



Evangelicals and the Environment:

Sticking points, and ways forward

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Two Protestant Traditions

The Evangelical Tradition practices “engaged orthodoxy”:

Adherence to orthodox views of Scripture

Humans are sinful and in need of God’s redemption.

Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven.

The Bible is the inspired word of God and authoritative in all matters.

Engaging the culture (*changing the world*)

The Mainline Tradition

The established/dominant denominations

Beliefs vary between orthodox and non-orthodox views of Scripture

1. Environmental
issues as
culture war
issues

2. Evangelicals
and scientists

3. Evangelical
theology

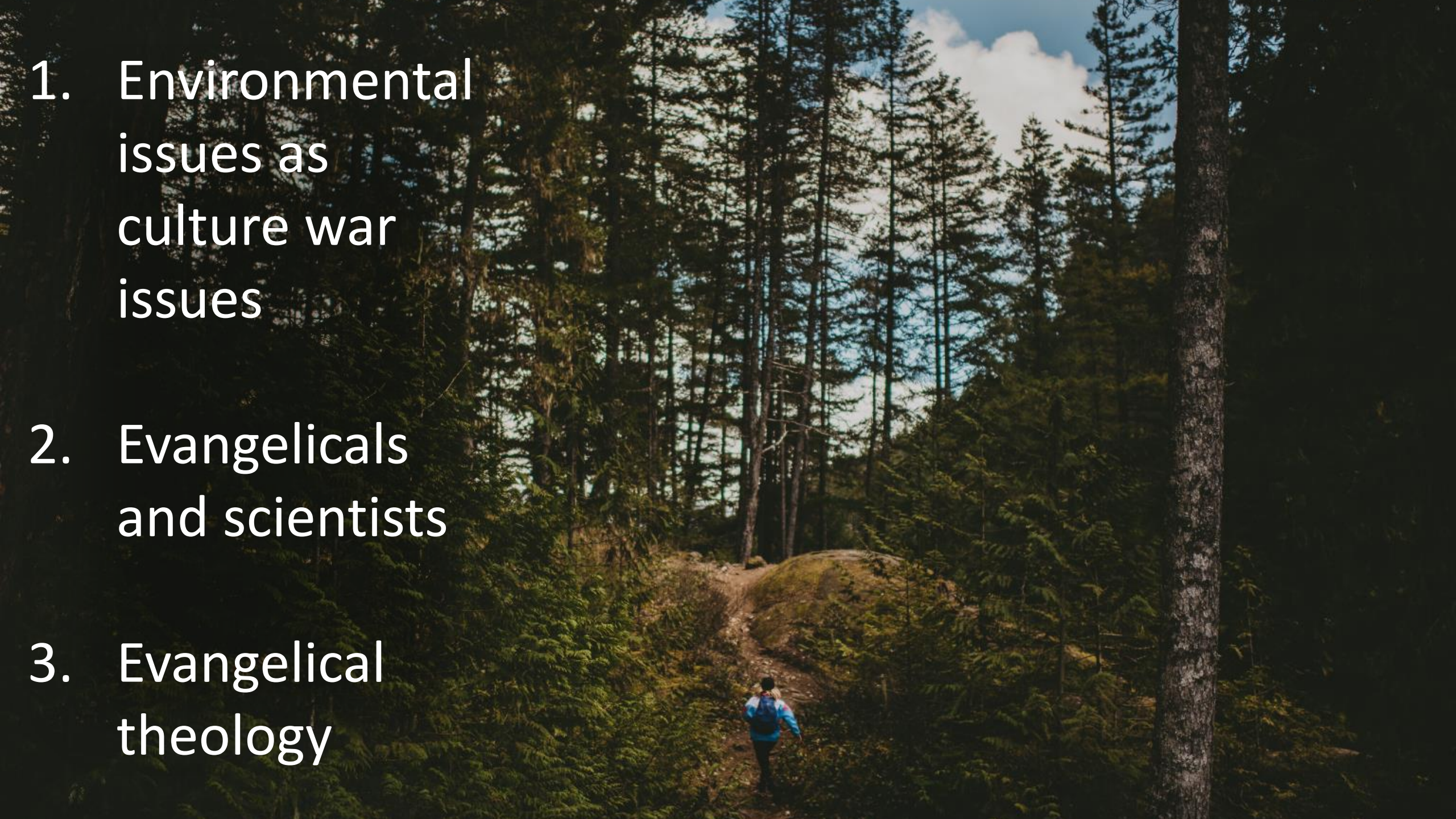
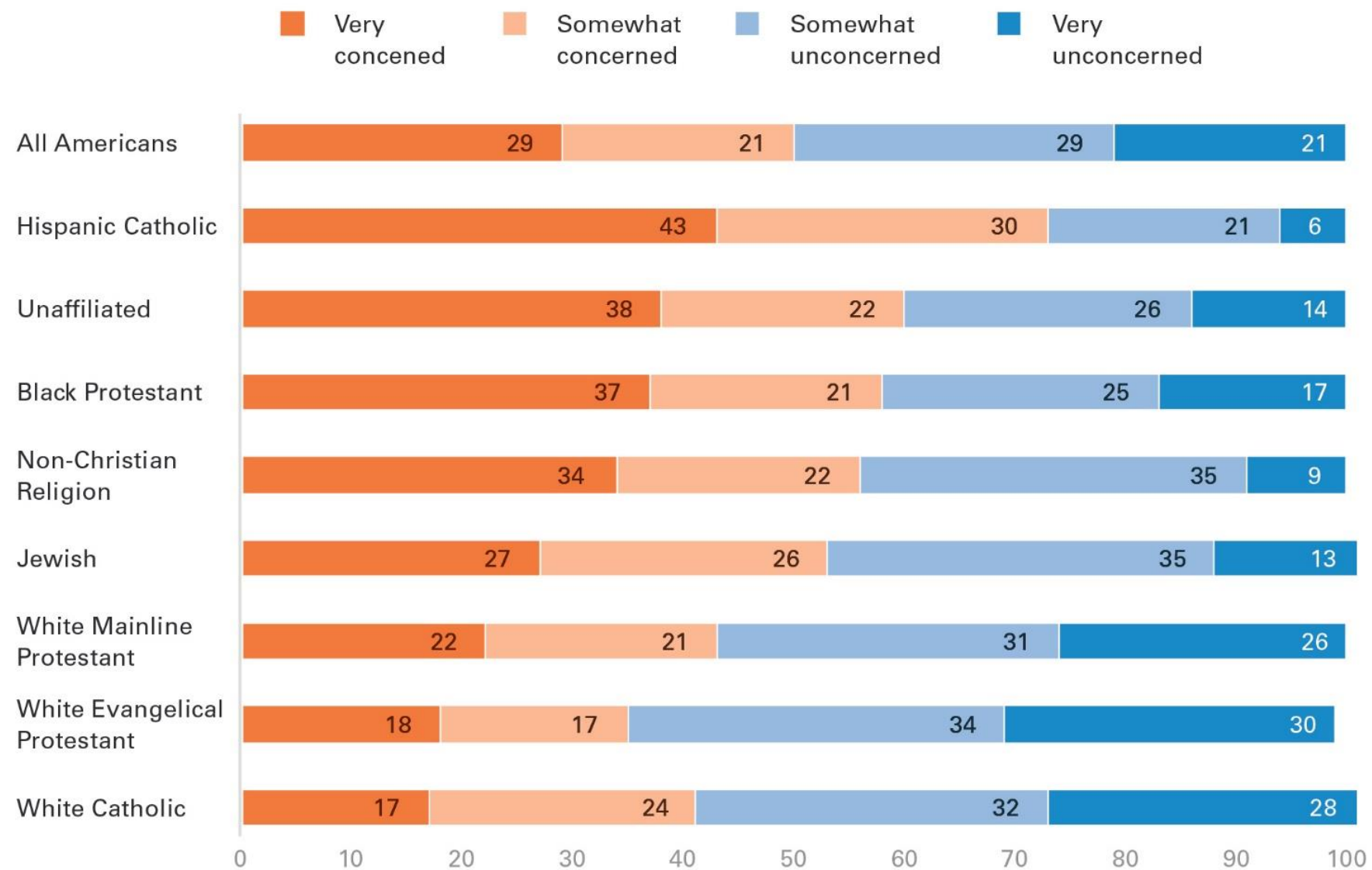


