

**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. \_\_\_ Jews and Christians have different doctrines of creation.
9. \_\_\_ If human beings evolved from other species (see Genesis 1:24-30 and 2:7-22), then the Bible is wrong.
10. \_\_\_ If the earth revolves around the sun (see Matthew 5:45), then the Bible is wrong.

11. \_\_\_ God made all things in the universe, including sin.
12. \_\_\_ Relationship with God is the only important human relationship.

### **Sin and Grace**

13. \_\_\_ People have the power to keep themselves from sinning.
14. \_\_\_ Sin began when Satan, a fallen angel, deceived Eve.
15. \_\_\_ Some sins are more grave than others.
16. \_\_\_ To become more and more holy is also to become less and less human.
17. \_\_\_ Because God respects human freedom, God waits until people ask for help to begin saving them.
18. \_\_\_ People are born sinful and deserving of punishment.
19. \_\_\_ The future is predestined.

### **Jesus Christ**

20. \_\_\_ Jesus always knew he was God.
21. \_\_\_ Jesus only lived, died, and rose again because the Law of Moses had failed as a way to salvation.
22. \_\_\_ Christian belief in the divinity of Jesus developed only many years after Jesus' death.
23. \_\_\_ Jesus is concerned about people's hearts and actions, not their theologies.
24. \_\_\_ Jesus is God the redeemer, not God the creator.

### **Salvation**

25. \_\_\_ The world's religious traditions all teach the same basic truth.

26. \_\_\_ Jesus paid for the sins of everyone, even those who are never saved.
27. \_\_\_ Converting to Christianity is basically affirming a set of ideas about Jesus.
28. \_\_\_ People today cannot be saved unless they hear and believe the good news of Jesus Christ before they die.
29. \_\_\_ Christian belief in the resurrection developed only many years after Jesus' death.
30. \_\_\_ Infants who die without having heard the good news of Jesus Christ might still be saved.
31. \_\_\_ 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.

### **Eternity**

32. \_\_\_ The Kingdom of God has come and gone, and we are waiting for it to come back.
33. \_\_\_ Hell describes the coming eternal destruction of unbelievers, not a place where they 'live' forever.
34. \_\_\_ After Jesus comes again, people will live in heaven rather than on earth.
35. \_\_\_ 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.
36. \_\_\_ We are already living in the last days.

### **Church**

37. \_\_\_ There is really only one true Church.
38. \_\_\_ Baptism is a significant event in a person's salvation.
39. \_\_\_ The Church went fundamentally wrong shortly after the apostles died, and was only restored many centuries later.
40. \_\_\_ Biblical prophecies concerning "Israel" refer to the present nation-state of Israel.

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

**B. Answer the following questions.**

50. What is the most important teaching of the Christian faith, and why?
51. Name a traditional teaching of the Christian faith (in history, or in your church) that you consider unimportant, and explain why.
52. Name a traditional teaching of the Christian faith (in history, or in your church) that you consider wrong, and explain why.
53. What is the most compelling reason for either your belief in God, or your disbelief in God?
54. 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?