

STRONGR Personal Theological Survey

To serve as a jumping off point for meaningful theological conversation.



Section 1 - Orthodoxy

*In this section, you will be exploring your view of Christian Orthodoxy. In a Christian context, an orthodox belief often refers to one that is **essential to Christianity**. Rejection of an orthodox belief puts one outside the realm of authentic Christianity. In the following section, rate whether you believe the statement identifies an issue that is essential for orthodox Christianity. Choose the answer that best matches your opinion.*

- 4 - The issue is essential for Christian orthodoxy
- 3 - The issue is important for Christian orthodoxy
- 2 - The issue is unimportant for Christian orthodoxy
- 1 - The issue is completely irrelevant to Christian orthodoxy

PART 1

1. There is one true God that has eternally existed as three persons.

1 2 3 4

2. God the Father is the almighty creator of heaven and earth.

1 2 3 4

3. Jesus Christ is God the Father's only Son and is our Lord.

1 2 3 4

4. Jesus Christ was truly God.

1 2 3 4

5. Jesus Christ was truly Man.

1 2 3 4

6. Jesus Christ was born a virgin, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; then on the third day he rose again from the dead.

1 2 3 4

7. Jesus lived a truly sinless life.

1 2 3 4

8. Jesus' death on the cross atoned for sin.

1 2 3 4

9. The Holy Spirit is truly God.

1 2 3 4

10. The 66 books of the protestant Bible are accurately described as the word of God (in their original autographs).

1 2 3 4

11. The word of God is the supreme authority for truth and for how humans should organize their lives.

1 2 3 4

12. Humanity exists in a fallen state and is in need of saving.

1 2 3 4

13. Those who place their faith in Jesus for the promise of life can receive grace and be saved.

1 2 3 4

14. Those who die with Christ in this life will be resurrected with Christ to eternal life.

1 2 3 4

15. Those who reject Christ in this life will be eternally separated from God.

1 2 3 4

16. Jesus will return again to judge the living and the dead.

1 2 3 4

PART 2

1. The word of God is accurately described as inerrant. (in its original autographs)

1 2 3 4

2. The word of God is accurately described as infallible. (in its original autographs)

1 2 3 4

3. Human beings are born into a sinful state and immediately are in need of saving.

1 2 3 4

4. Those who reject Christ will suffer eternal conscious torment in Hell.

1 2 3 4

5. Jesus' death on the cross atoned for sin by means of substitution. (Jesus took our rightful place on the cross)

1 2 3 4

6. Jesus took the punishment of believer's sins on the cross.

1 2 3 4

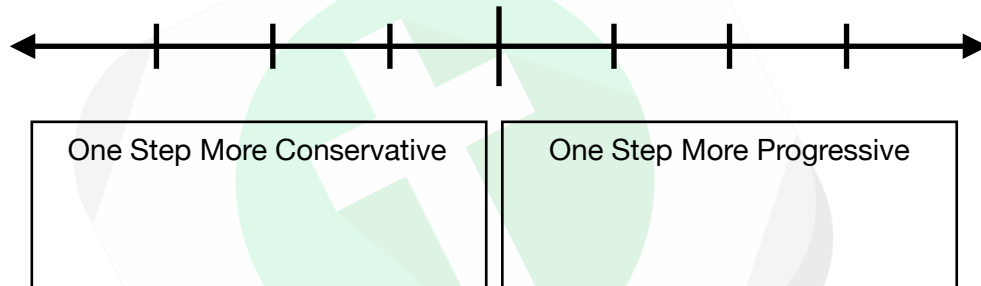
PART 3

Are there any other beliefs that you think constitute an orthodox Christian belief? (meaning those who do not believe it are not authentically Christian) If so, indicate them below.

