

Study Guide: 1 John Lesson 47

January 14, 2026

This study guide provides a comprehensive review of the theological concepts presented in the analysis of 1 John 2:28 through 3:3. It focuses on the biblical definition of hope, the promise of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, and the future transformation of the believer.

Part I: Short-Answer Quiz

Instructions: Answer the following questions in 2–3 sentences based on the provided text.

1. According to the lesson, what is the status of chapter and verse breaks in the original biblical manuscripts?
2. How does 1 John 2:28 describe the desired state of a believer when Jesus Christ appears?
3. What is the fundamental difference between the world's definition of "hope" and the Christian's "hope"?
4. Why does the lesson argue that a life without the gift of biblical hope is "bleak" or a "supreme misery"?
5. According to Hebrews 6:19, what is the function of hope for the soul of a believer?
6. What was the common philosophical outlook on the soul and death during the time of the Apostle Paul?
7. Explain the relationship between the "inner man" and the "stinky flesh" in the life of a Christian.
8. What are the three distinct categories of people mentioned who will receive glorified bodies at different times?
9. In what way is the Christian hope considered "defensible" according to the teachings of Peter?
10. What specific historical event secures and validates the believer's living hope?

Part II: Answer Key

- 1. According to the lesson, what is the status of chapter and verse breaks in the original biblical manuscripts?** The chapter breaks and verse numbers found in modern Bibles were not present in the original manuscripts. Consequently, some breaks may be positioned poorly, such as the transition between 1 John 2 and 3, which the lesson suggests should be viewed as one continuous section regarding the Second Coming.
- 2. How does 1 John 2:28 describe the desired state of a believer when Jesus Christ appears?** The verse exhorts "little children" to abide in Him so that they may have confidence at His coming. The goal is for the believer to remain in Him and not be ashamed before Him at His appearance.
- 3. What is the fundamental difference between the world's definition of "hope" and the Christian's "hope"?** The world views hope as a mere wish or a fantasy for something one desires to happen. In contrast, biblical hope is a certainty and a reality that has not yet been fully realized, acting as a settled expectation of God's promises.
- 4. Why does the lesson argue that a life without the gift of biblical hope is "bleak" or a "supreme misery"?** Life is described as a brief vapor that vanishes quickly and is often full of trouble. If one's hope is tied only to this life on earth without a sure hope for the future after death, that individual exists in a state of severe misery.
- 5. According to Hebrews 6:19, what is the function of hope for the soul of a believer?** Hope serves as an "anchor of the soul," providing a foundation that is both sure and steadfast. It allows the believer to spiritually enter the presence of the Lord "behind the veil."
- 6. Explain the relationship between the "inner man" and the "stinky flesh" in the life of a Christian.** A child of God has been transformed and regenerated in the "inner man" by the Holy Spirit, yet they still reside in unredeemed, "stinky flesh." This creates a constant struggle where the redeemed nature is essentially incarcerated in a sinful body, awaiting final liberation.
- 7. What are the three distinct categories of people mentioned who will receive glorified bodies at different times?** The three categories are the Church, who receive their bodies at the Rapture; the Old Testament saints; and the tribulation saints. While these groups receive their glorified bodies at different points in the prophetic timeline, all are eventually made in the image of Jesus Christ.
- 8. In what way is the Christian hope considered "defensible" according to the teachings of Peter?** According to 1 Peter 3:15, Christians should always be ready to give a defense for the reason of their hope. This hope is not "pie in the sky" but is reasonable and defensible because it is grounded in the truth of the Word of God.
- 9. In what way is the Christian hope considered "defensible" according to the teachings of Peter?** Hope is defensible because it is based on the scriptures, which reveal the truthfulness of God. Any honest study of the Bible allows the Word to defend itself and demonstrate that the believer's expectations are rooted in divine reality.

10. What specific historical event secures and validates the believer's living hope? The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the event that secures the believer's hope. As Jesus Christ lives, those who believe in Him are assured that they too will live and be resurrected into eternal life.

Part III: Essay Questions

Instructions: Use the Source Context to develop detailed responses to the following prompts.

- 1. The Nature of Biblical Hope:** Contrast the "hope of the hypocrite" or worldly acquisitions with the "hopeful theology" found in the scriptures. How does the source of this hope (God's grace) change its stability compared to human wishes?
- 2. The Progression of Salvation:** The lesson suggests that the "greatest part of our salvation is not yet realized." Discuss the progression from initial salvation to sanctification, and finally to the full realization of hope in the presence of the Lord.
- 3. The Glorified Body:** Describe the characteristics of the "glorious body" based on the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus Christ. How does the promise of this body address the "bondage" of the believer's current physical state?
- 4. Scripture as the Source of Hope:** Analyze the role of the Bible in dispensing hope. How do the "patience and comfort of the scriptures" (Romans 15:4) provide a foundation for believers to endure trials and the "disquieted soul"?
- 5. The Second Coming and Christian Responsibility:** 1 John 3:3 states that everyone who has "this hope" in Him "purifies himself." Explain how the expectation of the appearance of Jesus Christ acts as a motivation for Christian conduct and holiness.

Part IV: Glossary of Key Terms

- **Abide:** To remain or continue in a stable relationship with Jesus Christ, ensuring confidence at His Second Coming.
- **Adoption:** The future full realization of a believer's status, including the redemption of the body.
- **Christophany:** A pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament, such as when He appeared to Abraham.
- **Glorified Body:** A new, heavenly body prepared by God, made in the image of Jesus Christ, which is touchable, can eat, and is no longer subject to the bondage of sin.
- **Grace:** The unmerited favor of God, which is the only means by which hope and salvation are given to humanity.

- **Hope:** A major component of salvation characterized by a sure, steadfast expectation of future reality and eternal life, rather than a wish.
- **Necromancy:** The practice of attempting to communicate with the dead, which the lesson identifies as a "lie straight from the pit of hell" and a sin.
- **Purgatory:** A concept rejected by the text as "man's idea" or "hogwash," involving the belief that the dead can be prayed out of a middle state through money or deeds.
- **Regeneration:** The renewing power of the Holy Spirit that transforms the "inner man" of a believer.
- **Sanctification:** The pathway of becoming holier through the understanding of God's Word, which leads a believer to recognize their need for Christ more deeply.
- **Tribulation Saints:** A category of believers who come to faith during the tribulation period and receive their glorified bodies later than the Church.
- **Vapor:** A biblical metaphor used to describe the brevity and fleeting nature of human life on earth.