
Curriculum Vitae

ALAN W. GOMES

Phone: (work) 562-903-6000
(fax) 562-903-4759

E-mail: alan.gomes@biola.edu

Talbot School of Theology
Biola University
13800 Biola Ave.
La Mirada, CA 90639

EDUCATION

Institution	Major	Degree	Date
Fuller Theological Seminary	Historical Theology	Ph.D.	1990
Talbot Theological Seminary	Systematic Theology	Th.M.	1984
Talbot Theological Seminary	Systematic Theology	M.Div.	1981
University of California, Santa Barbara	Experimental Psychology	B.A.	1976

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Institution	Position	Dates
Talbot School of Theology/Biola University	Professor, Historical Theology	1987-present (Dept. chair from 1997-2007)
Telion Software	Owner	1984 – 1988
Talbot Theological Seminary	Part-time Faculty; Dept. of Church History.	1983 – 1986

PUBLICATIONS — BOOKS & BOOK CHAPTERS

The Baker Dictionary of Cults, Sects, and World Religions. H. Wayne House, General Editor; James Bjornstad, Alan Gomes, Winifred Corduan, and Irving Hexham, Associate Editors. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011 (forthcoming). In addition to writing 11 articles for this dictionary (see "Dictionary and Encyclopedia Articles, below), I also served as an associate editor for the project. My duties included suggesting topics for the dictionary; lining up and helping assign articles to contributors; and reading and critiquing article submissions.

"The Value of Historical Theology for Apologetics." Chapter in *Reasons for Faith*, Norman L. Geisler and Chad V. Meister, eds. Wheaton: Crossway, 2007.

William Greenough Thayer Shedd, *Dogmatic Theology*. Edited, with historical and theological introduction, glossary, and critical notes by Alan W. Gomes. Philipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishers, 2003. For this edition I wrote an extensive preface to the work, an historical introduction, a theological analysis of the system, critical notes at various places throughout the system, a glossary of technical terminology, and a glossary of key thinkers cited. I also did my own translation of all of the previously untranslated Latin, French, German, Greek, and Hebrew citations in the work. I also added helpful subdivisions to the work.

Zondervan Guide to Cults and Religious Movements (15 volumes). I am the designer and editor of a 15-volume series on the cults, published by Zondervan Publishers. The first eight volumes were released in April of 1995 with the second set of seven released in February of 1998. The series includes contributions from over a dozen of the top cult apologists in the United States. In addition to editing the series, I am author of three volumes: *Unmasking the Cults* (a general introduction to the cults), *Unitarian Universalism*, and *Truth and Error*. The books, sorted alphabetically by author, are enumerated below:

1. Beisner, E. Calvin. *Jesus Only Churches*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
2. Bowman, Robert M., Jr. *Jehovah's Witnesses*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
3. Ehrenborg, Todd. *Mind Sciences*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
4. Gomes, Alan W, author and general editor. *Truth and Error*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
5. Gomes, Alan W., author and general editor. *Unitarian Universalism*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
6. Gomes, Alan W., author and general editor. *Unmasking the Cults*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
7. Hawkins, Craig. *Witchcraft and Neo-Paganism*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.

8. Holley, Terry and Kole, André. *Astrology and Psychic Phenomena*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
9. Mather, George A., and Larry Nichols. *Masonic Lodge*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
10. Passantino, Robert, and Gretchen Passantino. *Satanism*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
11. Rhodes, Ron. *New Age Movement*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
12. Van Gorden, Kurt. *Mormonism*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
13. Yamamoto, J. Isamu. *Buddhism, Taoism and Other Far Eastern Movements*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
14. Yamamoto, J. Isamu. *Hinduism, T.M. and Hare Krishna*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
15. Yamamoto, J. Isamu. *Unification Church*. Edited by Alan W. Gomes. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

"Unitarian Universalism." Chapter in *The Kingdom of the Cults*, Hank Hanegraaff, General Editor. Revised, updated, and expanded anniversary edition. Minneapolis: Bethany, 1997. I wrote the chapter on Unitarian Universalism for the updated and revised version of the classic *Kingdom of the Cults*. My work replaced the original chapter written by the late Dr. Walter Martin.

***Lead Us Not Into Deception (A Biblical Examination of Moral Government Theology)*. La Mirada: Telion, 1986.** Self-published through research grants from Fieldstead and Co. of Irvine, California and L.E.A.R.N. of Yorba Linda, California. This book examines a heterodox theological system called "Moral Government." I was interviewed about the book on John Stewart's "Let's Talk About the Bible" radio program, February 22, 1987, on KBRT radio, a major Christian station in the Los Angeles area.

PUBLICATIONS — JOURNAL ARTICLES

"The Rapture of the Christ: The 'Pre-Ascension Ascension' of Jesus in the Theology of Faustus Socinus (1539-1604)," *Harvard Theological Review* 102:1 (2009) 75-99.

