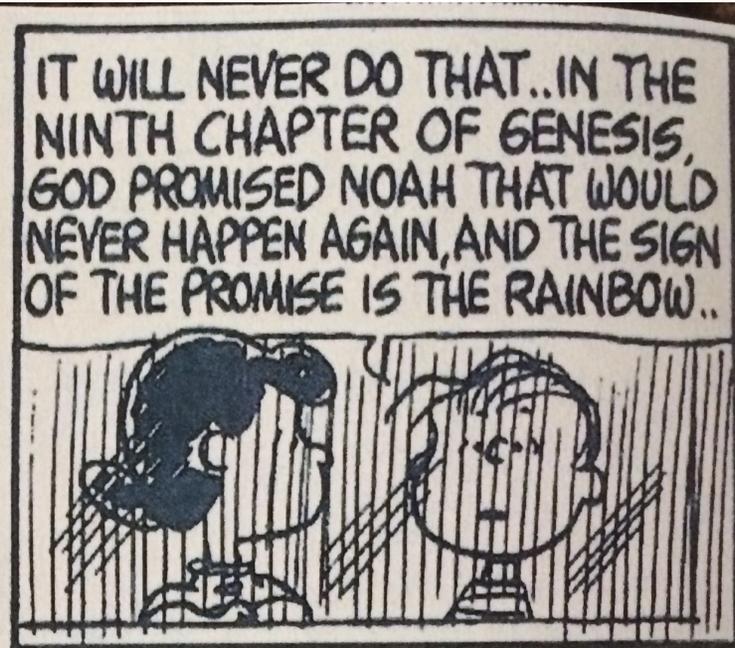


Doctrines that Need Defending

**Ozark Family Camp
Turkey Hill Ranch Bible Camp**



Defending Doctrine

“Shall we not have some champions, in these times, who will deal sternly with heresies for the love of the truth, – men who will stand like rocks in the center of the sea, so that when all others shake, they stand invulnerable and invincible?”

– Charles Haddon Spurgeon
Concerning the
Down Grade Gospel controversy



Tell me what the world is saying
today, and I'll tell you what the
church will be saying in seven years.

— *Francis Schaeffer* —

AZ QUOTES

James Davidson Hunter

“Evangelicalism: the Coming Generation”

James Davidson Hunter, “Evangelism: The Coming Generation, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1987)

Surveyed students belief at 16 leading evangelical colleges among which were: Wheaton, Gordon, Biola, Taylor University, Moody, Liberty University, and others.

Among students he interviewed:

- 50% The Bible Should not be taken literally in matters of science and history.
- 33% Disagreed with the statement “The only hope for heaven is through personal faith in Jesus Christ.
- 46% Felt preaching about hell was in poor taste.

2018 Survey of Evangelical Christians

Ligonier, Lifeway Ministries



AGREE

DON'T KNOW

DISAGREE

People have the ability to turn to God on their own initiative.¹



82%

Individuals must contribute to their own salvation.²



74%

Jesus is the first and greatest being created by God.



71%

God knows all that happens, but doesn't determine all that happens.



65%

2018 Survey of Evangelical Christians

Ligonier, Lifeway Ministries

The Holy Spirit is a force, not a personal being.³



Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature.



God accepts the worship of all religions, including Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.



Even the smallest sin deserves eternal damnation.



Worshiping alone or with one's family is a way to replace church.



My good deeds help to earn my place in heaven.¹



God will always reward faith with material blessings.



1 Ruled out by Council of Orange (A.D. 529); **2** Ruled out by First Council of Nicaea (A.D. 325); **3** Ruled out by First Council of Constantinople (A.D. 381).