Section 2 - Key Theological Plots

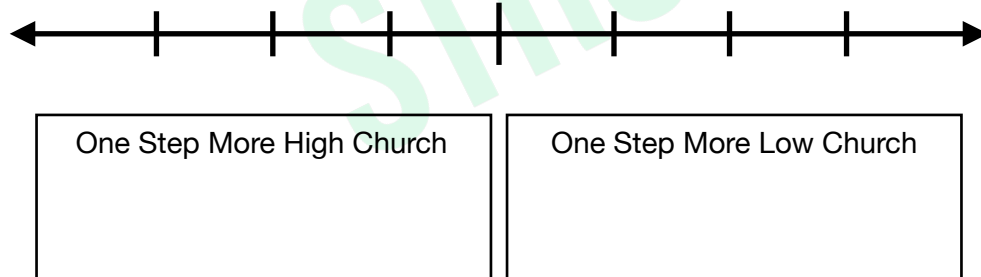
Place yourself on the following theological plots. Identify what a person one step to the left and one step to the right would view differently than you.

CONSERVATIVE VS. PROGRESSIVE



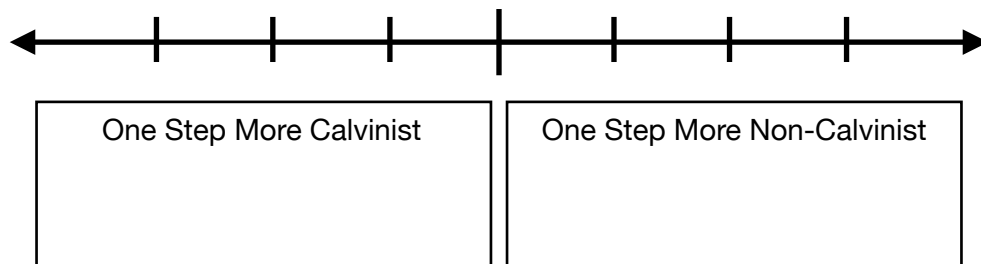
HIGH CHURCH VS. LOW CHURCH

High church thinking views the church as being authoritative in some sense. Low church thinking views the church as **not** being authoritative and places sole emphasis on scripture. A centrist position might view the scriptural interpretation of a denomination's leadership with high regard. A little less high church may simply place high value on honoring Pastoral staff.



CALVINIST VS. NON-CALVINIST

There's not enough room here to unpack these positions. If you are unaware of what Calvinism entails and what the various counter positions believe, just skip this section.



Section 3 - Practical Theology

Answer the following questions as concisely as possible.

