

RAYMOND K. SMITH
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Tulsa, Oklahoma 74137
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MAJOR AREA OF STUDY: Missiology, Mission in Context, Missionary Preparation, Cross-Cultural Communication, Church Growth, Folk Religion

DISSERTATION TITLE: *Come and Crucifixes: An Analysis of Animistic Elements in Italian Folk Catholicism* (Available through UMI Dissertation Services, Ann Arbor, Mich.)

EDUCATION:

D. Miss., Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY 1999

M.A., Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, OK 1993

B. S., Southwestern College of Christian Ministries, Bethany, OK 1991

CAREER GOAL: University/seminary teaching position and mission consultant, writing

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Associate Professor of Missions, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, OK, 1999-Present

Director of Master of Arts in Missions, 2008-Present

Director of Missionary Internship Program, Undergraduate Theology, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, OK, 1992-1993

Junior High and High School Bible Teacher, Oklahoma Christian Schools, Edmond, OK, 1981-1983

RESEARCH INTEREST:

Missional Leadership Development, Discipleship, Emerging Church, Church Growth and Planting, Folk and Popular Religion, Folk and Popular Catholicism, Secularism and Popular Religion, Secularism and Christianity, Early Church Missions History, Italian Culture, Italian Religiosity, Italian Folk Catholicism

SABBATICAL PROJECT:

Spread of Secularism among Italian Roman Catholics 2007

Focus: Research into the evolving religious phenomenon occurring among Italian Roman Catholics in central and northern Italy as a result of the influences of secularism.

Activities:

1,000+ surveys administered to native-born Italian Roman Catholics throughout central (Rome and the province of Lazio) and north-central Italy

This researcher partnered with the Italian Apostolic Church in the conducting of these interviews. This marked the first occurrence in the history of Italian Evangelicalism that Italian Pentecostals have agreed to participate in an academic study of the religious beliefs and practices of Italian Roman Catholics.

20 pastors, regional directors, and national denominational leaders interviewed.

Results: Initial findings indicate that secularism has primarily affected Italian Roman Catholics under the age of 35. These findings are not to be confused with conclusions drawn from earlier data gathered by this researcher and others which indicated that even though Italian church attendance and participation had shrunk to extremely low levels in the recent decades, there remained a strong sentiment that the Church and its teachings were important to Italian society. Current research indicates, however, that the Church and its teachings now seem to be in a position to be opposed, if not hostile and detrimental, to Italian society.

MINISTRY/MISSION CREDENTIAL AND EXPERIENCE:

Co-Founder Equippers International, Inc. Tulsa, Oklahoma, 2007

Co-Founder International Christian Fellowship, Rome, Italy, 1988

Missionary to Rome, Italy, International Pentecostal Holiness Church, evangelism, church planting, and discipleship, 1986-1989

Church Planter/Pastor: for English-speaking Filipino and Sri Lankan Communities, Rome, Italy, 1986-1989

Ordained Minister: International Pentecostal Holiness Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1985

Missionary to Philippines, Northern Luzon, evangelism, church planting, and discipleship, 1983-1985

Founder, International Christian Ministries, Oklahoma City, OK, mission sending and church planting ministry, 1983

Evangelistic Outreach: Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, evangelism and discipleship, 1978

Missionary to Rome, Italy: evangelism and discipleship, 1977-1978

Ordained Minister: Grace New Life Church, Edmond, OK, 1977

Evangelistic Outreach: Bustemonte, Mexico, evangelism and discipleship, 1976

Licensed Minister: Grace New Life Church Edmond, OK, 1975

Evangelistic Outreach: Hungary and Romania, evangelism and discipleship, 1974

REFERENCES: Available upon request.

MEMBERSHIP IN SCHOLARLY SOCIETIES:

American Society of Missiology (ASM) 2000-Present

Association of Professors of Missions (APM) 2005-Present

Evangelical Theological Society 2012-

Evangelical Missiological Society (EMS) 2000-Present

Society for Pentecostal Studies (SPS) 2000-Present

SEMINAR PARTICIPATION:

Visiting Professor: "The Epistle to the Romans". Modular course taught at Vinnytsia Theological Seminary of the Unregistered Pentecostal Church Of the Ukraine, Vinnytsia, Ukraine, 2012.

Visiting Professor: "Epistle to the Romans". Pastor's Seminar. Unregistered Pentecostal Church of the Ukraine, Bovary, Ukraine, 2012

Visiting Professor: PRM 575 Missionary Anthropology and MISS 350 Missions and Culture. Livets Ord Seminary, Uppsala, Sweden, 2011.

Visiting Professor: "Life of Christ". World harvest Institute, Suva, Fiji, 2011.

Visiting Professor: "CS 4341 Helping Christians Grow" Unregistered Pentecostal Church of the Ukraine, Bovary, Ukraine, 2011.

Visiting Professor: "MIN1052 Works of the Pastor" Unregistered Pentecostal Church of the Ukraine, Bovary, Ukraine, 2010.

