The State of American Theology Study 2016

Commissioned by

Ligonier Ministries

TheStateofTheology.com
Research Objective

To measure the theological understanding of Americans today
Methodology

- A demographically balanced online panel was used for interviewing American adults.
- 3,000 surveys were completed April 14-20, 2016.
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error from the online panel does not exceed ±2.0%.
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.
- Slight weights were used to balance gender, age, ethnicity, income, region, and religion.
Survey Responses
God is a perfect being and cannot make a mistake.

Q 19.1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God knows everything that occurs in the world but does not determine all that happens.

Q 19_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God continues to answer specific prayers.

Q 19_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God is the author of Scripture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agree strongly</th>
<th>Agree somewhat</th>
<th>Disagree somewhat</th>
<th>Disagree strongly</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q 19_4: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
There is one true God in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Q 20_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

Q 20_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God created male and female.

Q 20_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Biblical accounts of the physical (bodily) resurrection of Jesus are completely accurate. This event actually occurred.

Q 21_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Jesus is the first and greatest being created by God.

Q 21_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Jesus is truly God and has a divine nature, and Jesus is truly man and has a human nature.

Q 21_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Holy Spirit is a force but is not a personal being.

Q 22_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Holy Spirit gives a spiritual new birth or new life before a person has faith.

Q 22_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Holy Spirit is a divine being but is not equal with God the Father and Jesus.

Q 22_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Modern science discredits the claims of Christianity.

Q 22_4: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature.

Q 23_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
People have the ability to turn to God on their own initiative.

Q 23_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Even the smallest sin deserves eternal damnation.

Q 23_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
By the good deeds that I do, I partly contribute to earning my place in heaven.

Q 23_4: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Bible, like all sacred writings, contains helpful accounts of ancient myths but is not literally true.

Q 24_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Bible was written for each person to interpret as he or she chooses.

Q 24_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Bible alone is the written word of God.

Q 24_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Bible is 100% accurate in all that it teaches.
A person obtains peace with God by first taking the initiative to seek God and then God responds with grace.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agree strongly</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree somewhat</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree somewhat</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disagree strongly</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q 25_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
An individual must contribute his or her own effort for personal salvation.

Q 25_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Salvation always begins with God changing a person so that he or she will turn to Him in faith.

Q 25_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Heaven is a place where all people will ultimately be reunited with their loved ones.

Q 26_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Hell is an eternal place of judgment where God sends all people who do not personally trust in Jesus Christ.

Q 26_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God would be fair to show His wrath against sin.

Q 26_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
There will be a time when Jesus Christ returns to judge all the people who have lived.

Q 26_4: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Worshiping alone or with one’s family is a valid replacement for regularly attending church.

Q 27_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Churches that do not preach from the Bible should not be considered a Christian church.

Q 27_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
My local church has the authority to withhold the Lord’s Supper from me and exclude me from the fellowship of the church.

Among self-identified Christians who attend on religious holidays or more frequently

Q 27_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.” Asked of those who indicated a Christian faith preference in Q6 AND attend on religious holidays or more frequently in Q16. n=1296
The church should be silent on issues of politics.

Q 27_4: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
There is little value in studying or reciting historical Christian creeds and confessions.

Q 27_5: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God is unconcerned with my day-to-day decisions.

Q 28_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God has authority over all people because He created human beings.

Q 28_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Bible has the authority to tell us what we must do.

Q 28_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Humans exist to bring God glory and to enjoy Him.

Q 28_4: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Sex outside of traditional marriage is a sin.

Q 29_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Abortion is a sin.

Q 29_2: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Gender identity is a matter of choice.

Q 29_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
God will always reward true faith with material blessings.

Q 29_4: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Bible’s condemnation of homosexual behavior doesn’t apply today.

Q 29_5: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe.

Q 30_1: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Q 30_2: "For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement."
Jesus Christ’s death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin.

Q 30_3: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God’s free gift of eternal salvation.

