Pastors’ Views on the Return of Christ

Survey of American Protestant Pastors
Methodology

● The phone survey of 1,000 Protestant pastors was conducted August 30 -- September 24, 2019

● The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Quotas were used for church size

● Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the church called

● Responses were weighted by region to more accurately reflect the population

● The completed sample is 1,000 surveys

● The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed ±3.3%

● Margins of error are higher in sub-groups
Survey Responses
41% say that Christians can speed up the return of Christ by sharing the gospel with all people groups

Among Protestant Pastors

Q19: “Christians can speed up the return of Jesus Christ by helping to share the Gospel with all people groups.”
12% say that Christians can speed up the return of Christ by supporting geopolitical changes mentioned in the Bible.

Among Protestant Pastors

Q20: “Christians can speed up the return of Jesus Christ by supporting geo-political changes mentioned in the Bible.”
68% say that culture will increasingly get less moral until Jesus Christ returns

Among Protestant Pastors

Q21: “Culture will increasingly get less moral until Jesus Christ returns.”
Significant Differences

Pastor
Ethnicity
Age
Gender
Education Level
Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

Church
Region
Denomination
Average Attendance
Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the pastor’s ethnicity, age, gender, education, and self-identified Evangelical or Mainline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Self-Identified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>18-44</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>No College Degree</td>
<td>Evangelical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African-American</td>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>Mainline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Ethnicity</td>
<td>55-64</td>
<td></td>
<td>Master’s Degree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>65+</td>
<td></td>
<td>Doctoral Degree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church’s region, denomination, and attendance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Denomination</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Baptist</td>
<td>0-49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>Lutheran</td>
<td>50-99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>Methodist</td>
<td>100-249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>Pentecostal</td>
<td>250+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presbyterian/Reformed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian/Church of Christ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Region is defined by US Census locations
“Christians can speed up the return of Jesus Christ by helping to share the Gospel with all people groups.”

- White pastors (55%) are more likely to Disagree than African American pastors (43%)
- Pastors age 65+ are the most likely to Agree (52%)
- Pastors with no college degree (56%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s degree (35%) or a Master’s degree (38%)
- Pentecostals are the most likely to Agree (66%)
“Christians can speed up the return of Jesus Christ by supporting geo-political changes mentioned in the Bible.”

- African American pastors (20%) and pastors of Other ethnicities (22%) are more likely to Agree than White pastors (11%)
- Pastors age 65+ (16%) are more likely to Agree than pastors age 18-44 (9%)
- Male pastors are more likely to Disagree than female pastors (81% v. 74%)
- Pastors with no college degree (22%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s degree (10%) or a Master’s degree (10%)
- Lutherans are the most likely to Disagree (92%)
“Culture will increasingly get less moral until Jesus Christ returns.”

- Pastors of Other Ethnicities (79%) are more likely to Agree than White pastors (67%)
- Pastors age 45-54 (73%) and 65+ (73%) are more likely to Agree than pastors age 18-44 (62%)
- Male pastors are more likely to Agree than female pastors (72% v. 44%)
- Pastors with no college degree (90%) or a Bachelor’s degree (81%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Master’s degree (61%) or a Doctoral degree (63%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to Agree than Mainline pastors (80% v. 51%)
- Pastors in the Northeast are the least likely to Agree (58%)
- Baptists (86%) and Pentecostals (84%) are more likely to Agree than Lutherans (59%), Methodists (48%), Presbyterian/Reformed (45%), and Christian/Church of Christ (67%)
- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (72%) and 250+ (74%) are more likely to Agree than those with attendance of 0-49 (59%)
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