

CURRICULUM VITAE

RICHARD EDWIN DEMARIS
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TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Special Interests: Archaeology and the New Testament World
Early Christian Ritual Life
New Testament Literature: Pauline Letters, Mark, Luke-Acts

Areas of Competence: Social Sciences and Religion
Christian Origins
Greco-Roman Religions and Culture
Biblical Literature and History
Apocalypticism and Millennialism

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Pontifical Biblical Institute: •The New Testament in Its Ritual World
Visiting Professor (2008)

Valparaiso University: Department of Theology:
Professor (2005-present) •New Testament in Its Cultural Environment
Associate Professor (1995-2005) •New Testament Introduction
Assistant Professor (1990-1995) •Jesus and the Gospels
Instructor (1988-1990) •Understanding the Bible
•Introduction to Theology
•Conversion, Call, & Vocational Decision Making
•Calvinism in American Culture

College of Arts and Sciences Humanities Seminar:
•End of the World: Apocalyptic Past and Present
Honors College:
•Texts and Contexts: Traditions of Human Thought
•Topics in Sacred Texts and Theological Classics

PUBLICATIONS

Books: *The New Testament in Its Ritual World*. London: Routledge, 2008.
The Colossian Controversy: Wisdom in Dispute at Colossae. Journal for
the Study of the New Testament Supplement 96. Sheffield:
Sheffield Academic Press, 1994.
Reviews: *CBQ* 57 (1995) 800-1; *JBL* 114 (1995) 752-4; *TLZ* 120
(1995) 240-2; *RelSRev* 21 (1995) 240; *NedTT* 50 (1996) 336-7;
TRu 68 (2003) 397-9.

Chapters: “Contrition and Correction or Elimination and Purification in 1
Corinthians 5?” Pp. 41-52 in *The Social Sciences and Biblical*

- Translation*. Edited by Dietmar Neufeld. Society of Biblical Literature Symposium Series 41. Atlanta: Scholars Press, 2008.
- “Battesimo di Gesù e teoria del rito.” Pp. 57-74 in *Il nuovo Gesù storico*. Edited by Wolfgang Stegemann, Bruce J. Malina, and Gerd Theissen. Introduzione allo studio della Bibbia, Supplementi 28. Brescia: Paideia Editrice, 2006.
- “Can We Reread Paul Together Any Longer? Joseph A. Fitzmyer’s View of Pauline Justification in Context.” Pp. 93-105 in *Rereading Paul Together: Protestant and Catholic Perspectives on Justification*. Edited by David E. Aune. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2006.
- “Judges—(Dis)honor and Ritual Enactment: The Jephthah Story: Judges 10:16-12:1.” With Carolyn S. Leeb. Pp. 177-90 in *Ancient Israel: The Old Testament in Its Social Context*. Edited by Philip F. Esler. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006.
- “Die Taufe Jesu im Kontext der Ritualtheorie.” Pp. 43-52 in *Jesus in neuen Kontexten*. Edited by Wolfgang Stegemann, Bruce J. Malina, and Gerd Theissen. Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 2002.
- “The Baptism of Jesus: A Ritual-Critical Approach.” Pp. 137-57 in *The Social Setting of Jesus and the Gospels*. Edited by Wolfgang Stegemann, Bruce J. Malina, and Gerd Theissen. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002.
- “Cults and the Imperial Cult in Early Roman Corinth: Literary Versus Material Record.” Pp. 73-91 in *Zwischen den Reichen: Neues Testament und Römische Herrschaft*. Edited by Michael Labahn and Jürgen Zangenberg. Texte und Arbeiten zum neutestamentlichen Zeitalter 36. Tübingen: Francke-Verlag, 2002.
- Articles: “Archaeology and New Testament Interpretation.” Pp. 9-13 in *Methods of Biblical Interpretation*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2004.
- “Possession, Good and Bad—Ritual, Effects and Side-Effects: The Baptism of Jesus and Mark 1:9-11 from a Cross-Cultural Perspective.” *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 80 (2000) 3-30.
- “Baptisms and Funerals, Ordinary and Otherwise: Ritual Criticism and Corinthian Rites.” *Biblical Theology Bulletin* 29 (1999) 23-34.
- “Corinthian Religion and Baptism for the Dead (1 Corinthians 15:29): Insights from Archaeology and Anthropology.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 114 (1995) 661-82.
- “Demeter in Roman Corinth: Local Development in a Mediterranean Religion.” *Numen: International Review for the History of Religions* 42 (1995) 105-17.
- “Element, Elemental Spirit.” Vol. 2, pp. 444-5 in *Anchor Bible Dictionary*. Edited by David N. Freedman. 6 vols. New York: Doubleday, 1992.
- “Philosophy.” Vol. 5, p. 346 in *Anchor Bible Dictionary*. Edited by David N. Freedman. 6 vols. New York: Doubleday, 1992.

