

NAMB Staff

# THE STATE OF CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA TODAY

## 2 Chronicles 7:14

- ♦ *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

# America Today

- ◆ But America is not repenting.
- ◆ America is not seeking God.
- ◆ America is moving away from God!

# The Lostness of America

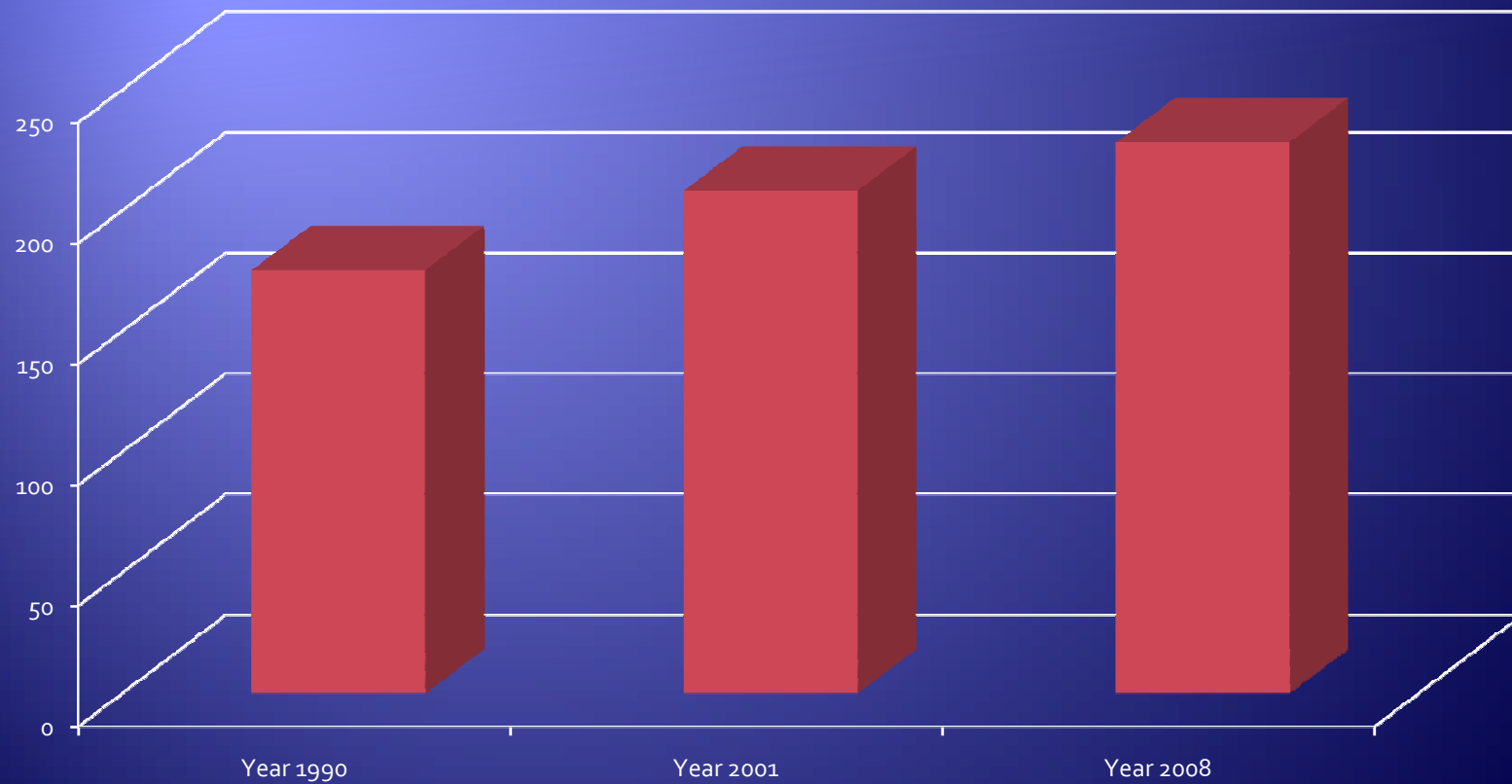
- ◆ Trinity College recently published an update to their *American Religious Identification Survey*.
- ◆ Their research reveals several disturbing facts about the lostness of America.



