

Curriculum Vita

Richard E. Averbeck
Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- 1994-present Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois
Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Languages
(tenured 2002; emeritus since 2022)
Director of PhD program in Theological Studies (2010-2020)
- 1990-1994 Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, Texas
Associate Professor of Old Testament Studies
Also taught in the Pastoral Ministries Department in
the field of Counseling, 1992-1994
- 1980-1990 Grace Theological Seminary, Winona Lake, Indiana
Professor of Old Testament
- 1978-1979 Philadelphia College of the Bible, Philadelphia, PA.
Part-time Instructor in Night School

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Oriental Society
Evangelical Theological Society
Institute for Biblical Research
International Association of Assyriologists
Society of Biblical Literature
The Eden Project (content team)

TEACHING CURRICULUM AND RESEARCH SPECIALIZATIONS:

- Languages:** Hebrew, Sumerian, Akkadian, Ugaritic, Aramaic, Comparative Semitics
- Old Testament:** Hebrew Old Testament, with focus on the Torah
- Ancient Near East:** Cuneiform studies, especially Sumerian, Akkadian, and Ugaritic history and literature
- Old Testament Criticism:** Composition of the Pentateuch, History of Pentateuchal Research, Contemporary Problems in Old Testament Introduction
- Old Testament in its World:** Ancient Near Eastern (ANE) History and Historiography, the Old Testament in its ANE Environment, the Old Testament and ANE Literature
- Biblical Theology:** Old Testament Theology – the canon as a whole, Old Testament Law, Old Testament Law and the Christian, Old Testament Priestly Theology, Old Testament Law and Christian Ethics, Biblical Cosmology (Genesis and the Bible), OT Foundations for the New Testament, Reading the OT for the Christian Life, Biblical Theology for Counseling, Biblical Theology for Spiritual Formation

PUBLISHED WORKS

“The Focus of Baptism in the New Testament,” *Grace Theological Journal* 2:2 (1981) 265-301.

“The Sumerian Historiographic Tradition and Its Implications for Genesis 1-11,” in *Faith, Tradition, and History: Old Testament Historiography in its Near Eastern Context*, ed. A. R. Millard, J. K. Hoffmeier, and D. W. Baker (Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 1994) 79-102

“Law,” in *Cracking Old Testament Codes*, ed. D. Brent Sandy and Ronald L. Giese, Jr. (Essays in Honor of Richard D. Patterson; Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1995) 113-138.

“Leviticus, Theology of (480-483); Offerings and Sacrifices (574-581); Oil (581-582); Priest and Priesthood (632-638); and Sanctuary (713-714),” in *The Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology*, ed. Walter A. Elwell (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996).

In *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis*, **5 vols.**, ed. Willem A. VanGemeren (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997), abbrev. *NIDOTTE*, my own articles total ca. 275 printed pages:

1. **General articles:** “Clean and Unclean; Leviticus, Theology of; Offerings and Sacrifices” (4.477-486, 4.907-923, 4.996-1022, respectively).
2. **Lexical articles:** memorial portion (*'zkārāh*), 1.335-339; offering by fire, gift, present (*'iššāh*), 1.540-549; guilt offering (*'āsām*), 1.557-566; to purge, cleanse (*brr*), 1.772-774; perfume, balsam (*bōsem*), 1.774-775; to slaughter (*btq*), 1.784; to be defiled, defilement (*g'l*), 1.794-795; most holy place (*d^ebîr*), 1.910; to menstruate, faint, weak (*dwh*), 1.925-928; blemish, stain (*d^epî*), 1.980; myrrh-oil (*d^erôr*), 1.985-986; to slaughter for sacrifice (*zbh*), 1.1066-1073; to be pure, clean (*zkh*), 1.1098-1100; sin, sin offering (*haṭṭ'āt*), 2.93-103; to be godless, defiled (*hnp*), 2.206-209; to slaughter (*tbh*), 2.334-336; to be clean (*thr*), 2.338-353; to be unclean (*tm'*), 2.365-376; to make atonement (*kpr*), 2.689-710; frankincense (*l^ebōnāh*), 2.756-757; Tent of Meeting (*'ōhel mō'ēd*), 2.873-877; altar (*mizbēah*), 2.888-908; gift, present, grain offering (*minhāh*), 2.978-990; tithe, tenth (*ma^ašer*), 2.1035-1055; sanctuary (*miqdās*), 2.1078-1087; to polish (*mrq*), 2.1107-1108; tabernacle (*miškān*), 2.1130-1134; to move back and forth, wave offering (*nûp*; *l^enûpāh*), 3.63-67; burnt offering (*šlāh*), 3.405-415; curtain in front of the Most Holy Place (*pārōket*), 3.687-689; to press out oil, (fresh) olive oil (*shr*), 3.771-772; to let go up in smoke, incense (*qtr*), 3.913-916; cassia (*q^esî'āh*), 3.961-962; to approach, offer, offering, gift (*qōrbān*), 3.979-982; to pay for, make good (*rsh* II), 3.1186-1188; to blend, mix ointments, perfume, ointment (*rqh*), 3.1195-1197; to slaughter (*šht*), 4.77-80; peace offering (*šelem*), 4.135-142; tribute, contribution (*l^erûmāh*), 4.335-338.

