

Answering Life's Big Questions

A Bible study in 1 Peter



Lesson 1: Who is God?

The answer to who God is frames the answer to everything else. It's the place we must start.

I. What is the essence and character of God?

“God is _____”?

To those who are elect exiles . . . according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood. . . Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (1 Peter 1:1-5)

1. He is _____
2. He is _____
3. He is _____
4. He is _____

Other key attributes of God in 1 Peter:

- 1:14-16 He is _____
- 2:3 He is _____
- 2:9 He is _____
- 3:20 He is _____
- 4:6 He is _____
- 4:19 He is _____
- He is _____
- 5:10a,12 He is _____
- 5:10b-11 He is _____

II. What does God do?

The Judicial Acts of God

God judges _____ (1:17)

God judges _____ (2:23)

God judges _____ (4:5)

What aspects of God's character lead to His judicial acts? _____

The Electing Acts of God

Four significant words are used in I Peter for the electing acts of God:

God _____ (1:1)

God _____ (1:2)

God _____
(1:15, 2:9, 2:21, 3:9, 5:10)

God _____ (2:9)

What aspects of God's character lead to His electing acts? _____

The Redemptive Acts of God

God _____ (1:3, 23)

God _____ (1:5, 9-10)

God _____ (1:18)

What aspects of God's character lead to His redemptive acts? _____

The Sanctifying Acts of God

God _____

through _____ (1:23, 25)

God _____ (2:5, 9)

God _____ (2:20, 3:12)

God _____ (3:12)

God _____ (4:10-11)

God _____

God _____

God _____ (4:14)

God _____ (5:2)

God _____ (5:7)

What aspects of God's character lead to His sanctifying acts? _____

Lesson 1 Study Questions: Who Is Jesus?

Day 1 - The Character of Jesus

We know that Jesus shares the exact nature of His Father (Hebrews 1:3). Which aspects of Jesus character (nature) does Peter emphasize in his letter in the following verses?

1 Peter 1:18-19 Jesus is _____.

1 Peter 2:21 Jesus is _____.

1 Peter 2:22 Jesus is _____.

1 Peter 3:18 Jesus is _____.

Summarize the two-way relationship between the Father and the Son described in these verses: I Peter 1:20-21, 2:4, 2:6, 2:23, 3:22. How do the Father and Son relate to each other? _____

The Sustaining, Exalting Acts of God	
God _____	(1:3, 21)
God _____	(1:4)
God _____	(1:5)
God _____	(1:21, 5:4, 10)
God _____	(5:6)
God _____	(5:10)

What characteristics of God enable these sustaining and exalting acts? _____	

Memory verse:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
(I Peter 1:3)

Day 2 - The Metaphors for Jesus

Peter uses three metaphors to refer to Jesus. Identify them from the following verses:

I Peter 1:19 _____

I Peter 2:4-8 _____

I Peter 2:25, 5:4 _____

Each of these three metaphors was particularly meaningful to Peter.

a. Read John 1:29-42. Outline the series of events involving John the Baptist, Andrew, Peter, and Jesus that led to Peter meeting Jesus for the first time.

Which of the three metaphors was significant in Peter's meeting with Jesus? _____

b. Read John 1:42 and Matthew 16:15-19. What is significant for Peter about the rock or living stone metaphor for Jesus? _____

Optional bonus question: How many times did Jesus address Peter by the new name He gave him? _____

c. Read Luke 20:9-18 in which Jesus quotes Psalm 118:22, certainly in the hearing of Peter. What truth about the cornerstone is the emphasis of Jesus' teaching? _____

Scan the next several verses in Luke 20. What happens immediately after this teaching by Jesus? _____

d. Read Acts 4:8-12, where Peter himself quotes Psalm 118:22. What is going on and what point is Peter making? What do we learn about Peter's character in this incident? _____

e. Peter would have been present for Jesus' teaching on being the Good Shepherd (recorded for us in John 10). Read John 21:15-17. What is going on related to the shepherd metaphor that would make this particular metaphor stick in Peter's mind and heart? _____

Day 3 - The Accomplishments of Jesus

In John 14:6 Jesus said, “No one comes to the Father except *through me*.” Peter uses the phrase *through Jesus* or *through him* five times in his letter. Identify in each verse what it is that is accomplished or happens through Jesus.

1 Peter 1:3-4 _____

1 Peter 1:20-21 _____

1 Peter 2:5 _____

1 Peter 3:21 _____

1 Peter 4:11 _____

When Peter uses the phrase “through Jesus” we know he is talking about through the work of Jesus on the cross. What do the following verses indicate Jesus accomplished *for us* through His death and subsequent resurrection?

1 Peter 1:18-19 _____

1 Peter 2:24 _____

1 Peter 3:18 _____

Day 4 - The Glorification of Jesus

According to I Peter 1:10-11, what two things about Jesus did the Holy Spirit reveal to the Old Testament prophets?

We know that Jesus was glorified “before the world existed”(John 17:5). In I Peter 1:21, when does Peter say God gave Jesus glory? _____

There are two significant events in Peter’s life related to Jesus’ glory; read about them in John 2:1-11 and Luke 9:23-36. According to John 2:11, how was Jesus’ glory first revealed to Peter? _____

In Luke 9:26, how does Jesus describe His return?

In Luke 9:30-31, what happens regarding glory?

In Luke 9:32 what does Peter see when he wakes up?

Peter doesn’t speak directly of the transfiguration of Jesus in his first letter, but he does in his second letter. Read II Peter 1:16-21. What two titles does Peter use for God?

What does Peter say he was an eyewitness of?

What does Peter say is even more important than that extraordinary revelation of Jesus, which involved audibly hearing God's voice? _____

Day 5 - The Return of Jesus

Identify the phrases in the following verses that refer to the point in human history when Jesus returns (the first one is done for you):

1 Peter 1:5 the last time _____

1 Peter 1:7 _____

1 Peter 1:13 _____

1 Peter 2:12 _____

1 Peter 4:7 _____

1 Peter 4:13 _____

1 Peter 5:1 _____

1 Peter 5:4 _____

Return to each of the previous verses and identify what we can look forward to when Jesus returns. What will *we* be experiencing then? What happens *to us* when Jesus returns?

1 Peter 1:5 _____

1 Peter 1:7 _____

1 Peter 1:13 _____

1 Peter 2:12 _____

1 Peter 4:7 _____

1 Peter 4:13 _____

1 Peter 5:1 _____

1 Peter 5:4 _____

1 Peter 5:10 _____