

**1st John # 69**

**“Evaluating to have a Successful Evaluation”**

***1st John 4:1-3***

**From this point on, John continues to indicate that sooner or later, our lives will be evaluated before the Lord Jesus Christ when we'll give an account of our Christian experience from the standpoint of which power system we chose to live by; God's grace expressed in His Word and the ministry of the Holy Spirit or our works expressed in self-righteous arrogance through religion.**

**Spirituality or the filling of the Holy Spirit links our salvation experience to our spiritual maturity experience; so to make it from salvation to maturity requires both the filling of the Holy Spirit and the daily intake of biblical truth.**

**The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit involves the body of the believer and the filling of the Holy Spirit involves the soul of the believer and since the filling of the Holy Spirit is functional, it's the means of executing the objectives of the Christian way of life and so, anything we do in the energy of the flesh apart from the Spirit is not the Christian way of life.**

**Our love for God the Holy Spirit begins when we understand, believe and apply biblical truth related to the ministry of the Holy Spirit at the point of our faith in Jesus Christ when we begin to learn what the Holy Spirit did for our Lord and how that same power option, the filling of the Holy Spirit that is given to us is the very same power option that sustained our Lord on the cross.**

**But nonetheless, we love God the Holy Spirit for His ministry to us for the purpose of our spiritual growth.**

**As it was with the humanity of Jesus, it is with us; the Spirit of God and the Word of God combine to produce the power and means for spiritual growth and that's what pleases God in the Christian experience.**

**The apostles knowing their Old Testament history often related it to the New Testament so John says even though as believers you're positionally set apart to God and always will be; nonetheless, if you do not act like children of the King in love, you too like Israel will be disciplined.**

**We can have a greater level of intimacy with Jesus Christ if we're willing to spend more time with Him but first we have to learn who He is and what He's done and that comes from a daily intake of biblical truth.**

**Eloquence and persuasive preaching can be true or false; so only a believer with maximum biblical truth in his soul, listening from inside the plan of God can discern which it is.**

**Life is a constant analysis and if we can't properly analyze, we can't make proper application because we can only apply correctly what we understand correctly.**

**Without God's truth to anchor our souls, it's easy to over-think things and distract ourselves with our doubts which confuse us from our own personal arrogance and this is why John encourages us to evaluate everything we hear so we can discard what is false and regard what is true so that our Evaluation before our Lord is extremely joyous and rewarding!**