

# Study Guide for 1 John, Lesson 37

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September 24, 2025

## Quiz: Short-Answer Questions

Instructions: Answer the following questions in 2–3 sentences each, based on the provided source material.

1. What are the three 'gateways of sin' through which all temptation flows?
2. According to the lesson, what are the four reasons believers should not love the world?
3. Explain the contrast presented between the destiny of the world and the destiny of a believer who does the will of God.
4. What does the Greek word *paragita* mean in the context of 1 John 2:17, and what does its tense signify?
5. How does the lesson define sin, referencing 1 John 3? What four categories of violation does this definition include?
6. What is the 'morality pendulum,' and what is its ultimate trajectory?
7. According to the teaching, what is the specific 'will of God' that believers have followed?
8. The lesson describes sin as 'defiling.' What examples from scripture or Puritan writers are used to illustrate this internal pollution?
9. Explain the concept of 'common grace' and describe how the sinner responds to it.
10. The source states that people 'weary themselves to commit iniquity.' What does this mean about the effort and priority that worldly people place on sin?

## Answer Key

1. The three gateways of sin are: (a) Lust of the flesh – based on imagination that corrupts thinking, (b) Lust of the eyes – seduction from what one sees, leading to desire, (c) Boastful pride of life – foundational arrogance seeking self-fulfillment.
2. Believers should not love the world because: (1) it is Satan's system, (2) we are children of God, (3) it incites us to sin, and (4) it is headed for destruction.
3. The world's destiny is to be 'passing away,' already disintegrating under the principle of death. The believer who does God's will 'abides forever,' living under the principle of life.

4. Paragita means 'passing away.' Its present tense use shows the world is already disintegrating, not only destined for future destruction.

5. Sin is lawlessness (1 John 3:4), meaning any violation of God's law in act, word, thought, or motive.

6. The morality pendulum shows society swinging between morality and immorality. Each swing toward morality is weaker, while immorality deepens, leading to continual decline until Christ returns.

7. The will of God is to believe the gospel and embrace Jesus Christ as Savior. John 6:40 confirms this: 'And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.'

8. Sin as defiling is compared to filthy rags, deadly sores, venom, and decay. Thomas Goodwin described sin as poison, vomit, and the stench of graves.

9. Common grace is God's goodness to all, like rain for both just and unjust. The sinner abuses this gift, betraying God much like Absalom betrayed David after receiving his kiss.

10. 'Weary themselves to commit iniquity' (Jeremiah 9:5) shows sinners work tirelessly at sin until exhaustion. Proverbs 4:16 says they cannot sleep unless they do evil, showing sin as their highest priority.

## Essay Questions

1. Define 'the world' as the evil system (not creation), including its components, its leader (Satan), its destiny, and its relationship to believers.

2. Analyze the five characteristics of sin's nature—defiling, rebellious, ingratitude, incurable, deadly—with supporting scriptures or theological arguments.

3. Discuss the 'two destinies': the world's disintegration vs. the believer's eternal life. Reference scriptures such as 1 John 2:17 and 2 Thessalonians 1:6–9.

4. Explain how Christians develop 'spiritual strongholds' through 'flirting with the world,' and how this affects their life and witness.

5. Construct an argument showing why God's love must include justice and why rejection of Christ leads to 'everlasting destruction.'

## Glossary of Key Terms

Term	Definition
<b>Boastful Pride of Life</b>	The foundational arrogance of being self-fulfilled; the attitude of 'I want what I want when I want it.' One of the three gateways of sin.
<b>Common Grace</b>	God's grace given to all, just and unjust, e.g., rain for both sinner and righteous.
<b>Lawlessness</b>	The biblical definition of sin (1 John 3:4): any violation of God's perfect law.
<b>Lust of the Eyes</b>	Gateway of sin where desire arises from what one sees.
<b>Lust of the Flesh</b>	Gateway of sin arising from imagination that corrupts thinking.
<b>Morality Pendulum</b>	Concept of society swinging between morality and immorality, with worsening decline each cycle.
<b>Paragita</b>	Greek word for 'passing away' (1 John 2:17). Present tense indicates the world is actively disintegrating.
<b>Sin</b>	Any act, word, thought, or motive violating God's law. Its five traits: defiling, rebellious, ungrateful, incurable, and deadly.
<b>Spiritual Strongholds</b>	Patterns of returning to sin that quench the Spirit, bring oppression, and hinder witness.
<b>The World</b>	Not creation, but the evil system under Satan, opposed to God and Christ.
<b>Tribulation</b>	The period of divine judgment leading to destruction of the world and repayment of those who trouble believers.
<b>Will of God</b>	Believing the gospel, hearing His Son, and embracing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior for eternal life.

## Greek Words

παράγεται (parágetai) – 'passing away, disappearing' (1 John 2:17).

Phonetic: pa-RAH-ge-tai

Significance: Indicates ongoing disintegration, not just future ruin.