“Ritual Formula, Textual Frame, and Thematic Echo in the Cylinders of Gudea,” in *Crossing Boundaries and Linking Horizons: Studies in Honor of Michael C. Astour on His 80th Birthday*, ed. Gordon D. Young, Mark W. Chavalas, and **Richard E. Averbeck** (Bethesda, Maryland: CDL Press, 1997), 39-95.

“Leviticus” in *New English Translation Study Bible* (Spokane, Washington: Biblical Studies Press, 1999).

“The Cylinders of Gudea,” in *The Context of Scripture*, vol. II, ed. William W. Hallo and K. Lawson Younger, Jr. (Leiden: Brill, 2000), 417-433.

“Sumer, the Bible, and Comparative Method: Historiography and Temple Building,” in *Mesopotamia and the Bible: Comparative Explorations*, ed. Mark W. Chavalas and K. Lawson

Younger, Jr. (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press and Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2002), 88-125.

“Worshiping God in Spirit,” and “Worshiping God in Truth,” in *Authentic Worship: Scripture’s Voice, Applying Its Truth*, ed. Herbert W. Bateman (Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2002), 79-133.

“Sacrifices and Offerings” and “Tabernacle,” in *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Pentateuch*, ed. T. Desmond Alexander and David W. Baker (InterVarsity Press, 2003), 706-733 and 807-827.

“Daily Life and Culture in ‘Enki and the World Order’ and Other Sumerian Literary Compositions,” in *Life and Culture in the Ancient Near East*, ed. **Richard E. Averbeck**, Mark W. Chavalas, and David B. Weisberg (Bethesda, Maryland: CDL Press, 2003), 23-61.

“Factors in Reading the Patriarchal Narratives: Literary, Historical, and Theological Dimensions,” in *Giving the Sense: Understanding and Using Old Testament Historical Texts* (Essays in Honor of Eugene H. Merrill), ed. David M. Howard, Jr. and Michael A. Grisanti (Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2003), 115-137.

“Myth, Ritual, and Order in ‘Enki and the World Order,’” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 123 (2003): 757-771.

“Numbers 18-36: Translation and Notes,” in *The Holman Christian Standard Bible* (Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2004).

“Ancient Near Eastern Mythography as it relates to Historiography in the Hebrew Bible: Genesis 3 and the Cosmic Battle,” in *The Future of Biblical Archaeology: Reassessing Methodologies and Assumptions*, ed. James K. Hoffmeier and Alan R. Millard (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004), 328-356.

“The Holy Spirit in the Hebrew Bible and It’s Connections to the New Testament” and “God, People, and the Bible: The Relationships between Illumination and Biblical Scholarship,” in Daniel B. Wallace and M. James Sawyer, editors, *Who’s Afraid of the Holy Spirit? An Investigation into the Ministry of the Spirit of God Today* (Dallas, Texas: Biblical Studies Press, 2005), 15-36 and 137-165.

“Creation and Corruption, Redemption and Wisdom: A Biblical Theology Foundation for Counseling Psychology,” in *Journal of Psychology and Christianity* 25:2 (2006): 111-126.

“Gudea Historical Texts,” in *The Ancient Near East: Historical Sources in Translation*, ed. Mark Chavalas (Malden, Mass.: Blackwell Publishing, 2006), 45-51.

“The Message of the Prophets and Jewish Evangelism,” in *To the Jew First: The Case for Jewish Evangelism in Scripture and History*, ed. Darrell L. Bock and Mitch Glaser (Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2008), 78-97.

“Spirit, Community, and Mission: A Biblical Theology for Spiritual Formation,” in *Journal of*

Spiritual Formation and Soul Care 1:1 (Spring 2008): 27-53.