- Review Essays: *Urban Religion in Roman Corinth: Interdisciplinary Approaches*, edited by Daniel N. Schowalter and Steven J. Friesen, in *Journal of Biblical Literature* 125 (2006): 614-17.
Corinth: The First City of Greece: An Urban History of Late Antique Cult and Religion, by Richard M. Rothaus, in *Journal of Biblical Literature* 121 (2002) 769-73.
- Reviews: *Stewards, Prophets, and Keepers of the Word: Leadership in the Early Church*, by Ritva H. Williams, in *Interpretation* 62 (2008) 344.
Biblical Mourning: Ritual and Social Dimensions, by Saul M. Olyan, in *Biblical Theology Bulletin* 36 (2006) 42.
Corinth: The First City of Greece: An Urban History of Late Antique Cult and Religion, by Richard M. Rothaus, in *Religious Studies Review* 28 (2002) 370.
Palestine in the Time of Jesus: Social Structures and Social Conflicts, by K. C. Hanson and Douglas E. Oakman, in *Journal of Biblical Literature* 120 (2001) 765-7.
Die liminale Theologie des Paulus: Zugänge zur paulinischen Theologie aus kulturanthropologischer Perspektive, by Christian Strecker, in *Religious Studies Review* 26 (2000) 380, and in *Biblical Theology Bulletin* 31 (2001) 79.
Interpreting Early Hellenistic Religion: A Study Based on the Mystery Cult of Demeter and the Cult of Isis, by Petra Pakkanen, in *Numen* 46 (1999) 221-2.
Portraits of Paul: An Archaeology of Ancient Personality, by Bruce J. Malina and Jerome H. Neyrey, in *Bible Review* 13, no. 4 (Aug. 1997) 16-18.
The Epistles to the Colossians and to Philemon: A Commentary on the Greek Text, by James D. G. Dunn, in *Themelios* 22, no. 2 (Jan. 1997) 64-5.
Colossians & Philemon, by Robert W. Wall, in *Critical Review of Books in Religion* 7 (1994) 270-2.
Philippians, Colossians, Philemon, by Richard R. Melick, Jr., in *Critical Review of Books in Religion* 7 (1994) 237-8.
Revelation and Redemption at Colossae, by Thomas J. Sappington, in *Journal of Biblical Literature* 112 (1993) 544-6.
The Pauline Letters, by Leander E. Keck and Victor Paul Furnish, in *Princeton Seminary Bulletin* NS 7 (1986) 85-6.

MAJOR PRESENTATIONS

- “Review of Gerald A. Klingbeil’s *Bridging the Gap: Ritual and Ritual Texts in the Bible*,” Ritual in the Biblical World Consultation, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Diego, Calif., 2007.
- “Contested Waters: Was Baptism a Rite of Inversion in Its Roman Context?” Context Group Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pa., 2007.
- “The Preindustrial City and Early Roman Corinth: Correlating Data and Definition.” Catholic Biblical Association International Meeting, Loyola University, Chicago, Ill., 2006.

- “Jesus Jettisoned: Gospel Composition and the Marcan Passion Narrative through a Ritual Lens.” International Meeting on Early Christian Writings in Context, Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain, 2006.
- “(Dis)honor and Ritual Enactment in the Jephthah Story.” With Carolyn S. Leeb. St. Andrews Conference on Old Testament Interpretation and the Social Sciences, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland, 2004.
- “Paul’s Omphalos: 1 Corinthians as a Test Case for Pauline Coherence.” Catholic Biblical Association International Meeting, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, Calif., 2003.
- “Perilous Passage: Redescribing Baptism in the Jesus Movement.” Context Group Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pa., 2003.
- “Justification by Faith in Pauline Thought: A Response to Joseph A. Fitzmyer.” Rereading Paul Together: Colloquium on the Modern Critical Study and Teaching of Pauline Theology in Educational, Ecumenical Contexts, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., 2002.
- “The Religious Topography of Early Roman Corinth: What Pausanias Did Not Tell Us.” Archaeological Excavations and Discoveries: Illuminating the Biblical World Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Denver, Colo., 2001.
- “Order, Purity, and Ritual in 1 Corinthians.” Context Group Annual Meeting, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., 2001.
- “Cults and the Imperial Cult in Roman Corinth: Righting the Written Record.” New Testament Seminar, European Association for Biblical Studies Meeting, Universiteit Utrecht, Utrecht, Netherlands, 2000.
- “Politics, Religion, and Water: The Control and Use of Water in Greek and Roman Corinthia.” Archaeology of Religion in the Greco-Roman World Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Boston, Mass., 1999.
- “The Baptism of Jesus from a Ritual Critical Standpoint.” Internationales Symposium: Jesus in neuen Kontexten. Sozialwissenschaftliche Perspektiven der Jesusforschung. Evangelische Akademie Tutzing, Tutzing, Germany, 1999.
- “Christian Baptismal Practices in Early Roman Corinth” and “Baptism for the Dead in a Mediterranean Ritual Context.” Brigham Young University & Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies, Provo, Utah, 1998.
- “Excommunication, Execration, or Execution? Ritual Analysis of 1 Corinthians 5:1-5. Social Scientific Criticism of the New Testament Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Orlando, Fla., 1998.
- “Marking the Threshold: Corinthian Baptism in Its Ritual Context.” Context Group Annual Meeting, Portland, Ore., 1998.
- “Baptisms and Funerals, Ordinary and Otherwise: Toward Ritual Criticism of Baptism at Corinth.” Social Scientific Criticism of the New Testament Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Calif., 1997.
- “What Kind of Magic Is Baptism? Rites among Corinthian Christians from a Ritual Critical Standpoint.” Society of Biblical Literature International Meeting, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, 1996.
- “Corinthian Religion and Baptism for the Dead (1 Corinthians 15:29).” Archaeology of the New Testament World Group, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., 1993.
- “Demeter in Roman Corinth.” Greco-Roman Religions Group, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Calif., 1992.