1. What do you view as being the three most successful agendas of the enemy in our present culture?

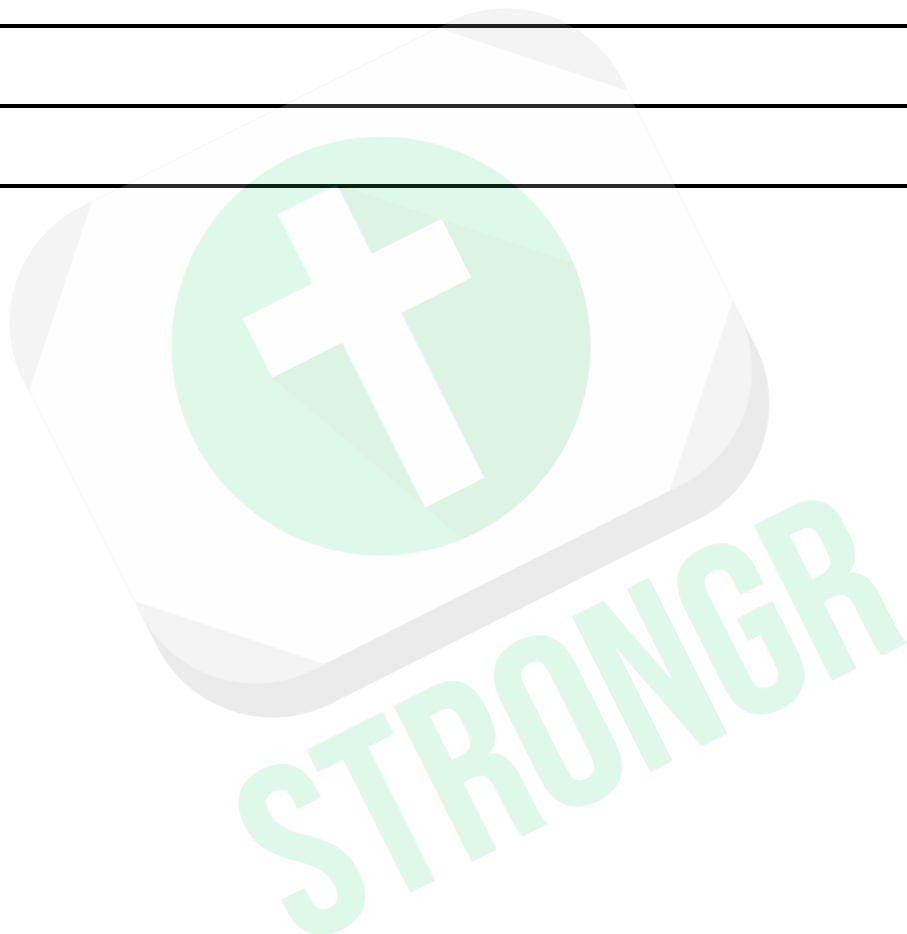
2. What do you think the three biggest injustices are in our present culture?

3. What do you think the three most dangerous ideas are that infiltrate the modern church in our present culture?

4. What do you think are three topics that Jesus would address today in the modern Christian church?

5. What are the three most important things for Christians to hope for?

6. What are the three most controversial things that you believe *are* compatible with true Christian love.



Using this Survey

The entire purpose of this survey is to provide a meaningful way to discuss several important aspects of theology. Two or more people who have each taken this survey should be able to fairly easily identify some of their unique theological differences. Let's explore what differences in each section would indicate.

SECTION 1 (ORTHODOXY) - PART 1

This part looks at beliefs that have consistently been viewed as orthodox Christian beliefs. These statements are purposely worded in such a way that every different type of Christian could place a four and affirm total orthodoxy. Any one of these that is answered differently would be a good jumping off point for further discussion. Good questions would be **“How would you reword the statement, changing the least amount possible, to be able to truthfully give it a four?”**

SECTION 1 (ORTHODOXY) - PART 2

This part looks at several issues that have strong traditional views, yet have come under more scrutiny recently (post enlightenment).

SECTION 1 (ORTHODOXY) - PART 3

This section gives room for someone to identify other views they believe constitute an issue of orthodoxy. Anything in this box would be an interesting point of discussion. Some Christian groups have historically attempted to shrink the boundaries of what a true Christian is. They might have dozens more things they consider essential beliefs. Other types of Christians might say things like “Do you believe in Jesus? Then you’re a Christian.” This type would be highly uncomfortable with this whole process. These respective types of Christians have truly foundational differences that change the way they see almost everything within Christianity.

SECTION 2 (PLOTING)

These three plots may represent the most substantial differentiating lines within the Christian church. Each one of these issues is “secondary” in nature. What this means is that while they likely are not issues of Christian orthodoxy, they are deeply important issues that may render two believers “at odds” with one another. A church that has decent clarity on these plots and members with moderately unified groupings will be able to “labor in the kingdom” well together.

SECTION 3 (PRACTICAL THEOLOGY)

This section is meant to evaluate the way that a person sees the world. Again, a group of people that largely see the world in ways **that are not incompatible with one another** will be able to “labor in the kingdom” well together. For example, if one person sees the aborting of healthy unborn lives as the biggest injustice and another sees the restriction of those abortions as the biggest injustice, we must contend with the fact that these two lenses are utterly incompatible with one another.