

THE QUESTIONS GOD ASKS

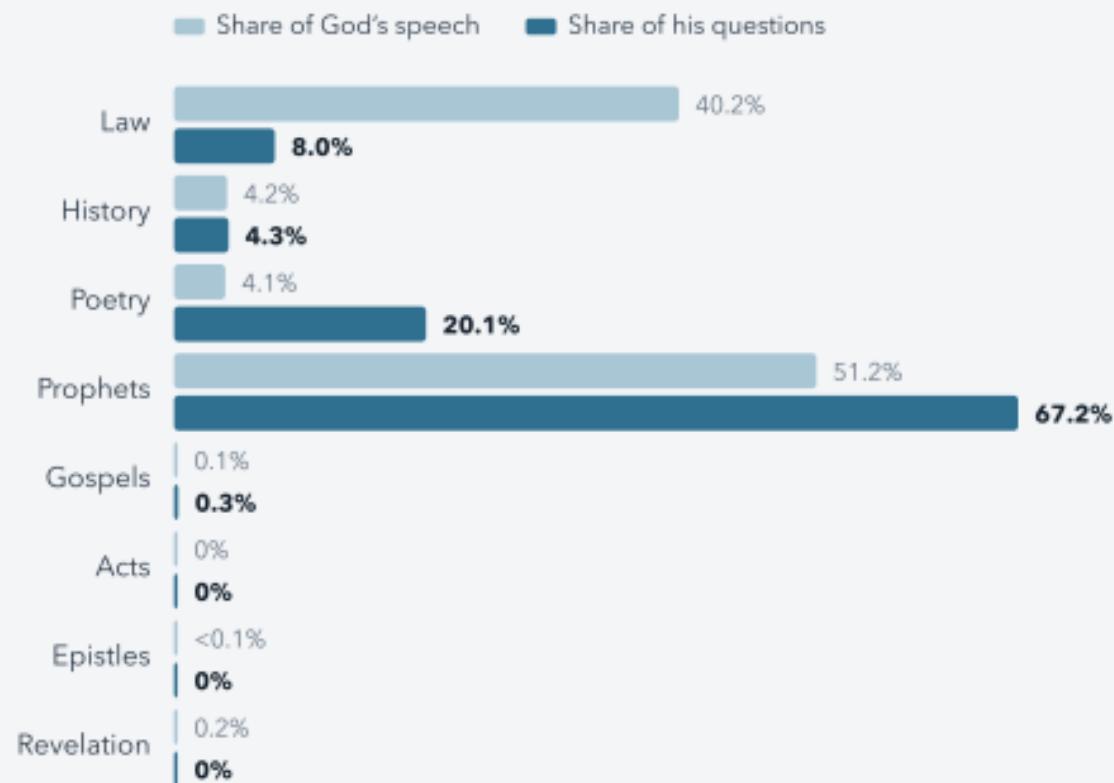
"Where are you?"

Class 1 of 8

Genesis 3:9 But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "**Where are you?**"



