

1st John # 79

“Do you believe Jesus is the Christ, Christian?”

1st John 5:1; John 14:1-11

Just as a building without a sound foundation will soon crumble, a believer’s post-salvation experience will fall apart quickly if he’s not developing an abiding intimate fellowship with Jesus Christ; for without it, he’ll never really know God and knowing God is not a catch-phrase for salvation, it’s a life-long pursuit that begins immediately after we’re saved.

As we come to understand the depth of our salvation, we get to know God and we appreciate Him more so that we cannot help but fall deeply in love with Him.

A profound knowledge of God comes to us after we’re saved through a detailed study of biblical truth which brings spiritual maturity and then as His truth testifies of His character, we come to love Him like never before.

Our testimony is divided into 2 parts: invisible and visible and the invisible part of our testimony is before God as our attitude toward Him and when our attitude toward God is expressed in virtue; not only are we personally blessed but our nation is blessed as well with a chance to thrive and not just survive.

When we understand God, we cannot help but desire to worship Him and when that happens, mankind can see the visible aspect of our testimony by our functioning virtue through morality, confidence in God, courage toward man and circumstances and our personal love for God followed by our impersonal love for man.

Anyone who’s alive and can think can start over, yes, even with all their failures because God’s gracious salvation is the only thing we can enter where all our past mistakes will be washed away by Him and where we have the opportunity to have a meaningful, purposeful, abundant, happy, fulfilling life.

At physical birth, the umbilical cord is cut, separating mother from child but in spiritual birth, the spiritual cord is attached and it consists of a lifeline from the justice of God to the imputed righteousness of God in every believer and down through that pipe-line comes living-grace support in the form of the air we breathe, the food we eat, the clothes we wear and the transportation that takes us where we need to go.

Believers who wear the family crest of unconditional impersonal love practice experiential righteousness by loving their brothers and sisters and not only that, they also wear the family crest when they continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah by keeping His commands.

Incredibly, these false teachers were once under the authority of the apostles but be careful, this doesn't mean they weren't saved; it just means that they fell for the false doctrine of the Gnostics after they were saved and because they didn't guard the truth, false doctrine

found them and they bought into it, so they were no longer experientially abiding in intimate fellowship with Jesus Christ and that means they'll experience shame and embarrassment at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Now you know that if you choose to reject God's plan of grace and truth and live in rebellion, walking according to the flesh and not in the Light by rejecting biblical truth, it won't be long before you hate your brothers and sisters who are walking in the Light.

Loving God and His children takes years to understand and develop because it only happens in spiritual adulthood and when it does, we'll have a successful evaluation at the Judgment Seat of Christ, without shame, embarrassment or loss of rewards.

If we choose to follow God's plan by loving Him which is humble authority-orientation in keeping our Master's commands, we'll display the opposite of Satan's arrogance as it's never by prideful self-centeredness leading to jealous hatred that wins but by humility leading to genuine love.