"Faustus Socinus's *A Tract Concerning God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit*: Introduction, Translation, and Contemporary Relevance," *Journal of the International Society of Christian Apologetics* 1:1 (2008) 37-57.

(Rev. Fall '09)

"Some Observations on the Theological Method of Faustus Socinus (1539-1604)," *Westminster Theological Journal* 70 (2008) 49-71.

Review Essay: "Why I am not an Arminian (by Robert A. Peterson and Michael D. Williams) and Why I am not a Calvinist (by Jerry L. Walls and Joseph R. Dongell). *Presbyterion* 32/2 (Fall 2006): 73-82.

"William Greenough Thayer Shedd (1820-1894) on Evangelical Unity: Some Prescriptions – Theoretical and Practical." *Presbyterion* 29/1 (Spring 2003): 9-26.

"What is Openness Theology?" (co-authored with Alan Hultberg). *Sundoulos* (Spring 2002): 8-11.

"Tolerate This! Answering Unitarian Universalist Pluralism." *Michigan Theological Journal* (Winter 1997).

"Unitarian Universalists and the Second Law of Theological Thermodynamics: The Rise of Militant Pluralism." *Trinity Journal* 17NS (1996): 147-166.

"Cult-Proofing Your Church and Your Children." *Sundoulos* (Spring 1996): 3-5.

"Learning from the Past." *Interest* (October 1994): 12-13.

"Winds of Change in the Worldwide Church of God." *Presbyterion* 20/2 (1994): 91-108.

"The Worldwide Church of God: Acknowledging the 'Plain Truth' About the Trinity?" *Christian Research Journal* (Spring/Summer 1994): 29-31, 39-40.

"De Jesu Christo Servatore: Faustus Socinus on the Satisfaction of Christ." *Westminster Theological Journal* 55 (1993): 209-31.

Van Gorden, Kurt and Alan W. Gomes. "Special Report: Worldwide Church of God in Transition." *Christian Research Journal* (Spring 1992): 6, 35.

"Dwarfs on the Shoulders of Giants: The Value of Historical Theology for Today." *Emmaus Journal* 1 (1991): 51-56.

"Evangelicals and the Annihilation of Hell" (in two parts). *Christian Research Journal* Part One (Spring 1991): 15-19; Part Two (Summer 1991): 9-13.

"God in Man's Image: Freedom, Foreknowledge, and the 'Openness' of God." *Christian Research Journal* (Summer 1987): 18-24.

DICTIONARY & ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization. George T. Kurian, editor. Oxford: Blackwell, 2009.

(Rev. Fall '09)

- Atonement, Theories of (3,100 word article)
- Christology, Christological Controversies (3,000 word article)
- Conditional Immortality (1,000 word article)
- Deism (500 word article)
- Socinianism (1,000 word article)

Forthcoming articles (editing completed; awaiting publication) for the *Baker Dictionary of Cults, Sects, and World Religions*. H. Wayne House, General Editor; James Bjornstad, Alan Gomes, Winifred Corduan, and Irving Hexham, Associate Editors. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010 (forthcoming)

- Arianism (815 words)
- Christianity, Protestant (1800 word article)
- Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (185 word article)
- Fellowship of Religious Humanists (115 word article)
- Pelagianism (500 word article)
- Unitarian Universalism (5,800 word article)
- Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship (200 word article)
- Universalism (1,400 word article)

“How Should a Christian Relate to Those in Non-Christian Movements and Religions?” *Apologetics Study Bible*. Ted Cabal, general editor; Chad Brand, E. Ray Clendenen, Paul Copan, and J. P. Moreland, associate editors. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2007.

“Cult” in the *Evangelical Dictionary of Christian Education*, Michael J. Anthony, ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

“**Faustus Socinus and John Calvin on the Merits of Christ.**” Paper presented at the 2009 National Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in New Orleans, LA.

“**Faustus Socinus and John Calvin on the Merits of Christ.**” Paper presented at the 2009 Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Geneva, Switzerland.

“**The Rapture of the Christ: The ‘Pre-Ascension Ascension’ of Jesus in the Theology of Faustus Socinus (1539-1604).**” Paper presented at the 2006 national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Washington, D.C.

“**Some Observations on the Theological Method of Faustus Socinus (1539-1604).**” Paper presented at the 2005 national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Valley Forge, PA.

“**Cults, Heresies, and Heretics: The Importance of Definitions and Their Real World Applications.**” Keynote plenary address for the Evangelical Ministries to New Religions Conference, hosted at Biola University, January 2003.

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“William Greenough Thayer Shedd (1820-1894) on Evangelical Unity: Some Prescriptions – Theoretical and Practical.” Paper presented at the 2001 national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

“Unitarian Universalist Views of the Afterlife.” Paper presented at the 1998 national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Orlando, Florida, November 1998.