FIGURE 3. Climate Change Concern Index by Religious Affiliation



Source: PRRI/AAR, Religion, Values, and Climate Change Survey, November 2014



I WANT YOU
TO FIGHT THE
CULTURE WAR

Climate Science as Culture War

The public debate around climate change is no longer about science—it's about values, culture, and ideology.

By Andrew J. Hoffman



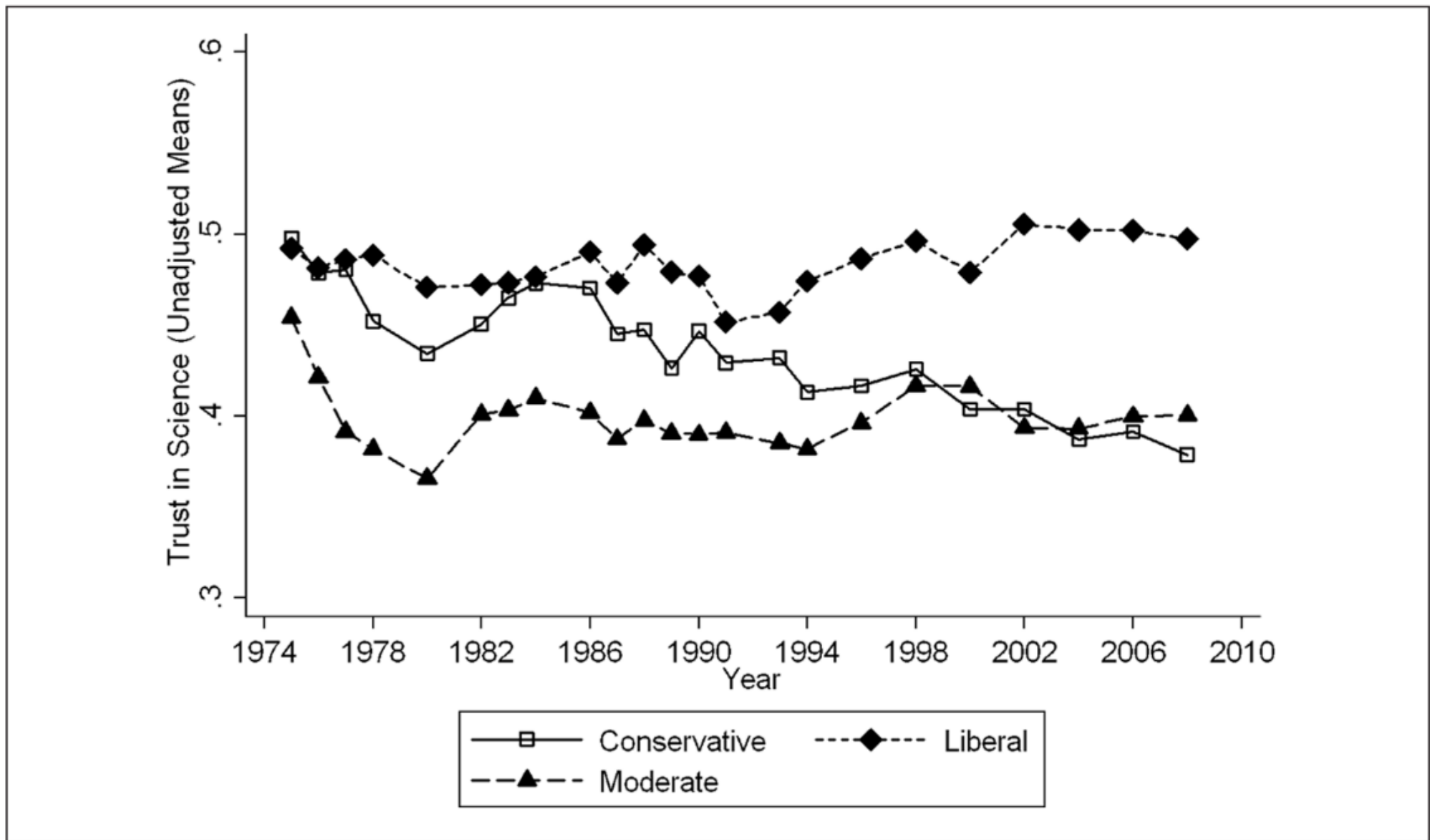


Figure 1. Unadjusted Means of Public Trust in Science for Each Survey Year by Political Ideology

Note: Figure shows three-year moving averages for each group, which smooth the patterns overtime.

