

PH.D. IN WORLD RELIGIONS

Field Essay Study Guide

Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth

1. Compare and contrast the rise of the Christian Faith in the first three centuries with the rise of the Mormon tradition in the 19th and 20th centuries.
2. Chose one major living religious tradition. Compare and contrast the understanding and/or function of faith, ritual, scripture, redemption, and divinity in that tradition with your experience as a Christian.
3. Give an evaluation of the contemporary Protestant approaches to world religions. Which approach most nearly coincides with your own?

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Field Essay Reading List

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Peter Berger. *The Sacred Canopy*. Anchor Books, NY, 1969.

Denise Carmody and John Carmody. *Mysticism*. Oxford Univ. Press. 1996.

Mircea Eliade. *The Myth of the Eternal Return*. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, NJ, 1974

Esposito, John. *Islam the Straight Path*. Oxford Univ. Press. 1998.

James Lewis and Jesper Petersen, editors. *Controversial New Religions*. Oxford Univ. Press. 2005.

James Livingston. *Anatomy of the Sacred*. Macmillan, NY, 1993

Donald Lopez, editor. *The Religions of Asia in Practice*. Princeton Univ. Press. 2002

Rodney Stark and William Bainbridge. *A Theory of Religion*. Rutgers Univ. Press. 1996