# U.S. Adult Population

- ◆ 1990 - 175 Million
- ◆ 2001 - 208 Million
- ◆ 2008 - 228 Million

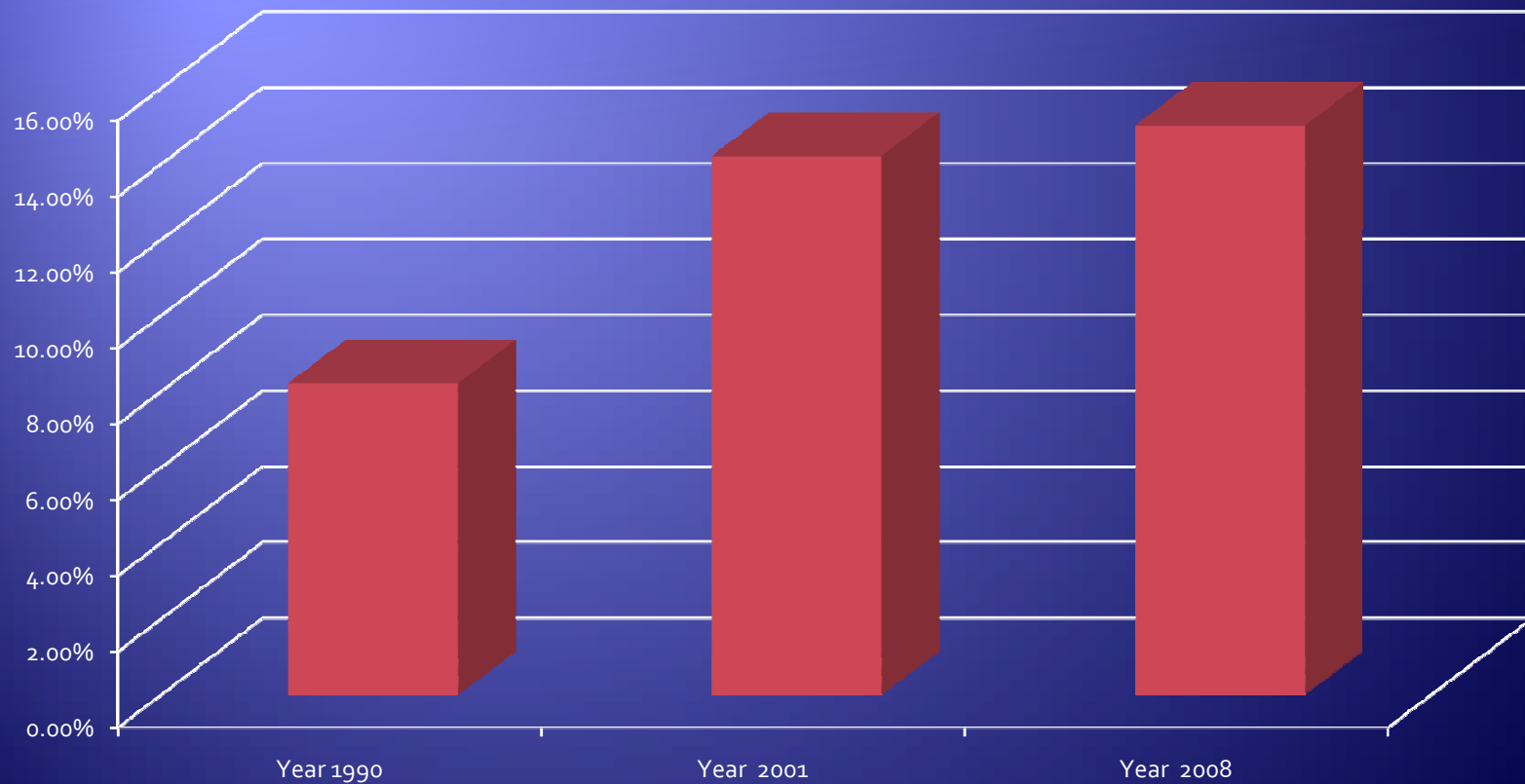
# U.S. Population 18 or Older



# Percentage Who Claim No Religious Affiliation

- ◆ 1990 - 8.2%
- ◆ 2001 - 14.2%
- ◆ 2008 - 15.0%

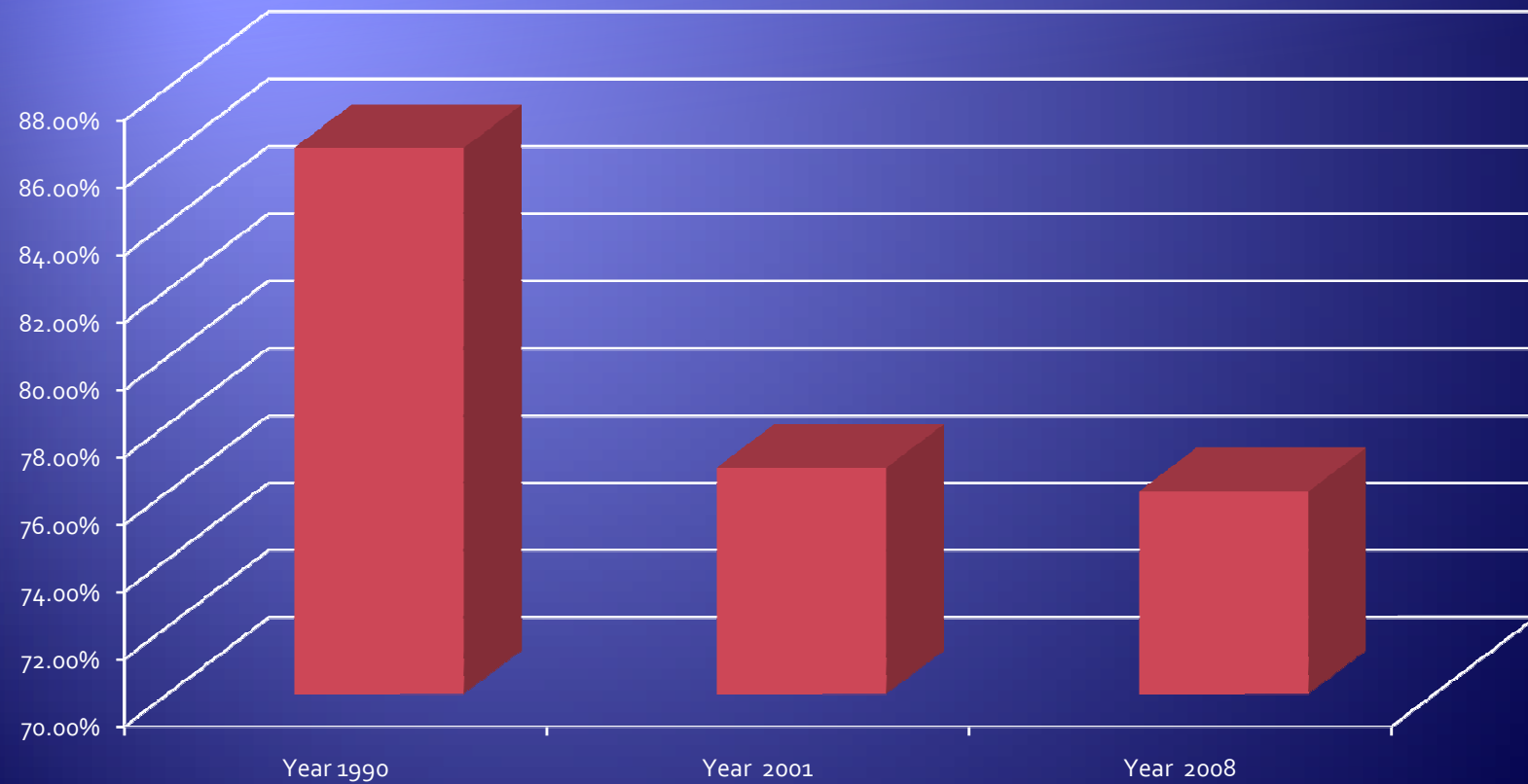
# Percentage Who Claim No Religious Affiliation