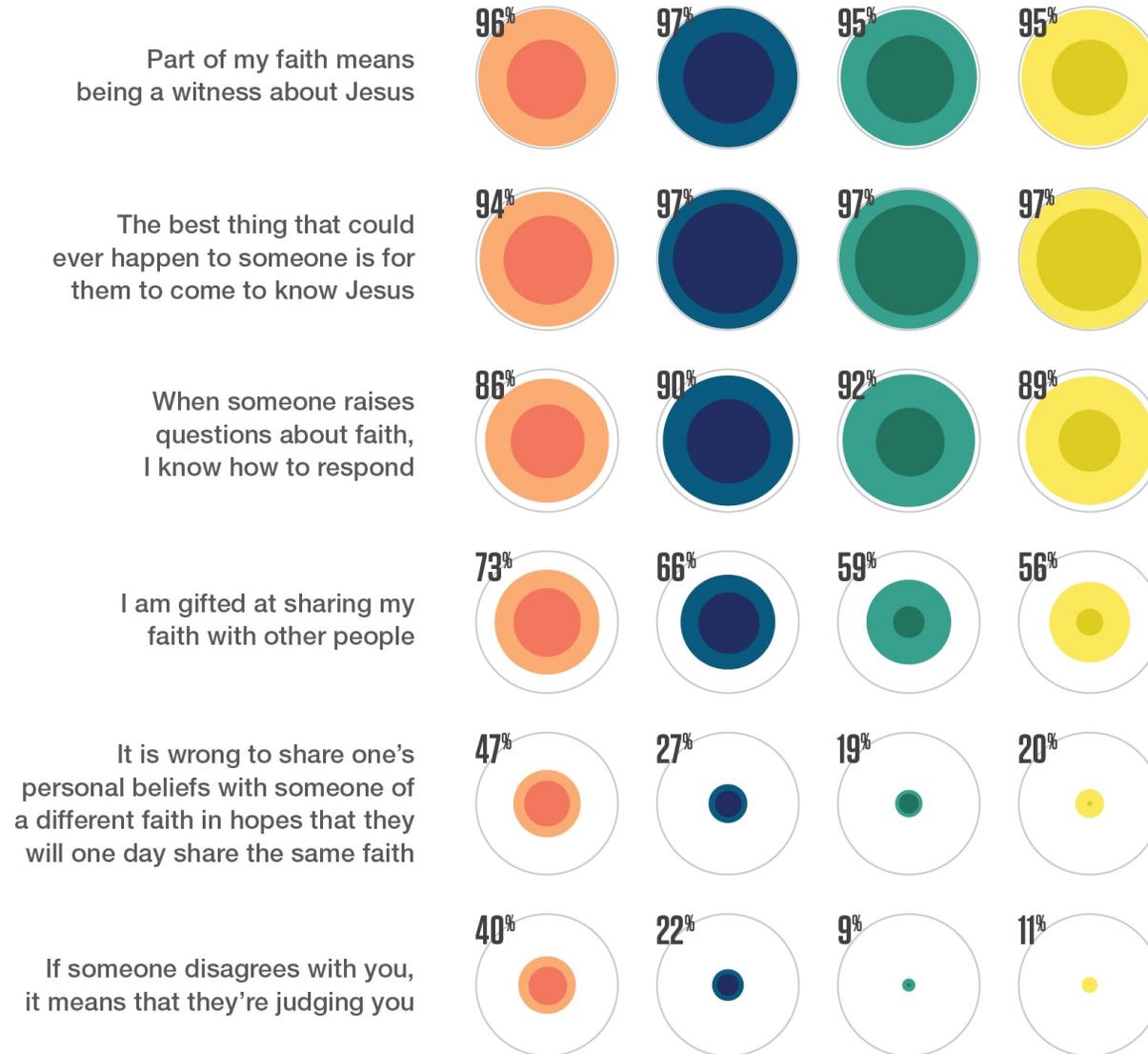
GENERATIONAL DIFFERENCES ON FAITH-SHARING