God's speech and his questions, by section



The totals

2,512

verses with a question mark

379

asked by God

15%

of all the questions

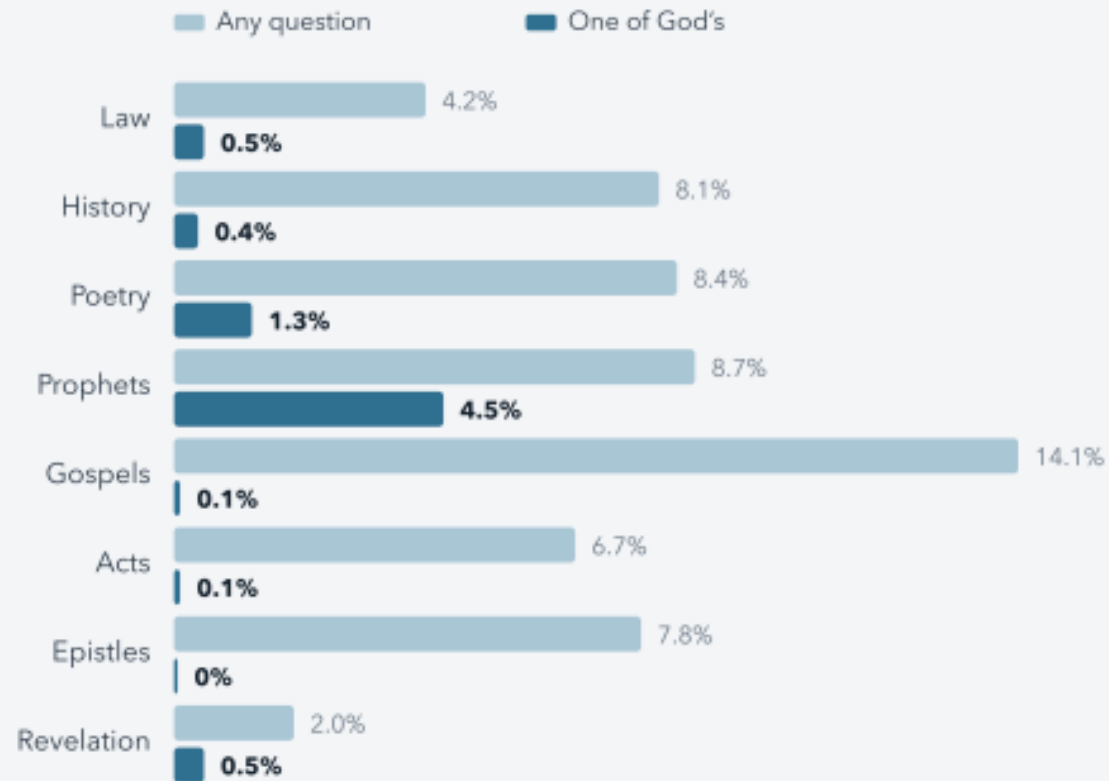
33

books

God’s questions by book

GEN 16	EXO 7	LEV	NUM 7	DEU 2	JOS 2	JDG 4	RUT	1SA 6	2SA 4	1KI 7	2KI 5	1CH	2CH 2	EZR	NEH
JOB 57	PSA 4	PRO 1	ECC	SNG	ISA 49	JER 87	LAM	EZK 52	DAN 1	HOS 7	JOL 1	AMO 8	OBA 2	JON 3	MIC 6
HAB 5	ZEP	HAG 7	ZEC 12	MAL 7	MAT	MRK	LUK 2	JHN 1	ACT 1	ROM	1CO	2CO	GAL	EPH	PHP
1TH	2TH	1TI	2TI	TIT	PHM	HEB	JAS	1PE	2PE	1JN	2JN	3JN	JUD	REV 2	

Verses with a question, by section



Hebrews 1:1-2

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers **by the prophets**, ²but in these last days **he has spoken to us by his Son**, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

Isaiah 1:18

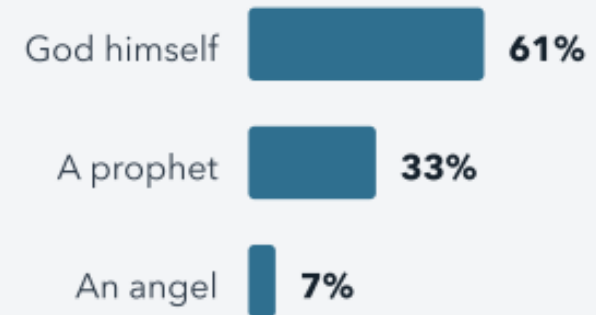
18"Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

