

1 **The Global Church**

While Europe and North America grew more secular in the 20th century, Christianity grew rapidly in Asia, Latin America, and Africa; this growth shows no signs of stopping.

2 **Asia**

- Christianity has been especially successful in China, India, and South Korea.
 - The Chinese church is growing enormously in spite of government opposition.
 - Most of this growth is in underground house churches.
 - Persecution of Chinese Christians can be severe, but is relatively mild in some regions.

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- In India, the church is growing in spite of sometimes violent opposition from Hindus.
- South Korea may soon become the first large Asian country with a Christian majority.

4 **Latin America**

- Most Christians in Latin America are Roman Catholics.
- Pentecostal churches, in particular, have been hugely successful in Latin America.
 - Pentecostalism is the most rapidly growing branch of Christianity today in Latin America and throughout the world.

5 **Africa**

- Africa is especially noted for its native denominations with few or no ties to Christian movements in Europe and North America.
- These churches often lean toward Pentecostalism.
- They often include elements of non-Christian religions.

6 **Challenges**

- As European and American missionaries have spread Christianity around the world, and as native Christians have assumed leadership after the departure of missionaries, several challenges have emerged.

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- How are the principles of Christianity applied in non Christian cultures?
- Should European culture be spread alongside Christianity?
- How should Christians respond to unjust governments and social systems?
- Should Christians focus on preaching or on helping the needy?