

- ↳ We have learned that the way the Bible distinguishes a true Christian from a non-Christian no matter what a person may claim is in the category of deliverance. Christians are not identified by an event like walking forward or praying a prayer or joining a church; they are identified by deliverance. Christians have been delivered out of darkness into light, out of the domain of error and into the domain of truth, **Colossians 1:12-13**.
 - ↳ **1st John 2:27**, So, it is not true to say that someone is in the Kingdom of God who does not believe the truth. Christians have been delivered from the world to the kingdom of God.
 - ↳ **Galatians 1:3-4**, They have been enabled to see that the world and its pursuits are just rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic. The world's values have been revealed for what they are; every day they have to choose to walk in the values of God's kingdom, but they can make that choice.
 - ↳ A lost person can't see it; they can't choose it and it's not something you can talk them into either. They have to be delivered to it, **1st John 5:4**. A person that loves the world, pursues the world, believes it with his heart and soul; that person isn't a Christian.
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1. Now a final topic under the heading of deliverance: A Christian is a person who has been delivered from sin to righteousness.

- ✓ **Romans 6:17-18**, A Christian is one who has become obedient to the truth because they have been delivered to it.
 - ✓ We didn't acquire this position by being smart or by getting an education; we acquired it through salvation, through deliverance.
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2. You can tell who a Christian is; they practice righteousness.

- ✓ **1st John 3:2**, verses 4-5a. **Verse 6**, This one is tough! Almost sounds like a saved person never sins again, but that can't be true because of **1st John 1:8, 10**.
- ✓ It's in the present tense in the Greek; it is speaking of continual action; it's the same as what was conveyed in **verse 4** "practices sin and lawlessness." In other words, a true believer does not continue in a pattern or practice of sin; instead they practice righteousness.
- ✓ A true Christian believes God's Word and obeys God's Word as a pattern and practice. As a pattern of life they practice righteousness; it wasn't their pattern or practice before, but it is now. A Christian practices righteousness, whereas he used to practice sin, **verse 7**.
- ✓ How do we know someone has been delivered? They practice righteousness. Delivered people practice righteous stuff, and lost people do unrighteous stuff, **verse 8**.
- ✓ **Verse 9**, This practice of righteousness is a guaranteed thing by virtue of the new birth. By virtue of being born again, we are going to look like our Father! Being born of God means the practice of sin has been broken.

Verse 10, It's not a matter of trying harder; our desires changed when we come to Christ; we hate sin, and we love what is right.
