

**Entrance Examination
Christian Doctrine**

Name: _____
Telford Work

*“Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first, the lesson afterward.”
– Vernon Law, pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates*

This exam is open book, open note, open mouth, open mind. Before you answer these questions, discuss them with those around you. Have fun. Debate, agree, disagree, and make a new friend.

Choose from the following options for each question. If possible, justify your answer in one or two sentences.

- 1: I know it's false
- 2: I think it's false
- 3: I am unsure or don't know
- 4: I think it's true
- 5: I know it's true

God

1. ___ Our prayers can really change God's mind.
2. ___ Christians believe God is three-in-one as water, ice, and steam are three-in-one.
3. ___ Only God is holy.
4. ___ People in other religious traditions experience God too.
5. ___ God is so beyond our conception that trying to describe God is useless or idolatrous.
6. ___ Before creation there was no God the Son, only God the Father.

Creation

7. ___ Evidence that the universe has some kind of design or is the result of some kind of intelligence proves the existence of God.
8. ___ If human beings evolved from other species (see Genesis 1:24-30), then the Bible is wrong.
9. ___ If the earth revolves around the sun (see Matthew 5:45), then the Bible is wrong.
10. ___ God made all things in the universe, including sin.

11. ___ Relationship with God is the only important human relationship.

Sin and Grace

12. ___ People have the power to keep themselves from sinning.

13. ___ Sin began when Satan, a fallen angel, deceived Eve.

14. ___ Some sins are more grave than others.

15. ___ To become more and more holy is also to become less and less human.

16. ___ Because God respects human freedom, God waits until people ask for help to begin saving them.

17. ___ People are born sinful and deserving of punishment.

18. ___ The future is predestined.

Jesus Christ

19. ___ Jesus always knew he was God.

20. ___ Jesus only lived, died, and rose again because the Law of Moses failed as a way to salvation.

21. ___ Christian belief in the divinity of Jesus developed only many years after Jesus' death.

22. ___ Jesus is concerned about people's hearts and actions, not their theologies.

23. ___ Jesus is God the redeemer, not God the creator.

Salvation

24. ___ The world's religious traditions all teach the same basic truth.

25. ___ Jesus paid for the sins of everyone, even those who are never saved.

26. ___ Converting to Christianity is basically affirming a set of ideas about Jesus.
27. ___ People today cannot be saved unless they hear and believe the good news of Jesus Christ before they die.
28. ___ Infants who die without having heard the good news of Jesus Christ might still be saved.
29. ___ To be a healthy disciple requires more than accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and personal savior, namely active participation in activities such as worship, service, prayer, and study.
30. ___ Christian belief in the resurrection developed only many years after Jesus' death.

Eternity

31. ___ The Kingdom of God has come and gone, and we are waiting for it to come back.
32. ___ Hell describes the coming eternal destruction of unbelievers, not a place where they 'live' forever.
33. ___ After Jesus comes again, people will live in heaven rather than on earth.
34. ___ At any time, believers could be "raptured" to heaven while the earth undergoes a seven-year tribulation, after which Jesus will return and establish a millennial kingdom.
35. ___ We are already living in the last days.

Church

36. ___ There is really only one true Church.
37. ___ Baptism is a significant event in a person's salvation.
38. ___ The Church went fundamentally wrong shortly after the apostles died, and only recovered many centuries later.
39. ___ Biblical prophecies concerning "Israel" refer to the present nation-state of Israel.
40. ___ The Roman Catholic Church teaches worship of Mary and other "saints."

41. ___ The Roman Catholic Church teaches that people are made right before God by God's grace through faith.
42. ___ You are obligated to leave a church if the pastor sins and will not repent or leave.
43. ___ You are obligated to leave a church that fails to meet your needs.
44. ___ The main point of the Church is to make the world a better place.
45. ___ The main point of the Church is to save souls.
46. ___ Belonging to a Church is more important than your national citizenship.
47. ___ For women to lead churches is unbiblical.
48. ___ Mormons are Christians.

B. Answer the following questions.

49. What is the most important teaching of the Christian faith, and why?
50. Name a traditional teaching of the Christian faith (in history, or in your church) that you consider unimportant, and explain why.
51. Name a traditional teaching of the Christian faith (in history, or in your church) that you consider wrong, and explain why.
52. What is the most compelling reason for either your belief in God, or your disbelief in God?
53. If you had to describe the Christian faith in only two or three sentences to someone who was only somewhat familiar with it, what would you say?