# Adults Claiming To Be Christian

- ◆ 1990 - 86.2%
- ◆ 2001 - 76.7%
- ◆ 2008 - 76.0%

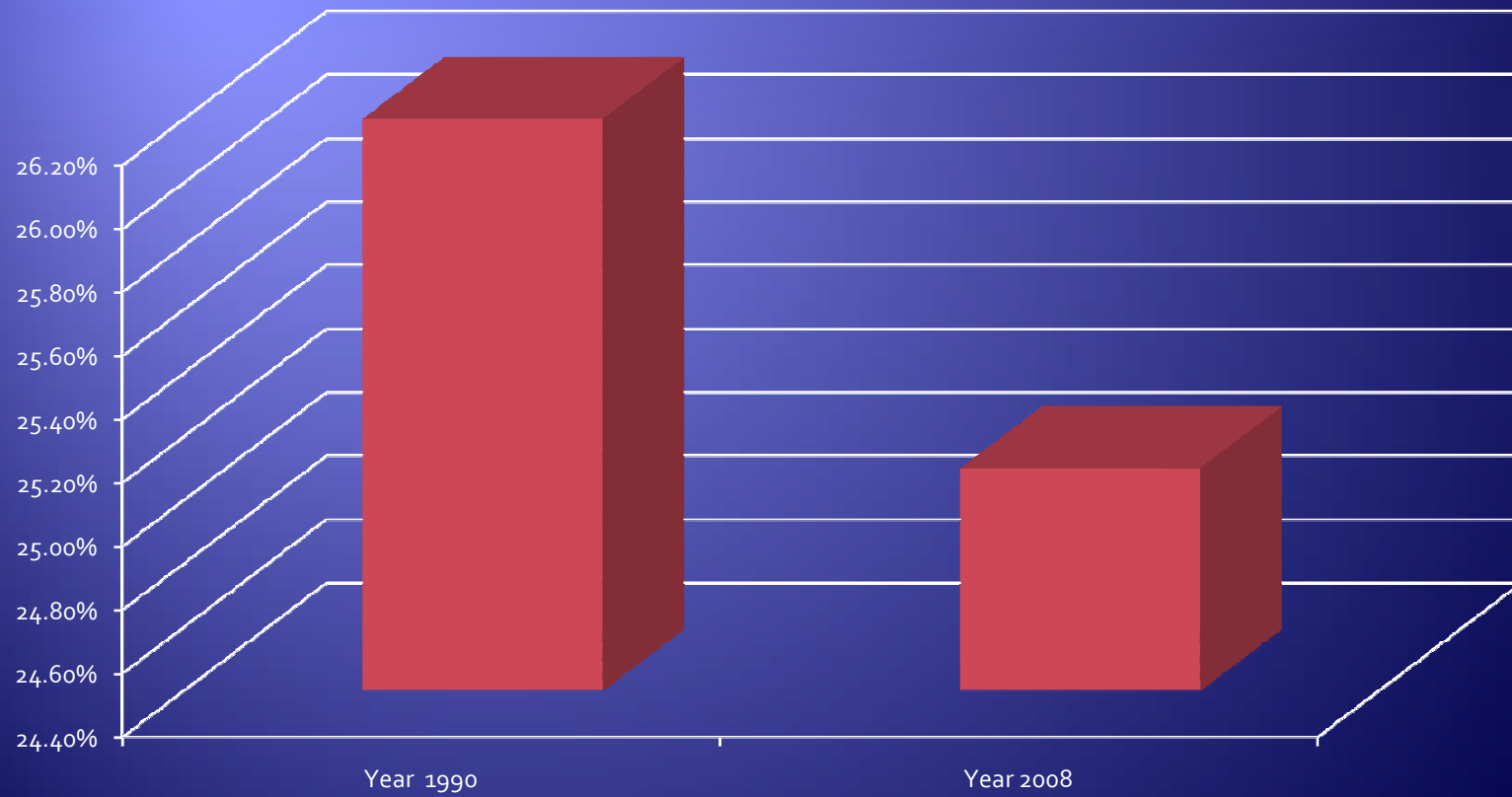
# Adults Claiming To Be Christian



# Growing Denominations

- ◆ Catholics gained 11 million due to immigration.
- ◆ But their percentage of the national population fell from 26.2 percent to 25.1 percent between 1990 and 2008.

# Catholics

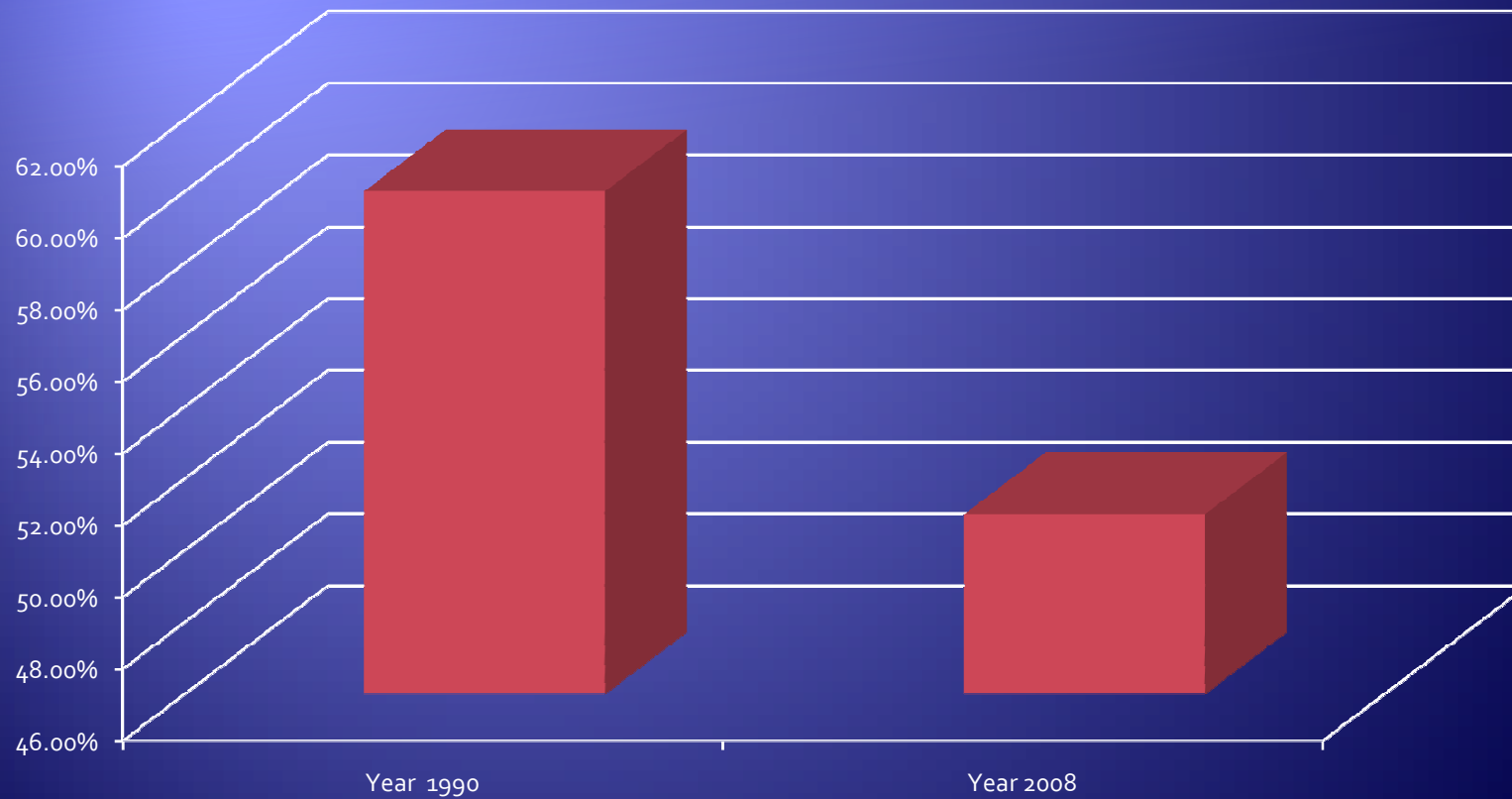




# Growing Denominations

- ◆ Non-Catholic Christian groups also gained 11 million people
- ◆ But fell from 60 to 51 percent of the total population.

