

FIELDS RIPE FOR HARVEST



SNAPSHOT OF CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

- 2010's views on Christianity
 - How much have the views changed?
 - What do we have to combat to gain souls?
 - Is the work for Christians different today than 2000 years ago?

THE GREAT COMMISSION

- Our calling as Christians
 - Matthew 28.19-20
- Overflowing with gratitude
 - Colossians 2.6-7
- Be prepared for whatever may arise
 - 2 Timothy 4.1-5

EXAMINING THE POLL NUMBERS

- Information from two primary sources
 - Pew Research Center
 - Gallup
- Information not included in these studies
 - International information
 - Most dangerous countries to be a Christian

STATE OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE U.S.

- "U.S. Church Membership Down Sharply in Past Two Decades" | Gallup - 4/18/2019
- Highlights
 - Half of Americans attend a church, synagouge, or mosque
 - 70% in 1999
 - 60% in 2009
 - Increase in those with no religious preference

CHRISTIANS BY STATE

State	Percent of Adults	State	Percent of Adults	State	Percent of Adults	State	Percent of Adults	State	Percent of Adults
Alabama	86%	Hawaii	63%	Massachusetts	58%	New Mexico	75%	South Dakota	79%
Alaska	62%	Idaho	67%	Michigan	70%	New York	60%	Tennessee	81%
Arizona	67%	Illinois	71%	Minnesota	74%	North Carolina	77%	Texas	77%
Arkansas	79%	Indiana	72%	Mississippi	83%	North Dakota	77%	Utah	73%
California	63%	Iowa	77%	Missouri	77%	Ohio	73%	Vermont	54%
Colorado	64%	Kansas	76%	Montana	65%	Oklahoma	79%	Virginia	73%
Connecticut	70%	Kentucky	76%	Nebraska	75%	Oregon	61%	Washington	61%
Deleware	69%	Louisiana	84%	Nevada	66%	Pennsylvania	73%	West Virginia	78%
Florida	70%	Maine	60%	New Hampshire	59%	Rhode Island	75%	Wisconsin	71%
Georgia	79%	Maryland	69%	New Jersey	67%	South Carolina	78%	Wyoming	71%

RELIGIOUS COMPOSITION IN THE SOUTH

Faith	Percent of Adults
Christian	76%
Non-Christian	4%
Unaffiliated	19%
Don't Know	<1%

- Bible Belt
 - Term coined in mid-1920's
- 80% top 10 states in the Bible Belt
- Predominantly Protestant
- 14% believe nothing in particular
- What are people seeking today?

RELIGIOUS COMPOSITION IN GEORGIA

Faith	Percent of Adults
Christian	79%
Non-Christian	3%
Unaffiliated	18%
Don't Know	1%

- Nearly 13,000 congregations
 - 755 in Fulton County
 - 548 in Gwinnett County
 - 520 in Dekalb County
 - 449 in Cobb County
 - 108 in Forsyth County

INTERESTING STATISTICS...WHERE'S THE SCRIPTURE?

- Hearts of men
 - Where do those without a religious preference stand?
 - Willingness to listen?
 - Hard hearts that turn them off to the love of God?
- Boldness of Christians
 - Comes from Christ (Ephesians 3.12)

AGE/GENERATIONAL DISTRIBUTION AMONG CHRISTIANS

Age	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
18-29	17%	17%
30-49	33%	39%
50-64	29%	25%
65+	21%	18%
Generation	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
Younger Millennial	11%	<1%
Older Millennial	12%	13%
Generation X	28%	29%
Baby Boomer	35%	36%
Silent	14%	18%
Greatest	1%	5%

IMPORTANCE OF RELIGION | ATTENDANCE AT SERVICES

Importance	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
Very	68%	66%
Somewhat	25%	26%
Not very	5%	6%
Not at all	2%	2%
Don't Know	1%	1%
Frequency	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
At least once/week	47%	48%
1-2 times a month/ few times a year	36%	35%
Seldom/Never	17%	17%
Don't Know	1%	1%

BELIEF IN GOD | FREQUENCY OF PRAYER

Certainty	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
Absolutely	76%	80%
Fairly	18%	15%
Not very/Not at all	3%	2%
Do not believe	2%	2%
Don't Know	2%	2%
Frequency	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
At least daily	68%	66%
Weekly	17%	18%
Monthly	5%	5%
Seldom/Never	9%	9%
Don't Know	1%	1%

PARTICIPATION IN STUDIES | ABSOLUTE STANDARDS FOR RIGHT AND WRONG

Importance	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
At least once/week	32%	28%
1-2 times a month	11%	10%
Several times a year	9%	8%
Seldom/Never	47%	53%
Don't Know	1%	1%
Belief	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
Clear standards	47%	--
Depends on the situation	36%	--
Neither/Both equally	17%	--
Don't Know	1%	--

BELIEF IN HEAVEN & HELL

	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
Believe	85%	83%
Don't Believe	8%	9%
Other/Don't Know	6%	8%

	Percent of Adults (2014)	Percent of Adults (2007)
Believe	70%	68%
Don't Believe	22%	21%
Other/Don't Know	8%	11%

1ST CENTURY VS. 21ST CENTURY

- Why go through all this data?
 - Same challenges, grander scale
 - Fields are still ready for harvest
- All the world will know
 - Matthew 24.9-14
 - Be **BOLD** - obtain a crown of life