Visiting Professor: PRM 544 Principles of Church Growth and MISS 404 Church Growth and Planting, Livets Ord Seminary, Uppsala, Sweden, 2010.

Chief Presenter: "What is Youth Ministry?" Long Island Youth For Christ, Deer Path, NY, 2009

Guest Speaker: "Membership or Discipleship: The Laity in the Missional Church" Florence Gospel Fellowship, Florence, Italy, 2007

Guest Speaker: "Mentoring Leadership for the 21st Century" Lazio Pentecostal Pastors Fellowship, Rome, Italy, 2007

Chief Presenter: "Missional Leadership and the Great Commission" Pentecostal Evangelical Christian Church, Rome, Italy, 2007

Guest Speaker: "The Biblical Concept of Missions" Literacy & Evangelism International, Tulsa, OK 2007

Guest Speaker: "The Biblical Concept of Missions" Literacy & Evangelism International, Tulsa, OK 2006

Chief Presenter: "Cross-Cultural Evangelism & Church Growth" Pentecostal Evangelical Christian Church, Rome, Italy, 2005

Chief Presenter: "Equipping the Missional Church" Manado Evangelical Pastors Convention, Manado, Indonesia, 2005

Chief Presenter: "Cross-Cultural Evangelism & Church Growth" Pentecostal Evangelical Christian Church, Rome, Italy, 2004

Guest Speaker: "The Biblical Concept of Missions" Literacy & Evangelism International, Tulsa, OK 2004

Guest Speaker: "Mobilizing This Generation" Teen Mania Honor Academy, Tyler, TX 2004

Guest Speaker: "The Biblical Concept of Missions" Literacy & Evangelism International, Tulsa, OK, 2003

Chief Presenter: "Cross-Cultural Evangelism & Church Growth" International Apostolic Church of Italy, Grossetto, Italy, 2003

Guest Speaker: "The Biblical Concept of Missions" Literacy & Evangelism International, Tulsa, OK, 2002

Chief Presenter: "Missions and the Local Church" Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Tulsa, OK 2000

Chief Presenter: "Jesus: The Master Teacher" Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Tulsa, OK 1999

Guest Speaker: "The Holy Spirit: Empowerment for Missions" Independent Pentecostal Churches Affiliation, Rome, Italy, 1995

Guest Speaker: "Missions in an Apostolic Age" International Apostolic Church, Rome, Italy 1995

Guest Speaker: "Cross-Cultural Missions: God's Challenge to the Entire Church" Filipino Christian Churches International, Rome, Italy 1995

Guest Speaker: "Leadership Qualities from the Life of Nehemiah" Pentecostal Churches Affiliation, Annual Conference,

COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION:

Committee Member: Oral Roberts University Spiritual Oversight Committee
2012-

Committee Member: School of Theology and Ministry ORU Bible Institute Committee
2012-

Committee Member: Oral Roberts University Missions Council, 2010-present

Committee Member: Oral Roberts University Chapel Missions Project Committee,
2010-present.

Committee Member: School of Theology & Missions Modular Studies Committee,
2008-present

Committee Member: Assessment Committee, Oral Roberts University, Undergraduate
Theology, 2007-present

Committee Member: Recruitment Committee, Oral Roberts University, Undergraduate
Theology, 2007-present

Committee Member: School of Arts and Science Curriculum Committee, Oral Roberts
University, 2006-2007

Committee Member: University Standards and Evaluation Committee, Oral Roberts
University, 2004-Present

e-Portfolio Sub-Administrator: Oral Roberts University, Undergraduate Theology,
2003-2007

Committee Member: International Studies Committee, Oral Roberts University, 1999-2003

Academic Committee Member: Doctor of Missiology representative with voting status, E.
Stanley Jones School of World Mission and Evangelism, Asbury Theological Seminary,
Wilmore, Kentucky, 1994-1995

Committee Member: Seminary Missions Committee, Oral Roberts University, School of
Theology and Missions, 1991-1993

AWARDS:

Oral Roberts University Alumni Award for Professionalism in the Classroom. 2007

Outstanding Professor of the Year, Oral Roberts University,
Undergraduate Theology, 2007

Who's Who Among American Teachers, 2008-2009

Who's Who Among American Teachers, 2004-2005

Who's Who Among American Teachers, 2003-2004

Outstanding Professor of the Year, Oral Roberts University,
Undergraduate Theology, 2003

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

Set Apart For the Gospel: Introductory Readings in Missiological Practice.

North Charleston, SC: BookSurge Publishing, August 2005.

Articles:

"Set Apart For the Gospel" in *Set Apart For the Gospel: Introductory Readings in Missiological Practice*. North Charleston, SC: BookSurge Publishing, August 2005.

Pending:

Books: Answering Their Questions; Not Ours.

North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Publishing, May 2013

Corrie and Crucifixes: Who Believes What in Italy

North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Publishing, May 2013