“Worship and Spiritual Formation,” *Foundations of Spiritual Formation: A community Approach to Becoming Like Christ*, ed. Paul Pettit (Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2008), 51-69.

“Sumerian Texts,” in *The New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible*, vol. 5, ed. Katharine Doob Sakenfeld (Nashville, Tennessee: Abingdon Press, 2006), 402-404.

“The Bible in Spiritual Formation,” in *The Kingdom Life: A Practical Theology of Discipleship and Spiritual Formation*, ed. Alan Andrews (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2010), 273-299.

“Temple Building among the Sumerians and Akkadians (Third Millennium),” in Mark J. Boda and Jamie R. Novotny, editors, *From the Foundations to the Crenellations: Essays on Temple Building in the Ancient Near East and Hebrew Bible*, AOAT 366 (Muenster: Ugarit-Verlag, 2010), 3-34, 448-450.

“Psalms 103 and 104, Hymns of Redemption and Creation,” in *Interpreting the Psalms for Teaching and Preaching*, ed. Herbert W. Bateman IV and D. Brent Sandy (St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2010), 132-148.

“Having a Baby the New-Fashioned Way: An Old Testament Perspective,” in *Why the Church Needs Bioethics: A Guide to Wise Engagement with Life’s Challenges*, ed. John F. Kilner (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011), 25-42.

“Breath, Wind, Spirit, and the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament,” in *Spirit and the Missio Dei: The Spirit of God in the Old Testament*, ed. David G. Firth and Paul D. Wegner (2011), 25-37.

“Christian Interpretations of Isaiah 53,” in *The Gospel According to Isaiah: Exploring a Deeper Understanding of Isaiah Chapter 53*, ed. Darrell Bock and Mitch Glaser (Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2012), 33-60.

“Pentateuchal Criticism and the Priestly Torah,” in *Do Historical Matters Matter for Faith: A Critical Appraisal of Modern and Post Modern Approaches to the Bible*, ed. James K. Hoffmeier and Dennis R. Magary (Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2012), 151-179.

“A Literary Day, Inter-Textual, and Contextual Reading of Genesis 1 and 2,” in *Reading Genesis 1-2: An Evangelical Conversation*, ed. Daryl Charles (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2013), 7-34.

“The Three ‘Daughters’ of Baal and Transformations of Chaoskampf in the Early Chapters of Genesis,” in *Creation and Chaos: A Reconsideration of Hermann Gunkel’s Chaoskampf Hypothesis*, ed. JoAnn Scurlock and Richard Beal (Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 2013), 237-56.

“The Third Millennium Temple: War and Peace in History and Religion,” in Hans Neumann, editor, *Krieg und Frieden im Alten Vorderasien*, 52e Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Münster, July 17-21, 2006 (Muenster: Ugarit Verlag, 2014), 41-67.

“Leviticus,” in *NIV Study Bible*, revised edition, ed. D. A. Carson (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015).

“Review Article of John Walton, *The Lost World of Adam and Eve* (IVP 2015),” *Themelios* 40:2 (August, 2015): 226-39.

“The Egyptian Sojourn and Deliverance from Slavery in the Framing and Shaping of the Mosaic Law,” in *“Did I Not Bring Israel Out of Egypt?” Biblical, Archaeological, and Egyptological Perspectives on the Exodus Narratives*, Bulletin for Biblical Research Supplement 13, ed. James Hoffmeier, Alan Millard, and Gary Rendsburg (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2016), 143-175. <http://www.eisenbrauns.com/item/HOFDIDINO>

“KAR 4: The Creation of Humanity (4.90)” and “Enki and the World Order (4.91)” in *The Context of Scripture*, vol. IV, ed. K. Lawson Younger, Jr. (Leiden: Brill, 2017), 4.333-40 and 340-54, respectively.

“The Cult in Deuteronomy and Its Relationship to the Book of the Covenant and the Holiness Code,” in *Sēpher Tōrat Mōšeh: Studies in the Composition and Interpretation of Deuteronomy*, ed. Daniel I. Block and Richard L. Schultz (Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson, 2017), 232-60.

“Israel, the Jewish People, and God’s Covenants,” in *Israel the Church and the Middles East: A Biblical Response to the Current Conflict*, ed. Darrell L. Bock and Mitch Glaser (Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2018), 21-37.

“A Rest for the Soul,” *Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care* 11:1 (2018): 5-22.

“Slavery in the World of the Bible,” in *Behind the Scenes of the Old Testament*, edited by Jonathan Greer, John Hilber, and John Walton (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2018), 423-430.