Q 30_4: “For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.”
Significant Differences

Region
Age
Gender
Education Level
Household Income
Ethnicity
Evangelical Beliefs
Significant Statistical Differences

- Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among region of the country, age, gender, and education level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Education Level</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>18-34</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>HS graduate or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>35-49</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Some college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>50-64</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>65+</td>
<td></td>
<td>Graduate degree</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Region is defined by US Census locations
**Significant Statistical Differences**

- Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among household income, ethnic group, and Evangelical beliefs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HH Income</th>
<th>Ethnic Group</th>
<th>Evangelical Beliefs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;$25,000</td>
<td>Asian-Americans</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25-&lt;$35k</td>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$35-&lt;$50k</td>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
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<tr>
<td>$50-&lt;$75k</td>
<td>White, non-Hispanic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75-&lt;$100k</td>
<td>Other/ mixed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000+</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evangelical Beliefs

Evangelical Beliefs are defined using the NAE LifeWay Research Evangelical Beliefs Research Definition based on respondent beliefs.

Respondents are asked their level of agreement with four separate statements using a four-point, forced choice scale (strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree). Those who strongly agree with all four statements are categorized as having Evangelical Beliefs.

- The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe.
- It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior.
- Jesus Christ’s death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin.
- Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God’s free gift of eternal salvation.
“God is a perfect being and cannot make a mistake.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (72%), followed by those in the Midwest (66%)
- Americans age 18-34 are the most likely to Disagree (33%)
- Females (67%) are more likely to Agree than males (63%)
- Americans who are High School Graduate or Less (67%) or have some college (68%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Graduate degree (61%)
- Americans with household income of $35,000-49,999 (71%) are more likely to Agree than those with $75,000-99,999 (63%) and $100,000 or more (60%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (86%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (97% v. 58%)
“God knows everything that occurs in the world but does not determine all that happens.”

- Americans in the Midwest (65%) are the most likely to Agree
- Americans age 18-34 are the most likely to Disagree (36%)
- Americans with household income of $35,000-49,999 (65%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (56%)
- African-Americans (64%), Hispanics (60%), and Whites (60%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (49%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (65% v. 58%)
“God continues to answer specific prayers.”

- Americans in the West are the least likely to Agree (59%)
- Americans age 35-49 (68%) and 50-64 (68%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (63%)
- Females (70%) are more likely to Agree than males (62%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (32%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (31%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (82%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (94% v. 60%)
“God is the author of Scripture.”

- Americans in the Midwest (60%) and South (63%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (54%) and West (52%)
- Females (62%) are more likely to Agree than males (54%)
- Americans who are high school graduates or less (62%) or those with some college (61%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (55%) or a Graduate degree (53%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (40%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (72%), followed by Hispanics (63%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (94% v. 50%)
“There is one true God in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.”

- Americans in the West are the least likely to Agree (61%)
- Americans age 18-34 are the least likely to Agree (64%)
- Females (71%) are more likely to Agree than males (66%)
- Americans who are high school graduates or less (72%) or have some college (72%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (66%) or a Graduate degree (64%)
- Americans with household income of $35,000-49,999 (73%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (66%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (84%), followed by Hispanics (74%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (97% v. 62%)
“God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism and Islam.”

- Americans in the Northeast are the most likely to Agree (70%)
- Americans age 50-64 (67%) and 65+ (67%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (62%) and 35-49 (60%)
- Americans with Bachelor’s degree are the most likely to Agree (72%)
- African-Americans (69%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (57%) and Whites (63%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are less likely to Agree (48% v. 67)
“God created male and female.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (82%), while Americans in the West are least likely to Agree (70%)
- Americans age 35-49 (79%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (75%)
- Females (81%) are more likely to Agree than males (73%)
- Americans who are high school graduates or less (82%) or have some college (81%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (74%) or a Graduate degree (71%)
- Americans with household income of $35,000-$49,999 (84%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (78%), $50,000-$74,999 (78%), $75,000-$99,999 (75%), and $100,000 or more (73%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (94%), followed by Hispanics (81%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (99% v. 72%)
“Biblical accounts of the physical (bodily) resurrection of Jesus are completely accurate. This event actually occurred.”

- Americans in the South (69%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (62%) and West (58%)
- Americans age 18-34 are least likely to Agree (58%)
- Females (66%) are more likely to Agree than males (62%)
- Americans with some college (67%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (62%) or a Graduate degree (57%)
- Americans with household income of $25,000-34,999 (68%), $35,000-$49,999 (69%), and $50,000-74,999 (66%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (59%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (77%), followed by Hispanics (69%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (98% v. 56%)
“Jesus is the first and greatest being created by God.”

