

2 Lay of the Land

Objective: to understand the local and global religious landscapes in light of Christianity's popularity and its claims about Christ's universal supremacy.

Name: _____

Date: February 5, 2019

Secularization Thesis

i *"The seminal social thinkers of the nineteenth century—Auguste Comte, Herbert Spencer, Émile Durkheim, Max Weber, Karl Marx, and Sigmund Freud—all believed that religion would gradually fade in importance and cease to be significant with the advent of industrial society." -Pippa Norris and Ronald Inglehart, Sacred and Secular, p. 3.*

Notes:

Future Projections

i *Religion, especially Christianity, Islam, and Hinduism, is expected to either keep pace with population growth or surpass it while non-religious ideologies are predicted to fall 3% by 2050.*

Universal Claims about Christ

i *Scriptures that make big claims about Christ's cosmic importance:*

- *Colossians 1:19-20; 2:1-3*
- *Ephesians 1:9-10*
- *Philippians 2:9-11*

Christianity's geographic distribution testifies to its transnational, transracial, transcultural appeal.

Summary Statements: