

◆ M. David Litwa, Ph.D. ◆

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◆ EDUCATION ◆

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- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) *University of Virginia* (2013)
- Master of Theology (Th.M.) *Duke University* (2009)
- Master of Divinity (M.Div.) *Emory University* (2006)
- Bachelor of Arts (BA) *Grove City College, Summa cum laude* (2000)

◆ PUBLICATIONS ◆

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*Monographs*

1. *Carpocrates, Marcellina, and Epiphanes: Three Early Christian Teachers of Alexandria and Rome* (London: Routledge, 2022).
2. *Found Christianities: Remaking the World in the Second Century* (London: Bloomsbury Press, 2022).
3. *The Evil Creator: Origins of an Early Christian Idea* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021).
4. *Posthuman Transformation in Ancient Mediterranean Thought: Becoming Angels and Demons* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021).
5. *How the Gospels Became History: Jesus and Mediterranean Myths* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019).
6. *Hermetica II: The Excerpts of Stobaeus, Papyrus Fragments, and Ancient Testimonies in a English Translation with Notes and Introductions* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018).
7. *Desiring Divinity: Self-deification in Ancient Jewish and Christian Mythmaking* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016).
8. *Refutation of All Heresies: Text, Translation, and Notes*, Writings from the Greco-Roman World 40 (Atlanta: SBL Press, 2016).
9. *Jesus Deus: The Early Christian Depiction of Jesus as a Mediterranean God* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2014).
10. *Becoming Divine: An Introduction to Deification in Western Culture* (Eugene: Cascade, 2013).
11. *We Are Being Transformed: Deification in Paul's Soteriology*, Beihefte zum Zeitschrift für Neutestamentliche Wissenschaft 187 (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2012).

*Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals*

1. "Deification and Defecation: Valentinus Fragment 3 and the Physiology of Jesus's Digestion," forthcoming from the *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 2023.
2. "Did Marcion Call the Creator 'God'?" *Journal of Theological Studies* 72:1 (2021): 231-46. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jts/flab010>.
3. "Equal to Angels: The Early Reception History of the Lukan *ισάγγελοι* (Luke 20:36)," forthcoming from the *Journal of Biblical Literature* 140:3 (2021): 601-22.

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4. "The So-called Stratiotics and Phibionites: Three Notes on the "Gnostics" of Epiphanius, *Panarion* 26," *Vigiliae Christianae* 76 (2022): 73-93.
5. "The Father of the Devil (John 8:44): A Christian Exegetical Inspiration for the Evil Creator," *Vigiliae Christianae* 74:5 (2020): 540-65.
6. "Literary Eyewitnesses: The Appeal to an Eyewitness in John and Contemporaneous Literature," *New Testament Studies* 64:3 (2018): 343-61.
7. "Paul the 'god' in Acts 28: A Comparison with Philoctetes," *Journal of Biblical Literature* 136:3 (2017): 707-26.
8. "You are Gods": Deification in the Naassene Writer and Clement of Alexandria," *Harvard Theological Review*, 110:1 (2017): 125-48.
9. "Phikola: A Mysterious Goddess at Phlya," *Religion in the Roman Empire* 2:2 (2016): 279-93.
10. "'I Will Become Him': Homology and Deification in the *Gospel of Thomas*," *Journal of Biblical Literature* 133:2 (2015): 427-47.
11. "The Deification of Moses in Philo of Alexandria," *Studia Philonica Annual* 26 (2014): 1-27.
12. "The Wondrous Exchange: Irenaeus and Eastern Valentinians on the Soteriology of Interchange," *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 22 (2014): 311-41.
13. "The God 'Human' and Human Gods: Models of Deification in Irenaeus and the *Apocryphon of John*," *Zeitschrift für Antikes Christentum* 18 (2014): 70-94.
14. "Transformation through a Mirror: Moses in 2 Cor 3:18," *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 34 (2012): 286-97.
15. "Paul's Mosaic Ascent: An Interpretation of 2 Cor 12:7-9," *New Testament Studies* 57 (2011): 238-57.
16. "Self-Sacrifice to Save the Life of Another in Jewish and Christian Traditions: A Comparative Analysis," *Heythrop Journal* 50:6 (2009): 912-922.

### **Book Chapters**

1. "The Mysteries in Christian Gnosis: The Case of the Naassene Preacher," forthcoming in *The Oxford Handbook of Ancient Mystery Cults*, ed. Hugh Bowden and Rassia Aikaterini-Iliana.
2. "Resurrection, Transformation, and Deification," forthcoming in *The Cambridge History of Ancient Christianity*, ed. Bruce Longenecker and David Wilhite (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022).
3. "Divinities," forthcoming in *The Oxford Handbook to the New Testament in the Roman Empire*, ed. Harry O. Maier, Emiliano R. Urciuoli, Heidi Wendt (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023).
4. "The Presocratics," in *The Routledge Handbook of Early Christian Philosophy*, ed. Mark Edwards (London: Routledge, 2021), 179-190.
5. "The Curse of the Creator: Galatians 3:13 and Negative Demiurgy," in *Telling the Christian Story Differently: Counternarratives from Nag Hammadi and Beyond*, ed. Francis Watson and Sarah Parkhouse (London: Bloomsbury Academic Press, 2020), 13-30.
6. "Becoming Gods: Deification and the Supernatural," in *Religion: Super Religion*, ed. Jeffrey J. Kripal, Macmillan Interdisciplinary Handbooks, Religion Series (Farmington Hills, MI: Macmillan Reference USA, 2017), 89-103.