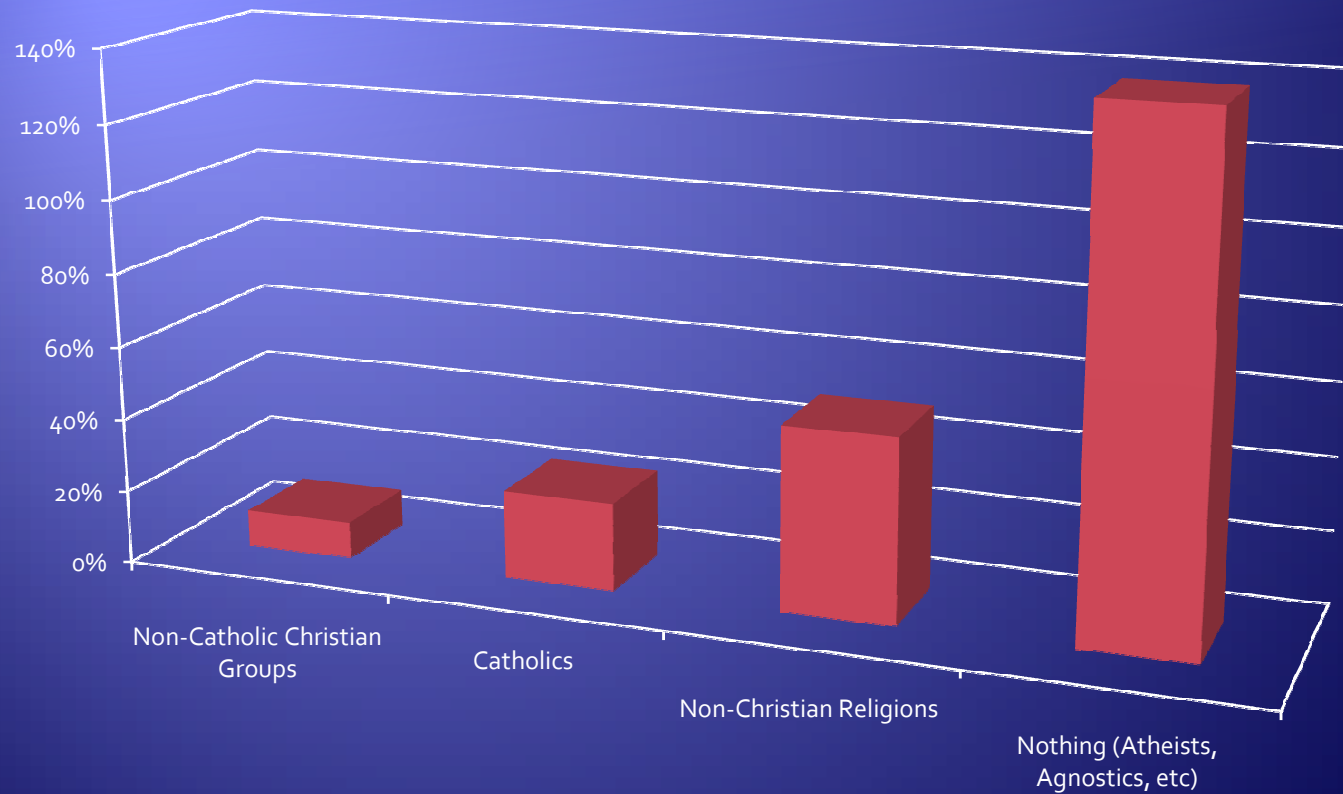
# Non-Catholic Christian Groups



# Percentage Growth from 1990 to 2008

- ◆ Non-Catholic Christian Groups + 10%
- ◆ Catholics + 24%
- ◆ Non-Christian Religions + 50%
- ◆ Non-adherents (Atheists, Agnostics, etc)  
+ 138%

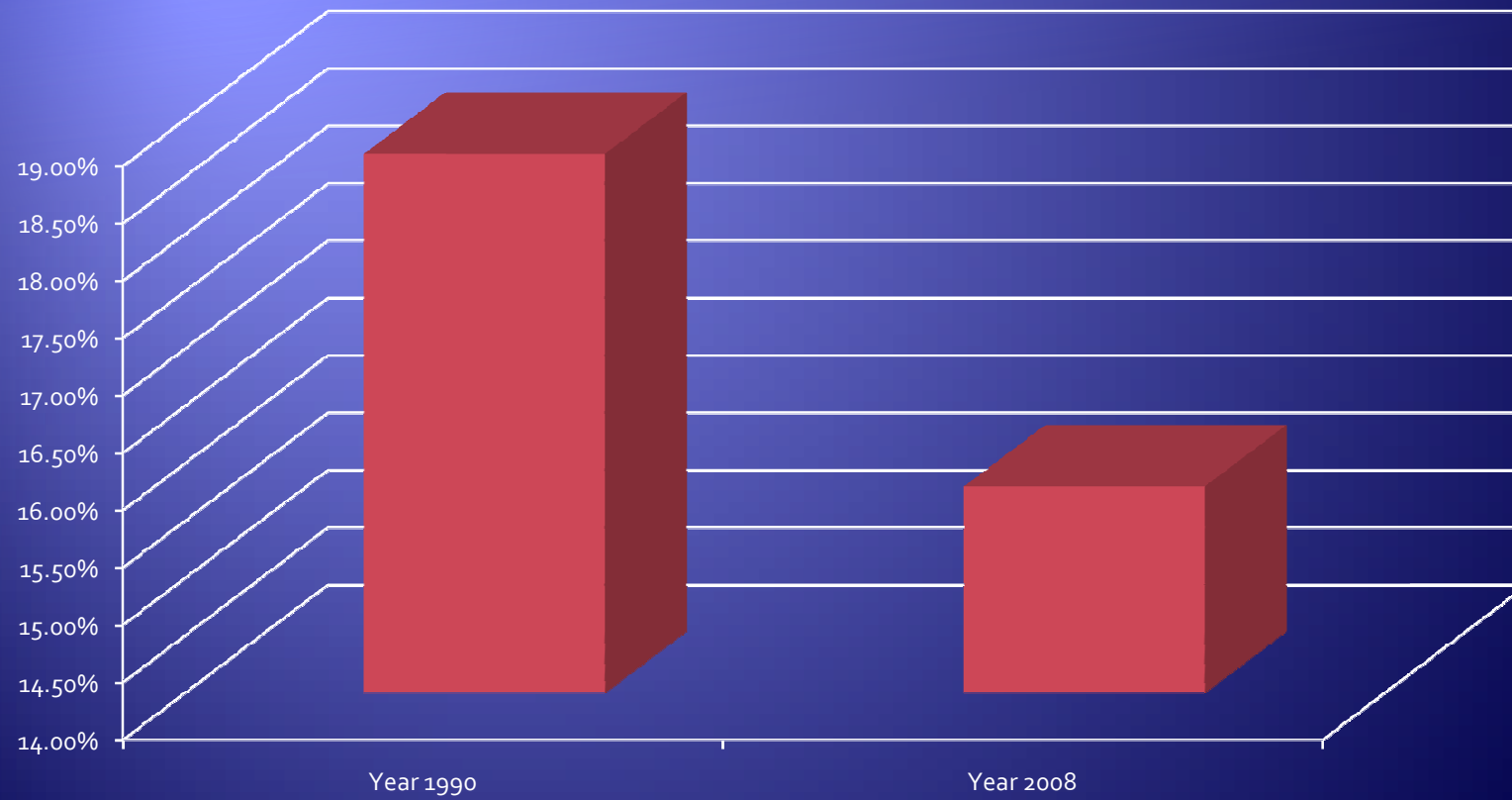
# Percentage Growth from 1990 to 2008



# Baptists Compared to Mainline Churches

- ◆ Baptists (all kinds of Baptists) increased by 2.2 million adherents.
- ◆ But the percentage of the population identifying as Baptist fell from 18.7 in 1990 to 15.8 in 2008.

# Baptists



# Percentage of the American Population

- ◆ While the percentage of the population that claims to be Baptists fell.
- ◆ The Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons maintained their percentages from 1990 to 2008.

# Percentage of the American Population

- ◆ The percentage of people adhering to Islam doubled.
- ◆ Eastern Religions increased by 225%.



# World Religions

- ◆ The increase of Islam and the Eastern Religions is mainly due to immigration.
- ◆ But the World Religions are coming to America faster than we are reaching them.

# Percentage of the American Population

- ◆ The greatest percentage increase was by those affirming no religion.
- ◆ This group more than doubled their percentage of the total population by increasing almost 230% from 1990 to 2008.