- Americans in the Midwest (54%) and South (56%) are the most likely to Agree than those in the West (47%)
- Americans age 35-49 (56%) and 50-64 (54%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (48%)
- Females (57%) are more likely to Agree than males (48%)
- Americans who are high school graduates or less are the most likely to Agree (62%), followed by those with Some college (54%)
- Americans with household income of less than $25,000 (55%), $25,000-34,999 (55%), $35,000-$49,999 (58%), and $50,000-$74,999 (54%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (45%)
- African-Americans (65%) and Hispanics (58%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (41%), Whites (50%), and Other Ethnicities (37%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (71% v. 48%)
“Jesus is truly God and has a divine nature, and Jesus is truly man and has a human nature.”

- Americans in the West are the least likely to Agree (55%)
- Americans age 50-64 (64%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (58%)
- Americans with household income of $35,000-49,999 (66%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (57%) and $100,000 or more (59%)
- African-Americans (62%) and Hispanics (65%), and Whites (61%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (51%) and Other Ethnicities (45%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (85% v. 56%)
“The Holy Spirit is a force but is not a personal being.”

- Americans in the Northeast (59%) and are more likely to Agree than those in the West (53%)
- Americans age 50-64 (60%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (55%)
- Americans with some college (58%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Graduate degree (53%)
- Americans with household income of $75,000-99,999 (62%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (52%) and $100,000 or more (54%)
- African-Americans (63%) and Hispanics (60%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (51%) and Whites (54%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (37% v. 25%)
“The Holy Spirit gives a spiritual new birth or new life before a person has faith.”

- Americans in the South (53%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Midwest (48%) and West (45%)
- Americans age 50-64 (31%) and 65+ (32%) are more likely to Disagree than those 35-49 (25%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less (55%) are more likely to Agree than those with some college (49%) or a Graduate degree (45%)
- Americans with household income of $35,000-49,999 (54%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (47%)
- African-Americans (54%) and Hispanics (58%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (45%), Whites (48%), and Other Ethnicities (37%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (62% v. 47%)
“The Holy Spirit is a divine being but is not equal with God the Father and Jesus.”

- Americans in the Northeast are the most likely to Agree (33%)
- Americans age 65+ are the most likely to Disagree (58%), while those age 18-34 are least likely to Disagree (45%)
- Males (30%) are more likely to Agree than females (26%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (61%)
- Americans with household income of less than $25,000 (30%) and $25,000-34,999 (31%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (25%)
- Asian-Americans (33%), African-Americans (31%), and Hispanics (35%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (25%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (66% v. 48%)
“Modern science discredits the claims of Christianity.”

- Americans in the West (47%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (41%)
- Americans age 50-64 (41%) are more likely to Disagree than those 18-34 (37%)
- Males (43%) are more likely to Disagree than females (36%)
- Americans with a Bachelor’s (43%) or a Master’s degree (47%) are more likely to Disagree than those who are High School graduates or less (32%) or have Some College (37%)
- Americans with household income of $25,000-34,999 (50%) are more likely to Agree than those with $35,000-49,999 (40%) and $100,000 or more (42%)
- Whites (43%) are more likely to Disagree than Asian-Americans (31%), African-Americans (30%) and Hispanics (38%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (44% v. 38%)
“Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature.”

- Americans in the Midwest (69%) are more likely to Agree than those in the South (64%) and West (64%)
- Americans age 50-64 (70%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (63%) and 35-49 (63%)
- Other Christians are the most likely to Agree (%)
- Americans with household income of $75,000-99,999 (70%) are more likely to Agree than those with $50,000-74,999 (62%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are less likely to Agree (54% v. 68%)
“People have the ability to turn to God on their own initiative.”

- Americans in the Northeast (81%) are more likely to Agree than those in the West (76%)
- Americans age 18-34 are the least likely to Agree (75%)
- Americans with household income of $25,000-34,999 (18%) are more likely to Disagree than those with less than $25,000 (13%) and more than $100,000 (13%)
- African-Americans (83%) and Whites (79%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (71%) and Other Ethnicities (70%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (82% v. 78%)
“Even the smallest sin deserves eternal damnation.”

- Americans age 50-64 (76%) and 65+ (75%) are more likely to Disagree than those 18-34 (70%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (81%), while those who are High School graduates or less are least likely (66%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (83%)
- Hispanics (73%) and Whites (77%) are more likely to Disagree than Asian-Americans (61%) and African-Americans (62%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (47% v. 13%)
“By the good deeds that I do, I partly contribute to earning my place in heaven.”

