

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Cult Theology THEO6306

Tuesday 2:00-4:50 p.m.

Classroom HSC 273

Fall 2020

Professor: Robert B. Stewart

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Seminary Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Course Description

This course primarily involves the study of major new religions and cults in the United States. Attention will be given to the theological and operational characteristics of new religions and cults. The course will give special attention to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Mormons), the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society (Jehovah's Witnesses), and various expressions of New Age spirituality.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

- (1) Understand the history, leadership, doctrines, ethics, and organization of the groups studied through academic study and field observation;
- (2) Understand the significance of these groups for their own members, for Christians, and for the history of religion;
- (3) Demonstrate the ability to enable and equip class members to relate more effectively to members of these groups, for discussion and evangelistic witness; and
- (4) Be able to recognize the new religions which will surely come into expression in the future.

Core Value Focus

The core value focused upon this academic year is Mission Focus.

Required Texts

Profile Notebook – An Evangelical Christian Evaluation of New Religious Movements, Cults, the Occult, and Controversial Doctrines (Digital Edition), by James K. Walker and the Staff of

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The Profile Notebook may be downloaded from www.watchman.org/DigitalNotebook. This link is to a special-price (\$25) edition, which is less than Watchman usually charges for it (\$40). Note Well: We will use the Digital Edition. There are some older paper copies of the Profile Notebook but these are not up to date and are not what students need for this course.

Suggested Texts

Abanes, Richard. *One Nation Under Gods: A History of the Mormon Church*. New York: Basic, 2003.

Albrecht, Mark. *Reincarnation: A Christian Appraisal*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1982.

Bjornstad, James. *The Moon Is Not the Son: A Close Look at the Teachings of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and the Unification Church*. Minneapolis, MN: Dimension Books, 1976.

Bowman, Robert M., Jr. *Jehovah's Witnesses, Jesus Christ, and the Gospel of John*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989.

———. *The Word-Faith Controversy: Understanding the Health and Wealth Gospel*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2000.

———. *Understanding Jehovah's Witnesses: Why They Read the Bible the Way They Do*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992.

———. *Why You Should Believe in the Trinity: An Answer to Jehovah's Witnesses*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1990.

Brown, Harold O. J. *The Image of Christ in the Mirror of Heresy and Orthodoxy from the Apostles to the Present*.

Elkins, Chris. *Heavenly Deception*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1980.

Finnerty, Robert U. *Jehovah's Witnesses on Trial: The Testimony of the Early Church Fathers*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Publishing, 1993.

Groothuis, Douglas. *Revealing the New Age Jesus: Challenges to Orthodox Views of Christ*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1990.

Hanegraff, Hank. *Christianity in Crisis*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1993.

Hutchinson, Janis. *Out of the Cults and Into the Church: Understanding and Encouraging Ex-Cultists*.

Klimo, Jon. *Channeling: Investigations on Receiving Information from Paranormal Sources*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1987.

Magnani, Duane. *The Watchtower Files: Dialogue with a Jehovah's Witness*. Minneapolis: Bethany, 1985.

McConnell, D. R. *A Different Gospel: A Historical and Biblical Analysis of the Modern Faith Movement*.

- McKeever, Bill and Eric Johnson. *Mormonism 101: Examining the Religion of the Latter-day Saints*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2000.
- Noll, Richard. *The Jung Cult: Origins of a Charismatic Movement*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994.
- Reed, David. *Answering Jehovah's Witnesses Subject by Subject*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.
- . *Jehovah's Witnesses Answered Verse by Verse*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1987.
- Ropp, Harry L. *Are the Mormon Scriptures Reliable?* Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1987.
- Sire, James W. *Scripture Twisting: Twenty Ways the Cults Misread the Bible*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1980.
- Southerton, Simon G. *Losing a Lost Tribe: Native Americans, DNA, and the Mormon Church*. Salt Lake City, Signature, 2004.
- Tkach, Joseph, Jr., *Transformed by Truth*. Sister, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 1997.
- White, James R. *Letters to a Mormon Elder: Eye-Opening Information for Mormons and the Christians Who Talk with Them*. Minneapolis: Bethany, 1993.
- White, O. Kendall, Jr., *Mormon Neo-Orthodoxy: A Crisis Theology*. Salt Lake City, Utah: Signature, 1987.

