

David J. Baggett

Curriculum Vitae

Professor of Philosophy and Apologetics, Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary

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E-mail addresses: dbaggett@liberty.edu (work); dbaigt9@aol.com (personal)

Married to Marybeth Davis Baggett; stepson: Nathaniel Davis

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Ethics and Meta-ethics
Philosophy of Religion
Moral Apologetics

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Philosophy of William James
Philosophical Theology
Religious Epistemology
Philosophy and Popular Culture
C. S. Lewis
Philosophy of Sport

EDUCATION

B.A. University of Michigan-Dearborn (Philosophy major; English minor), 1988
M.Div. Asbury Theological Seminary, 1992
Ph.D. Wayne State University, Philosophy, 2002

TEACHING POSITIONS

Jackson Community College, part-time instructor, 1993
Wayne County Community College, part-time instructor, 1994-1998
Henry Ford Community College, part-time instructor, 1995-2001
Wayne State University, graduate teaching assistant or adjunct, 1995-2002
University of Michigan-Dearborn, adjunct lecturer, 1994-2002
King's College, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 2002-2006
Liberty University, Associate Professor of Philosophy, 2006-09, Professor 2009-2014
Liberty University, Distance Learning Instructor, 2008-2011
Spring Arbor University, Distance Learning Instructor, 2008
Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, Professor of Philosophy and Apologetics, 2014-present

DISSERTATION: *Theistic Activism and the Euthyphro Dilemma*

PHILOSOPHY COURSES TAUGHT

Critical Thinking

Ethics

Business Ethics

Theories of Knowledge

Philosophy and Popular Culture: Harry Potter and Philosophy

Introduction to Philosophy

Symbolic Logic

Comparative Religion

Philosophy of Religion

A Jamesian Critique of Humean Empiricism (independent study)

Ethics: Religious and Secular (two graduate level independent studies)

Directed Senior Theses on Pascal's Wager, Natural Law, and Stoic ethics

Served on Th.M. committee on aesthetics and damnation

Served on numerous Master's thesis committees through the English department

Doctoral courses in Moral Apologetics, Liberty Theological Seminary

Moral Apologetics

Introduction to Apologetics

PROFESSIONAL AND HONOR SOCIETIES

American Philosophical Association

Society of Christian Philosophers

Evangelical Philosophical Society

Evangelical Theological Society

Theta Phi (Theological Honor Society)

Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophical Honor Society)

PHILOSOPHY AND POPULAR CULTURE CHAPTERS

Sherlock Holmes as Epistemologist, in *The Philosophy of Sherlock Holmes*, edited by Phil Tallon and David Baggett, University Press of Kentucky, 2012

Firefly and Freedom, in *The Philosophy of Joss Whedon*, edited by Dean Kowalski, University Press of Kentucky, 2011

Why Roger Federer is the Best: Or is it McEnroe?, in *Tennis and Philosophy*, University Press of Kentucky, 2010

Friendship, Rivalry, Greatness, with Neil Delaney, in *Tennis and Philosophy*, University Press of Kentucky, 2010

The Love of Wisdom, in *Tennis and Philosophy*, University Press of Kentucky, 2010

Amistad: Human Rights and Human Nature, with Mark Foreman, in *Steven Spielberg and Philosophy*, edited by Dean Kowalski, University of Kentucky Press, 2008

- Resist Not Evil: Jesus and Nonviolence, with Gregory Bassham, in Jorge Gracia, ed., *Mel Gibson's The Passion and Philosophy*, Open Court, 2005.
- Rats in God's Laboratory: *Shadowlands* and the Problem of Evil. In *Movies and the Meaning of Life*, co-edited by Blessing and Tudico, Open Court, Spring 2005
- Magic, Muggles, and Moral Imagination. In *Harry Potter and Philosophy: If Aristotle Ran Hogwarts*, co-edited by David Baggett and Shawn Klein, Open Court, Fall 2004
- The Magic of Philosophy. In *Harry Potter and Philosophy: If Aristotle Ran Hogwarts*, co-edited by David Baggett and Shawn Klein, Open Court, Fall 2004

ARTICLES, NOTES, COMMENTS, REVIEW ESSAYS, ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