Perceptions of Science and Climate Change by Religious Tradition

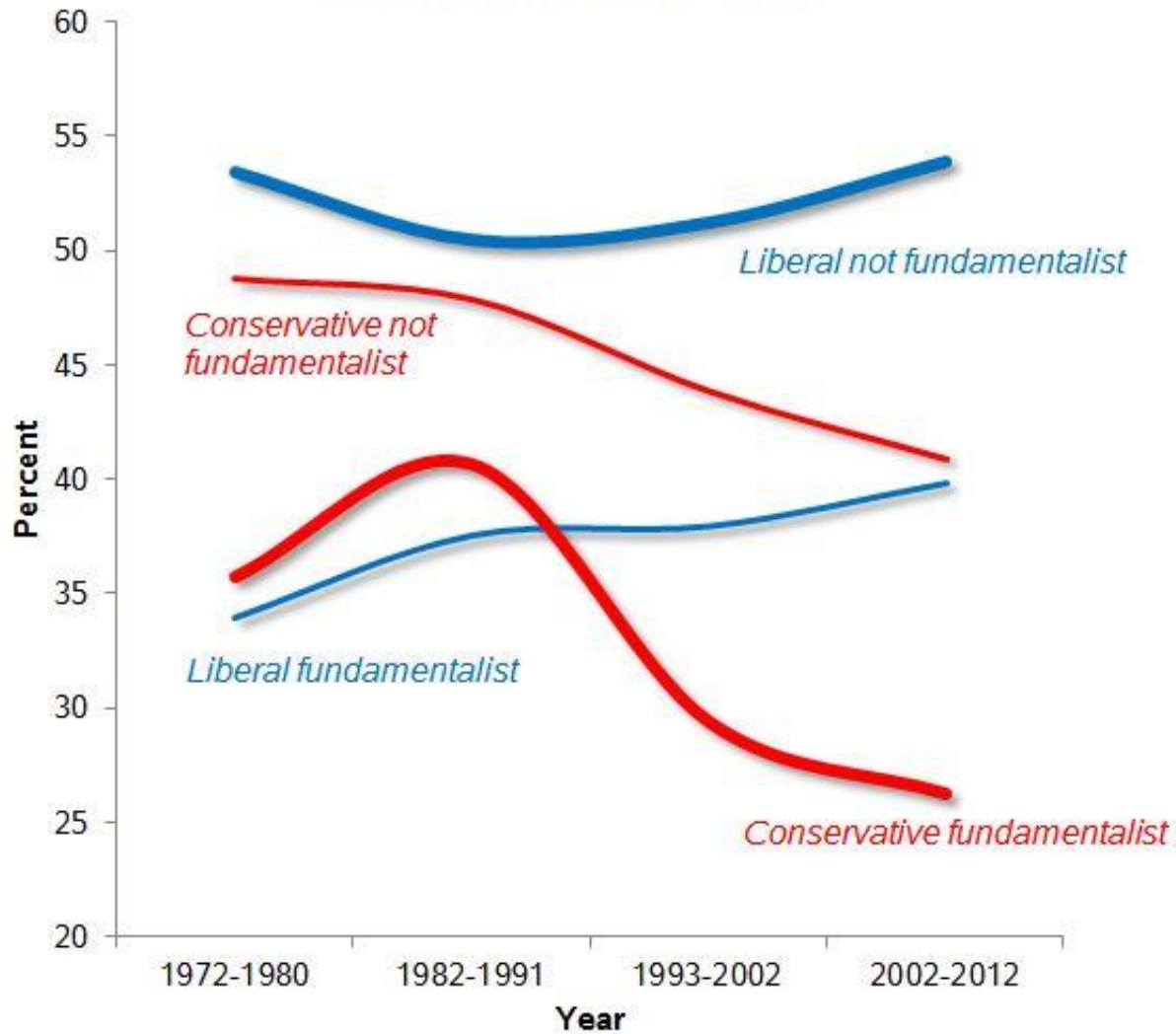
	All Respondents	Evangelical Protestants	Mainline Protestants	Catholics	Atheists, Agnostics, Unaffiliated
“For me personally, my understanding of science and religion can be described as a relationship of conflict and I consider myself to be on the side of religion.”	10.8	21.0*	9.9	10.9	0.8
“Most scientists are hostile to religion”	20.3	33.6*	19.0	16.5	10.6
“I am likely to consult a religious leader about a science question.”	14.4	30.1*	10.6	12.6	2.7
“Science will not be able to provide a natural explanation for Everything.”	29.3	46.1*	29.2	23.8	16.4
“The climate is changing and human actions are a significant cause.”	41.8	34.7*	41.6	42.4	49.9

* A statistically significant difference exists for evangelical Protestants.

Data are from the Religious Understandings of Science (RUS) study, a mixed-methods study including a nationally representative general population survey and 320 semi-structured qualitative interviews conducted between 2010-2015.

Confidence in the scientific community

Percent saying they have "a great deal of confidence"
by political ideology: 1972-2012



LIBERAL = "Extremely liberal" or "liberal"; CONSERVATIVE = "extremely conservative" or "conservative." "Slightly" liberal or conservative, and moderates, not shown (they were in the middle). Religion options were FUNDAMENTALIST vs. "moderate," "liberal," or NA/other.

Evangelicals who do not believe global warming is caused by human activity

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graph TD; A[Evangelicals who do not believe global warming is caused by human activity] --- B[45% Believe there is a scientific consensus on the issue]; A --- C[55% Believe there is no scientific consensus on the issue]
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45% Believe there is a scientific consensus on the issue

55% Believe there is no scientific consensus on the issue

“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.

I believe that’s the infallible word of God, and I believe that’s how it will be for his creation...

And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other....

The earth will end only when God declares its time to be over. Man will not destroy this earth, this earth will not be destroyed by flood.”