Class Policies

Absences may not exceed three class days if the student is to receive credit for the course, according to the NOBTS catalog. The fourth absence will result in failure of the course.

Exams will be a combination of a take-home essay and objective questions. Exams will be given online. Only in extreme cases will students be allowed to take a make-up exam after the exam period has closed. The instructor has the final decision what constitutes an extreme case when exams are not taken in a timely manner. The student who misses the exam bears the responsibility for explaining the absence and arranging for a make-up exam within two-weeks of the exam period.

Take-Home Exam Questions should be answered as thoroughly as possible in 2-3 single-spaced typed pages. The take-home portion will be roughly 50% of the grade for each exam.

Exams will test both mastery of content (significant thinkers and their contributions, summaries of apologetic methods, philosophical vocabulary, etc.) and critical thinking skills (the ability to articulate and defend a position in an essay). *If a review sheet is given—and one may not be--it does not mean that only the material on the review sheet will be covered or that all the material on the review sheet will be covered. Review sheets are simply aids to preparation, not restrictions upon the professor.*

Late Work will be penalized 5 points per office day.

Quizzes will cover the class lectures. The form of the quizzes will be objective. Quizzes will be online.

Book Review. Each student is required to review a book related to the study of cults. It needs to be a book listed by the instructor as suggested texts. The review should include: (1) some biographical

data concerning the author; (2) an identification of the major elements of content; (3) an assessment of the author's aim or purpose and of the degree of its fulfillment; and (4) a critical evaluation of the book. The review should follow Turabian form. **Late work will be penalized 5 points per office day!**

Field Project. Students must complete a field project. Each field project should consist of either (1) attending a public worship service of a new religion or theological cult, presumably but not necessarily in the New Orleans area; OR (2) interviewing the local leader/minister of one of the groups to be studied, or an active, loyal, participating member of the group; hopefully the interview will lead to a witnessing encounter with a member of a group studied. (A witnessing encounter is defined as a dialogue which leads to the student sharing the Gospel, not simply a dialogue on theological differences or a debate as to which position is correct.) **The student is required to prepare and submit a written report and analysis of the visit or interview.** The report-analysis should be both a narrative of what occurred during the service/interview **AND** an analysis of the beliefs and practices in comparison with the readings and the class lectures. The report portion of the interview need not be a verbatim record but should identify and interpret all the substantive questions and answers set forth during the interview in light of the readings and the class lectures. The analysis portion should address what sort of language problems, group behavioral characteristics, or theological differences are observable during the visit or interview. The report should be between 5-10 double-spaced pages in length. **Late work will be penalized 5 points per office day!**

Research Paper. In lieu of the final exam students may choose to submit a research paper on a topic related to Christian Apologetics, e.g., science and faith, a non-Christian religion, atheism, argument(s) for the existence of God, the problem of evil, the reliability of Scripture, and/or miracles, the resurrection of Jesus Christ, etc. The paper should be not less than 2,500 words nor more than 3,500 words in length (double spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font). The word count does not include footnotes but footnotes may not exceed 500 words. Papers must adhere to the Turabian style guide. **Late work will be penalized 5 points per office day!**

Reading Inventory. Each student is expected to keep an accurate record of all reading, both required and optional, done for this course. Failure to read all of the assigned readings will negatively impact your final grade. Additional reading may impact your final grade positively. Reading inventories must be written, but there is no required form—just make sure all pertinent information is included. **Reading inventories should be submitted with the final assignment.**

Grades will be assigned on the basis of the NOBTS grading scale.

- A: 93 - 100
- B: 85 - 92
- C: 77 – 84
- D: 70 – 76
- F: below 70

The final grade will be determined accordingly:

Required Reading	10%
Quizzes over Lectures	10%

Book Review	15%
Field Project	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
<u>Final Exam or Research Paper</u>	<u>25%</u>
Final Grade	100%

Extra Credit may be earned as listed below. All extra credit will be added to the final grade.