Who is asked, and who speaks

Asked of



Spoken by



Questions with a recorded answer



The eight classes

01 Where are you?

Holiness · tonight

02 What do you see?

Revelation

03 Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Wisdom

04 To whom then will you compare me?

Supremacy

05 What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?

Worship

06 Is my way not just?

Justice

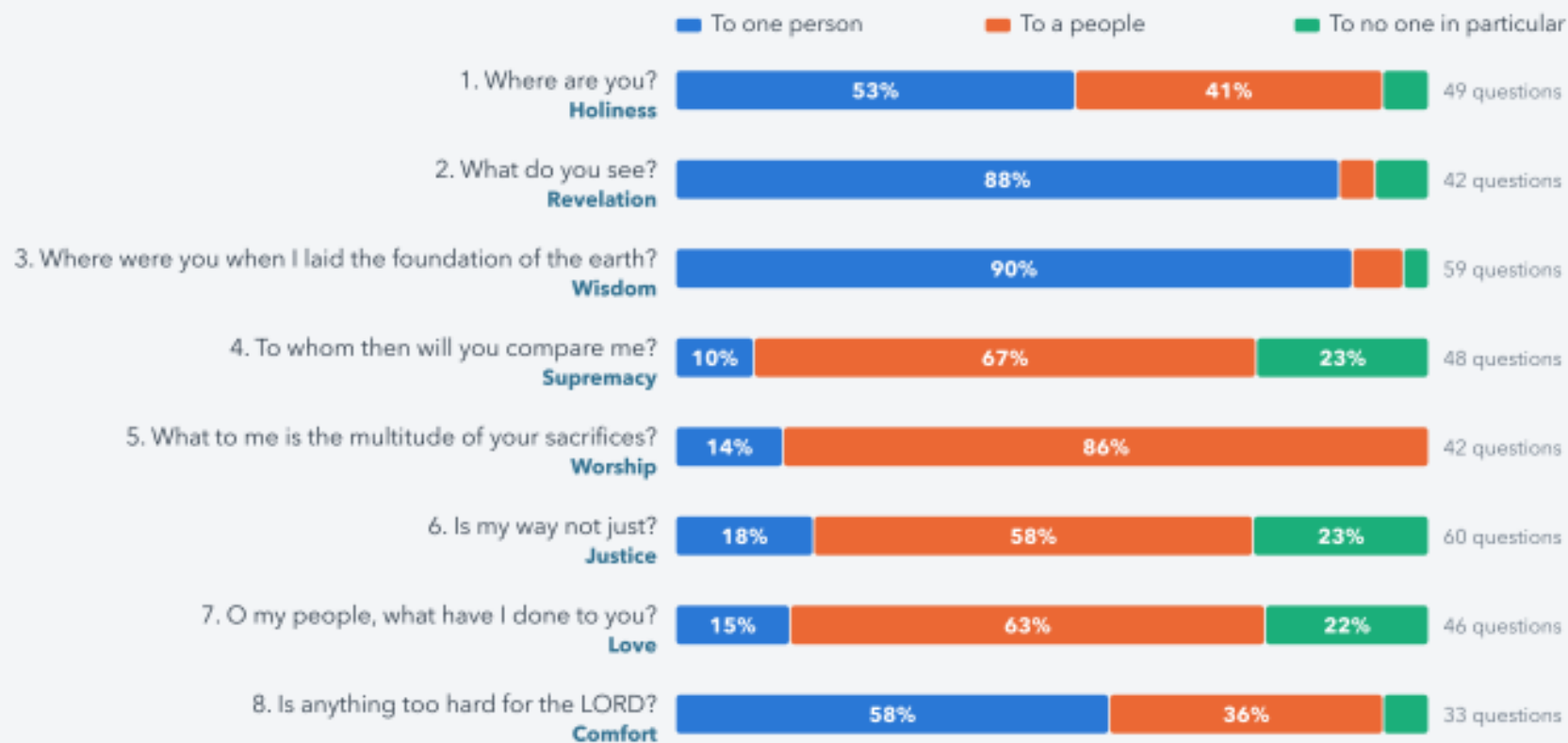
07 O my people, what have I done to you?

Love

08 Is anything too hard for the LORD?

Comfort

Who each group is asked of



CLASS 1 · HOLINESS

“Where are you?”



Genesis 3:7-9

7Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they **sewed fig leaves together** and made themselves loincloths. **8**And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife **hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God** among the trees of the garden. **9**But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, **"Where are you?"**

Genesis 3:9-13

⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, **"Where are you?"**
¹⁰And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and **I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.**" ¹¹He said, **"Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"** ¹²The man said, **"The woman whom you gave to be with me,** she gave me fruit of the tree, **and I ate."** ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, **"What is this that you have done?"** The woman said, **"The serpent deceived me, and I ate."**

Genesis 3:21

21 And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife
garments of skins and clothed them.

Genesis 3:19; Galatians 3:27; 1 Peter 3:21

Genesis 3 19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and **to dust you shall return.**"

Galatians 3 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ **have put on Christ.**

1 Peter 3 21 Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as **an appeal to God for a good conscience**, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

Genesis 4:6-10

⁶The LORD said to Cain, “**Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted?** And if you do not do well, **sin is crouching at the door.** Its desire is for you, but **you must rule over it.**” ⁸Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, “**Where is Abel your brother?**” He said, “**I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?**” ¹⁰And the LORD said, “**What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground.**”

James 1:14-15

14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. **15** Then **desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin**, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Genesis 4:9-10

⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, “**Where is Abel your brother?**” He said, “**I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?**” ¹⁰And the LORD said, “**What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground.**”

Genesis 4:14, 16

14 Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and **from your face I shall be hidden**. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."

16 Then Cain **went away from the presence of the LORD** and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

1 Samuel 15:17, 19-20; 2 Samuel 12:9, 13

SAUL

¹⁷And Samuel said, **“Though you are little in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel?”** The LORD anointed you king over Israel.

¹⁹**Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you pounce on the spoil and do what was evil in the sight of the LORD?”**

²⁰And Saul said to Samuel, **“I have obeyed the voice of the LORD.** I have gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me. I have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and I have devoted the Amalekites to destruction.

DAVID

⁹**Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight?** You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

¹³David said to Nathan, **“I have sinned against the LORD.”** And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has **put away your sin**; you shall not die.