Barna

% strongly + somewhat agree among US practicing Christians

● Dark = Strongly agree
● Light = Somewhat agree

● Millennials ● Gen X ● Boomers ● Elders



Defending the Faith

1. Centrality of Christ

Deity of Christ
Worship of Christ

Authority of Christ

2. Centrality of Cross and Salvation

Unlimited Atonement
Evangelism

Gospel of Christ
Missions

3. Centrality of the Local Church

Headship of Christ
Discipleship

Spiritual Gifts and the Church
Eldership

4. Centrality of Christ's Coming

Rapture - Pre-Tribulational

5. Centrality of Word of God

Preaching Whole Counsel of God
Commitment to its precepts

Defending the Faith

1. **Deity of Christ**
2. **Salvation by Grace alone through faith - not by works**
3. **Divine Creation (not evolution, man and woman he created)**
4. **Eternal Security**
5. **Holiness of God - God will judge sin of the unsaved**
6. **Heaven and Hell are real**
7. **Importance of the Death of Christ (unlimited atonement)**
8. **Authority of Scripture (Verbal Plenary Inspiration)**
9. **Worship and Lord's Supper**
10. **Marriage - Doctrine of Marriage**
11. **Dispensationalism - Method of Hermeneutics**
12. **Person and Work of the Holy Spirit**
13. **Aggressive Evangelism**
14. **The Doctrine of the Gospel**
15. **World Wide Missionary Effort**
16. **Rapture and Prophetic Teaching**

Three Important Doctrines that Need Defending

1. Dispensationalism

2. Gospel

**3. Non-Calvinism Viewpoint of
Salvation Doctrines**

Why Dispensationalism?

State Churches? Germany, Norway, Italy

Church Armies? Such as there were during the European Reformation.

Religious Cities? Such as Jerusalem, Rome

Polygamy?

Should it be practiced today? Why not?

Dispensationalism speaks to these issues?

What Is Dispensationalism?

Dispensationalism shows Christ to be the center of God's program for the ages and the object of worship for eternity. Dispensationalism shows the failure of man, the mercy of God, and the glory of Christ as both a Savior and King. Dispensationalism has proven itself to be a stimulus for evangelism, and world missions, sound principles for Bible interpretation, the importance of prophecy, the centrality of Christ.

Dispensationalism & Prophecy

— Charles Ryrie —

“For the believer the knowledge of Prophecy provides Joy in the midst of affliction, cleanses and encourages holy living, and gives proof of the reliability of Holy Scriptures. It gives facts about life and death and provides truth about the end of history. Prophecy draws our hearts out in worship to a God who is in complete control and who will accomplish His will in history. To slight prophecy is to miss these benefits.”

Dispensationalism

Safeguard against Theological Liberalism

—*Dr. Charles Ryrie*

“Allegorical interpretation fosters modernism.

As has often been pointed out, it is almost impossible to find a premillennial liberal or modernist. Among “brethren”, who are supposed to be the founders of modern literalism, liberalism is practically unknown.

On the other hand, the great body of modernistic Protestantism is avowedly Amillennial. Thus the allegorical method of Amillennialism is a step toward modernism.”

Charles Ryrie, The Basis of the Premillennial Faith, (Loizeaux, Neptune, NJ), 1981, p. 46

Many Mix Dispensations – Which almost always leads to Error

Some Christians act as if they are living in a different dispensation?

Some behave as if they are living in the Dispensation of the Law

Law, Judgment, Synods, religious (law making)bodies, everything based on rules, laws, ceremonies, religious vestments, ceremonial dress, etc.

Seek to Christianize the world through religious laws and moral teaching, etc.

Anglicanism, Presbyterianism, Lutheranism, Catholicism

Dispensation of the Kingdom

Miracles, Acts of power, terms “Kingdom living”, “Kingdom authority”

Song: “Majesty, worship his majesty, kingdom authority flow from His throne unto his own his anthem Sing.”

Pentecostals, Charismatics, etc.

Strengths of Dispensationalism

1. Dispensationalism Places Christ in the First Place
2. 500 Reference to Christ's Second coming
3. Invigorates Missions and Spiritual life of Believers
4. Stimulates Bible Study

Dispensationalism

Safeguard in Interpretation of Scripture

Genesis 4:9, 9:6

Matthew 10 & 28

Guarding the Gospel

Some Evangelical Statistics

- ◆ 275 evangelical denominations in North America.
- ◆ Average age of an evangelical believer is 55 years old.
- ◆ 40,000 students attend evangelical seminaries in the U.S.
- ◆ 11% read the Bible every day.
- ◆ 5% of evangelicals will lead a unsaved person to Christ.
- ◆ 90% of churches in the US are 200 persons or less, 70% are 75 persons or less, one researcher believes 20,000 churches will close in the next 10 years.