(1) **Additional Reading**. Consideration for extra credit will be given for significant reading over and above the class assignments within the field. Consideration will be given not only to the amount, but also to the quality, of the material read. Students must read all of the assigned readings in order to be eligible to earn extra credit for additional reading.

(2) **Book Reviews** may be done for extra credit. The review must be of a book listed by the instructor for reading reviews unless the instructor has approved another book. The review should include: (1) some biographical data concerning the author; (2) an identification of the major elements of content; (3) an assessment of the author's aim or purpose and of the degree of its fulfillment; and (4) a critical evaluation of the book *which includes some documented research on the general topic*. The reviews should follow Turabian form. Book reviews should be no less than 4 pages and no more than 7 double-spaced pages.

Reading Schedule

- Week 1 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, RLDS, Acupuncture, Assemblies of Yahweh
- Week 2 Astrology, Aum Shinrikyo, Boston Church of Christ, Branhamism/William Branham
- Week 3 Brethren/The Jim Roberts Group, Channelling, Chen Tao, Children of God/Family
- Week 4 Deepak Chopra, Christian Identity, Christian Science, Church Universal and Triumphant
- Week 5 Concerned Christians, Course in Miracles, Goddess Worship, Halloween
- Week 6 Heaven's Gate, Holyland/Reach, Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity
- Week 7 House of Yahweh, Jean Houston, Hypnosis, ISKON, Nation of Islam, New Age Movement
- Week 8 Nicheren Shoshu/Soka Gakkai, Oneness Pentecostalism, Order of the Solar Temple, Philadelphia Church of God
- Week 9 Psychics, Pyramidology and Pyramid Power, Raelians, Rastafarianism
- Week 10 Seventh-Day Adventism, Share International, Bahai Faith, Shepherd's Chapel,

Spiritual Abuse, Swedenborgianism

Week 11 Theosophy, Therapeutic Touch, Transcendental Meditation, True and Living Church of Jesus Christ in the Last Days, Twelve Tribes, Unity School of Christianity

Week 12 The URANTIA Book, Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, The Way International, Witchcraft or WICCA, Word-Faith, Worldwide Church of God

Tentative Lecture Schedule			
CLASS	DATE	TENTATIVE CLASS DISCUSSION TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS
1	8/25	Introduction to Cult Theology, Why Study Cult Theology?, Patterns in the Cults	
2	9/1	Why Cults?, LDS History	
3	9/8	LDS History (Continued)	
4	9/15	Law of Eternal Progression, LDS Theology and Rebuttal	
5	9/22	Testing the Mormon Prophets Witnessing to Mormons	
6	9/29	Watchtower History and Theology	
7	10/6	Watchtower Theology and Refutation	
8	10/13	Jehovah's Witnesses & the Dating Game Changing Doctrines of the Watchtower	Book Review Due
	10/19-23	FALL BREAK	
9	10/27	New Age: What It Is, Where It Comes From A Critical Evaluation of Reincarnation	
10	11/3	Mind Science Cults Word-Faith Theology	Midterm Exam
11	11/10	Scientology Unification Church	
12	11/17	Bahai Nation of Islam	Field Project Due
	11/23-27	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
13	12/1	Armstrongism Family of Love	
14	12/8	Miscellaneous	
16	12/15	Final Exam or Research Paper Due	Reading Report Due

