

GOD IS ASKING

GENESIS 3:8-13

WHERE ARE YOU?

After they had sinned, *“the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord”* (Genesis 3:8)

God then asked, *“Where are you?”*

Why would we try to hide?

Job 34:21-23; Proverbs 5:21; Psalms 139:8; John 3:19

WHERE ARE YOU?

God is asking, where is the man ...

1. *“Whose heart is completely His?”* 2 Chronicles 16:9
2. *“Who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me?”* Ezekiel 22:30
3. **Whom God can send** to do His work and *“will go for Us”*? Isaiah 6:8
4. Who will be *“useful to the Master”*? 2 Timothy 2:21

WHERE ARE YOU?

Examples:

1. **Jonah** - who *“rose up to flee ... from the presence of the Lord”* (Jonah 1:3).
2. **Elijah** - *“what are you doing here?”* (1 Kings 19:9-10)
3. **The Ten lepers** - *“were there not ten cleansed? But the nine - where are they?”* (Luke 17:11-19; 2 Chronicles 32:25)
4. **Peter** - *“... he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof ...”* (Galatians 2:12)

WHERE ARE YOU?

In terms of where we used to be:

Maybe we haven't *“fled”* from the presence of the Lord, but are we as close as we used to be?

Have we drifted? Hebrews 2:1, *“drift”* means to **“flow past or glide by”** - doesn't indicate even intentional disregard, just a damning degree of **negligence.**

Negligence - careless or lack of regard. Failure to *“take it to heart”* (Malachi 2:2).

WHERE ARE YOU?

In terms of growth and maturity:

- Someone who needs guiding? Acts 8:31
- A new child of God who needs nurturing or someone who should be mature? Hebrews 5:12-6:1; James 1:2-4

WHERE ARE YOU?

Are you lost?
 “*Sheep without a shepherd*” (Mark 6:34; Luke 15)
 Ever remember as a young child being separated from your parents and feeling the panic, fear, and despair? (Luke 15:16)
 Psalms 119:176 – “*I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant ...*” (Luke 19:10)
 Do we wish to be found? Do we want to be near?
 Hebrews 7:25; James 4:8

WHO TOLD YOU?

Genesis 3:11 - God asked Adam and Eve, “*who told you that you were naked?*”
 God’s law was clear but they began to listen to someone else, they listened to the wisdom of Satan.
 Genesis 3:12; 1 Corinthians 2:6-8

WHO TOLD YOU?

Example of the “*man of God*” and the “*old prophet*” - 1 Kings 13
 Who told him to “*eat no bread, nor drink water, nor return by the way which you came*”? (verse 9) **God did!**
 Who told him he could? A man who lied! (verse 18)
 Killed by a lion. 1 Peter 5:8
 Galatians 1:8-9

WHO TOLD YOU?

Example of the “*young man lacking sense*” - Proverbs 7:7ff
 “*She says to him ...*” (verse 13)
 Who told you it won’t lead to your “*slaughter*” and “*cost him his life*”? (verses 22-23)
 Who told you that drink wouldn’t bite you like a serpent? (Proverbs 23:29-35)

WHO TOLD YOU?

Authority of man or God? Matthew 21:23-27
 Doctrines of men? Matthew 15:7-9
 Someone who is telling you what you want to hear? 2 Timothy 4:1-3, 1 Kings 22; Isaiah 30:10

WHO TOLD YOU?

We need to listen to Jesus!
 Matthew 17:1-5; Hebrews 1:1-2

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

Accountability - God knows what we have done, will we acknowledge it?

- Achan - Joshua 7:19-21, "tell me now what you have done ... I saw ... I coveted ... took ... concealed ..."; cf. James 1:14-15
- King Saul - 1 Samuel 13:11, "what have you done? ... I forced myself" (cf. 1 Samuel 15:9-23)
- King David - "I have sinned against the Lord." (2 Samuel 12:13; Psalms 32:1-5)

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

Do we ask ourselves? Jeremiah 8:4-6, they had:

- **Fallen**
- Turned away
- Committed "*apostasy*"
- Held fast to "*deceit*"
- Yet no one repented and asked "*what have I done?*"

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

Those on the day of Pentecost? Acts 2:36

Saul of Tarsus? Acts 9:5-6; 26:14; 1 Corinthians 15:9-10; Acts 26:9-12; 1 Timothy 1:12-15

Simon the sorcerer? Acts 8:18-24

You and I? Romans 3:23; 6:23

GOD IS ASKING ...

Where are you?

- Are you "*in Christ*"? Galatians 3:26-27

Who told you?

- Are you listening to the wisdom from above? James 3:17

What have you done?

- Have you "*done everything, to stand firm*"? Ephesians 6:13