

## PLAN FOR “HEART OF ANGLICANISM”

- **Week #1: What Is an Anglican?**
- **Week #2: What Do Anglicans Believe?**
- **Week #3: How Do Anglicans Worship?**
  - Closer look at the Book of Common Prayer
- **Week #4: What Is the Anglican Mission?**
  - Closer look at Anglican Catechism: *To Be a Christian*

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## THE HEART OF ANGLICANISM #2

WHAT DO ANGLICANS  
BELIEVE?

Rev. Carl B. Smith II, Ph.D.

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## ANGLICANISM IS... BIBLICAL IN AUTHORITY

- Bible = authoritative guide for faith and practice
  - Right to determine belief and command action
- Richard Hooker: Bible, Tradition, Reason
  - John Wesley: Bible, Tradition, Reason, Experience
- Authority of 66 books of OT and NT – value wisdom of other literature of Judaism and Christianity
- Bible reading according to lectionary (corporate & private)

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## ANGLICANISM IS... GOSPEL IN WITNESS

- Historical Foundations: death, burial, resurrection, and appearances of Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15)
- Tension between evangelism and social justice (constant)
  - Stott brought balance – two prongs
- Emphasis upon:
  - Personal Salvation/Conversion
  - Present & Eschatological Implications (already/not yet)

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## ANGLICANISM IS... CREEDAL IN THEOLOGY

- Historical orthodoxy
- Fundamental Declarations of the Province of ACNA (p.766)
- Apostles' doctrine → *Regula Fidei* → Early creeds → Apostles' Creed → Nicene Creed (381; p.768) → Athanasian Creed (p.769-71; reflects Chalcedonian Definition, 451)
- Unified Christianity for nearly 1700 years, even after Catholic/Orthodox split (1054) and Reformation (1517)

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## 39 ARTICLES OF RELIGION (BCP, 772-788)

- VI. Scripture (note on Apocrypha p. 774)
- VII. Creeds (see 1801 Amendment, p. 789)
- IX, XI-XIV. Original Sin; Justification and Works
- XVII. Predestination and Election (Wiggle Room)
- XIX-XX. Church and Its Authority
- XXIV. Speaking in a Tongue the People Understand(?)
- XXV-XXXI. Sacraments, Baptism & Lord's Supper (Eucharist)
- XXXII. Marriage of Priests
- XXXIV. Traditions of the Church (uniformity?)
- See Amend. XXXVI. Consecration of Bishops and Ministers (789-790)

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## **GAFCON JERUSALEM DECLARATION (791-793)**

- 2008 Declaration of Global Anglican Future Conference
- #1-3. Elevation of Gospel, Holy Scripture, and Creeds
- #4. Reaffirm 39 Articles of Religion
- #6: Elevation of the Book of Common Prayer of 1662
- #8. Statement on Marriage, Divorce & Abstinence
- #11. Statement on Ecumenism (call to all Anglicans)
- #12. Diversity and Freedom in Secondary Matters
- #13. Call for Repentance of Those Departed from Faith

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## **ANGLICANISM IS... CATECHETICAL IN DISCIPLESHIP**

- Strong focus on teaching and discipleship
- *To Be a Christian: An Anglican Catechism* (2014, 2015)
- Our theology is embedded in the BCP, so each worship service is an experience of catechesis
- What should people know (knowledge), be able to do (skills), and be like (character) after a season of time attending an Anglican church?

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