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

General Works on the Cults

- Brown, Harold O. J. *The Image of Christ in the Mirror of Heresy and Orthodoxy from the Apostles to the Present*. New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1984. An excellent general work on heresy—not specifically a *cult* book.
- Hoekema, Anthony A. *The Four Major Cults*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1963. Offers very good treatments of Latter-day Saints and Watchtower theology. Two other groups, Christian Science and Seventh Day Adventism, are also treated. One, Adventism, is not treated as a cult in this course. The other is no longer a major cult, and thus only touched on in the treatment of the Unity School of Christianity.
- House, H. Wayne. *Charts of Cults, Sects, and Religious Movements*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000. A very useful book not only of charts, but charts with brief explanations of terms and beliefs on a number of cults.
- Hutchinson, Janis. *Out of the Cults and Into the Church: Understanding and Encouraging Ex-Cultists*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1994. An excellent author, who herself came out of the LDS church, that will be of interest to those who wish to understand cults from a practical and psychological basis.
- Martin, Walter. *The Kingdom of the Cults*. Minneapolis: Bethany, 1985.
- Martin, Walter (edited by Ravi Zacharias). *The Kingdom of the Cults*. Minneapolis: Bethany, 2003. A revision and updating of the original.
- Sire, James W. *Scripture Twisting: Twenty Ways the Cults Misread the Bible*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1980. A good general introduction to evangelical hermeneutics. Sire uses examples of hermeneutical mistakes from the cults to show how one ought (or ought not) to read the Bible.
- Tucker, Ruth A. *Another Gospel: Alternative Religions and the New Age Movement*. Grand Rapids: Academie Books, 1989.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons)

- Abanes, Richard. *One Nation Under Gods: A History of the Mormon Church*. New York: Basic, 2003.
- Branch, Rick. "Pre-Visions, Visions and Revisions: The Historical Context of Joseph Smith's First Vision." A Paper Presented at The Christian Institute for Mormon Studies, June 9, 1994. A good paper that presents the social climate out of which Mormonism grew.

- . "The Influence of Utopian Societies on Joseph Smith, Jr.: A Preliminary Report." Arlington, TX.: Watchman Fellowship, 1992. A good paper that presents a further picture of the social climate out of which Mormonism grew.
- Brodie, Fawn. *No Man Knows My History: The Life of Joseph Smith, the Mormon Prophet*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1945. A classic book on the founder of Mormonism by a Mormon. Brodie was excommunicated after writing it.
- Crosby, Jay. *Well . . . Are Mormons Christians?: Answering LDS Scholar Stephen E. Robinson*. Marlow, OK.: Utah Missions, Inc. An evangelical response to a book by a Mormon professor that argues that Mormonism is Christian.
- Davis, Tal and Gary H. Leazer. *Light on the Latter-day Saints: Interfaith Witness Associate's Manual*. Atlanta: Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1991. A very worthwhile collection of data concerning LDS theology.
- Geer, Thelma. *Mormonism, Mama, and Me*. Chicago: Moody, 1986. A classic by an ex-Mormon.
- Hutchinson, Janis. *The Mormon Missionaries: An Inside Look at Their Real Message and Methods*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1995. An excellent book by a former Mormon that details the Mormon missionary presentation and how LDS evangelism (proselytization) works.
- Larson, Charles M. *By His Own Hand upon Papyrus: A New Look at the Joseph Smith Papyri*. Revised Edition. Grand Rapids: Institute for Religious Research, 1992. A thorough rejection of Mormon claims for the authenticity of the Book of Abraham.
- Marquardt, Michael H. and Wesley P. Walters. *Inventing Mormonism: Tradition and the Historical Record*. Salt Lake City: Signature, 1994.
- McKeever, Bill. *Answering Mormons' Questions: Biblical Explanations to Mormon Misinterpretations*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2012. A good and practical book that offers legitimate responses to trick questions that Mormons commonly use in dialogue with Christians.
- McKeever, Bill and Eric Johnson. *Mormonism 101: Examining the Religion of the Latter-day Saints*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2000. Up to date treatment of Mormonism, topic-by-topic and doctrine-by-doctrine.
- . *Questions to Ask Your Mormon Friend: Challenging the Claims of Latter-day Saints in a Constructive Manner*. Minneapolis: Bethany, 1994. A very good and useful book for dialoguing with Mormons.
- Miller, Corey and Lynn K. Wilder, *Leaving Mormonism: Why Four Scholars Changed Their Minds*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2017.