Evangelical Church Figures & Statistics

From: James McDonald "Walking in the Word" Ministries/Francis Schaffer Institute

- In 1950 - 375,000 churches - 2015 - 250,000 — 1/3 less evangelical churches. In 1915 - 500,000 churches.
- Of the 250,000 churches 80% (200,000) are either stagnant or declining.
- 4,000 churches close their doors every year.
- 3,500 people leave the church every single day.
- Of 46,000 Southern Baptist Churches 80% see "0 to 1" baptized of the 12-29 year old age group.

Jehovah Witnesses

Statistics

- In 1947 - Reached 1,000,000 (one million followers)
- Today 2015 - 19,950,019 (nearly 20 million) 80 percent in North America
- In the US, there are 1 Jehovah Witness for every 249 people.
- Jehovah Witnesses hold 9,499,933 (9 1/2 million) Bible studies every month.
- Reported Percent of growth 16% - Critics report 2.2 higher than any evangelical denomination.

Five Reasons Why Most Southern Baptist Churches Baptize Almost No Millennials

(UPDATED) SBC task force 'owns the problem' and identifies five sources of 'stark patterns of decline' in evangelism.

KATE TRACY MAY 29, 2014 11:57 AM



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KATE TRACY MAY 29, 2014 11:57 AM

In last year's Annual Church Profile, 60 percent of the more than 46,000 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) reported no youth baptisms (ages 12 to 17) in 2012, and 80 percent reported only one or zero baptisms among young adults (ages 18 to 29). One in four Southern Baptist churches reported zero baptisms overall in 2012, while the "only consistently growing" baptism group was children under five years old.

Five Reasons Why Most Southern Baptist Churches Baptize Almost No Millennials

(UPDATED) SBC task force 'owns the problem' and identifies five sources of 'stark patterns of decline' in evangelism. KATE TRACY MAY 29, 2014 11:57 AM

The report identifies five problems behind the baptism drought:

Spiritual: "Many of our SBC pastors and churches are not effectively engaged in sharing the gospel and yet continue business as usual. We need a sense of brokenness and repentance over the spiritual climate of our churches and our nation."

Leadership: "Many pastors have confessed to being overwhelmed in the operation and ministries of the church to the neglect of being involved in regular personal evangelism. This lack of leading by example is negatively impacting our church members' engagement in personal evangelism."

Discipleship: "Many pastors have confessed to focusing on attendance while giving little attention to reproducing fruit-bearing disciples who are involved in intentional evangelism."

The Next Generation: "Although our churches have increasingly provided programs for children, students and young adults, we are not being effective in winning and discipling the next generation to follow Christ."

Celebration: "Many of our churches have chosen to celebrate other things as a measure of their success rather than new believers following Christ in baptism. We have drifted into a loss of expectation."

Five Reasons Why Most Southern Baptist Churches Baptize Almost No Millennials

(UPDATED) SBC task force 'owns the problem' and identifies five sources of 'stark patterns of decline' in evangelism.

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Meanwhile, this year's Annual Church Profile (see charts below) states that while baptisms declined 1.46 percent to 310,368 baptisms in 2013 (vs. a 5.5 percent decline in 2012), the SBC gained more than 90 churches for a total of 46,125 congregations. Baptist Press [notes](#):

While the number of SBC churches increased, reported membership of those churches declined by 136,764, down 0.9 percent to 15.7 million members. Primary worship attendance declined 2.21 percent to an average of 5.8 million Sunday worshippers.

Christianity Today has reported how SBC [baptisms keep dropping](#) but [new churches keep increasing](#).

C. H. Spurgeon

Where the gospel is fully and powerfully preached, with the Holy Spirit sent down from heaven, our churches not only hold their own, but win converts; but when that which constitutes our power is gone—we mean when the gospel is concealed, and the life of prayer is slighted the whole thing becomes mere form and fiction. For this thing our heart is grieved.”