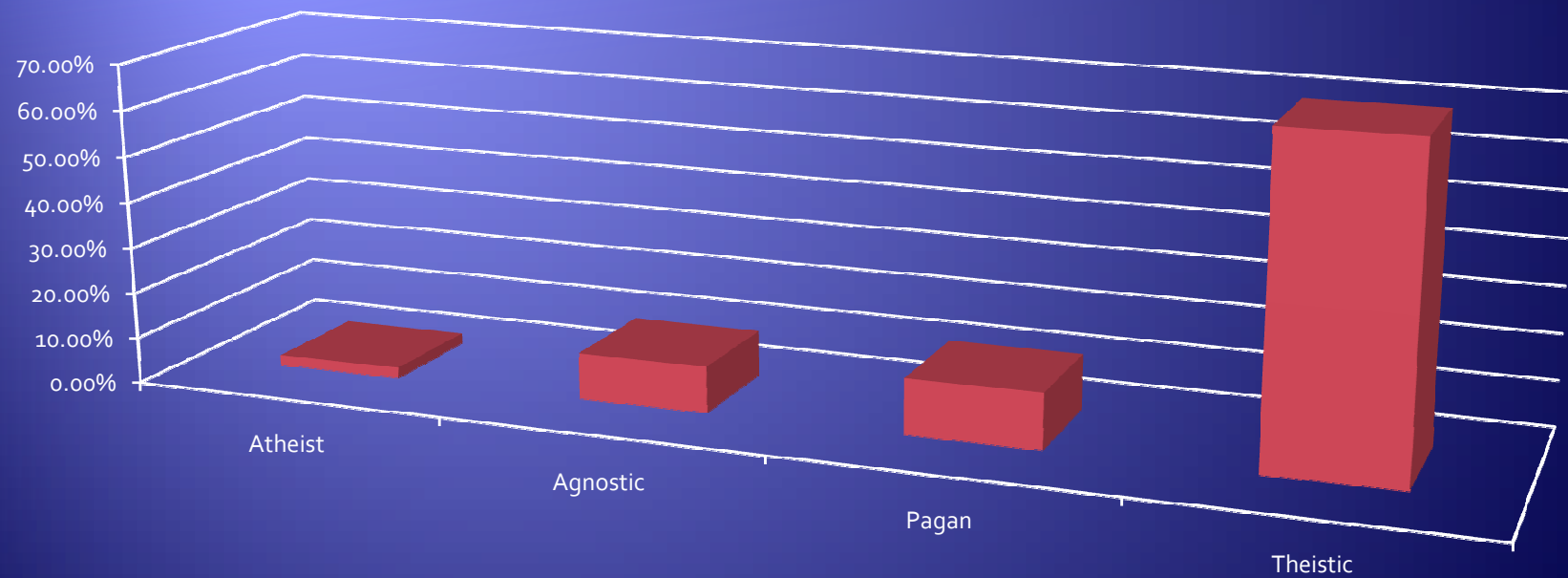
# Does God Exist?

- ◆ When answering the question, "Regarding the existence of God"
- ◆ 2.3% gave an Atheist response - "There is no such thing."
- ◆ 10% gave an Agnostic response - "There is no way to know" or "I'm not sure."

# Does God Exist?

- ◆ 12.1% gave a Pantheistic or Pagan response - "There is a higher power but no personal God."
- ◆ While only 69.5% of the population gave a Theistic answer - "There is definitely a personal God."

# Does God Exist?



# Percentage of Christians

- ◆ 76% of Americans claim to be Christian.
- ◆ But only 34% of the adult population claims to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

# The Lost

- ◆ The NAMB Research Team estimates that there are 255 million lost people in North America.

# Worldview of Born Again Christians

- ◆ Among born again Christians, less than one out of every five has a biblical worldview.



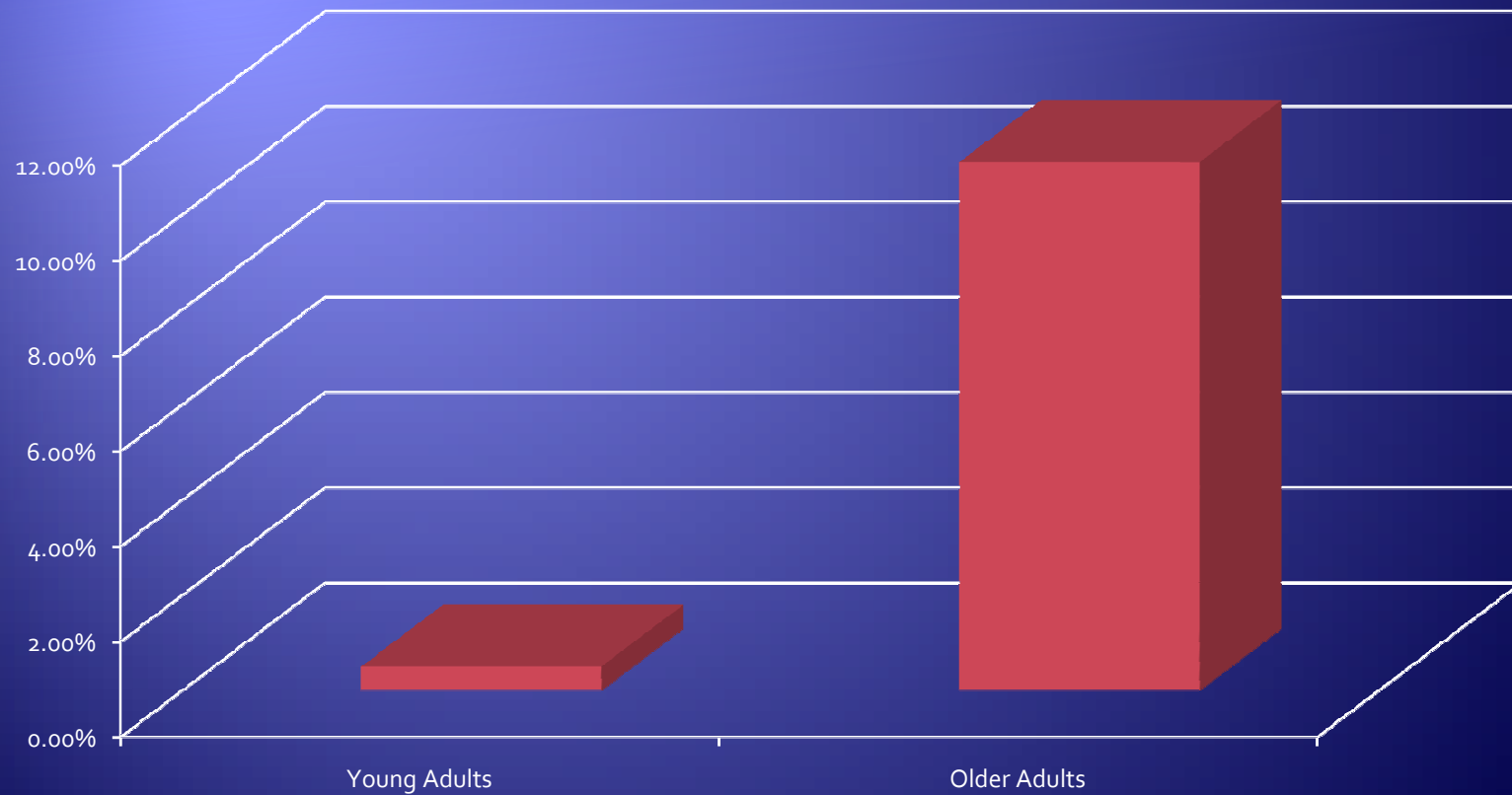
# Biblical Worldview

- ◆ According to a study done by the Barna Group, only 9% of all American adults have a biblical worldview.