- Omnibenevolence, Moral Apologetics, and Doubly Ramified Natural Theology, with Ronnie Campbell, spring 2014, *Philosophia Christi*
- On Thomas Nagel's Rejection of Theism, *Harvard Theological Review*, April, 2013
- Engaged by the Christian Worldview: Learning to Think, not Spout Dogma, with Marybeth Baggett, *Christian Teachers Journal*, February 2013
- "The Euthyphro Dilemma," in *Just the Arguments: 100 of the Most Important Arguments in Western Philosophy*. Wiley Blackwell, 2011
- "Ethics" entry in the *Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*, Wiley Blackwell, 2011
- A Man, a Friendship, and an Argument, in *Did the Resurrection Happen? A Conversation with Gary Habermas and Antony Flew*, InterVarsity, 2009
- Resurrection Matters, in *Did the Resurrection Happen? A Conversation with Gary Habermas and Antony Flew*, InterVarsity, 2009
- The Euthyphro Dilemma: A Deal-Breaker? *Dialogue*, 2008
- Is Divine Iconoclast as Bad as Cosmic Sadist? Lewis versus Beversluis, in C. S. *Lewis as Philosopher: Truth, Goodness and Beauty*, 2008
- Bruce Russell's Analogy and the Problem of Evil, Winter 2006, *Philosophia Christi*
- Pascal Was No Fideist, Fall 2005, *Asbury Theological Journal*
- On Whether God Can Sin. *Philosophia Christi*, Fall 2003 (5:1): 259-267
- Epistemic Relativism and Socially Responsible Realism: A Few Responses to Linker. *Social Epistemology*, 2002 (16:2): 169-175
- Theistic Belief and Positive Epistemic Status: A Comparison of Alvin Plantinga and William James. *Asbury Theological Journal*, 2002 (58:1): 151-165

Comment piece, *Journal of Religious Ethics*, Summer 2001: 39-40

On a Reductionistic Analysis of William James' Philosophy of Religion, in *Journal of Religious Ethics*, 2000 (28.3): 421-446

Theistic Ethics: Toward a Christian Solution, *Asbury Theological Journal*, Fall 1999: 5-25

On the Legality and Morality of Physician-Assisted Suicide, *Asbury Theological Journal*, Spring 1995: 51-66

Aids and the Wrath of God, *Asbury Theological Journal*, Fall 1994

BOOK REVIEWS

Book review of Angus Ritchie's *From Morality to Metaphysics*, *Philosophia Christi*, 2014

Book review of Frans de Waal's *The Bonobo and the Atheist*, *Philosophia Christi*, Spring 2013

Book review of Francis Chan's *Erasing Hell*, *Wesleyan Theological Journal*, Spring 2013

Book review of Anthony Campolo's *Speaking My Mind* in *Christian Scholar's Review*, Fall 2005

Book review of Jerry Walls' *Heaven: The Logic of Eternal Joy*, Oxford University Press 2002. *Philosophia Christi*, Fall 2003 (5:1): 328-330

Book review of Hunter Brown's *William James on Radical Empiricism and Religion*, *Review of Metaphysics*, September 2001

Book review of Robert Adams' *Finite and Infinite Goods: A Framework for Ethics*, in the *Review of Metaphysics*, March 2001

ARTICLES UNDER REVIEW OR IN PROGRESS

- C. S. Lewis's Moral Argument, in *C. S. Lewis's Defense of Christianity: For and Against*, edited by Gregory Bassham, two chapters, forthcoming
- Alvin Plantinga and an Abductive Epistemic Moral Argument for God's Existence, in *Alvin Plantinga's Couple Dozen Arguments for God*, edited by Jerry L. Walls and Trenton Dougherty, forthcoming
- A Minimal Facts Moral Argument, in forthcoming book on Gary Habermas's apologetics, edited by Ronnie Campbell et al.
- Shook's Inconsistency: Freedom and Divine Impeccability, in progress
- Assessing Christian Hedonism, in progress
- Missing the Point: Why Functional Accounts of Ethics are Anti-Realist, under review for inclusion in book or journal (part of collection from Oxford conference)

NEWSPAPER COMMENTARY AND BLOGS

Innocents of the World Need Your Help, *Times Leader*, June 23, 2005

Blog posts for *Think Christian*, *Christianity Today*, *First Things*, *Christianity and Pop Culture*, *andphilosophy.com*, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, and *morrisinstitute.com*

BOOKS

Good God: The Theistic Foundations of Morality, with Jerry L. Walls, Oxford University Press, April 2011.

God and Cosmos: Moral Truth and Human Meaning, with Jerry L. Walls, Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

At the Bend of the River Grand: A History of the Eaton Rapids Camp Meeting (1884-2015), in progress.

