

# Thomas W. Baker

## Education

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Ph.D in Philosophy of Religion (ABD), Southern Evangelical Seminary; estimated graduation: May 2017; *Language Competency*: Latin.  
M.A in Apologetics with a Concentration in Biblical Languages (*summa cum laude*), Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2007; *Language Concentrations*: Greek and Hebrew.  
B.S. in Information Systems, San Diego State University, 1993.

## Research Languages

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Greek, Hebrew, and Latin.

## Conferences

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"Arguments for God from Natural Theology." National Conference on Christian Apologetics. Southern Evangelical Seminary, October 2015-2016.

## Published Works

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### Television

"The Second Coming of Christ." Giving and Answer. [www.givingananswer.org](http://www.givingananswer.org). Time Warner Cable Channel, 21. Also available on YouTube.com. 2013.  
"Understanding the Problem of Evil." Giving and Answer. [www.givingananswer.org](http://www.givingananswer.org). Time Warner Cable Channel, 21. Also available on YouTube.com. 2004.

### Journals

"An Introductory Taxonomy of Aquinas' Powers of the Soul - Part 1." *Christian Apologetics Journal* 13, no. 1 (Spring 2015): 107-134.  
"An Introductory Taxonomy of Aquinas Powers of the Soul - Part 2." *Christian Apologetics Journal* 13, no. 2 (Fall 2016): 71-95.

### Academia.edu

"Synthesis Paper for Galatians 3:1-9: An Exegetical Commentary from the Greek." *Academia.edu*. <http://ses.academia.edu/ThomasBaker>.  
"A Thomistic Look at the Trinity with Concentration on the Kinds of Distinctions and Relations Among the Divine Persons in Light of Simplicity." *Academia.edu*. <http://ses.academia.edu/ThomasBaker>.

### Curriculum

"Christian Foundations." Carmel Baptist Church, 2011.  
Two Year Discipleship Curriculum in Apologetics, Theology, and Moral Instruction. Carmel Baptist, 2012.

## Unpublished Works

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### Doctoral Term Papers

- "Causation in Hylomorphism." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2015.
- "Making Teleological Sense of History: A Thomistic Correction to Hegel's Philosophy of History." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2015.
- "The Synoptic Problem, History, Development, and Arguments." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2014.
- "Is Ipsissima Vox an Inerrancy Issue?" Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2014.
- "Divine Causality and Evil." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2014.
- "Evil Intentions." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2014.
- "A Defense of Divine Causality for Creation Against the Humean Atheists." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2014.
- "An Introductory Taxonomy of Aquinas's Powers of the Soul." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2013.
- "Formal and Final Causality of Objects in Scientific Investigation." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2013.
- "Bastiaan Cornelis van Fraassen's Philosophy of Science." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2013.
- "The Metaphysical Failures of Vedānta Hinduism." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2013.
- "Presuppositions of Presuppositional Apologetics." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2013.
- "Love in Divine Action." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2012.
- "Theological Noetics: Understanding Participation in Aquinas's View of Knowledge." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2012.

### Master's Term Papers

- "Synthesis Paper for Galatians 3:1-9: An Exegetical Commentary from the Greek." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2007.
- "Critical Analysis of Klein, Blomberg, and Hubbard's Interpreter." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2007.
- "Prayer and Worship in the Book of Revelation." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2006.
- "The Occasion of 1 and 2 Thessalonians As It Relates to Its Eschatological Content." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2006.
- "1 John and the Upper Room Discourse." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2006.
- "The Argument, Theme, Purpose, and Application of 1 Timothy." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2006.
- "How Does an Epistle Work?" Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2006.
- "An Exposition of Surah 57 – The Iron – Al-Hadeed." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2006.
- "The Jesus of Islam Compared with the Jesus of Christianity." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2006.
- "Prayer in the Book of Acts." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "A Look at the Motive, Placement, and Timing of John 14:1-4 As It Relates to the Comforting of Jesus' Disciples." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "The Parable of the Minas." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "Women as Disciples in the Gospel of Mark." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "The Kingdom of Heaven in the Gospel of Matthew." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.

- "The Synoptic Problem: Defending the Evangelical Position." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "Euthanasia." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "Synthesis Paper for Ephesians 5:7-14: An Exegetical Commentary from the Greek." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "Word Study of φῶς." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "Textual Criticism of Ephesians 1:14." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2005.
- "Lordship Salvation Debate." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2003.
- "A Thomistic Look at the Trinity with Concentration on the Kinds of Distinctions and Relations Among the Divine Persons in Light of Simplicity." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2003.
- "A Defense of the Trinity Against the Jehovah Witnesses." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2002.
- "Theology Proper Curriculum." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2002.
- "The Critical Method." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2001.
- "The Problem of Evil." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2001.
- "First Principles of Thought." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2001.
- "Integrative Outline of Historical Theology." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2001.