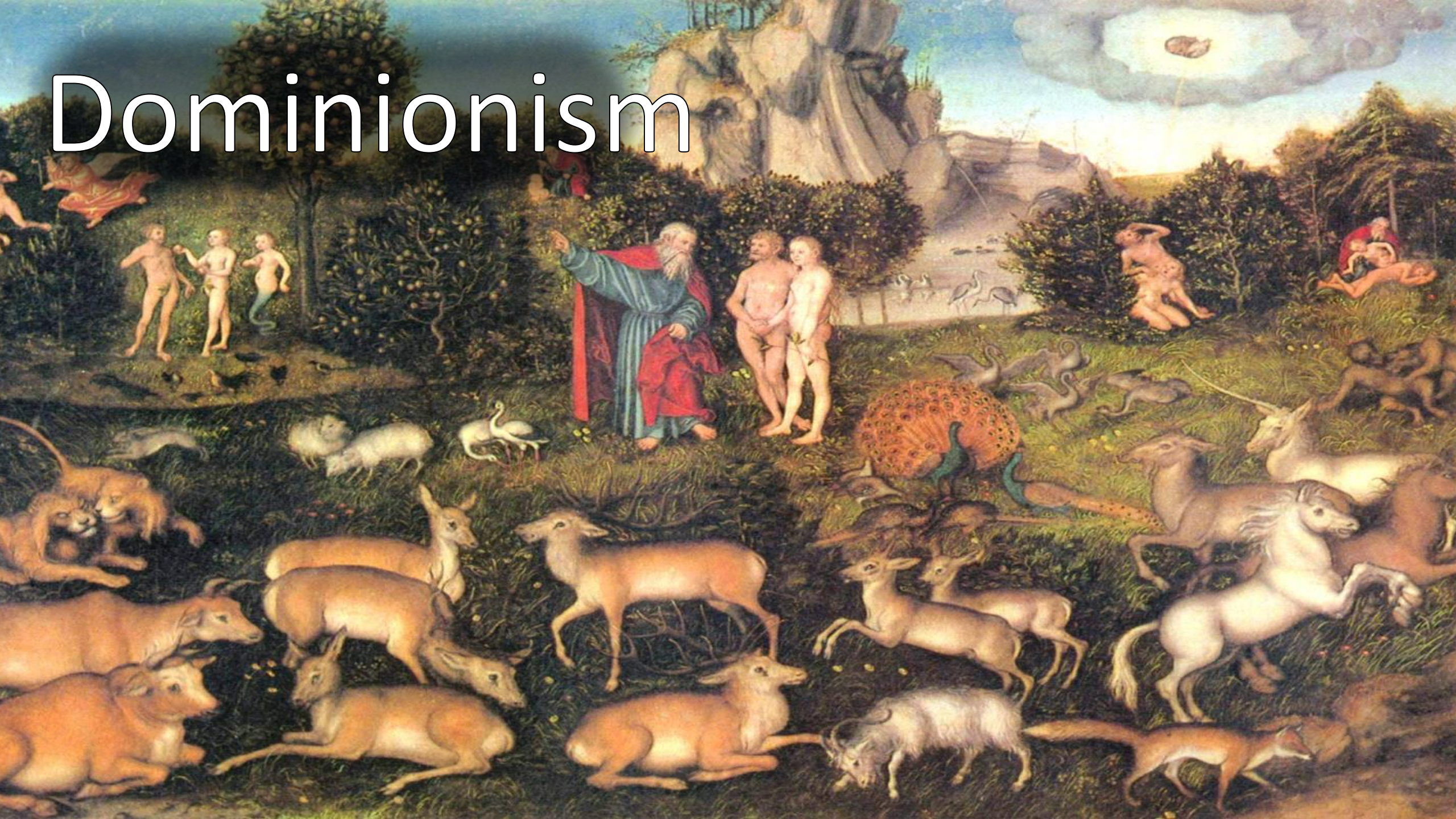


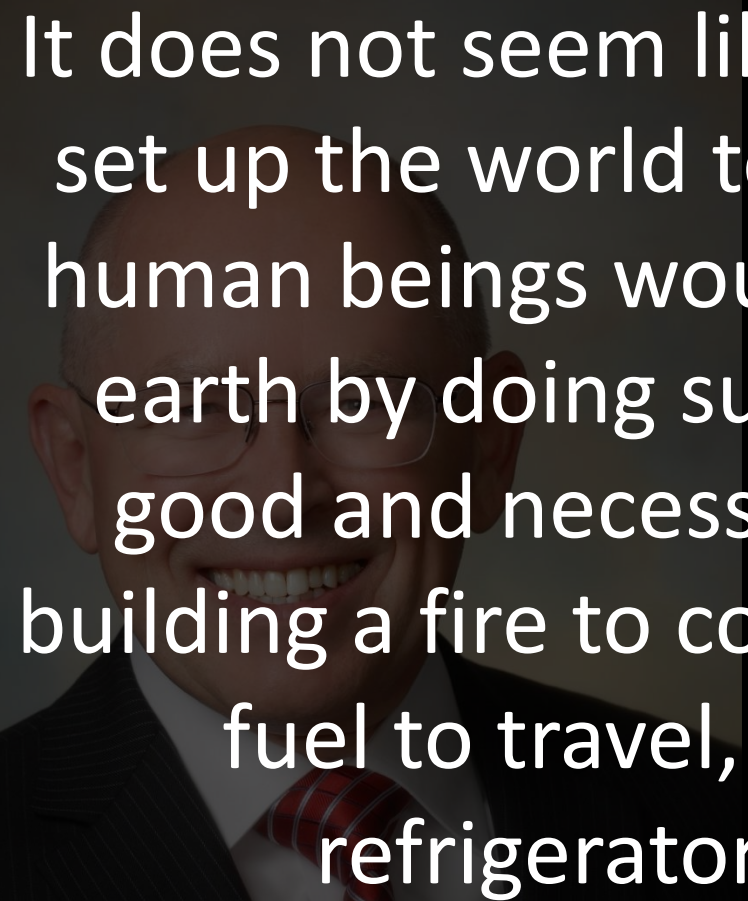
March 25, 2009
Hearing of US House Subcommittee on
Energy and Environment

“Preparing for Climate Change:
Adaptation Policies and Programs”



