div.duke.edu

Dr. Thomas V. Morris
TomVMorris@aol.com

Professor Charles Taliaferro
taliafer@stolaf.edu