# Biblical Worldview

- ◆ The study found that less than one-half of one percent of adults aged 18 to 23 (the Mosaic generation) have a biblical worldview.
- ◆ While about one out of every nine older adults hold to a biblical worldview.

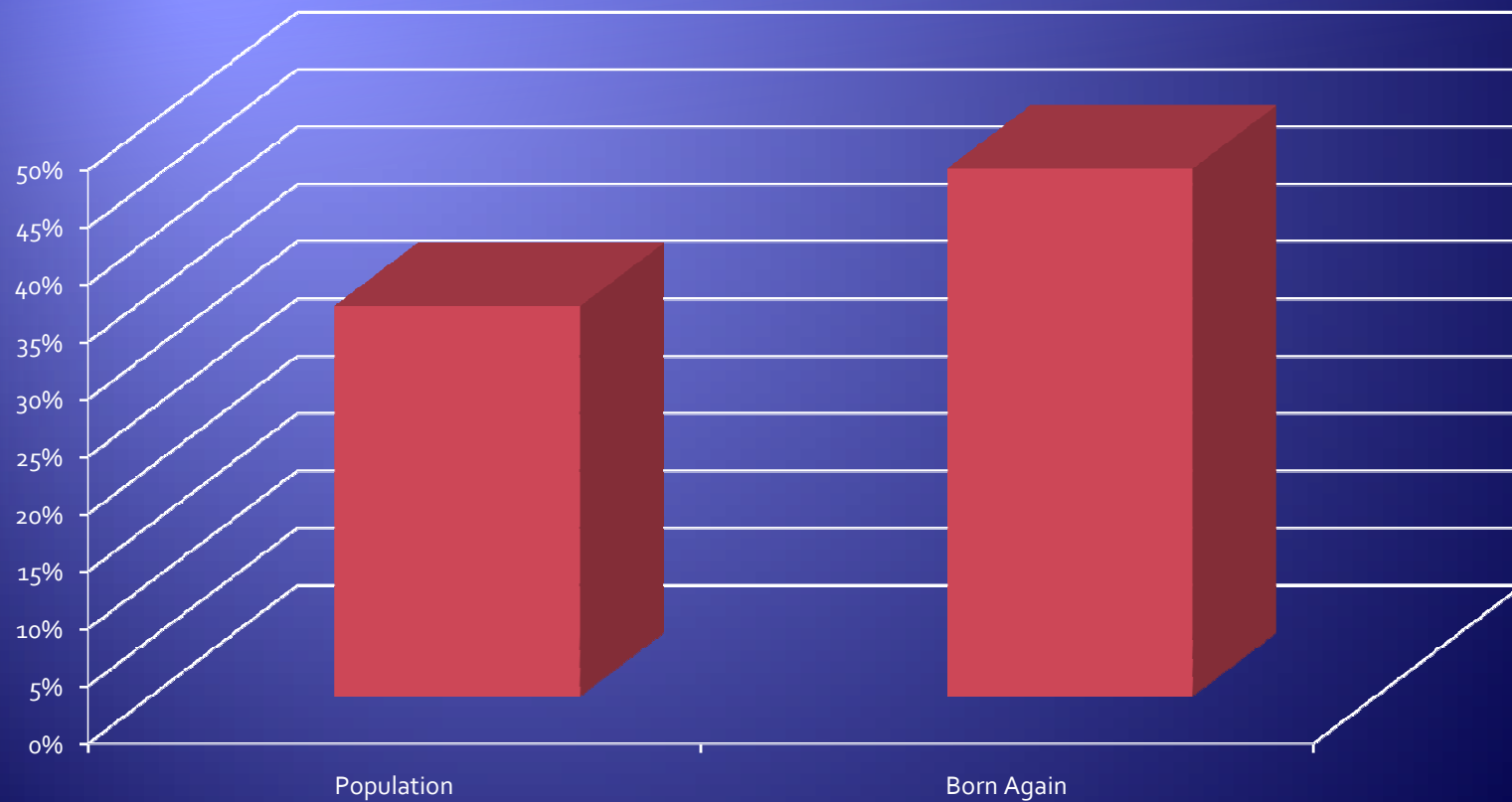
# Biblical Worldview



# Moral Truth

- ◆ One-third of all adults (34%) believe that moral truth is absolute and unaffected by the circumstances.
- ◆ Slightly less than half of the born again adults (46%) believe in absolute moral truth.