Dominionism





It does not seem likely to me that God would set up the world to work in such a way that human beings would eventually destroy the earth by doing such ordinary and morally good and necessary things as breathing, building a fire to cook or keep warm, burning fuel to travel, or using energy for a refrigerator to preserve food”

OVER 400,000 COPIES IN PRINT

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

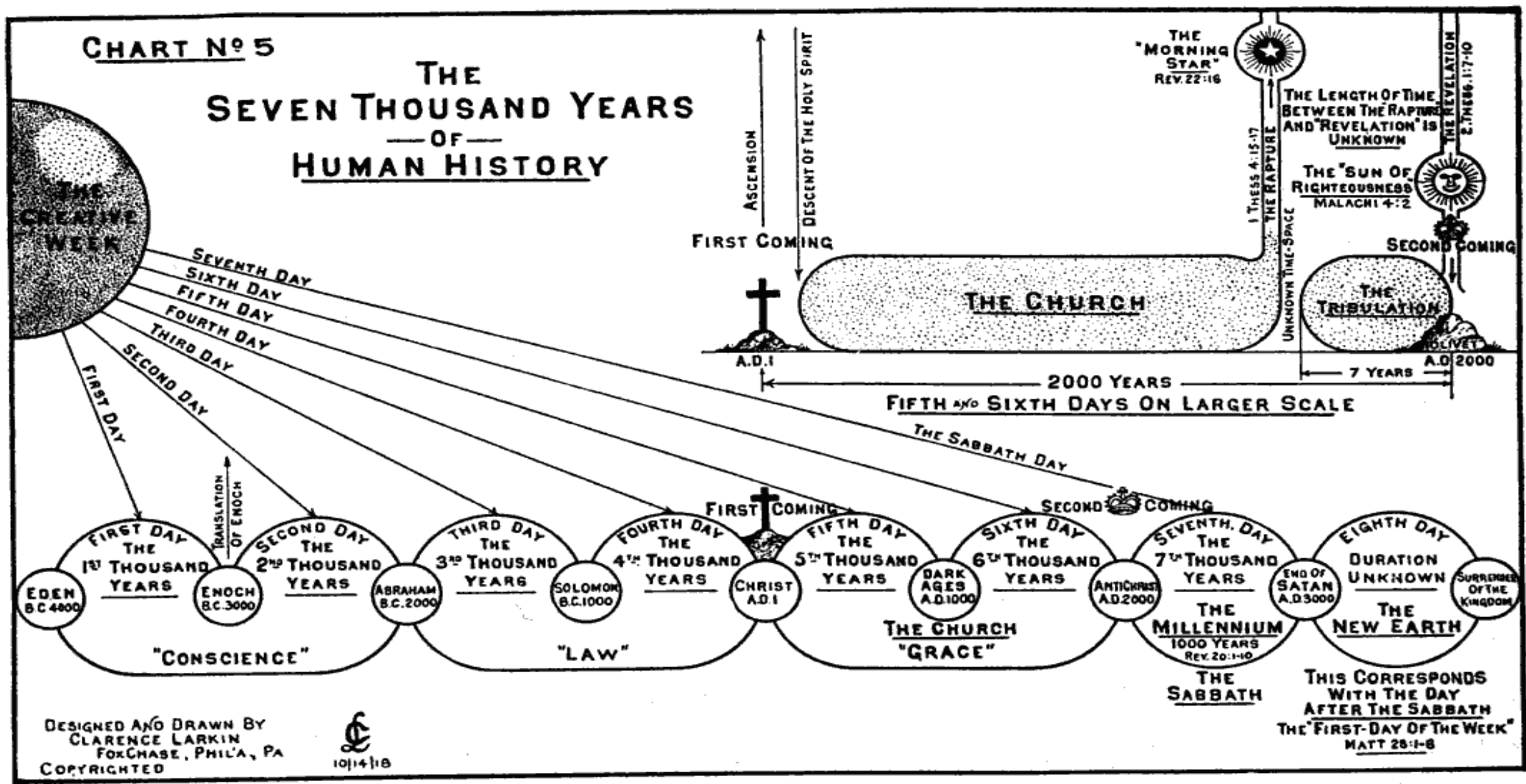
AN INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL DOCTRINE

WAYNE GRUDEM



Eschatology

Dispensationalism and Eschatology





Escapism

Based on the New York Times Bestseller!