- Americans in the Northeast (58%) are more likely to Agree than those in the South (51%) and West (45%)
- Americans 65+ (39%) are more likely to Disagree than those 18-34 (33%)
- Americans with household income of $75,000-99,999 (56%) and $100,000 or more (54%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (48%)
- African-Americans (56%) and Hispanics (56%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (47%) and Other Ethnicities (40%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (59% v. 30%)
“The Bible, like all sacred writings, contains helpful accounts of ancient myths but is not literally true.”

- Americans in the Northeast (49%) are more likely to Agree than those in the South (41%)
- Americans age 18-34 (46%) and 65+ (48%) are more likely to Agree than those 35-49 (41%)
- Males (49%) are more likely to Agree than females (39%)
- Americans with a Bachelor’s (51%) or a Graduate degree (53%) are more likely to Agree than those who are High School graduates (35%) or have some college (39%)
- Americans with household income of $75,000-99,999 (50%), and $100,000 or more (53%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (36%), $25,000-34,999 (39%), and $35,000-49,999 (42%)
- Asian-Americans (51%), Hispanics (44%), and Whites (47%) are more likely to Agree than African-Americans (31%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are less likely to Agree (17% v. 51%)
“The Bible was written for each person to interpret as he or she chooses.”

- Americans in the South (43%) are more likely to Disagree than those in the Midwest (38%) and West (37%)
- Americans age 18-34 are the most likely to Agree (58%)
- Males (53%) are more likely to Agree than females (49%)
- Americans with household income of $50,000-74,999 (54%), and $100,000 or more (56%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (46%)
- Asian-Americans (54%), Hispanics (52%), and Whites (53%) are more likely to Agree than African-Americans (41%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are less likely to Agree (30% v. 56%)
“The Bible alone is the written word of God.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (57%)
- Americans age 35-49 (55%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (49%)
- Females (57%) are more likely to Agree than males (46%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less are the most likely to Agree (61%), while those with a Graduate degree are least likely (39%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (50%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (69%), followed by Hispanics (55%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (95% v. 42%)
“The Bible is 100% accurate in all that it teaches.”

- Americans in the South are more likely to Agree (53%)
- Females (52%) are more likely to Agree than males (42%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (58%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (48%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (57%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (67%), followed by Hispanics (53%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (95% v. 36%)
“A person obtains peace with God by first taking the initiative to seek God and then God responds with grace.”

- Americans in the South (73%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Midwest (69%) and West (64%)
- Americans age 50-64 (71%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (66%)
- Females (73%) are more likely to Agree than males (65%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less (72%) or have some college (72%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (67%) or a Graduate degree (63%)
- Americans with household income of less than $25,000 (71%) and $35,000-49,999 (74%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (65%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (83%), followed by Hispanics (73%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (86% v. 65%)
“An individual must contribute his or her own effort for personal salvation.”

- Americans in the South (79%) are more likely to Agree than those in the West (73%)
- Americans with a Bachelor’s (17%) or a Graduate degree (18%) are more likely to Disagree than those who are High School graduates or less (13%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (86%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (23% v. 14%)
“Salvation always begins with God changing a person so that he or she will turn to Him in faith.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (59%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (41%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (34%)
- Americans with household income of $35,000-49,999 (62%) are more likely to Agree than those with $50,000-74,999 (53%), $75,000-99,999 (50%), and $100,000 or more (44%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (71%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (80% v. 47%)
“Heaven is a place where all people will ultimately be reunited with their loved ones.”

• Americans in the Northeast (63%) and South (62%) are more likely to Agree than those in the West (56%)
• Americans age 65+ are the least likely to Agree (55%)
• Females (65%) are more likely to Agree than males (55%)
• Americans who are High School graduates or less (64%) or have some college (62%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Graduate degree (56%)
• Americans with household income of less than $25,000 (63%) and $50,000-74,999 (62%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (56%)
• Hispanics (67%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (51%), Whites (60%), and Other Ethnicities (51%)
• Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (64% v. 60%)
“Hell is an eternal place of judgment where God sends all people who do not personally trust in Jesus Christ.”

- Americans in the Midwest (42%) and South (45%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (36%) and West (35%)
- Americans age 18-34 (41%) and 35-49 (44%) are more likely to Agree than those 65+ (35%)
- Females (42%) are more likely to Agree than males (38%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (57%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (47%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (56%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (57%), followed by Hispanics (44%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (84% v. 30%)
“God would be fair to show His wrath against sin.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (61%)
- Americans age 18-34 are least likely to Agree (52%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (35%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (29%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are most likely to Disagree (36%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (70%), followed by Hispanics (62%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (92% v. 50%)
“There will be a time when Jesus Christ returns to judge all the people who have lived.”