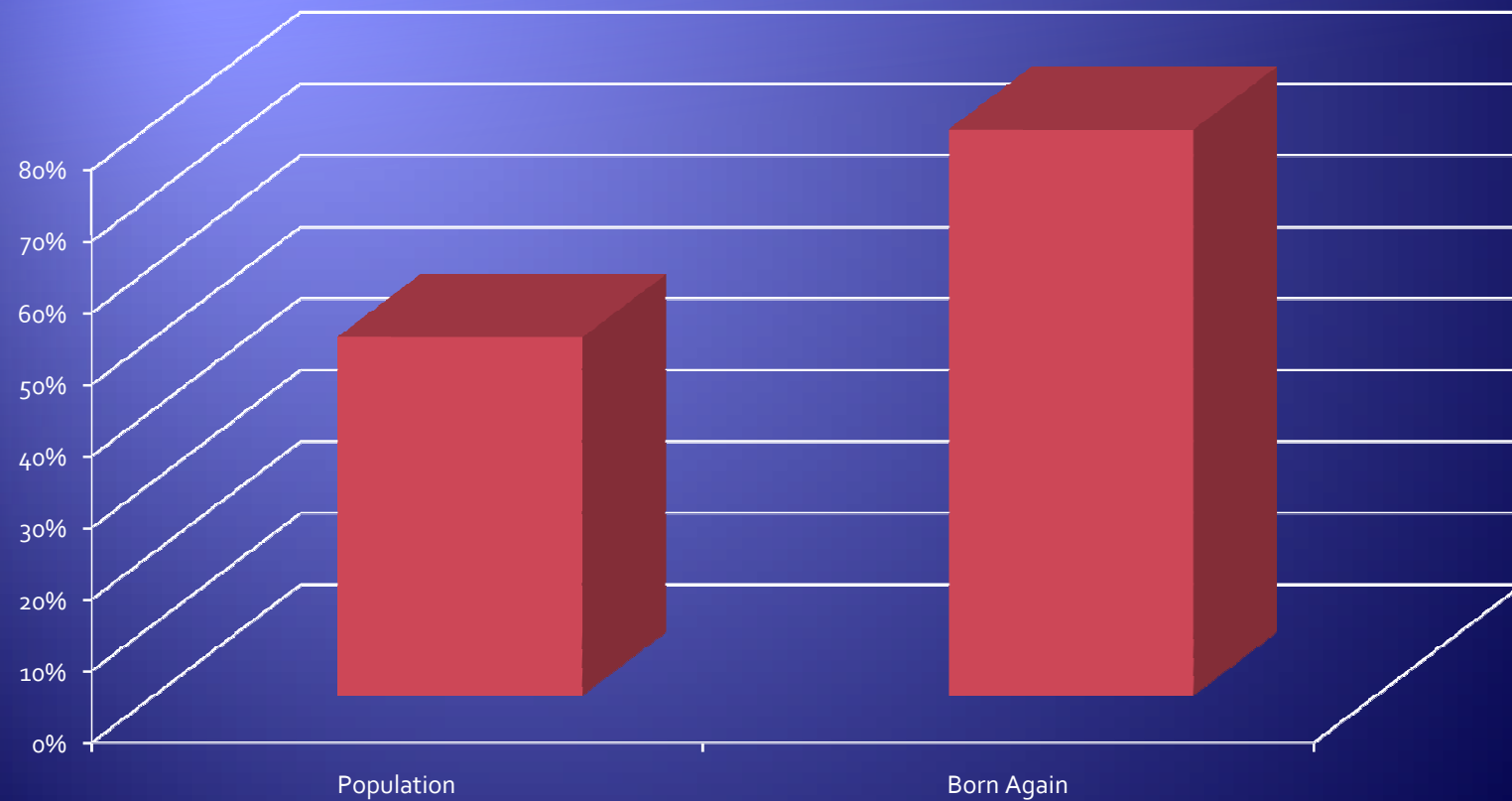
# Moral Truth



# Believe the Bible

- ◆ Half of all adults firmly believe that the Bible is accurate in all the principles it teaches.
- ◆ Four-fifths of born again adults (79%) also believe the Bible is accurate.

# Believe the Bible

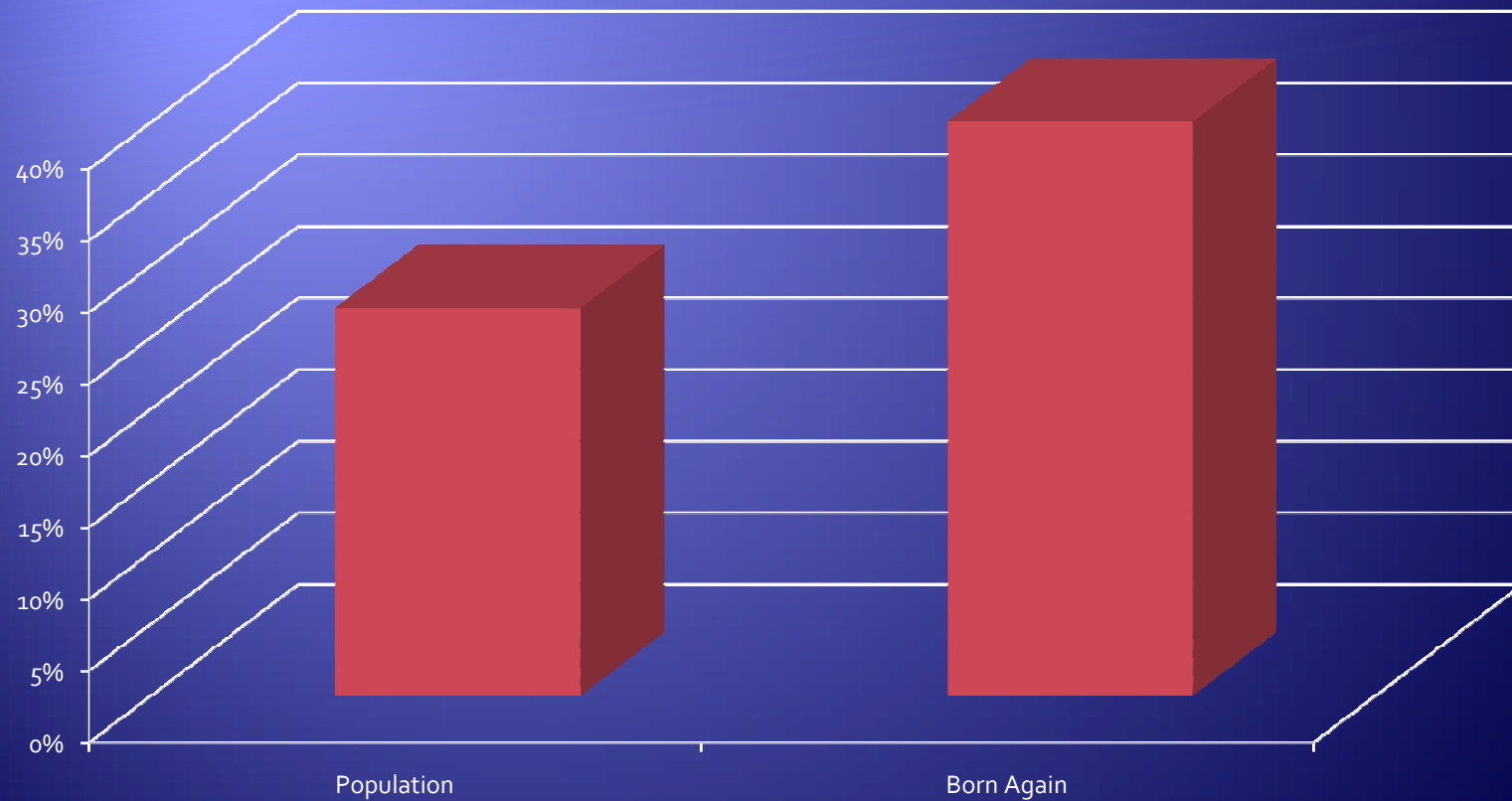


# Believe Satan Exists

- ◆ 27% of the general population believe that Satan is real.
- ◆ Only 40% of born again adults believe Satan exists.



