

Questions in Jonah

Seeing the questions will help us to understand more clearly the author, the recipients and the purpose of writing. The following points are taken into account:

1. Identify who asks the question (God, author or addressee).
2. The question is answered or is a rhetorical question.
3. The question affirms or defines the author's purpose.

	Jonas (NASB)	Who asks?	Answer or Rhetoric	Purpose
1	1:6 So the captain approached him and said, " How is it that you are sleeping? Get up, call on your god. Perhaps <i>your</i> god will be concerned about us so that we will not perish."			
2	1:8 Then they said to him, "Tell us, now! On whose account has this calamity struck us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"			
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7	1:10 Then the men became extremely frightened and they said to him, " How could you do this? " For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.			

8	1:11 So they said to him, “ What should we do to you that the sea may become calm for us? ”—for the sea was becoming increasingly stormy.			
9	4:2 He prayed to the Lord and said, “ Please Lord, was not this what I said while I was still in my own country? Therefore in order to forestall this I fled to Tarshish, for I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity.			
10	4:4 The Lord said, “ Do you have good reason to be angry? ”			
11	4:9 Then God said to Jonah, “ Do you have good reason to be angry about the plant? ” And he said, “I have good reason to be angry, even to death.”			
12	4:11 Should I not have compassion on Nineveh, the great city in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know <i>the difference</i> between their right and left hand, as well as many animals? ”			