UNPUBLISHED NOVELLA IN PROGRESS

Becoming Family

EDITED BOOKS

Harry Potter and Philosophy: If Aristotle Ran Hogwarts, with Shawn Kline. Open Court Press. October 2004

Hitchcock and Philosophy: Dial M for Metaphysics, with William Drumin. Open Court Press, with William Drumin. March 2007

Tennis and Philosophy, University Press of Kentucky. May 2010

The Philosophy of Sherlock Holmes, with Phil Tallon. University Press of Kentucky. 2012

C. S. Lewis as Philosopher: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty. InterVarsity Press, with Jerry Walls and Gary Habermas. April 2008

Did the Resurrection Happen? A Discussion with Gary Habermas and Antony Flew. InterVarsity Press. May 2009

BOOKS IN PROGRESS

The Moral Argument: A History, under contract, Oxford University Press

Moral Anti-Realism

William James: That Adorable Genius

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (PROFESSIONAL & SERVICE)

Moral Goodness, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, November 2014, San Francisco

Assessing Christian Hedonism, *Evangelical Theological Society*, November 2014, San Francisco

Member of Book Panel on Scott Smith's *Moral Knowledge*, *EPS*, November 2014, San Francisco

Book Panel participant, AAR/SBL, November, 2014, San Francisco

Participant in Alvin Plantinga conference, Baylor University, November 2014

Presentation on Sexuality and Morality, September 2014, LBTS Lecture Series

Plenary Address, Tom Nagel and the Prescience of C. S. Lewis, *C. S. Lewis and the Inklings Society*, April 4, 2014, Wesleyan College, Macon, GA

Plenary Address, C. S. Lewis on God and the Good, *C. S. Lewis and the Inklings Society*, April 4, 2014, Wesleyan College, Macon, GA

Panel Discussion on *Catcher in the Rye*, Spring 2014, *Sigma Tau*, Liberty University

Four Ways God Best Explains Morality, *Ratio Christi*, Spring 2014, Liberty University

Workshop on moral apologetics for *Ratio Christi*, Spring 2014, Liberty University

Presented invited lecture *The Gospel According to Hitchcock*, Spring 2014, *Phi Sigma Tau*, Liberty University

The Importance of Imagination and Courage of Creativity, *Sigma Tau* keynote address, Spring 2014

What's Wrong with (Naturalistic) Virtue Theory, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, Baltimore, MD, November 2013

Four Ways God Best Explains Morality, Apologetics Conference, Baltimore, MD, November 2013

Invited lecture, Peakland United Methodist Church, *The Gospel According to Hitchcock*, October 2013

Invited workshop on the moral argument, Reasonable Faith Cruise, May 28, 2013

Invited talk at Christ Church, Oxford University, *Missing the Point: Why Functional*

Accounts of Ethics are Anti-Realist, May 2013. To be published in upcoming volume

Debate on God and ethics with John Shook, University at Buffalo, April 2013

Morality as a Roadmap to God, presentation for Buffalo Apologetics group, Buffalo, NY, April 2013

Omnibenevolence, Moral Apologetics, and Doubly Ramified Natural Theology, with Ronnie Campbell, Eastern Regional Meeting of the *Evangelical Theological Society*, February 2013

Goodness, Teleology, and Divine Resemblance, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Goodness, Teleology, and Divine Resemblance, November 2012

Dealing with Moral Deniers, Apologetics Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 2012

Thomas Nagel, C. S. Lewis, and their Shared Quest for Integration, King's College, Northeast Regional Conference on Christianity and Literature, November 3, 2012. To be published in upcoming e-book and published in *Harvard Theological Review*

Abduction Does Not Implication Warrant, North Carolina Philosophical Society Conference, Elon University, February 24, 2012

Led discussion of *Good God*, Page Turners, Liberty University, February 7, 2012

Panel Discussion on *Good God*, with Paul Copan, Jerry Walls, William Lane Craig, and Mark Foreman, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, San Francisco, California, November 2011

Seven Distinctions in Theistic Ethics, presented at International Apologetics Conference, April 2011, Wake Forest, NC

Panel Discussion on Creativity, *Virginia Festival of the Book*, March 2011

Panel Discussion on God, *Virginia Festival of the Book*, March 2011

Sherlock Holmes as Epistemologist, Philosophy Club, Liberty University, February 2011

God and Moral Necessity, Eastern Regional Meeting of the *Society of Christian Philosophers*, Wake Forest, NC, March 12, 2010

If God Weren't Good, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, New Orleans, Louisiana, November, 2009

Taking Divine Necessity Seriously, Virginia Philosophical Association, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA, October 2009

Taking Divine Necessity Seriously, Philosophy Club, LU, September 15, 2009

Participant in Book Panel Discussion on *C. S. Lewis as Philosopher*, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, Providence, Rhode Island, November, 2008

The Irrationality of Calvinism's Terrible Tenet, *Evangelical Philosophical Society*, San Diego, California, November 16, 2007