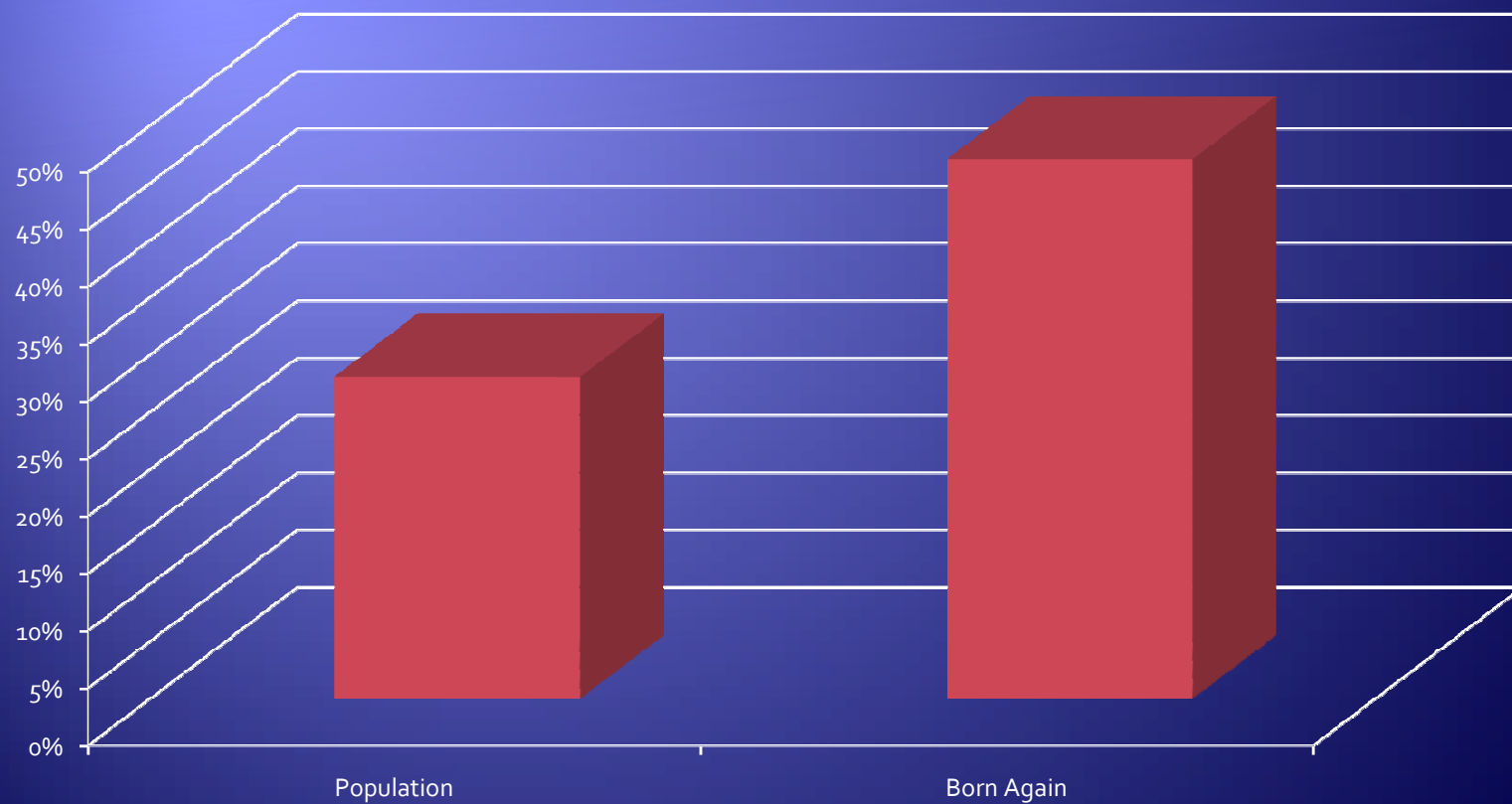
# Believe Satan Exists



# Reject Works Salvation

- ◆ One-quarter of adults (28%) believe that it is impossible for someone to earn their way into heaven through good behaviour.
- ◆ While only half of all born again Christians (47%) strongly reject the notion of earning salvation through their deeds.

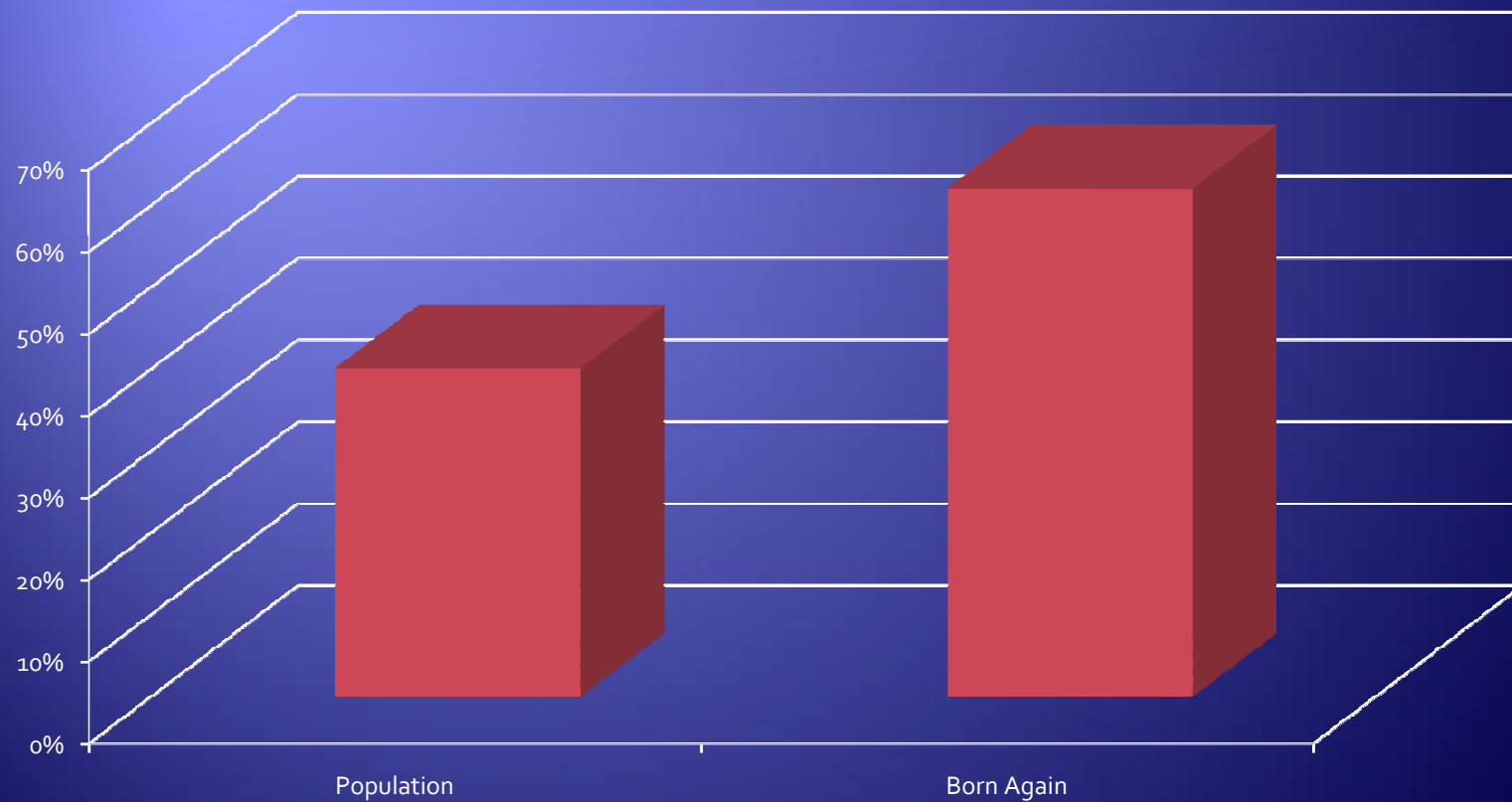
# Reject Works Salvation



# Sinlessness of Christ

- ◆ A minority of American adults (40%) believe that Christ lived a sinless life.
- ◆ Less than two-thirds (62%) of those claiming to be born again strongly believe that Christ was sinless.

# Sinlessness of Christ



# Conclusions

- ◆ We must pray for our nation.
- ◆ We must witness to our nation.
- ◆ We must disciple those who trust in Christ.

# We Must Pray

- ◆ Petition God to open the spiritual eyes of our country.
- ◆ Pray that God would set our people free from spiritual captivity.
- ◆ Ask God to send Christians into their lives to share the Gospel with them.

# We Must Witness

- ◆ Look for ways that you can build caring relationships with others.
- ◆ Seek opportunities to witness to those around you.
- ◆ Be bold in sharing the Good News of salvation.



# We Must Disciple

- ◆ Invite new believers to attend church.
- ◆ Encourage new believers to read the Bible.
- ◆ Show new believers how to pray.