

forward and eventually gained the support of “leading evangelicals,” including Bill Bright and James I. Packer.

Yet the movement was not without its critics who said that the ECT document was “a colossal compromise with Rome.” Dallas Theological Seminary would not endorse the document and evangelicals such as John MacArthur, R.C. Sproul, John Ankerberg, and others were actively outspoken about its call for ecumenism. At issue was ECT’s statement, “That we are justified by grace, through faith because of Christ,” which was said to contradict the teaching of Scripture that man is justified through faith *alone* — apart from any human contribution.

—MKG

POLL SHOWS EVOLUTION ECLIPSES CREATIONISM

A recent Harris Poll shows that Eastern philosophy, naturalism, and paranormal belief continue to maintain a significant acceptance among Westerners. According to the poll, “substantial minorities believe in ghosts, UFOs, witches, astrology, and the belief that they themselves were once other people.”

While 80 percent of adult Americans say they believe in God — a figure which has remained unchanged since the question was last asked by the polling organization in 2005 — more people responded that they believe in

Darwin’s theory of evolution rather than in creationism. The poll indicated that 47 percent of those interviewed accepted evolution, whereas only 40 percent held to creationism. More detailed statistics revealed that, “Catholics are more likely than Protestants to believe in Darwin’s theory of evolution (by 52% to 32%)” and “Protestants are slightly more likely than Catholics to believe in creationism (by 54% to 46%).”

A significant number expressed belief in miracles (75%), heaven (73%), and angels (71%). The poll also disclosed “Sizeable minorities believe in ghosts (44%), UFOs (36%), witches (31%), astrology (31%), and reincarnation (24%).”

When asked about religious writings, only slightly more than a third of those interviewed believe that the Old Testament (37%) and the New Testament (36%) is entirely the Word of God. Interestingly, only 14 percent indicated that the Torah is completely the Word of God. In accenting the inconsistency, the report mentioned that the Torah “is the same as the first five books of the Old Testament” and concluded that, “Presumably many people do not know this.” *The Koran* and *The Book of Mormon* received far less favorable figures in regard to inerrancy, with only 5 percent of American adults regarding either as wholly being the Word of God.

The poll was conducted online during the week of Nov. 10, and included 2,126 U.S. adults aged 18 and over. Results were tabulated and the poll released Dec. 10.

—MKG

PERSONAL FREEDOM OUTREACH — STATEMENT OF BELIEF

- I. THE BIBLE AS THE DIVINELY INSPIRED, INERRANT WORD OF GOD: IT IS IN ITS ENTIRETY THE SOLE AUTHORITY FOR ALL MATTERS OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF AND PRACTICE.
- II. THE ONE TRUE GOD. IN THE ONE TRUE GOD THERE EXIST THREE PERSONS, BEING: THE FATHER, THE SON JESUS CHRIST, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- III. JESUS CHRIST: HIS DEITY, HUMANITY, VIRGIN BIRTH, SINLESSNESS, DEATH AND BODILY RESURRECTION; WHO WILL PERSONALLY AND VISIBLY RETURN AGAIN TO EARTH.
- IV. THE PERSONALITY AND DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- V. THE EXISTENCE AND PERSONALITY OF SATAN, HIS TOTAL OPPOSITION TO GOD, AND HIS POWER OVER THE UNREGENERATE.
- VI. THE COMPLETE AND TOTAL DEPRAVITY OF ALL MEN WHICH MAKES THEM HOPELESSLY LOST WITHOUT THE NEW BIRTH OBTAINABLE THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.
- VII. THE FINAL ESTATE OF MAN: FOR THE SAVED, EVERLASTING LIFE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND FOR THE UNSAVED, EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT BECAUSE OF THEIR UNBELIEF.
- VIII. THE GOSPEL BY WHICH WE ARE SAVED BEING SUMMED IN THE DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.
- IX. THE CHURCH BEING THE BODY OF CHRIST, UNITED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, CONSISTING OF THOSE WHO HAVE RECEIVED JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOR. A LOCAL CHURCH IS AN ORGANIZED ASSEMBLY OF BELIEVERS UNITED FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING OUT THE GREAT COMMISSION OF CHRIST.
- X. THE GREAT COMMISSION OF CHRIST BEING TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO ALL MEN, BAPTIZING AND DISCIPLING THOSE WHO HAVE BELIEVED.