

## Near Christian Survey - 34 questions

This is a counter-cultural or not quite “mere Christian” survey. This survey assumes the plain and easily understood message of the Bible on important matters of faith and life is timeless truth. It is the kind of truth that allows individuals, families and groups, and organizations to make wise decisions, costly perhaps but only in the short-run. These are hard truths that run against the “wisdom” of most educators of our day, TV and other media, teachers, parents, and even religious leaders.

How close am I to accepting the main teachings in the Bible? Some clear and easily understood teachings in the Bible are hard to accept, so they are either ignored, modified or rejected. Here are some relating to liberal teachings, and others taken from a classic book on the subject, *Truth's victory over error*, by David Dickson, and other sources. Scripture proofs are from *The New King James Version*. Do you believe the message?

**Please register your view after each verse: Y= Yes, N= No, U= Unsure.**

Liberal, non-biblical teachings corrected:

1. Qualifications of bishops (elders) and deacons, and good husbands. *A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence. 1 Timothy 3: 2-4*  
*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

2. *Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 3: 12-13*  
*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

The role of husbands and wives.

3. *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. Ephesians 5: 25-28*  
*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

4. *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. Ephesians 5: 22-24*  
*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

All are sinners.

5. *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23*  
*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

Sexual immorality, idolatry, e.g., condemned.

6. *Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

7. *But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints [believers]; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. Ephesians 5:3-4*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

The final punishment: God's anger.

8. *"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." John 3:36*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

9. *The Son of Man [Jesus] will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Matthew 13:41-42*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

Keep the Sabbath holy; respect parents.

10. *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, Exodus 20: 8-10a*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

11. *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction. My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother. Proverbs 1: 7-8*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

12. The Scriptures are to be the rule of faith and life, not unwritten traditions:

*Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone. Ephesians 2:19-20*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

13. *For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. Revelations 22:18-19*

14. *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

The authority of Scripture does not depend on the interpretation of any person or church.

*15. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:19-21, 2 Timothy 3:16 point 14 above.*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

16. If there is a question about the true meaning and full sense of any scripture it should be clarified by other, clearer scripture. See above 2 Peter 1:21

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

Scripture (and what may be deduced from it) expresses all that is needed concerning God's glory, salvation, faith and love.

*17. From childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 2 Timothy 3:15*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

*18. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.*

*As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. Galatians 1:8-9*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

The Bible clearly states all things necessary to be informed and believed.

*19. Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path. Psalm 119:105*

*The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple. Psalm 119:130*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

The Holy Spirit, speaking in Scripture, is the supreme judge by which all controversies of religion are determined.

*20. Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God". Matthew 22:29*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

It is the good will and pleasure of God why the mysteries of faith for conversion are hid from some who in some respects are better than the chosen ones.

*21. Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.*

*Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. Matthew 11:25-26*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

The grace of salvation (regeneration, justifying faith, and perseverance to the end) is given only to the elect, and is the effect, not the cause of election.

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

22. *For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. Romans 8:28-29*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

Those only believe whom God has ordained to eternal life.

23. *Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. Acts 14:48.*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

24. *Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness. Titus 1:1-2*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

God's grace of regeneration is invincible, and always effective and powerful.

25. *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins. Ephesians 2:1*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

The grace of regeneration can never be lost.

26. *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 1Peter 1:3-5*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

Christ endured grievous torments in his soul.

27. *And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me." Matthew 26:37-38.*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

28. *And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" Luke 22:44*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

Not even the most advanced Christian or Saint can become pure, completely free of sin, in this world.

29. *For there is not a just man on earth who does good And does not sin. Ecclesiastes 7:20*

*I believe it [ ] ; It influences me [ ] ; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ] .*

30. *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9*

Other unpopular teachings to consider:

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31. *[Jesus said] You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Matthew 5:27-28*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

Only the elect or predestinated are effectively called by the word and Spirit out of the natural state of sin to salvation through Jesus Christ.

32. *What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded. Just as it is written: "God has given them a spirit of stupor, Eyes that they should not see And ears that they should not hear, To this very day." Romans 11: 7-8*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

33. *In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. Ephesians 1:11-12*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

An unsaved person may not by strength of nature or free will do any good works that might predispose him or her to receive the grace of God.

34. *[Jesus said] I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. John 15:5*

*I believe it [ ]; It influences me [ ]; I hope it will influence me (more) [ ].*

***May all near Christians become mere Christians, by God's mercy,***

***In Christ's name, Amen.***