

Study Guide for "1 John: Lesson 35"

Date: September 10, 2025

This guide is designed to review and reinforce the key concepts, figures, and scriptural interpretations presented in the lesson. It includes:

- A short-answer quiz
- A comprehensive answer key
- Suggested essay questions for deeper reflection
- A glossary of important terms

Quiz: Short-Answer Questions

1. According to the speaker, what contemporary challenges are facing Christians and churches in our society?
2. What warning does the lesson provide regarding the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in relation to biblical content?
3. Why is 2 Timothy chapter 4 referred to as Paul's 'swan song'?
4. Describe the concerns Paul expressed about Timothy in the letter of 2 Timothy.
5. Who was Demas, and what specific reason is given for him forsaking Paul?
6. How does the lesson characterize Paul's physical and emotional state at the time of his first defense (2 Timothy 4:16)?
7. What theological significance does the lesson attach to the phrase 'friendship of the world' (James 4:4)?
8. Besides Demas, name two other individuals and one group that the lesson identifies as having turned away from Paul.
9. Who was Epaphras, and how is his character contrasted with that of Demas?
10. How does the lesson use the Old Testament to define the concept of spiritual 'harlotry'?

Answer Key

1. Rising persecution is a challenge: churches denied accounts, pastors denied loans, and societal violence where 2.4 million Americans have been killed by other Americans since 1900, exceeding U.S. war deaths.
2. Believers are warned to be wary of AI-generated biblical content. The ministry uses AI for production but always 'cleanses' output. Example: an AI Job summary misrepresented the book by focusing only on chapter 1.
3. 2 Timothy 4 is Paul's 'swan song' because it is his last letter before martyrdom: 'The time of my departure is at hand' (2 Timothy 4:6).
4. Paul worried Timothy was timid and exhorted him to 'stir up the gift of God' (2 Timothy 1:6), to not fear (2 Timothy 1:7), and to be bold and unashamed (2 Timothy 1:8).
5. Demas was Paul's coworker and close friend who forsook him: 'Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world' (2 Timothy 4:10).
6. At his first defense, Paul said, 'No one stood with me, but all forsook me' (2 Timothy 4:16). Yet, 'the Lord stood with me and strengthened me' (2 Timothy 4:17).
7. James 4:4: 'Friendship with the world is enmity with God.' One cannot love both God and the world system.
8. Paul identified Phygelus and Hermogenes as deserters and noted that 'all those in Asia' had turned away from him (2 Timothy 1:15).
9. Epaphras, called a 'bondservant of Christ' (Colossians 4:12), labored in prayer and opposed heresy. His faithfulness contrasts Demas's defection.
10. Spiritual 'harlotry' is idolatry/unfaithfulness, described in Jeremiah 3:6 and 2 Chronicles 21, where Israel worshiped idols on high hills and under green trees.

Essay Questions

1. Analyze Paul's final days, contrasting ministry success with personal abandonment.
2. Discuss genuine faith versus mere association, using Demas and Epaphras.
3. Synthesize 1 John 2:15, James 4:4, and the parable of the sower on 'loving the world.'
4. Explain spiritual 'harlotry' in its Old Testament context and link it to James's rebuke.
5. Evaluate parallels between early church persecution and modern challenges, including AI.

Glossary of Key Terms

Term	Definition from Source Context
AI (Artificial Intelligence)	Technology used to generate content. Must be carefully reviewed for scriptural accuracy.
Bondservant	Translation for 'slave,' describing complete devotion to Christ (e.g., Epaphras).
Demas	Former coworker of Paul who forsook him due to love for 'this present world' (2 Timothy 4:10).
Epaphras	Faithful coworker of Paul from Colossae; called a 'bondservant of Christ' (Colossians 4:12).
Harlotry (Spiritual)	Spiritual adultery; Israel's idolatry described as harlotry (Jeremiah 3:6; 2 Chronicles 21).
Heresy (in Colossae)	False teaching claiming matter was evil, Christ was an emanation from God, promoting angel worship.
James 4:4	'Friendship with the world is enmity with God.'
1 John 2:15	'Do not love the world... If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.'
Martyr	One who dies for their faith; Paul anticipated martyrdom.
Paul	Apostle and author of 13 NT books, described as a 'hero of the faith.'
Persecution	Rising hostility toward Christians; seen in denial of services to churches/pastors.
Swan Song	A person's final act; here referring to Paul's last letter, 2 Timothy.
Timothy	Paul's protégé, exhorted to overcome fear and lead boldly.
2 Timothy	Paul's final epistle, focusing on his death, abandonment, and charge to Timothy.

Greek Words

No Greek words are present in this transcript.