LEFT BEHIND

THE MOVIE

"Compelling, engaging."
- CNN

"Bravo! The best movie
in the Apocalyptic genre!"
- Ted Boehr
Movie Guide

Kirk
CAMERON

Brad
JOHNSON

Chelsea
NOBLE

Clarence
GILYARD

SPECIAL EDITION 

N I C O L A S C A G E
CHAD MICHAEL MURRAY CASSI THOMSON NICKY WHELAN JORDIN SPARKS



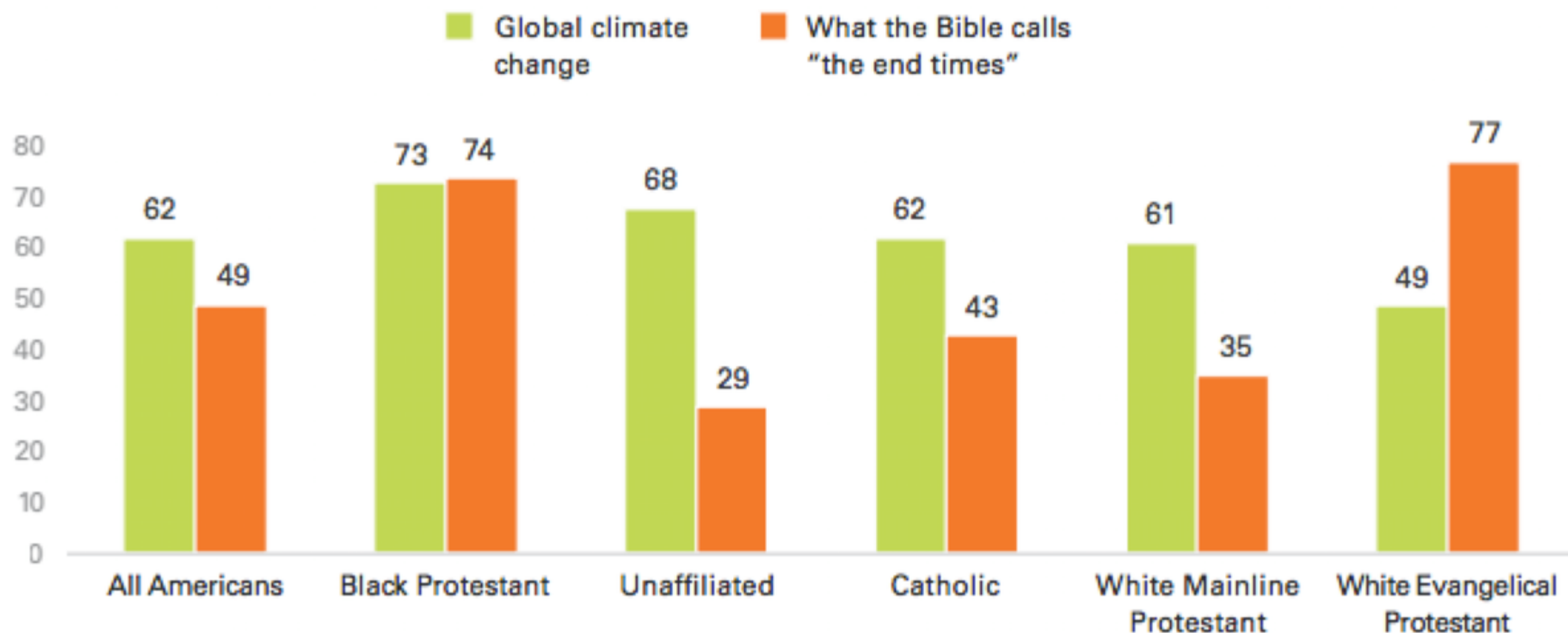
BASED ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER

LEFT BEHIND

THE END BEGINS

STORY BY THE ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY EDITOR AND SCREENPLAY BY JONATHAN HARTLEY. DIRECTED BY JOHN DAHL. CASTING BY JONATHAN HARTLEY. COSTUME DESIGNER: JONATHAN HARTLEY. MUSIC BY JONATHAN HARTLEY. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: JONATHAN HARTLEY, JONATHAN HARTLEY, JONATHAN HARTLEY. PRODUCED BY JONATHAN HARTLEY. WRITTEN BY JONATHAN HARTLEY. BASED ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER BY TERRY BRUNNEN. OCTOBER 3. LEFTBEHINDMOVIE.COM

FIGURE 9. The severity of recent natural disasters is evidence of...



Source: PRRI/AAR, Religion, Values, and Climate Change Survey, November 2014

CREDIT: PUBLIC RELIGION RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Rapture Ready Index

Rapture Index: 183

Change from last update: -1

Updated: Oct 15, 2018

1. False Christs	3	18. Ecumenism	4	35. Date Settings	3
2. Occult	3	19. Globalism	3	36. Volcanoes	5
3. Satanism	3	20. Tribulation Temple	4	37. Earthquakes	5
4. Unemployment	2	21. Anti-Semitism	5	38. Wild Weather	5
5. Inflation	4	22. Israel	5	39. Civil Rights	5
6. Interest Rates	4	23. Gog (Russia)	4	40. Famine	3
7. The Economy	4	24. Persia (Iran)	5	41. Drought	2
8. Oil Supply/Price	3-1	25. False Prophet	4	42. Plagues	4
9. Debt & Trade	5	26. Nuclear Nations	5	43. Climate	4
10. Financial Unrest	4	27. Global Turmoil	5	44. Food Supply	2
11. Leadership	4	28. Arms Proliferation	5	45. Floods	4
12. Drug Abuse	5	29. Liberalism	5		
13. Apostasy	4	30. Peace Process	3		
14. Supernatural	3	31. Kings of the East	4		
15. Moral Standards	5	32. Mark of the Beast	4		
16. Anti-Christian	5	33. Beast Government	5		
17. Crime Rate	5	34. The Antichrist	5		

The Purpose For This Index

The Rapture Index has two functions: one is to factor together a number of related end time components into a cohesive indicator, and the other is to standardize those components to eliminate the wide variance that currently exists with prophecy reporting.