“Unitarian Universalists and the Second Law of Theological Thermodynamics.” Paper presented at the November 1995 national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society.

“Winds of Change in the Worldwide Church of God.” Paper presented at the 1993 national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Washington D.C.

“De Jesu Christo Servatore: Faustus Socinus on the Satisfaction of Christ.” Paper presented to the 1989 National Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in San Diego, California.

“Hugo Grotius’ *Defensio fidei catholicae de satisfactione Christi adversus Faustum Socinum: An Interpretive Reappraisal.*” Paper presented to the 1988 Far West Regional Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society.

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

Radio Interview on John Stewart’s “Let’s Talk About the Bible” radio program (KBRT) February 22, 1987. Interview on the John Stewart show concerning Moral Government theology.

Magazine Interview: Maxwell, Joe. “Cult Watchers See Troubling Trends.” *Christian Research Journal (Spring/Summer 1994): 41-42.* I was interviewed by journalist Joe Maxwell for this article. Other well-known cult researchers quoted in the article are Dr. Ronald Enrich, Dr. Michael Langone, Cynthia Kissler, and Eric Pement. The article featured several quotes from me.

Radio Interview on the Jubilee Radio Network, November 29, 1994. Did a 45-minute interview on the Don Matzat Show on the Jubilee Radio Network in St. Louis, comprising 14 stations. The topic was Moral Government theology. Topics included original sin, atonement, God’s foreknowledge, and other issues. I answered questions from the host and took phone calls from listeners.

Radio Interview on KJLY radio (104.5 FM) in Minnesota, January 31, 1995. Did a radio interview on my recently released book, *Unmasking the Cults*.

Radio Interview on Mars Hill Radio, Minneapolis, February 7, 1995. Did a radio interview on my recently released book, *Unmasking the Cults*.

Radio Interview on the Jubilee Radio Network, June 12, 1995. Did a 50-minute interview on the Don Matzat Show on the Jubilee Radio Network in St. Louis. This network covers 14 stations. I was kicking off an 8-program series on the cults, in which the authors in the series that I edited will be

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interviewed. My interview concerned my recently released book, *Unmasking the Cults*. I answered questions from the host and took phone calls from listeners.

Radio Interview on "Vantage Point," WMHK in Columbia, SC, July 27, 1995. Did a 15-minute interview on "Vantage Point" news show hosted by Mr. Bob Holmes. I was asked questions about cults, including questions about mind control, defining cults, etc. WMHK is a 100,000 watt station covering 18 counties.

Radio Interview on "Talk from the Heart," WMUZ in Detroit, September 11, 1995. Did a one hour interview on "Talk from the Heart" in Detroit, hosted by Al Kresta. I was kicking off an 8-program series on the cults, in which the authors in the series I edited will be interviewed. My interview concerned my recently released book, *Unmasking the Cults*. I answered questions from the host and took phone calls from listeners.

Radio Interview on WTLK in Broadway, VA, June 18, 1996. Interviewed by Chris Swortuzel on WTLK in Broadway, VA. He asked questions about my book, *Unmasking the Cults*. We discussed questions such as, "What is a cult?"; "Why do people join cults?"; and "How can we witness to people in the cults?"

Radio Interview on "Live from L.A." with Warren Duffy (Duffy and Company), March 11, 1996. I was interviewed by Warren Duffy in connection with the Unmasking and Evangelizing the Cults conference held at Biola (March 22-23, 1996). He asked questions about the conference, about cults, and had me answer questions from some callers.

Radio Interview on "KKLA Presents," March 16, 1996. Half-hour interview in connection with the Unmasking and Evangelizing the Cults conference held at Biola (March 22-23, 1996).

Newspaper Interview, Whittier Daily News, March 14, 1996. I was interviewed by a reporter from the Whittier Daily News about the cults conference at Biola. In addition to asking me about the details of the conference, he also asked me general questions about cults, such as how we define them and why we are hosting such a conference.

Radio Interview on "Stand to Reason" (Greg Koukl), KBRT Radio, March 17, 1996. I was Greg Koukl's guest on his show, "Stand to Reason." He interviewed me on cults and the cults conference at Biola (Mar. 22-23, 1996).

Radio Interview on "Issues, Etc.," hosted by Don Matzat on KFYO, St. Louis, April 19, 1998. I spoke on Unitarian Universalism, in connection with my recently published book on that subject by Zondervan publishers. This show is heard on 80 stations, including San Francisco, Chicago, and Detroit. This is a call-in show and I did a 50 minute interview.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION (UNPUBLISHED)

Faustus Socinus' *De Jesu Christo Servatore*, Part III: Historical Introduction, Translation and Critical Notes. Pasadena: Fuller Theological Seminary, June 1990. The dissertation comprises an historical introduction to the document; the Latin text with dynamic English translation in parallel columns; and essay-length critical notes which comment on significant issues raised in the document.