- Americans in the South (64%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (57%) and West (54%)
- Americans age 35-49 (61%) and 50-64 (62%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (55%)
- Females (62%) are more likely to Agree than males (56%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less (65%) or have Some College (62%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (56%) or a Graduate degree (52%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (34%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (79%), followed by Hispanics (65%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (96% v. 51%)
“Worshiping alone or with one’s family is a valid replacement for regularly attending church.”

- Americans in the Northeast (63%) are more likely to Agree than those in the South (56%) and West (57%)
- Americans age 18-34 are the least likely to Disagree (26%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more (62%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (56%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Disagree (42%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are less likely to Agree (42% v. 63%)
“Churches that do not preach from the Bible should not be considered a Christian church.”

- Americans in the South (48%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (42%)
- Americans age 35-49 are the most likely to Agree (51%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (51%)
- Americans with household income of $25,000-34,999 (50%), $35,000-49,999 (48%), and $50,000-74,999 (47%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (40%)
- African-Americans (47%), Hispanics (46%), and Whites (44%) are more likely to Agree than Other Ethnicities (34%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (81% v. 36%)
“My local church has the authority to withhold the Lord’s Supper from me and exclude me from the fellowship of the church.”

- Americans age 18-34 (34%) are more likely to Agree than those 35-49 (26%) and 50-64 (26%)
- Males (32%) are more likely to Agree than females (27%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more (65%) are more likely to Disagree than those with less than $25,000 (56%)
- Hispanics (35%) are more likely to Agree than African-Americans (23%) and Whites (28%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (38% v. 25%)
“The church should be silent on issues of politics.”

- Americans age 65+ (58%) are more likely to Agree than those 35-49 (52%)
- Males (58%) are more likely to Agree than females (51%)
- Americans with Some College (55%) or a Bachelor’s degree (56%) are more likely to Agree than those who are High School graduates or less (49%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more (59%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (50%) and $35,000-49,999 (50%)
- Asian-Americans (60%), Hispanics (56%), and Whites (57%) are more likely to Agree than African-Americans (37%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (54% v. 30%)
“There is little value in studying or reciting historical Christian creeds and confessions.”

- Americans in the Northeast (29%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Midwest (24%)
- Americans age 18-34 are the most likely to Agree (31%)
- Males (29%) are more likely to Agree than females (23%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less are the least likely to Disagree (49%)
- Americans with household income of $35,000-49,999 (64%), $50,000-74,999 (60%), and $100,000 or more (63%) are more likely to Disagree than those with $25,000-34,999 (52%) and $25,000-34,999 (52%)
- Hispanics (31%) are more likely to Agree than African-Americans (20%) and Whites (25%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (68% v. 56%)
“God is unconcerned with my day-to-day decisions.”

- Americans in the Northeast (34%) and West (32%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Midwest (25%) and South (23%)
- Americans age 18-34 (30%) are more likely to Agree than those 50-64 (25%)
- Males (32%) are more likely to Agree than females (24%)
- Americans with a Bachelor’s (30%) or a Graduate degree (30%) are more likely to Agree than those with some college (25%)
- Americans with household income of $75,000-99,999 (30%) and $100,000 or more (31%) are more likely to Agree than those with $35,000-49,999 (24%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Disagree (77%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (84% v. 56%)
“God has authority over all people because He created human beings.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (71%), while Westerners are least likely to Agree (57%)
- Americans age 35-49 (66%) and 50-64 (67%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (61%)
- Females (68%) are more likely to Agree than males (62%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less (69%) or have some college (68%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (63%) or a Graduate degree (59%)
- Americans with household income of $25,000-34,999 (69%), $35,000-49,999 (71%), $50,000-74,999 (66%), and $75,000-99,999 (66%) are more likely to Agree than those with $100,000 or more (59%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (85%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (97% v. 58%)
“The Bible has the authority to tell us what we must do.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (56%), followed by those in the Midwest (51%)
- Americans age 18-34 are least likely to Agree (43%)
- Females (52%) are more likely to Agree than males (48%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less (51%) or have some college (52%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Graduate degree (45%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (51%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (72%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (95% v. 39%)
“Humans exist to bring God glory and to enjoy Him.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (65%), while those in the West are least likely (50%)
- Americans age 35-49 (61%) and 50-64 (61%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (54%)
- Females (63%) are more likely to Agree than males (54%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less (63%) or have Some College (62%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (56%) or a Graduate degree (51%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the least likely to Agree (51%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (78%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (95% v. 50%)
“Sex outside of traditional marriage is a sin.”