The Rapture Index is by no means meant to predict the rapture, however, the index is designed to measure the type of activity that could act as a precursor to the rapture.

You could say the Rapture index is a Dow Jones Industrial Average of end time activity, but I think it would be better if you viewed it as prophetic speedometer. The higher the number, the faster we're moving towards the occurrence of pre-tribulation rapture.

100 and Below: Slow prophetic activity
100 to 130: Moderate prophetic activity
130 to 160: Heavy prophetic activity
Above 160: Fasten your seat belts

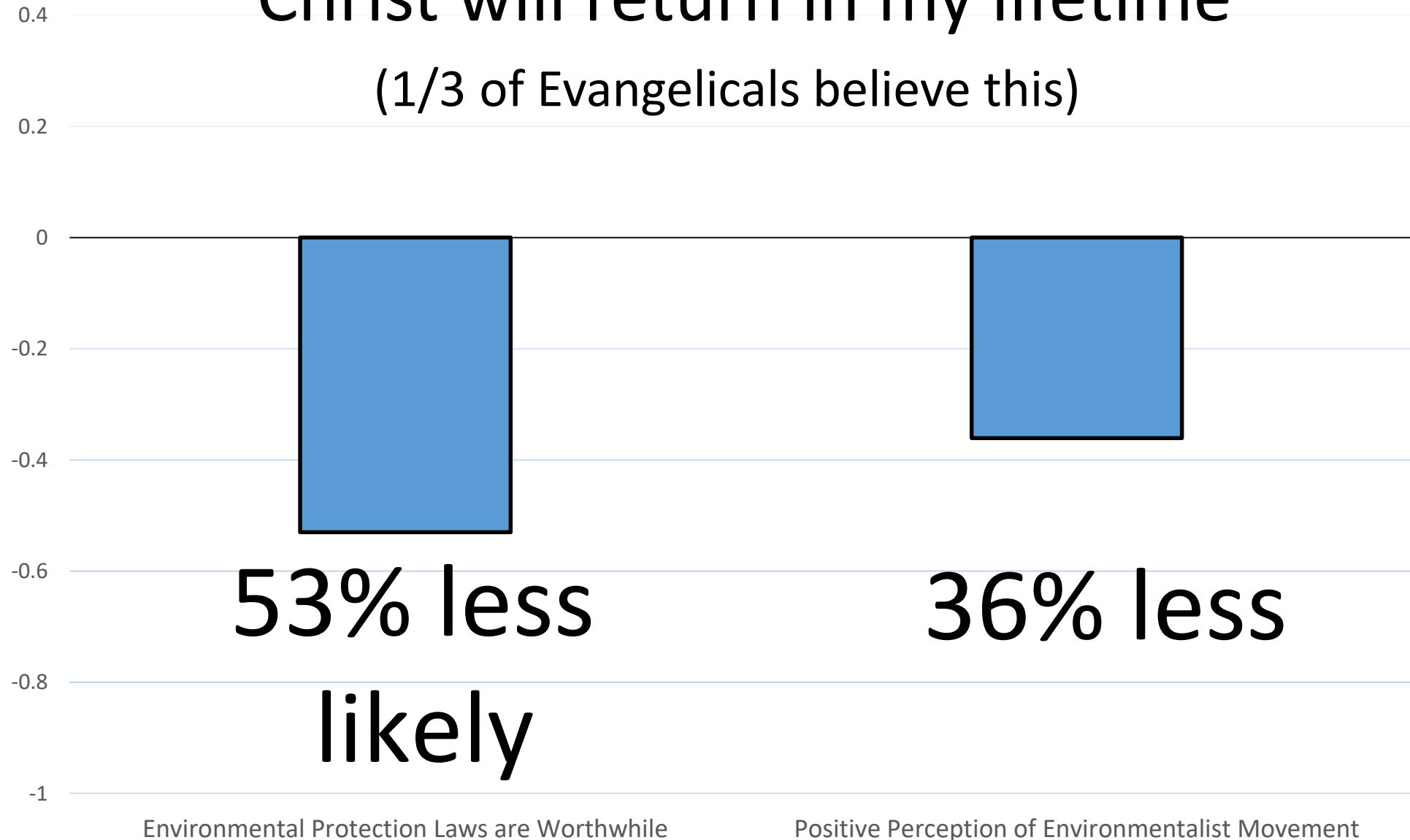
Records

All-Time High: 189 (October 10, 2016)

All-Time Low: 58 (December 12, 1993)

“Christ will return in my lifetime”

(1/3 of Evangelicals believe this)




*“You don’t polish the
brass of a sinking
ship”*

- Fatalism
- Escapism
- Imminence
- Positive eschatological interpretations of disasters



D.L. Moody



Where does
that leave
SPU?