

1 John 3

Chapter 3 Summary

- This chapter continues with the theme of maintaining fellowship with God. Part of being in fellowship with God includes becoming a child of God (1 John 3:1). Those who are “born of God” are adopted into God’s family and will receive eternal glory when the Lord comes again (1 John 2:29; 3:2).
- In 1 John 3:3-18, John identifies the traits of the children of God. Those who are truly part of God’s family abstain from evil (1 John 3:3-10a), and they love their brethren (1 John 3:10b-18). It is also worthy to note that in 1 John 3:4, a clear definition of sin is given. Those who practice sin do not abide in fellowship with God!
- In 1 John 3:19-24, John talks about the confidence that God wants Christians to enjoy. Our Father wants us to have assurance regarding our salvation and prayers (1 John 3:19-22). He also says that we can know that we are walking in the truth and have a clear conscience before God if we have faith that Jesus is the Son of God, love one another, and abide in the word revealed by the Holy Spirit (1 John 3:23-24).

Chapter 3 Questions

- In 1 John 3:1, what description is given to Christians? What does John say will happen to us when the Lord comes again (1 John 3:2)?
- How is sin defined in 1 John 3:4?
- Why does John mention Cain in 1 John 3:12? What does he expect us to learn from his example?
- According to 1 John 3:23-24, what two things do those who abide in Christ do?