

1st John # 24

“Confession is Good for the Soul”

1st John 1:8-10

No one has the integrity of God at birth and no one acquires the integrity of God by any system of works righteousness, self-righteousness or any system of asceticism or taboos.

Not only does man lack God’s righteousness in spiritual death but he also lacks a sense of justice.

Human justice and human righteousness fluctuate and it’s never for the better; no matter how it appears to others, unless it’s related to the integrity of God.

Adjusting to God is a matter of grace and God provides the means for such adjustment by the imputation of His righteousness at salvation and from then on, if we stay with the Word, we’re moving toward the goal of spiritual maturity and it’s downhill if you stay with biblical truth.

So, John begins with God as 100% Light in verse 5 and warns believers who truly desire to live in fellowship with Jesus Christ by walking in His light, that their lives will back up what their words are saying.

The Word of God reveals to us who God is, what His standards are and so we soon recognize that we are sinners who’ve fallen short of God’s glory or holiness.

Walking in the Light as Jesus Christ is in the Light in experiential abiding fellowship with Him requires learning and applying the plan of God regarding the unique spiritual life of the Church Age.

So, John tells us; it’s the Word of God (the Living Word he witnessed and the written Word he recorded) that reveals the glory or character of God.

Walking is the best exercise for all of us and spiritual walking utilizes our spiritual skills beginning with confession of sins which restores the filling of the Holy Spirit so we can reach spiritual maturity and share God’s happiness.

And walking in Light increases our aerobic capacity in the spiritual life by improving the circulation of biblical truth in our souls, deepening our inhale and exhale of the Word and removing the waste-products of a satanic world viewpoint all around us.

Spiritual exercise strengthens our inner man by building a soul fortress which protects us from the outside pressure of adversity or prosperity.

Many believers in arrogance or the active expression of arrogance; hatred, have illusions about living the Christian life.

They think they’re living the Christian life but they’re either deceiving themselves or someone else is deceiving them.

Every illusion in the Christian life makes the believer a liar; 1st John 1:6, 10; 2:4; 4:20; 5:10.

We’ll never understand or live the Christian life

until we understand the plan of God in detail and that’s what gives us our motivation and momentum.

Self-deception is always an illusion but if someone continues in that illusion, it becomes an hallucination.

Self-deception from illusion is impossible for believers who've understood, learned, believed and applied the truth of the doctrine of sin and the total depravity of man as part of the plan of God.

Gnosticism is Satan's child, born inside his cosmic system, yet John's words have a lot to do with practical Christian living for every generation of the Church Age.

Truth is always associated with reality, so when someone divorces himself from reality, he's not only preoccupied with himself in arrogance but he's also the enemy of God in rebellion.