- Ostling, Richard N. and Joan K. Ostling. *Mormon America: The Power and the Promise*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1999. Widely regarded as a monumental book on the nature of Mormon culture and church growth.
- Palmer, Grant. *An Insider's View of Mormon Origins*. Salt Lake City: Signature, 2002.
- Quinn, D. Michael. *Early Mormonism and the Magic World View*. Salt Lake City: Signature, 1987. A very scholarly treatment by an excommunicated Mormon professor (former chair of the history department at BYU, Ph.D. from Yale) on the social climate out of which Mormonism grew.
- Reed, David A. and John R. Farkas. *Mormons Answered Verse by Verse*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992.
- Rhodes, Ron and Marian Bodine. *Reasoning from the Scriptures with the Mormons*. Eugene: Harvest House, 1995. A book that does what the title implies.
- Roberts, B. H. *The Mormon Doctrine of Deity*. Utah: Zion Book Store, 1903. A book by a former LDS Church Historian on the LDS doctrine of God.
- Robinson, Stephen E. *Are Mormons Christian?* Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1991. An apologetic by a Mormon scholar that is woefully lacking in truthful or relevant documentation, but is nonetheless a very popular book among Mormons and one worth reading by those who work with or among Mormons.
- Ropp, Harry L. *Are the Mormon Scriptures Reliable?* Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1987. A classic (formerly titled The Mormon Papers) that goes to the heart of the issue and provides very useful information for witnessing to Mormons.
- Scott, Latayne C. *The Mormon Mirage: A Former Mormon Tells Why She Left the Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1979. An excellent and very readable treatment by a former Mormon concerning the inherent problems of Mormon theology and church life.
- . *Why We Left Mormonism: Eight People Tell Their Stories*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1990. Very readable. Brief testimonies that provide insight into Mormonism and some of the things that bother honest Mormons.
- Shields, Steven L. *Divergent Paths of Restoration*, 2d ed. Bountiful, Utah: Restoration Research, 1982. An excellent treatment of the fracturing of Joseph Smith Jr.'s sect.
- Southerton, Simon G. *Losing a Lost Tribe: Native Americans, DNA, and the Mormon Church*. Salt Lake City, Signature, 2004. A former-LDS plant biologist writes of how DNA evidence led him away from Mormonism.
- Stewart, Robert B. "Is Mormonism Christian: An Evangelical Critique of LDS Scholar Stephen E. Robinson's Arguments for Recognizing Mormonism as Christian" in *Journal of Christian Apologetics* Vol. 1, no. 2 (Winter 1997): 15-33.

Tanner, Jerald and Sandra. *3,913 Changes in the Book of Mormon*. Salt Lake City: Utah Lighthouse Ministry, n.d.

———. *Mormonism—Shadow or Reality*, 4th ed. Salt Lake City: Utah Lighthouse Ministry, 1982. The classic work on Mormonism. A must for anybody who intends to work with or among Mormons. The format is encyclopedic in form. The most information in any single book on Mormonism anywhere, ever!

Walker, James K. "The Developmental Nature of Mormon Christology." Arlington, TX.: Watchman Fellowship, 1991. A paper originally presented as an assignment at Criswell College by the director of Watchman Fellowship in Arlington.

White, James R. *Letters to a Mormon Elder: Eye-Opening Information for Mormons and the Christians Who Talk with Them*. Minneapolis: Bethany, 1993. A useful book that asks hard questions for Mormons.

White, O. Kendall, Jr., *Mormon Neo-Orthodoxy: A Crisis Theology*. Salt Lake City, Utah: Signature Books, 1987. A brave and unique attempt by one Mormon to redefine Mormonism. Ultimately, however, it is a kinder, gentler Mormonism that emerges, not Neo-Orthodoxy, and certainly not orthodox Christianity.

The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society (Jehovah's Witnesses)

Barrett, Arthur and Duane Magnani. *From Kingdom Hall to Kingdom Come*. Clayton, CA.: Witness, Inc., 1982.

Bowman, Robert M., Jr. *Jehovah's Witnesses, Jesus Christ, and the Gospel of John*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989. An excellent book that provides a good, readable, not overly technical, but not superficial or shallow discussion of the New World Translation.

