

Theology & Culture

Dr. Randal Rauser

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Thursday 1 October – 7:30 pm

Why did Missy Die? God, Evil & *The Shack*

How can God be perfectly loving and absolutely powerful, and yet allow the innumerable horrors that occur every day? This age-old question lies at the heart of William Paul Young's bestselling novel *The Shack* which confronts the horrific abduction and murder of a six year old girl with an honesty and directness rarely seen in Christian literature. In this lecture we will explore *The Shack's* richly textured treatment of the intellectual and existential dimensions of the problem of evil.

Thursday 22 October – 7:30 pm

The Religious Evolution of Charles Darwin: A Christian Perspective

It has been 150 years since the publication of Charles Darwin's magnum opus, *The Origin of the Species*. While Darwin is known for his theory of biological evolution, not much is ever said about his own religious life. Was Charles Darwin an atheist? A Christian? Or an agnostic? In his best-seller *The Blind Watchmaker*, Richard Dawkins proclaims that "Darwin made it possible to be an intellectually fulfilled atheist." This presentation reviews passages from Darwin's letters and books, and even defends the provocative thesis that Darwin made it possible, for the presenter, to be an intellectually fulfilled theist.

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Dr. Denis O. Lamoureux

(PhD, University of Alberta;
PhD, University of St. Michael's College)
Associate Professor of Science & Religion
St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB

Dr. James Payton, Jr.

(PhD, University of Waterloo)
Professor of History
Redeemer University College
Hamilton, Ontario



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Monday 2 November – 7:30 pm

John Calvin: Champion of Prayer

The year 2009 marks the 500th anniversary of the birth of John Calvin, the great religious reformer. Most past studies of Calvin have been preoccupied with identifying a core doctrine around which he structured his thought, namely predestination. In contrast, this presentation will reflect on the reality that Calvin devotes more attention in his *Institutes* to prayer than predestination. This will lead us to focus on Calvin's overriding concern, to enable his hearers and readers to draw near to God. This lecture is part of the ARIHE Lectureship on the Occasion of the 500th Anniversary of the Birth of John Calvin and is sponsored by the Association of Reformed Institutions of Higher Education (ARIHE).

All lectures are FREE

and will be held in the ATRIUM, The King's University College, 9125-50 Street, Edmonton, AB.

These public lectures are sponsored by the Theology Department at The King's University College.

For more information about these lectures please check us out on-line at www.kingsu.ca or contact Tyler F. Williams, Assistant Professor of Theology, The King's University College, at 780-465-3500 ext. 8102, email: tyler.williams@kingsu.ca

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