

## **Bibliography**

*The Da Vinci Code* – Dan Brown. ISBN 0-385-50420-9

This is the hardcover edition of the book that I used for reference, as do virtually all of the works about *The Da Vinci Code* cited below. For this reason, I would recommend using this version if you are doing further research. This version, along with an unabridged audio version (both tape and cd), are available at the public library.

## **Resources for Further Study**

Note: there are many other books and DVD's on these topics, but the ones listed below are books which I have read/watched. I did not want to recommend books or DVD's which I had not read or watched. Many of these are available from the public library, and I have copies of most of them which could be borrowed for brief periods of time.

*Truth and Fiction in the Da Vinci Code: A Historian Reveals What We Really Know About Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and Constantine.* Bart D. Ehrman. ISBN 0-19-518140-9.

Bart Ehrman is a historian of the early church who chairs the Department of Religious Studies at UNC, Chapel Hill. He is not an orthodox, evangelical Christian, but he does offer a great look at how history is actually done. In many ways this was the most helpful critique of *The Da Vinci Code*, but do note that his liberal bias leads him to some wrong conclusions regarding Jesus, and the date of many New Testament books. If you are bothered by these items, the book will quickly lose its sparkle. However, if you can overlook these faults, it is a solid work. This book is available in both hardback and audio format at the public library, and I own a copy.

*Breaking the Da Vinci Code.* Darrell L. Bock. ISBN 0-7852-6046-3.

Darrell Bock is the research professor of New Testament studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. He is a capable historian, and is an evangelical believer. Consequently, his work has many of the good points of Ehrman's book, but is not plagued by the liberal biases that mar Ehrman's work. He also includes some information not found in Ehrman's work. On the whole, these two make good companions for one another.

*The Da Vinci Code: Fact or Fiction.* Hank Hanegraaff and Paul L. Maier. ISBN 1-4143-0279-7

Hank Hanegraaff is the head of the Christian Research Institute, and Paul Maier is a professor of ancient history at Western Michigan University. The book is really almost two books. In the first part, the historian Maier refutes the errors of *The Da Vinci Code*, while in the second half Hanegraaff makes a positive case for the Christian faith. A much briefer, less technical work than the previous two, but a good quick read.

*Beyond the Da Vinci Code (DVD)* – History Channel Documentary.

This DVD is available from the public library. I found it disappointing. It lends far too much credence to the ideas of *The Da Vinci Code* in the interest of keeping the viewer following the story. In the end, almost everything in *The Da Vinci Code* is debunked, but along the way too much sensationalism is allowed. It does provide a lot more information on art, architecture and secret societies however.

*Origins of the Da Vinci Code* – The Disinformation Company

This DVD is available from the library. It is in large part an interview with one of the authors of *Holy Blood Holy Grail*, the sensationalistic book that lies behind *The Da Vinci Code*. The best thing I can tell you about this DVD is the company who made it is aptly named: “The Disinformation Company.” The DVD is largely good for a look into the fevered minds of conspiracy theorists.

If you would like to read some Gnostic texts, simply do a search on the internet. Multiple versions and translation are available. As always, be careful to note the presuppositions of anyone writing any introductory material. However, some familiarity with these documents goes a long way to dispelling rumors about what they present.