———. *Understanding Jehovah's Witnesses: Why They Read the Bible the Way They Do*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1992. Insights into the background of the Watchtower Society and why its followers think the way they do.

———. *Why You Should Believe in the Trinity: An Answer to Jehovah's Witnesses*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1990. Written as a refutation of the Watchtower Society's popular booklet "Should You Believe in the Trinity?"

Cetnar, Bill and Joan. *Questions for Jehovah's Witnesses Who Love the Truth*. Kunkletown, PA.: William J. Cetnar, 1983. A useful paperback filled with photocopies of embarrassing facts compiled by former Watchtower members.

Countess, Robert H. *The Jehovah's Witnesses' New Testament: A Critical Analysis of the New World Translation of the Christian Greek Scriptures*, 2nd. Ed. Phillipsburg, NJ:

Presbyterian and Reformed, 1982. A scholarly analysis of the New World Translation by a first rate linguist. Knowledge of biblical languages is required of the reader.

Finnerty, Robert U. *Jehovah's Witnesses on Trial: The Testimony of the Early Church Fathers*. Phillipsburg, N. J.: P & R Publishing, 1993. An interesting book that deals with the (mis)use and abuse of Patristic theology by the Watchtower Society.

Franz, Raymond. *Crisis of Conscience*. Atlanta: Commentary Press, 1983. Written by the nephew of former Watchtower president and chief translator of the New World Translation, this book provides an insider's view to the behind the scenes machinations going on in Brooklyn. It is, however, somewhat laborious reading.

Leazer, Gary H. *Jehovah's Witnesses: Interfaith Witness Associate's Manual*. Atlanta: Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1984. A manual for use in studying Watchtower theology.

Magnani, Duane. *The Watchtower Files: Dialogue with a Jehovah's Witness*. Minneapolis: Bethany, 1985. A very useful book for those dealing with Jehovah's Witnesses. *This is the book that the professor recommends to people if he can only recommend one book on the Watchtower Society.*

Metzger, Bruce. *Jehovah's Witnesses and Jesus Christ*. Princeton, N. J.: The Theological Theological Book Agency, 1953. An excellent article, by the world's foremost Greek scholar (editor of the NRSV), originally in the Princeton Seminary Journal, that deals with the New World Translation concerning the person of Jesus Christ.

Reed, David A. *Answering Jehovah's Witnesses Subject by Subject*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996. A collection of alphabetically arranged articles dealing with various topics of concern for those dealing with Jehovah's Witnesses.

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New Age Spirituality

Abanes, Richard. *Embraced by the Light and the Bible: Betty Eadie and Near-Death Experiences in the Light of Scripture*. Camp Hill, PA: Horizon Books, 1994.

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Andrews, Ted. *How to Uncover Your Past Lives*. St. Paul, MN: Llewellyn Publications, 1994. A typical brief NAM book directed to NAM beginners.