### **Book Reviews**

- "Book Review of James Madden's Mind Matter & Nature." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2015.
- "Book Review of Garry Friesen and Robin Maxson's Decision Making and the Will of God." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2015.
- "Book Review of Terrance Tiesen's Providence & Prayer." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2015.
- "Book Review of Reginald Garrigou-LaGrange's Providence." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2015.
- "Book Review of David Oderberg's Real Essentialism." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2015.
- "Book Review of William Wallace's The Modeling of Nature." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2015.
- "Book Review of Joseph Fitzmyer's The Interpretation of Scripture: In Defense of the Historical-Critical Method." Southern Evangelical Seminary, 2014.

## **Ministry Experience**

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**Associate Professor of Theology and Apologetics at Veritas Evangelical Seminary.**  
<http://www.ves.edu/>. (2015-)

My role and charter is to teach graduate level courses in systematic theology and apologetics.

**Carmel Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, 2011-2014 (3 yrs.).**

I had the privilege to serve as a Sunday School Teacher to a large and active class (110 members). I developed a discipleship curriculum to teach theology, apologetics, and moral instruction (what we believe, why we believe it, and how to live it). Activities included: teaching every Sunday, home and hospital visitations as needed, evangelical and service

outreaches, and overseeing all administration with my wife Mary Ann, which included 10 ministry leaders of our class. Ministry activities of the class included: meals ministry, card ministry, FEAST (Friends Eating And Fellowshiping Together) for fostering fellowship, prayer ministry, and mission outreaches through Jackson Park Ministries.

In addition, I served as a Grow Class Instructor teaching mid-week studies. In this capacity, I co-taught apologetics alongside Dr. Norman Geisler. I also taught other mid-week classes on the Problem of Evil, Ethics, Eschatology, Doctrine of Hell, Theology Proper, and General Apologetics.

**Calvary Church, Charlotte, NC, 2008-2010.**

Sunday School Teacher and Evangelical Training Association Teacher. During this time, I was an assistant Sunday school teacher with the education pastor of the Church. I also taught mid-week studies on apologetics, worldviews, and theology.

**Southern Evangelical Church, Charlotte, NC, 2003-2007.**

I held various positions within the church during this period. These positions and activities included: Assistant Youth Pastor, Sound Ministry Lead, Sunday School Class Instructor, and Lay Institute Instructor.

**Horizon Christian Fellowship, San Diego, CA, 1996-1998.**

During this time, I served in the New Believers ministry as a teacher and group leader with my wife Mary Ann.

## **Areas of Strengths**

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**Systematic Theology:**

This is one of my core areas of strength. I currently collect systematic theologies and now have over thirty. I like comparing systematic theologies from different authors to explore their philosophical presuppositions and prior commitments.

**Philosophy of Religion / Philosophical Theology:**

Philosophy is the handmaiden to theology and most of my time in the Ph.D program at SES has been spent researching and writing in this area.

**Thomistic Philosophy:**

The philosophy of Thomas Aquinas is at the heart of the philosophical rigor at SES. I have read and written on many areas of Thomistic philosophy and feel very comfortable speaking on his philosophy.

**Apologetics:**

After studying under Dr. Norman Geisler and the faculty at SES, I am very comfortable speaking on any area of apologetics. My philosophical work in the Ph.D program has further strengthened my apologetics to defend the faith and remove obstacles to the truth.

**Biblical Languages:**

For the Master's degree, I completed all of the Hebrew and Greek classes at SES and was blessed to be able to graduate at the top of my class. In addition, I have produced my own translation of the book of Ephesians, and two exegetical commentaries from the Greek on Galatians 3:1-9 and Ephesians 5:7-14.

**Professional Experience**

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I currently serve as a Principal Software Architect in a Fortune 500 company. I design large enterprise information management software, mobile software, and websites.

***Specialties***

C#, C/C++, Java, Visual Basic, .NET, Android, Win32, MFC, ATL, ASP.NET/Classic ASP, Web Services, AJAX, ExtJS, jQuery, AngularJS, ADO.NET, WCF, WPF, Silverlight, REST, WWF, SharePoint, .NET Remoting, HTML/XHTML, JavaScript, JQuery, CSS, SQL Server, Oracle, TSQL, PL/SQL, DCOM/COM/COM+, WMI, ISAPI, SQL-DMO, ADO, STL.

**Personal Activities**

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I enjoy spending time with my wife and best friend, Mary Ann. As of June 2016, we have been married 20 years and I love married and family life. In addition, I am currently enjoying the process of learning to play the guitar and often dabble a bit in pencil drawings.