

## I. Understanding the Gap

### A. The Text (2 Peter 1:3–9)

1. What does Peter want us to understand about the Christian life in verses 3–4?
2. How does Peter hope the theological truths of verses 3–4 will impact his audience? (5–6)
3. Why does Peter want his audience to pursue the virtues and behaviors of verses 5–6? (8–9)

### B. Three Kinds of Blindness (2 Peter 1:9)

1. A Blindness to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A Blindness to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. A Blindness to \_\_\_\_\_.

## II. What Fills The Gap?

### A. General: False Models of Maturity

### B. Specific: Christian Externalism

1. Formalism: the gospel is reduced to one's participation in the meetings and ministries of the church.
2. Legalism: the gospel is reduced to a persons ability to keep a list of legal requirements.

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3. Mysticism: the gospel is reduced to the pursuit of dynamic emotional and spiritual experiences.
4. Activism: the gospel is reduced to participation in Christian causes.
5. Biblicism: the gospel is reduced to mastery of biblical content and theology.
6. Psychology-ism: the gospel is reduced to the healing of emotional needs.
7. Social-ism: the gospel is reduced to a network of happy, fun, and personally fulfilling relationships.

### C. Why Are These Counterfeits so Attractive?

## III. What Should Fill the Gap? (The goal of this study)

### A. The Infinite Availability of Present Grace for our every need in life! (p 13)

### B. Five Gospel-Perspectives (The Convictions of this study)

1. The Extent and Gravity of Our Sin
2. The Centrality of the Heart

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### 3. The Present Benefits of Christ

### 4. God's Call to Growth and Change

### 5. A Lifestyle of Repentance and Faith

Titus 2:11–13 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.