Jeremiah 6:13-15

13“For from the least to the greatest of them, everyone is greedy for unjust gain; and from prophet to priest, everyone deals falsely.

14They have healed the wound of my people lightly, saying, **‘Peace, peace,’ when there is no peace.** **15****Were they ashamed when they committed abomination?** No, they were **not at all ashamed; they did not know how to blush.** Therefore **they shall fall among those who fall;** at the time that I punish them, they shall be overthrown,” says the LORD.

Jeremiah 2:23; 44:9

Jeremiah 2 23 How can you say, 'I am not unclean, I have not gone after the Baals'? Look at your way in the valley; **know what you have done**—a restless young camel running here and there,

Jeremiah 44 9 Have you forgotten the evil of your fathers, the evil of the kings of Judah, the evil of their wives, your own evil, and the evil of your wives, which they committed in the land of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

Numbers 14:11; Jeremiah 4:14

Numbers 14 11 And the LORD said to Moses, "**How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them?**"

Jeremiah 4 14 O Jerusalem, **wash your heart from evil, that you may be saved. How long shall your wicked thoughts lodge within you?**

Jonah 4:1-4

¹But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. ²And he prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are **a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,** and relenting from disaster. ³Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."
⁴And the LORD said, "**Do you do well to be angry?**"

Jonah 4:9, 11

⁹But God said to Jonah, “**Do you do well to be angry for the plant?**” And he said, “Yes, I do well to be angry, **angry enough to die.**”

¹¹**And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?”**

Jeremiah 45:3, 5; Luke 12:20

Jeremiah 45 ³You said, 'Woe is me! For the LORD has added sorrow to my pain. **I am weary with my groaning**, and I find no rest.'

⁵**And do you seek great things for yourself?** Seek them not, for behold, I am bringing disaster upon all flesh, declares the LORD. But I will give you **your life as a prize of war** in all places to which you may go."

Luke 12 ²⁰But God said to him, 'Fool! **This night your soul is required of you**, and **the things you have prepared, whose will they be?**'

Genesis 32:24-28

24And **Jacob was left alone**. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. **25**When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, **he touched his hip socket**, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. **26**Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "**I will not let you go unless you bless me.**" **27**And he said to him, "**What is your name?**" And he said, "**Jacob.**" **28**Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but **Israel**, for you have striven with God and with men, and **have prevailed.**"

Hosea 12:4; Genesis 32:29-30

Hosea 12 ⁴**He strove with the angel and prevailed; he wept and sought his favor.** He met God at Bethel, and there God spoke with us—

Genesis 32 ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "**Why is it that you ask my name?**" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For **I have seen God face to face**, and yet my life has been delivered."

S U M M A R Y

“Where are you?”



Hebrews 4:12-16

12For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. **13**And no creature is **hidden** from his sight, but all are **naked and exposed** to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. **14**Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. **15**For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been **tempted as we are, yet without sin**. **16**Let us then **with confidence draw near** to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Psalm 32:1, 3, 5

1Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, **whose sin is covered.**

3For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

5I acknowledged my sin to you, and **I did not cover my iniquity**; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Isaiah 6:5, 7-8

5And I said: “**Woe is me! For I am lost**; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

7And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; **your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.** **8**And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “**Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?**” Then I said, “**Here am I!** Send me.”

Philippians 2:8-11

8And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming **obedient to the point of death**, even death on a cross. **9Therefore God has highly exalted him** and bestowed on him **the name that is above every name**, **10**so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11**and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Isaiah 62:2; Revelation 2:17

Isaiah 62 ²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by **a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.**

Revelation 2 ¹⁷He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **To the one who conquers** I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with **a new name** written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.'

Questions for reflection

- 01** If God asked me tonight, “Where are you?”, what would my honest answer be?
- 02** What are my fig leaves? What do I reach for to cover things over, instead of bringing them to God?
- 03** When I’m confronted with something I’ve done wrong, is my first word an explanation, like Saul’s, or a confession, like David’s?
- 04** Is there anger or resentment in me now that God might be asking about, as he asked Cain and Jonah, before it gives birth to sin?
- 05** Is there anything I’ve stopped blushing about - something that used to trouble my conscience and doesn’t anymore?

Questions for reflection

- 06** Where might God be asking me “How long?” What have I kept putting off?
- 07** “Do [I] seek great things for [myself]?” and “Whose will they be?” What am I really working for, and will it last?
- 08** If God asked me, as he asked Jacob, “What is your name?”, what would the honest answer be, and am I ready to be given a new one?
- 09** Where can I draw near with confidence instead of hiding?