

CRAWFORD
BROADCASTING
COMPANY



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Monday, November 6, 2006
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THE STAND GOD

You will be happy to know that a recent poll found that a full 95% of all Americans believe in God, of some sort. I am quite certain that God is happy to know that.

In any event, the findings of the poll were most interesting. People who believe in God have such varied and diverse opinions and beliefs. It is the nature of a human being to attempt to divine the divine. Whether the opinion is well thought out, well founded theologically or merely a gut reaction, mankind is always about the business of defining God.

Of the 95% of Americans who believe in God, only 11% of those believers have no religious affiliation. Almost 90% of Americans are affiliated in action, or thought and belief with others or other religious entities.

88% of Americans feel that God favors no particular political party. Interestingly, 12% of Americans feel that God does indeed favor a political party, whichever one. How very interesting.

7 out of 10 or 70% of all Americans approve of prayer in schools. No matter the constitution, or the courts, or legislation, or even the ACLU, 7 out of 10 Americans would approve of prayer in schools! How interesting.

The survey conducted by Baylor University in Texas, which incidentally is the largest Baptist University in the world, seriously questioned certain recent polls that have reported an increase in non-believers in America, from, the polls say, 8% to some 15%. The Baylor poll indicates that there are no more than 5% of Americans who are non-believers, secularists or atheists, and no more. To the contrary, secularization in America is on the wane and not on the grow.

The survey found that there are rapidly rising numbers of non-denominational churches. Such churches include the new phenomenon mega-church as well as storefront parishes where a new, growing and more vital type and kind of worship is happening. The survey concluded that Americans were not losing interest in religion, but rather interest in DENOMINATIONAL IDENTITY. It is the new and more meaningful kind of worship that is on the grow.

Virtually all of these believers in God believed and participated regularly in prayer. The act of praying was a fundamental part of the general belief in God. This new diversity means that there are more opinions and beliefs than ever about God, religion and even values.

The majority of those surveyed believe that abortion is wrong. Some however even with conservative beliefs believe that abortion in the event of rape, incest or saving the life of the mother is acceptable. Conservative believers in God approve justifiable military action and spending-investing in the military by America.

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The findings were most interesting about attending church. The survey found that approximately 50% of Evangelical Protestants attend religious services weekly or more often. One out of two do not! But among Mainline Protestants, only 24% or 1 in 4 attended church on a regular basis. Even more interesting, 12% of all Evangelical Christians said that they never attend religious services. NEVER!

The survey indicated that 33% or 1 in 3 Roman Catholics attend church at least on a weekly basis or more often. The survey also surprisingly found that 9% of Roman Catholics or almost 1 in 10 never attend church or church services of any kind. How interesting.

In any event, it is nice to know that GOD IS NOT DEAD! Secularists, and so many the survey found in academia, may well be dead wrong about their conclusions concerning religion and belief in God in America. Then again, they usually are. The God of this world, the great Creator of the universe is very much alive and well, whatever we think or whatever we perceive Him to be, is solid, strong, secure belief in that GOD-CREATOR and the wonder of experiencing the spiritual realm God makes possible is really the most wonderful and exciting part of this life and its journey. So, whether church or not, or prayer or not, the God of the universe is alive and well for 95% of us Americans. Perhaps you will spend a little more time today and everyday learning more about this great God and the blessings he offers.

DBC/msl