

There are four benefits:

Complete sufficiency. (8-10)

Lies that pull on us to tell us that Jesus Christ is not enough can take us captive, we can be a prisoner of the evil one. Philosophy: The love of human, worldly wisdom – is what is taught apart from the Bible, particularly the self-help stuff. You have been (not will be) made complete because of Jesus Christ. In Him you have everything you need.

Christ-like Identity. (11-12)

You are fundamentally different, altered, and not the same. You are completely cleansed and a new creation. You don't need any rituals any more. You don't have to perform to try to earn Christ's acceptance. Jesus wants to live His life in and through you.

Comprehensive Forgiveness. (13-14)

Jesus paid the debt for your sin on the cross. There is no balance to pay in heaven. ALL your transgressions are forgiven; it's DONE! Don't need to confess it to a priest – it's OVER!

Current Victory. (15)

Eternal life is more than just going to heaven some day. You already have victory – NOW! You have no stack of sins you have to deal with to get right with God. We are fighting *from* victory, not *for* victory.

Questions for Discussion:

What are some of the more common lies of the evil one that Christians believe to their detriment?

What vital truths does Paul write about concerning who we are in Christ?

How will one live who is still believing the evil one's lies rather than truths of who we are in Christ?

Do you personally believe these truths? Do you own them? Are you living them out?