***Published Reviews***

1. “Review of Bentley Layton, *Gnostic Scriptures* 2d ed.” Forthcoming from *Gnosis*.
2. “Review of Richard C. Miller, *Resurrection and Reception in Early Christianity*,” *Review of Biblical Literature* for October, 2015.
3. “Review of April D. DeConick, *The Gnostic New Age: How a Countercultural Spirituality Revolutionized Religion from Antiquity to Today*,” *Aries: Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism* 18 (2018): 149-52.

◆ **EMPLOYMENT AND SERVICE** ◆

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➤ ***Current Position***

- Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry (IRCI) in Melbourne Australia from 2017 to the present
  - Co-convener, Biblical and Early Christian Studies Global Seminar
  - Library Coordinator

➤ ***Past Positions***

- Instructor in Early Christianity, Virginia Tech Department of Religion and Culture, USA from August 2016 to June 2017
- Lecturer in Classics, College of William & Mary, USA from January to May 2016
- Lecturer in Classics, University of Virginia, USA from January 2013 to May 2015

➤ ***Unit Chair***

- Bible, Myth, and Myth Theory, Society of Biblical Literature from 2021 to present.

➤ ***Organizer***

- North American Patristics Society Thematic Session: Alternative Christianities (2021-2022)

➤ ***Referee***

- *Journal of Early Christian Studies (JECS)* (2019)
- *Cambridge University Press* (2016, 2019)
- *Cornell University Press* (2018)
- *Australian Journal of Jewish Studies* (2020)
- *Baylor University Press* (2020)
- *Brill* (2021)
- *Bloomsbury* (2021)

◆ **LANGUAGES** ◆

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- Koine and Classical Greek
- Classical and Ecclesiastical Latin
- Biblical Hebrew
- Coptic
- Modern French
- Modern German
- Modern Italian

## ◆ COURSES TAUGHT ◆

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- Introduction to the New Testament
- Introduction to Christian Traditions
- Greek, Roman, and West Semitic Mythology
- Ancient Mediterranean World
- Magic and Mysteries: The Underworld of Greek and Roman Religion
- Jesus and the Gospels
- Paul and His Interpreters
- Introductory and Advanced Greek

## ◆ SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS ◆

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- Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas (SNTS)
- Society of Biblical Literature (SBL)
- North American Patristics Society (NAPS)

## ◆ TALKS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS ◆

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- **Nov 2009:** “Paul’s Mosaic Ascent: An Interpretation of 2 Cor 12:7-9,” delivered to the SBL 2 Corinthians Group
- **Nov 2010:** “Transformation through a Mirror: Moses in 2 Cor 3:18,” delivered to the SBL Pauline Epistles Group
- **Nov 2012:** “Jesus, Hermes and Dionysus: The Divine Child in the *Infancy Gospel of Thomas*,” delivered to the SBL Christian Apocrypha Group
- **Nov 2013:** “The Gospel of Gemination: Deification in the *Gospel of Thomas*,” delivered to the SBL Esotericism and Mysticism in Antiquity Group
- **Nov 2014:** “‘You shall be as Gods!’ Naassene and Clementine Gnosis,” delivered to the SBL Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism Group
- **Mar 2015:** “Gnostic Self-deification: Real Claim or Heresiological Construction?” delivered to the Gnostic Countercultures Conference, Rice University
- **Nov 2015:** “‘I am God’: The Primal Human as Primeval Self-deifier,” delivered to the SBL Bible, Myth and Myth Theory Group
- **Nov 2015:** “Self-knowledge in Monoïmos and the Hermetic Corpus,” delivered to the SBL Mysticism, Esotericism and Gnosticism in Antiquity Group
- **May 2016:** “Jesus Christ and Classical Mythology” delivered to the New Perspectives Group, Goshen Indiana on May 22, 2016.
- **Oct 2017:** “Literary Eyewitnesses: The Appeal to an Eyewitness in John and Contemporaneous Literature,” delivered to the Biblical and Early Christian Studies Research Seminar, Australian Catholic University
- **May 2018:** “The Curse of the Creator,” delivered to the Nag Hammadi and Gnostic Studies group at the North American Patristics Society in Chicago.

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- **Nov 2018:** “The *Daimon* of Empedocles,” delivered to the SBL Mysticism, Esotericism, Gnosticism” group.
- **Nov 2018:** Oral book review of Charles Stang, *Our Divine Double*, Harvard University Press, 2016, delivered to the SBL Mysticism, Esotericism, Gnosticism” group.
- **Nov 2018:** “Response to the Reviewers of M. David Litwa, ed. *Refutation of All Heresies* (Atlanta: SBL Press, 2016),” delivered to the SBL Nag Hammadi and Gnosticism group.
- **Oct 2019:** “The Father of the Devil: The Early Christian Reception of John 8:44,” delivered to the Biblical and Early Christian Studies Research Seminar, Australian Catholic University
- **Nov 2020:** “How the Gospels Became History: Reflections on a Recent Monograph,” delivered to the SBL Bible, Myth, and Myth Theory Group
- **December 2020:** “Theorizing Alternative ‘Gnostic’ Christianities” delivered to the SBL Redescribing Christian Origins Seminar.