

## Literal Interpretation of Scripture

U.S. Religious Traditions	Word of God, literally true word for word	Word of God, but not literally true word for word	Book written by men, not the word of God	Don't know/refused/ other	Sample Size
National Total:	33%	30%	28%	9%	35556
Evangelical Churches	59%	29%	7%	5%	9472
Mainline Churches	22%	38%	28%	11%	7470
Historically Black Churches	62%	22%	9%	8%	1995
Catholics	23%	39%	27%	11%	8054
Mormons	35%	57%	4%	4%	581
Orthodox	26%	33%	29%	12%	363
Jehovah's Witnesses	48%	45%	1%	7%	215
Other Christians	5%	30%	44%	20%	129
Jews	10%	27%	53%	10%	682
Muslims	50%	36%	8%	6%	1050
Buddhists	8%	10%	67%	16%	411
Hindus	12%	25%	47%	16%	257
Other Faiths	5%	7%	74%	14%	449
Unaffiliated	11%	14%	64%	10%	5048

**Question wording:** Which comes closest to your view? [HOLY BOOK]\* is the word of God, OR [HOLY BOOK]\* is a book written by men and is not the word of God? [IF BELIEVE HOLY BOOK IS WORD OF GOD, ASK:] And would you say that [HOLY BOOK]\* is to be taken literally, word for word, OR not everything in [HOLY BOOK]\* should be taken literally, word for word?

\*For Christians and the unaffiliated, 'the Bible' was inserted where indicated by [HOLY BOOK]; for Jews, 'the Torah' was inserted; for Muslims, 'the Koran' was inserted; for all other religious groups, 'the Holy Scripture' was inserted.

Data for Muslims from "Muslim Americans: Middle Class and Mostly Mainstream," Pew Research Center, 2007.