- Americans in the South (54%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (44%) and West (45%)
- Americans age 35-49 (51%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (47%)
- Females (53%) are more likely to Agree than males (45%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less (56%) or have some college (54%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s (44%) or a Graduate degree (40%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (55%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (69%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (91% v. 40%)
“Abortion is a sin.”

- Americans in the Midwest (52%) and South (52%) are more likely to Agree than those in the West (46%)
- Americans age 35-49 (52%) are more likely to Agree than those 50-64 (46%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (50%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (45%)
- Americans with household income of less than $25,000 (55%), $25,000-34,999 (53%), and $35,000-49,999 (54%) are more likely to Agree than those with $75,000-99,999 (45%) and $100,000 or more (41%)
- African-Americans (55%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (43%), Whites (48%), and Other Ethnicities (42%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (87% v. 41%)
“Gender identity is a matter of choice.”

• Americans in the Northeast (43%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Midwest (36%) and South (36%)
• Americans age 18-34 are the most likely to Agree (43%)
• Asian-Americans are the most likely to Agree (58%)
• Americans with household income of $35,000-49,999 (54%) are more likely to Disagree than those with less than $25,000 (48%)
• Asian-Americans (44%), African-Americans (41%), and Hispanics (47%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (35%)
• Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are less likely to Agree (32% v. 40%)
“God will always reward true faith with material blessings.”

- Americans age 18-34 (28%) are more likely to Agree than those 50-64 (22%)
- Males (28%) are more likely to Agree than females (22%)
- Americans who are High School graduates or less are most likely to agree (33%), while those with a Graduate degree are least likely (18%)
- Americans with household income of less than $25,000 (28%) and $25,000-34,999 (31%) are more likely to Agree than those with $50,000-74,999 (23%) and $100,000 or more (20%)
- African-Americans (38%) are more likely to Agree than Asian-Americans (27%), Whites (21%), and Other Ethnicities (24%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (37% v. 23%)
“The Bible’s condemnation of homosexual behavior doesn’t apply today.”

- Americans in the Northeast are the most likely to Agree (51%)
- Americans age 18-34 are the most likely to Agree (47%)
- Males (44%) are more likely to Agree than females (40%)
- Americans with a Bachelor’s (48%) or a Graduate degree (48%) are more likely to Agree than those who are High School graduates or less (34%) or have Some College (36%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more (49%) are more likely to Agree than those with less than $25,000 (34%), $35,000-49,999 (39%), $50,000-74,999 (43%), and $75,000-99,999 (41%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Disagree (57%)
- Americans with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (75% v. 37%)
“The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe.”

- Americans in the Midwest (62%) and South (67%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (55%) and West (53%)
- Americans age 35-49 (64%) and 50-64 (62%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-34 (56%)
- Females (63%) are more likely to Agree than males (58%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (52%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (43%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (49%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (84%)
“It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (58%), followed by those in the Midwest (52%)
- Americans age 35-49 are the most likely to Agree (57%)
- Females (54%) are more likely to Agree than males (49%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (58%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (52%)
- Americans with household income of less than $25,000 (55%), $25,000-34,999 (56%), and $35,000-49,999 (59%) are more likely to Agree than those with $75,000-99,999 (48%) and $100,000 or more (42%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (70%), followed by Hispanics (53%)
“Jesus Christ’s death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin.”

- Americans in the Midwest (61%) and South (65%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (55%)
- Americans age 35-49 (65%) are the most likely to Agree
- Females (64%) are more likely to Agree than males (57%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (49%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (43%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (51%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (78%)
“Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God’s free gift of eternal salvation.”

- Americans in the South are the most likely to Agree (60%)
- Americans age 35-49 are the most likely to Agree (60%)
- Females (57%) are more likely to Agree than males (51%)
- Americans with a Graduate degree are the most likely to Disagree (59%), followed by those with a Bachelor’s (49%)
- Americans with household income of $100,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (58%)
- African-Americans are the most likely to Agree (73%)