Contra Calvinism, delivered to the Philosophy Club, LU, November 7, 2007

Love Potion #9¾: Vice, Volition, and Voldemort, *Lumos*, Las Vegas, July 2006

Luncheon Panel with Francis Bridger and John Granger on "Education and Harry Potter," *Lumos*, Las Vegas, July 2006

They Who Loved Too Much: Reading *La Celestina* through the Eyes of St. Augustine, with Anne Massey, Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, April 22, 2006

The Empathy Thesis and the Human Voice, Wilkes University Women's Studies Conference, March 31, 2006

Is Divine Iconoclast as Bad as Cosmic Sadist? C. S. Lewis versus John Beversluis, Cambridge University, Oxbridge, August 2005

Shadowlands and the Meaning of life, King's College, Spring 2004

Co-led Ethics Center faculty discussion about business ethics, November 18, 2004

Divine Command Morality, Calvinism, and Human Nature. Conference on Religion & Ethics co-sponsored by the British Society for Philosophy of Religion, Society of Christian Philosophers, Oxford University, August 2003

The Perils of Partisanship, Lunch Lecture, February 14, 2003, King's College

The Euthyphro Dilemma is Dead, King's College Socratic Society, Fall 2002

RADIO APPEARANCES AND OTHER INTERVIEWS

- *Beyond Strange and Mysterious*, July 15, 2005, WSNR 620 AM out of NYC
- NPR's *On Point*, July 18, 2005, WBUR 90.9 FM out of Boston
- *Prime Time America*, June 17, 2008, Moody Broadcasting (400 stations)
- "Front Page" on *The Path*, June 23, 2008, Media Ministry, Cedarville University
- Interview with a Philosopher: On Tennis and Life - What the Racket is All About, with Tom Morris, *Huffington Post*, May 11, 2010
- Roger Federer as Philosophical Force and Other Tennis Tenets, by Kent Oswald, *Tennis Now*, May 26, 2010
- Interview about *Good God*, FM 88.3, Lynchburg, VA, January 19, 2012
- Regular Guest on John Shook's Podcast *Humanist Matters* since 2013
- Participated with John Shook in online course on ethics, June 2014

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

- Reviewer for *Philosophia Christi*, *Sophia*, *Journal of Sport History*
- Reviewer for University Press of Kentucky, InterVarsity Press, Baylor University Press
- Faculty advisor to Phi Sigma Tau, 2003-2006, King's College
- Member Ethics Center Board, as of Fall 2003, King's College
- Member Moral Development Project Team, 2002-2006, King's College
- Moderated at philosophy and popular culture conference, Buffalo, Spring 2004
- Member of Faculty Council, Fall 2004-Spring 2006, King's College
- Assessment coordinator for the Philosophy/Theology Department, 8/07-5/09, Liberty University
- Director of Steve Hudson's Honors Thesis on Pascal's Wager, Spring 2008
- Member of Faculty Senate, Liberty University, Fall 2010-present
- Member of Marcus Little's Th.M. thesis committee on aesthetics and hell
- Director of Maria Owen's and Michael Stearns' senior theses
- Director of Ron Campbell's graduate level ethics independent study on theistic ethics
- Directing six doctoral dissertations in the PhD in theology and apologetics program, Liberty University
- Member of Executive Committee of Evangelical Philosophical Society, 2012-15
- Member of Elections Committee, Evangelical Philosophical Society, 2013-present
- Regional Coordinator, Evangelical Philosophical Society, 2012-present

AWARDS

- Graduate Teaching Assistantships, Wayne State University, 1995-2001
- Graduate Summer Seminar of the Pew Younger Scholars Program on "Christian Ethics in a Pluralist Society" 1998, instructed by Gilbert Meilaender, Notre Dame University
- Summer Dissertation Fellowship, Wayne State University, 2001
- Summer Research Grant, King's College, 2004
- Research Course Reduction, Spring 2010, Liberty University
- Academic Research Leave, Spring 2011, Liberty University
- *Good God* winner of *Christianity Today* 2012 Book of the Year in Apologetics/Evangelism
- Awarded Academic Research Leave Spring 2014, Liberty University

RECOMMENDATIONS

Gary Habermas, Research Professor of Philosophy and Chairman of the Philosophy & Theology Department, Liberty University

Tom Morris, Chairman of the Morris Institute for Human Values

William Irwin, Professor of Philosophy, King's College, and series editor of Wiley Blackwell's Philosophy and Popular Culture book series

Jerry Walls, Professor of Philosophy of Religion, Houston Baptist University

Leo Percer, Director of the Ph.D. program in Apologetics and Theology, LBTS