“‘According to the Elements of the World’ (Colossians 2:8): The Colossian Opponents’ Wisdom and the Sapiential Tradition in Hellenistic Judaism.” Israelite and Early Christian Wisdom Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Kansas City, Mo., 1991.

“Whence Comes Wisdom? The Crux of Conflict at Colossae.” Israelite and Early Christian Wisdom Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, New Orleans, La., 1990.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Steering Committee, Consultation on Ritual in the Biblical World, Society of Biblical Literature Annual National Meeting, 2007-present

Editorial Advisory Committee, *Religious Studies Review*, 2007-present

Co-chair, Social-Scientific Criticism of the New Testament Section, Society of Biblical Literature Annual National Meeting, 2005-present

Editor, *Religious Studies Review*, 2004-2007 (edited vol. 30, nos. 1-4; vol. 31, nos. 1-4; vol. 32, nos. 1-4; vol. 33, nos. 1-4)

Participant, Tall Hisban Excavations (affiliate of Madaba Plains Project), Jordan, 2004

Book Review Editor, *Religious Studies Review*, 1995 & 1999-2003 (edited vol. 21, nos. 1-3; vol. 25, nos. 1-4; vol. 26, nos. 1-4; vol. 27, nos. 1-4; vol. 28, nos. 1-4; vol. 29, nos. 1-4)

Organizer, Colloquium on the Modern Critical Study and Teaching of Pauline Theology in Educational, Ecumenical Contexts, 2002

Treasurer, Executive Committee, Council of Societies for the Study of Religion, 1992-present

Staff member, Ohio State University Excavations at Isthmia, Greece, 1992, 1994, 1998 & 1999

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Society of Biblical Literature Context Group of Biblical Scholars

Catholic Biblical Association European Association of Biblical Studies

Archaeological Institute of America Association of Ancient Historians

HONORS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Valparaiso University Alumni Association Teaching Excellence Award nominee, 2008

Catholic Biblical Association Visiting Professor to the Pontifical Biblical Institute, 2008

Valparaiso University Summer Research Grant, 2005

Valparaiso University Alumni Association Faculty Development Award, 2004

Valparaiso University Expense Grant, 2004

Valparaiso University Committee to Enhance Learning and Teaching Grant, 2004

Lilly Endowment Curriculum Development Grant, 2003

Valparaiso University Committee to Enhance Learning and Teaching Travel Grant, 2001

Valparaiso University Alumni Association Faculty Grant, 1999

Valparaiso University Summer Research Grant, 1996 & 1998

Catholic Biblical Association Young Scholars’ Fellowship, 1995-1996

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar (Rome), 1995

Valparaiso University Summer Research Grant, 1995

Catholic Biblical Association Archaeological Research Stipend, 1994

Visiting Senior Associate, American School of Classical Studies, Athens, 1992, 1994,

and 1996

Ziegler Family Research Fund for the Humanities Summer Grant, 1992
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar (Athens and Corinth), 1991
Catholic Biblical Association Memorial Stipend, 1984-1988
German Academic Exchange Service Summer Stipend, 1981
Columbia University President's Fellowship and Merit Fellowship, 1980-1986
Princeton Seminary Senior Fellowship in New Testament, 1980
Protestant Church in Germany Stipend, 1977
Fund for Theological Education Fellowship, 1976-1980

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Columbia University-Union Seminary, Religion, New Testament, 1990
M.Phil., Columbia University-Union Seminary, Religion, New Testament, 1986
M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary, Biblical Studies, 1980
B.A., University of Illinois at Urbana, Philosophy and Religion, 1976

DISSERTATION

"The Reconstruction of the Colossian Philosophy." Advisor: Robin Scroggs

FIELD EXAMS

Doctoral Level: New Testament history, literature, and thought (passed with distinction)
Authority and leadership in the early churches
Apocalyptic thought in early Judaism and Christianity
Johannine literature, Jewish wisdom, and gnostic thought
Master's Level: Theory and method in the study of religion
Western religions (passed with distinction)
Eastern religions (passed with distinction)