“Reading the Ritual Law in Leviticus Theologically,” in *Interpreting the Old Testament Theologically: Essays in Honor of Willem A. VanGemeren*, ed. Andrew T. Abernethy (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2018), 135-149.

“Reading the Torah in a Better Way: Unity and Diversity in Text, Genre, and Compositional History,” Matthias Armgardt; Benjamin Kilchör; Markus Zehnder (eds.), *Paradigm Change in Pentateuchal Research*, Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für altorientalische und Biblische Rechtsgeschichte 22 (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2019), 21-43.

“Chapter 25: The Law and the Gospels, with Attention to the Relationship Between the Decalogue and the Sermon on the Mount/Plain,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Biblical Law*, edited by Pamela Barmash (Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press, 2019), 409-423.

“The Tests of Prophecy and the Prophets,” in *“An excellent fortress for his armies, a refuge for the people”*: *Egyptological, Archaeological and Biblical Studies in Honor of James K. Hoffmeier*, ed. Richard E. Averbeck and K. Lawson Younger, Jr. (University Park, PA: The Pennsylvania State Univ. Press, 2020), 1-17.

“Enki and Cultural Memory in the Gudea Cylinders and Other Temple Texts,” in *Dealing with Antiquity – Past, Present, and Future*, 63rd Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Marburg, Germany, July 24-28, 2017, AOAT 460, ed. Walter Sommerfeld (Muenster: Ugarit Verlag, 2020), 79-100.

“The History and Pre-History of the Hebrew Language in the West Semitic Literary Tradition,” in *Write That They May Read: Studies in Literacy and Textualization in the Ancient Near East and in the Hebrew Scriptures*, Essays in Honor of Professor Alan R. Millard, Bulletin of Biblical Research, Supplements (Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 2020), 191-220.

“The Exodus, Debt Slavery, and the Composition of the Pentateuch,” in L. S. Baker, Jr., Kenneth Bergland, Felipe Masotti, and Rahel Schafer, eds. *Exploring the Composition of the Pentateuch*, BBRsup (Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 2020), 26-48.

“The Reliability of the Old Testament,” in *Concise Theology*, The Gospel Coalition, online 2020.

“Source Criticism and the Hebrew Bible: The Pentateuch as a Case Study,” in *The Law, the Prophets, and the Writings: Studies in Evangelical Old Testament Hermeneutics in Honor of Duane A. Garrett*, ed. Andrew M. King, Joshua M. Philpot, Douglas K. Stuart (Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2021).

“The Mosaic Law and the Gospel in Jewish Evangelism,” in *Upholding God’s Word, Reaching God’s Chosen: A Festschrift in Honor of Dr. Mitchell L. Glaser*, ed. Jim Melnick, Zhava Glaser, Gregory Hagg, Alan shore, and Robert Walters (New York: KFIM Publications, 2022), 23-29.

The Old Testament Law for the Life of the Church: Reading the Torah in the Light of Christ (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2022).

“Sacrifices and Offerings,” in *Dictionary of the NT Use of the OT*, ed. Gregory K. Beale, D. A. Carson, Benjamin D. Gladd, Andrew D. Naselli (Baker Academic, 2023).

“Sociospatial Consequences of the ‘Tower of Babel’ Incident and the Confusion of Ancient Language,” in *Lexham Geographical Commentary: Pentateuch*, ed. Barry J. Beitzel (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2023).

FORTHCOMING

“Sumerian Gods and Religion,” in *Religions around the Old Testament*, ed. Brent A. Strawn, Richard Purcell, and Jeffrey G. Ausdirsch (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, forthcoming 2023).

“Slaves and Servants,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Households in the Biblical World*, ed. John T. Fitzgerald, Carol Meyers, Eric M. Meyers, Chris L. de Wet (Oxford, forthcoming 2023).

“The Coherence and Internal Rationale of the Priestly Legislation in the Pentateuch with Special Attention to the ‘Guilt Offering,’” to be published in the proceedings of the second conference on Exploring the Composition of the Pentateuch held at Andrews University March 25-27, 2018 (forthcoming 2023).

CURRENT BOOK PROJECTS

Genesis. Pillar Commentary on the OT. Ed. D. A. Carson and Eric J. Tully (Eerdmans).

A Biblical Theology of Creations (Eerdmans).

David A. Deuel and Richard E. Averbeck, editors, *Torah: Treaty, Law, and Ritual in the Hebrew Bible and in its Ancient Near Eastern Environment* (BBR Supplements).