- Capra, Fritjof. *The Tao of Physics: An Exploration of the Parallels Between Modern Physics and Eastern Mysticism*. Berkely: Shambhala, 1975. A classic New Age work attempting to relate physics and Eastern Pantheistic religions to one another.
- . *The Turning Point: Science, Society and the Rising Culture*. London: Flamingo, 1983.
- Chandler, Russell. *Understanding the New Age*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1988.
- Chopra, Deepak. *Ageless Body, Timeless Mind: The Quantum Alternative to Growing Old*. New York: Harmony Books, 1993. Rapidly becoming a New Age standard thanks to Chopra's frequent appearances on PBS and CNBC. Basic Hinduism taught by an Indian with an Ivy league M.D. degree.
- . *The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success: A Practical Guide to the Fulfillment of Your Dreams*. San Rafael, CA: New World Library, 1994.
- Ferguson, Marilyn. *The Aquarian Conspiracy: Personal and Social Transformation in the 1980s*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1980. A classic New Age primer. Well written by a leading and influential New Age author.
- Gray, William D. *Thinking Critically about New Age Ideas*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 1991. A very interesting book that lays out and refutes New Age ideas at the same time that it teaches the basics of logic and philosophical thought. This book is strongly recommended for those wishing to pursue doctoral work in philosophy or with an interest in formal logic.
- Groothuis, Douglas. *Confronting the New Age: How to Resist a Growing Religious Movement*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1988.
- . *Revealing the New Age Jesus: Challenges to Orthodox Views of Christ*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1990.
- . *Unmasking the New Age*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986.
- Hanegraff, Hank. *Christianity in Crisis*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1993. A thorough expose of the cultic (New Age/Gnostic) characteristics of the Health and Wealth Gospel, written by Walter Martin's successor.
- House, H. Wayne and Richard Abanes. *The Less Traveled Road and the Bible: A Scriptural Critique of the Philosophy of M. Scott Peck*. Camp Hill, PA: Horizon Books, 1995. This book uncovers the Jungian background behind the New Age (often confused as Christian) philosophy of M. Scott Peck.
- Jones, Peter. *The Gnostic Empire Strikes Back: An Old Heresy for the New Age*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1992.
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Noll, Richard. *The Jung Cult: Origins of a Charismatic Movement*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994. An excellent, but difficult book on the societal structure and personal background of one of the primary influences behind the more intellectual aspects of the New Age Movement. A fair knowledge of European history, philosophical history, and German is nearly required for readers of this book. In essence it is *The Quest of the Historical Jung*.

Unity School of Christianity (and Word-Faith Theology)

Bach, Marcus. *The Unity Way of Life*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 1962.

Bowman, Robert M., Jr. *The Word-Faith Controversy: Understanding the Health and Wealth Gospel*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2000.

Braden, Charles S. *Spirits in Rebellion*. Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, 1963.

Cady, Harriette Emilie. *How I Used Truth: Formerly "Miscellaneous Writings."* Rev. ed. Kansas City, MO: Unity School of Christianity, 1943.

———. *Lessons in Truth: A Course of Twelve Lessons in Practical Christianity*. Lee's Summit, MO: Unity Books, 1966.

Fillmore, Charles. *Atom-Smashing Power of the Mind*. Lees's Summit, MO: Unity School of Christianity, 1949.

———. *The Twelve Powers of Man*. Unity Village, MO: Unity School of Christianity, 1930.

Hanegraff, Hank. *Christianity in Crisis*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1993. A thorough expose of the cultic (New Age/Gnostic) characteristics of the Health and Wealth Gospel, written by Walter Martin's successor.

McConnell, D. R. *A Different Gospel: A Historical and Biblical Analysis of the Modern Faith Movement*. Peabody, MS: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1988. One of the best books on the Health and Wealth gospel, written by a former ORU professor. Available in an updated and revised edition.

Armstrongism (Worldwide Church of God)

Anderson, Stanley Edwin. *Armstrongism's 300 Errors Exposed by 1300 Bible Verses*. Nashville, TN: Church Growth Publications, 1973.

- Armstrong, Herbert W. *The Plain Truth about Easter*. Pasadena, CA: Worldwide Church of God, 1958.
- . *The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy*. Pasadena, CA: Ambassador College Press, n.d.
- . *What Kind of Faith is Required for Salvation?* Pasadena, CA: Ambassador College Press, 1952.
- . *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?* Pasadena, CA: Worldwide Church of God, 1976.
- Benware, Paul N. *Ambassadors of Armstrongism: An Analysis of the History and Teachings of the World-wide Church of God*. Nutley, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing, Co., 1975.
- Chambers, Roger E. *The Plain Truth about Armstrongism*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1972.
- DeLoach, Charles F. *The Armstrong Error: The Plain Truth on Herbert W. Armstrong*. Plainfield, NJ: Logos International, 1971.
- Tkach, Joseph, Jr., *Transformed by Truth* (Sister, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 1997). The inside story, written by the Secretary General of the Worldwide Church of God, of how the WCG went from cult to orthodoxy.

Unification Church

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