

**Entrance Examination
Church History**

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.

A. Answer “true” or “false.” If possible, justify your answer in one or two sentences.

1. ___ Jesus Christ founded a spiritual movement, not an institutional church.
2. ___ After the last apostle died, the Christian Church fell away from the truth.
3. ___ It was a good thing when Christianity became the Roman Empire’s official faith.
4. ___ It is unspiritual to recite prayers written in a book.
5. ___ America’s Founding Fathers were Christians founding a Christian nation.
6. ___ Most of the world’s Christians live in Europe and North America.
7. ___ Christianity is a religion of peace.
8. ___ Christian leaders have always agreed that Jesus is God.
9. ___ There is really only one true Church.
10. ___ Until they confess faith in Christ themselves, children are less than full members of the Church.
11. ___ The first major split among Christians was the Protestant Reformation.
12. ___ Belonging to the Church is unimportant to salvation.

13. ___ No one spoke in tongues between the first century and the twentieth century.
14. ___ For Catholics to commemorate a saint on a particular day (*e.g.*, St. Patrick's Day on March 17) is superstitious.
15. ___ Protestants initiated the revival of world missions after the Middle Ages.
16. ___ God offers saving grace through "sacraments" such as baptism and communion.
17. ___ Both Catholics and Protestants believe this.
18. ___ Christianity is really just a set of ideas about God and the world.
19. ___ Martin Luther wanted to remain in the Roman Catholic Church.
20. ___ Church leaders took the Bible very seriously before the Reformation.
21. ___ Mormons are Christians.
22. ___ Children of Christians should be allowed to choose whether they too become Christians.
23. ___ Christianity was spiritually and intellectually vital during the Dark Ages.
24. ___ A church with immoral leaders is no longer a true church.
25. ___ Protestants have always agreed which books belong in the Bible.
26. ___ The Enlightenment in modern Europe rejected traditional Christianity.
27. ___ It is good that Protestants and Catholics split in the Reformation.

28. ___ Predestination first became an issue in the Church with the rise of Calvinism.
29. ___ Early Christians changed biblical texts so they would match the teachings of the Catholic Church.
30. ___ John Wesley urged Methodists to split from the Anglican (Episcopal) Church.
31. ___ Most Christians believe that after the Rapture and the second coming of Jesus, there will be one thousand years of peace on earth, then the last judgment.
32. ___ Holidays like Christmas and Easter are pagan festivals that only became “Christian” after the Roman Empire embraced Christianity.
33. ___ The world’s religions basically teach the same basic truth.
34. ___ The world’s religions basically offer the same spiritual experience.
35. ___ A civil governments and the Christian Church should work together to make society orderly and faithful.

B. Choose the best answer and briefly explain why it is the best.

36. ___ The best measure of a church’s integrity is:
- A. How its members feel about Jesus.
 - B. Its dedication to evangelism.
 - C. Its involvement in helping the wider society.
 - D. How biblical its preaching is.
 - E. Whether it has bishops.
 - F. Whether it obeys the Pope.
 - G. Whether the Holy Spirit is working powerfully there.
 - H. Whether it has specific creeds or statements of faith.
 - I. Whether its people are Christlike.
 - J. The moral integrity of its leaders.
 - K. Something else: _____.
 - L. Some combination of these: _____.

C. Briefly answer as many of the following questions as you like.

37. Name one event that occurred between 100 AD and 500 AD with important consequences for Christians.

38. Name one event that occurred between 501 AD and 1500 AD with important consequences for Christians.

39. Name one event that occurred between 1501 AD and 1900 AD with important consequences for Christians.

40. Name two events that occurred since 1900 AD with important consequences for Christians.

41. Name a historical teaching of the Christian tradition that you consider unimportant, and explain why.

42. Name a historical teaching of the Christian tradition that you consider wrong, and explain why.

43. If you had to describe the history of Christianity in only one paragraph, what would you say?