

**PRRI/RNS Religion News Survey**  
**March 17-20, 2011**  
**N=1,008**

Q.1 Which statement comes closest to your view of God? **[READ IN ORDER]**

70	God is a person with whom people can have a relationship
17	God is an impersonal force
8	I do not believe in God
2	Other (VOL.)
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.2 Now as I read a few statements please tell me whether you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree or completely disagree with each one. The first statement is **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next... **[INSERT NEXT]**.

**ASK IF BELIEVE IN GOD [Q1=1,2,4,9]:**

a. God is in control of everything that happens in the world

35	Completely agree
21	Mostly agree
17	Mostly disagree
17	Completely disagree
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>8</u>	<i>I do not believe in God</i>
100	Total

b. God sometimes punishes nations for the sins of some of its citizens

13	Completely agree
16	Mostly agree
21	Mostly disagree
40	Completely disagree
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>8</u>	<i>I do not believe in God</i>
100	Total

## c. Natural disasters are God's way of testing our faith

16	Completely agree
24	Mostly agree
20	Mostly disagree
29	Completely disagree
3	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>8</u>	<i>I do not believe in God</i>
100	Total

## d. Seeing innocent people suffer sometimes causes me to have doubts about God

5	Completely agree
13	Mostly agree
24	Mostly disagree
48	Completely disagree
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>8</u>	<i>I do not believe in God</i>
100	Total

## e. Earthquakes, floods and other natural disasters are a sign from God

16	Completely agree
22	Mostly agree
22	Mostly disagree
29	Completely disagree
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>8</u>	<i>I do not believe in God</i>
100	Total

**ASK ALL FORM 1 ONLY:**

ff1. The severity of recent natural disasters is evidence that we are in what the Bible calls the end times

21	Completely agree
23	Mostly agree
20	Mostly disagree
32	Completely disagree
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

**ASK ALL FORM 2 ONLY:**

gf2. The severity of recent natural disasters is evidence of global climate change

22	Completely agree
36	Mostly agree
18	Mostly disagree
22	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.4 How much, if at all, have you heard about the earthquake and tsunami  
[*PRONOUNCED: Su-nam-ee*] that struck Japan? **[READ IN ORDER]**

86	A lot
12	A little
2	Nothing at all
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.5 Given our current economic and budget problems, how important is it that the  
U.S. government provides significant financial assistance to nations like Japan  
that have suffered from major natural disasters?

42	Very important
41	Somewhat important
7	Not too important
7	Not at all important
2	Depends (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	Total

*Note: Numbers may not add to 100% due to rounding*

## Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by Public Religion Research Institute. Results of the survey were based on RDD telephone interviews conducted between March 17, 2011 and March 20, 2011 by professional interviewers under the direction of Opinion Research Corporation. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 1,008 adults 18 years of age or older living in private households in the continental United States.

The final sample was weighted to five different parameters—age, sex, geographic region, education and race—to ensure reliable and accurate representation of the total adult population.

The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.0 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context and order effects.