

Study Guide: 1 John Lesson 45

December 31, 2025

Review Quiz

Instructions: Answer the following questions in 2-3 complete sentences based on the information provided in the lesson.

1. What are the three primary characteristics of an Antichrist as outlined in the lesson?
2. How does the speaker, following the writings of John, define the term "Antichrist"?
3. According to 2 Peter 2:3, what is the core motivation of false teachers who infiltrate the church?
4. Why does the speaker believe that the modern world assumes there is no single, recognizable "truth" that all Christians agree upon?
5. Explain the distinction the speaker makes between a true Christian experiencing doubt and the act of denial.
6. What does it mean for a Christian to have an "anointing from the Holy One"?
7. Briefly describe postmodernism and existentialism and how, according to the lesson, they impact society's view of truth.
8. How did the pre-Gnostics view their own "knowledge" and "anointing," and how does John rebuke this view?
9. According to 2 Peter, verse 12, what is the ultimate fate of false teachers, and what are they compared to?
10. What is the speaker's response to the idea that a person could claim they were deceived by a false religion as a legitimate excuse on judgment day?

Answer Key

1. The three characteristics of an Antichrist are that they depart from the fellowship (often taking non-believers with them), they deny the faith (specifically the deity and humanity of Jesus Christ), and they try to deceive the faithful. A true believer, however, cannot be made to abandon the faith by them.
2. The speaker defines "Antichrist" not as a single figure, but as an attitude. Following John's teaching, anyone who does not believe in Jesus Christ would be defined as an Antichrist, placing them in the category of "children of Satan" as opposed to "children of God."
3. The core motivation for false teachers is covetousness. According to 2 Peter 2:3, "they exploit you with deceptive words" because they desire money, fame, prestige, or other "stuff."
4. The speaker states that the watching world sees a broad spectrum of beliefs under the banner of Christianity, from "mindless fundamentalism" to "pseudo-intellectual liberalism," including groups like Mormons and Catholics. Because of this wide and contradictory range, the world assumes there is no single truth that is recognized, believed, and proclaimed by all Christians.
5. The speaker explains that a true Christian may doubt, question, or even be temporarily led astray due to spiritual infancy, but they cannot permanently abandon the truth. Doubt is a time of testing or questioning, whereas denial is a permanent rejection of the faith, which is characteristic of an Antichrist.
6. The "anointing from the Holy One" is the Holy Spirit, whom Christ gives to every believer upon salvation. This anointing is God's guarantee, or "seal," on a believer, and it is the indwelling Spirit who teaches the believer all things necessary for salvation, meaning they lack nothing.
7. Postmodernism is the rejection of a universal truth, promoting pluralism, diversity, and subjectivity. Existentialism is a worldview stating that life has no inherent meaning, and individuals must create their own purpose and values, leading to anxiety because they lack an "anchor" of truth.
8. Pre-Gnostics saw themselves as intellectually superior "knowing ones" who possessed a special, elevated, and secret divine knowledge. They claimed a special anointing from God that put them on a higher level than others, but John rebukes this by stating that all believers have an anointing from the Holy One and know all things necessary for salvation.

9. The fate of false teachers is that they will "utterly perish" and bring "swift destruction" upon themselves. 2 Peter compares them to "natural brute beasts," "unreasoning animals," or "mindless beasts" that are made to be caught and destroyed.

10. The speaker states that being deceived will not be a legitimate excuse on judgment day. In John's framework, there is no middle ground; a person is either covered by the blood of Christ or is sentenced to hell, and that is all that matters.

Essay Questions

1. Analyze the speaker's comprehensive description of Antichrists. Discuss their characteristics, motivations, and methods as outlined in the lesson, referencing the teachings from both 1 John and 2 Peter 2.

2. Explain the challenges that postmodernism and existentialism present to proclaiming a universal Christian truth, according to the speaker's analysis. How do these worldviews contribute to a society where people "don't know the truth" and are "blown about to and fro"?

3. Describe the fundamental contrast the lesson draws between a true Christian and an Antichrist. Focus on the core concepts of deception, knowledge, perseverance, and the nature of the "anointing" of the Holy Spirit.

4. Using the scriptural references provided in the lesson (e.g., 2 Peter 2, 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, 1 Corinthians 2:9-12), elaborate on the role and nature of the Holy Spirit as the "anointing" and teacher for the believer.

5. Discuss the speaker's view on why the watching world is confused about what a true Christian is. Include the concepts of "mindless fundamentalism," "pseudo-intellectual liberalism," and the broad spectrum of beliefs and institutions presented under the banner of Christianity.

Glossary of Key Terms

Term	Definition from Source Context
Antichrist	An attitude; defined by John as anyone who does not believe in Jesus Christ. Characteristics include departing from fellowship, denying the faith, and attempting to deceive the faithful.

Biblical Christian	A term used by the speaker to define his own beliefs, distinguishing them from the many other perceived types of Christians in the world.
Charisma	A Greek word for "anointing" which originally meant an ointment. It is the root for the word "charismatic."
Covetousness	The desire for money, fame, prestige, or "stuff." It is cited as the motivation for false teachers in 2 Peter 2:3.
Dunamas	A Greek word meaning "power" (the root of "dynamite"). It refers to the power believers receive after the Holy Spirit comes upon them.
Existentialism	A worldview stating there is no inherent meaning to anything, and that individuals are free and responsible for creating their own purpose and value system.
Gnostic	Derived from a Greek word meaning "to know." It refers to people who believed they were the "knowing ones" with a special, elevated, secret, and esoteric divine knowledge that others lacked.
Heresies	Destructive and damnable ideas that are secretly brought into the church by false teachers.
Mindless Fundamentalism	A term for an extreme of perceived Christianity, characterized by cult-like behavior where members robotically follow a leader without question.
Postmodernism	A worldview defined by the rejection of a universal truth, the blurring of boundaries, pluralism, diversity, and subjectivity.
Prophet	Not someone who tells the future, but rather someone who speaks for God.
Pseudo-intellectual liberalism	A term for an extreme of perceived Christianity where it is believed one can hold almost any belief, associated with the concept of universalism.
Universalism	The belief that nobody goes to hell and that everybody goes to heaven.

Greek Terminology

The following Greek terms were referenced during the lesson:

- **Genosco** (Phonetic: ghin-OH-skoh)

- **Definition:** A common Greek word meaning "to know." The term Gnostic is derived from this root word, referring to those who claimed to be the "knowing ones."

- **Charisma** (Phonetic: KHAR-is-mah)

- **Definition:** The Greek word for "anointing." While its root meaning is an "ointment," in the context of 1 John it is connected to the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- **Dunamas** (Phonetic: DOO-nam-iss)

- **Definition:** The Greek word for "power." The lesson notes that believers receive this power after the Holy Spirit comes upon them, as mentioned in the book of Acts.

- **Arrabōn** (Referred to by concept)

- **Description:** While the speaker does not name the specific word, he describes the concept of a "guarantee" given by God. He likens it to a signet ring on a wax seal or an engagement ring, referring to the Holy Spirit given to believers as a seal of their salvation, as described in 2 Corinthians 1:22.