

1 John 3

Remember to consult your study Bible and the sermons on our website if you get stuck.

1. According to 1 John 2:28–3:3, how does the thought of Christ’s return motivate the Christian to “purify himself”? See also Matthew 25:31–46; 1 Corinthians 15:50–58; Revelation 19.
2. Verses 4–10 claim that Jesus came “to destroy the works of the devil.”
 - a. What are the works of the devil? See Genesis 2:16–17; Genesis 3; 1 Corinthians 7:5; Zechariah 3:1; Revelation 12:9–10; Job 2:7; Luke 13:16; Mark 4:15; 1 Thessalonians 2:18.
 - b. How did Jesus destroy these works? See Hebrews 2:14–18.
 - c. How does the destructive power of Christ’s death relate to John’s argument here?
3. In verses 11–16 John assumes that the world hates true believers (v. 13) and cites Cain and Abel as an example of this hostility (Genesis 4). How have you experienced the hatred of the world? How does this passage encourage you?
4. John urges us to “love the brothers” in verses 16–22.
 - a. To what degree are we obligated to love our brothers (v. 16)?
 - b. What might “a brother in need” look like in your life?
 - c. What does it mean to “close your heart against” such a person? What kind of thoughts tempt you to do that?
5. What does the Bible say about the relationship between obedience and answered prayer? See 1 John 3:22; John 15:7; 1 Peter 3:7; James 5:16; Psalm 66:18–19. Is there any sin in your life that may be hindering your prayers?
6. Based on verses 23–24, what are the signs that someone is truly indwelt by the Holy Spirit?