—Sword and Trowel Magazine —August 1887

H. A. Ironside (1875-1951)

Gospel Preaching

"Souls are harmed by an easy-going ministry that does not arouse the conscience, which lets people complacently drift on to a lost eternity. Conversion must be a real experience. The words of the Lord Jesus Christ surely rebukes such folly: Except you be converted, and become as little child, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven."(Matt 18:3)

—Harry A. Ironside (1876-1951) from "Sailing With Paul" 1939

H. A. Ironside (1875-1951)

Seeking to Win Souls

“Let me give a word to those who seek to win souls: Do not try to rush people into confessing Christ; do not try to make them say they are saved. Endeavor to find out if there is any real exercise about their sins, if the Spirit of God has awakened them. The reason a great many people make a profession of Christianity and appear to come out for Christ in revival meetings, and soon afterward drift back to their former ways, is that there is no real work of God in their soul. They have never known divine conviction of sin. The first consideration is that men might be awakened to see their need of Christ. Then give the gospel to them. That is the divine order.”

—Harry Ironside, *1 & 2 Thessalonians*, (New York, NY: Loizeaux, 1976), p. 106-107

-Dr. John Phillips -

Comments on Acts 26:18

“Open their eyes, turn them from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God...”

“The power to do that is inherent in the gospel...in the gospel resides power (dunamis), the mighty, irresistible power of God, the power to open eyes and break chains!”

—John Phillips, *Exploring Acts*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 1986), p. 482

John MacArthur

from “Resources to Edify the Bride of Christ”

**Acts 26:18 “To open their eye, to turn from darkness to light,
from the power of darkness to God...”**

**“The Word of God is perfectly able to
open an unbelievers eyes to the truth of
the gospel, convict him of sin—or even
do a radical surgery on his soul.”**

Non-Calvinism Viewpoint on Salvation Doctrines

The hardest verse for a Calvinist to explain?

John 3:16

**“ For God so loved the world that He
gave His only begotten Son that
whosoever believes on Him should
not perish but have everlasting life.”**

Non-Calvinism Position on Salvation Doctrines

Calvinism Fosters Division

Jean O. Gibson -
Position Paper at Fairhaven Bible Chapel website

“One of the great theological controversies of Christian history has been over what is called “Calvinism.” Godly men have held different positions on this question. There has never been general agreement about this issue and probably never will be. However it continues to be a most controversial issue today and has divided churches and believers all over the world. That is a major problem. We do not want to bring division and controversy into our assembly.”

Calvinism is Dangerous on the Character of God

John Calvin : “Every thing that comes to pass is decreed of God...”

Calvinists will teach that every thing that has occurred in this world **even sin** is decreed by God.

A. W. Pink - “Clearly it was the divine will that sin should enter this world, or it would not have done so. God had the power to prevent it. Nothing ever comes to pass except what He decreed... God’s decree that sin should enter this world was a secret hid in Himself.” —A.W. Pink, “Gleanings from the Scriptures”, Moody, p. 207

John MacArthur - “Sin is something God meant to happen. He planned for it, ordained it—or in the words of the *Westminster Confession*, He decreed it. Evil and all its consequences were included in God’s eternal decree before the foundation of the world.”

Edwin Palmer - “To emphasize the sovereignty of God even more, it is necessary to point out that everything is foreordained by God... It is even biblical to say that God has foreordained sin. If sin was outside the plan of God, then not a single important affair of life would be ruled by God. For what action of man is perfectly good?... Thus, once again, we confess with full force the absolute sovereignty of God. He predestines, elects, and foreordains.” —Edwin H. Palmer, “*The Five Points of Calvinism*”, p.82-83

Four Essential Points

- 1. All men have a ability from God and can place faith in Christ for salvation.**
- 2. God loves all mankind and wants all men and women to come to faith in Christ.**
- 3. Christ Died on the Cross for all**
- 4. All believers are eternally secure and can never lose their salvation. They have the present assurance of salvation and future eternal security.**

Passages of Scripture

“Whosoever believes on Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

“Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” (Acts 2:21)

“Whosoever believes in him shall receive the remission of sins.” (Acts 10:43)

“The Lord is...not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9)

“God our Savior who will have all men be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Tim. 2:4)

...More Scriptures

1 John 2:1-2 “Jesus Christ, the righteous; and He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the whole world.”

Romans 5:6 “For when we were yet without strength, in due time, Christ died for the ungodly.”

Romans 5:8 “God demonstrated his love toward us in the while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.”

John 10:28 “And I given them eternal life and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”