Wave 6 of the Baylor Religion Survey asked respondents their levels of agreement with the following statements:

- The federal government should declare the United States a Christian nation.
- The federal government should advocate Christian values.
- The federal government should enforce strict separation of church and state.
- The federal government should allow the display of religious symbols in public spaces.
- The success of the United States is part of God’s plan.

We created an additive scale with these six items to sort the sample into three groups:

1. **Strong Christian Nationalists** – Americans who believe that the U.S. should be a decidedly Christian State.
2. **Strong Rejectors of Christian Nationalism** – Americans who believe that the U.S. government should not advance or follow a Christian agenda.
3. **Moderates** – Americans who fall in the middle.

**Figure 1: Christian Nationalist groups**

Source: Baylor Religion Survey, wave 6 (2021), n=1248
Overall, levels of Christian Nationalism predict the 2020 Electoral preferences of Americans.

Strong Christian Nationalists overwhelmingly (70%) supported Trump. Still, nearly one quarter (24%) preferred Biden. A bare majority of Moderates (55%) preferred Biden to other candidates and nearly one third (32%) chose Trump.

The strongest predictor of candidate preference was whether an American strongly rejects Christian Nationalism. Only 6% of Rejectors preferred Trump to other candidates compared to 83% who supported Biden.

In sum, strong Rejectors of Christian Nationalism appear to have rejected Trump accordingly.

Figure 2: Christian Nationalists like Trump

Source: Baylor Religion Survey, wave 6 (2021), n=1248
Figure 3: Christian Nationalism predicts social movement support and opposition

Source: Baylor Religion Survey, wave 6 (2021), n=1248

Overall, we found similar trends of polarization in between the three Christian Nationalist groups with regards to their support/opposition to contemporary social movements. Although overall support for QAnon and White nationalism was very low in our sample, strong Christian nationalists could be found among their supporters more than the other groups. And unlike the other groups, the majority of the strong Christian nationalists oppose the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. Strong Rejectors of Christian Nationalism report the opposite preferences, with a strong majority of them supporting BLM (86%) and opposing White nationalism (95%).
Figure 4: Christian Nationalism deeply tied to political opinions

Source: Baylor Religion Survey, wave 6 (2021), n=1248

Strong Rejectors of Christian Nationalism are most likely to agree that white supremacy is the biggest terrorist threat to the United States. They are also most likely to think the Supreme Court is too conservative. On the other hand, strong Christian Nationalists are more likely to accept conspiracy theories, such as the “big lie” that the 2020 Election was “rigged” and the QAnon-inspired deceit that Democrats run pedophile networks.
Figure 5: Christian Nationalism affected how Americans understood the pandemic

Strong Christian Nationalists are more likely to believe that the media exaggerated the pandemic and to distrust the COVID vaccine. They are also much more likely to believe that the Trump administration responded appropriately to the pandemic and that calling COVID-19 the “China Virus” is non-problematic. In contrast, strong Rejectors of Christian Nationalism overwhelmingly (87%) agreed that Trump botched the pandemic response and used hateful language (83%) to describe the virus.

Source: Baylor Religion Survey, wave 6 (2021), n=1248
Figure 6: Christian Nationalism is related to fear of religious others

Source: Baylor Religion Survey, wave 6 (2021), n=1248

Strong Christian Nationalists are more likely to think Muslims, Atheists, and Buddhists are a threat to the unity of the United States. This shows that they feel non-Christian citizens pose problems to their vision of a Christian nation. Most interestingly, strong Rejectors of Christian Nationalism overwhelmingly (79%) feel that conservative Christians are a threat to our country.