

***“Was Blind, But Now I See!”***  
***2 Peter 1:9-11***

**Introduction:**

1. As We Return To 2 Peter Again This Morning:
    - Remember What We Looked At Last Sunday Morning:
      - 1:5-8 - The Importance Of A Fruitful Faith!
      - Read Verses!
    - If You Have A Genuine, Saving Faith In The Lord Jesus Christ:
      - It Will Reveal Itself In The Fruit Of Your Life!
      - You Will Be Cultivating Christ-Like Character!
        - Always Growing! Always Moving Forward!
      - What Does This Christ-Like Character Consist Of?
        - These 7 Characteristics!
      - God Has Given Every Christian A Responsibility To Personally, Diligently Grow In These Areas!
    - Are You Growing In These Areas?
      - Have You Grown In These Areas?
      - Last Year / Month / Week / Even This Morning?
      - If Not, What Is The Problem?
        - What Is Going On In Your Life?
        - What Is Going On In Your Heart?
  2. In The Next Few Verses, Peter Addresses Those Who May Have Stalled / Become Stagnant In Their Christian Life!
    - Who Have Become “Barren & Unfruitful!”
      - We Need To Be Honest With Ourselves!
      - Are We “Barren / Idle & Unfruitful”?
    - Peter Now Moves From An Illustration In Agriculture:
      - To An Illustration In Biology!
    - In Verses 5-8 - He Talks In Terms Of A Farmer:
      - In Verses 9-11 - He Talks In Terms Of A Physician!
    - If There Is A Problem With Your Fruit:
      - Then There Is Also A Problem With Your Eyes!
      - Not Your Physical Eyes!
        - But Your Spiritual Eyes! Spiritual Vision!
  3. And You Need To Start Seeing Things In A Whole New Light!
    - Read 1:9-11!
    - If There Is No Christlike Virtue In Your Life:
      - Maybe It’s Because You Have No Christian Vision!
      - Maybe It’s Because You Have: “Eyes to see, and see not; [and] have ears to hear, and hear not: for [you] are a rebellious house!” (Ezekiel 12:2)
    - If You Are Not Cultivating Christlike Character In Your Life Right Now:
      - You Need To See:
1. ***Your Personal Condition!***
    - 1:9 - “But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins!”
      - **IE:** A Person’s Vision Can Be A Useful Tool For A Doctor! What You See & How You See Can Indicate How You Are! In 1991, My Dad Was Having Difficulty Seeing / To The Point Of Even Having Double Vision / Went To The Eye Doctor / Tried Different Things / Got Worse / Eventually, The Eye Doctor Wanted To Know More / MRI / Brain Tumor Pressing On The Optic Nerve! Knew The Real Problem!
        - The Main Problem Was Not His Vision! The Main Problem Was The Tumor!
      - When There Is Little Or No Visible Christ-Like Character / Fruit In Your Life:
        - This Is Your True Spiritual Condition: (You Have)

- A Problem With Your Faculties!
  - “But He That Lacketh These Things Is Blind!”
  - If You Are “Lacking” These 7 Christian Qualities:
    - If They Are Missing In Your Life:
      - Then You Are Spiritually Blind!
    - Is There Christ-Like Virtue In Your Life?
    - Is There Christ-Like Knowledge In Your Life?
    - Is There Christ-Like Temperance In Your Life?
    - Is There Christ-Like Patience In Your Life?
    - Is There Christ-Like Godliness In Your Life?
    - Is There Christ-Like Brotherly-Kindness In Your Life?
    - Is There Christ-Like Love In Your Life?
      - Are They Growing? Blossoming? Do You Care?
  - Then There Is A Problem With Your Spiritual Vision!
    - Like The Laodicean Church In Revelation 3:17 - “Thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked!”
    - But What Does It Mean Here To Be “Blind”?
- A Problem With Your Focus!
  - “And Cannot See Afar Off!”
  - Peter Describes What This Blindness Is Like:
    - It Is Like Someone Who Has Myopia - One Who Is Near-Sighted!
      - You Can’t See Clearly Things In The Distance As Well As Things That Are Close!
    - This Is The Blindness Peter Is Speaking Of!
      - A Lack Of Focus & Attention On God!
      - You Are Not “[Seeking First] the kingdom of God, and his righteousness!” (Matthew 6:33)
      - Because You Are So Distracted By The Here & Now! And All The World Has To Offer!
    - So Many Christians Have This Worldly Focus!
      - What Is Your Focus?
      - Are You Blind?
    - If So, The Main Problem Is Not Your Vision!
  - A Problem Of Your Forgetfulness!
    - “And Hath Forgotten That He Was Purged From His Old Sins!”
      - This Is The Main Problem!
      - Not A Problem Of Your Sight! But A Problem Of Your Soul!
    - If You Are Not Cultivating Any Christ-Like Fruit:
      - Then You Have Forgotten:
        - Your Past! Sins! Family! Need!
        - Your Present! Cleansing! Pardon! Change!
      - What Have You Forgotten? What Have I Forgotten?
        - Need To Seriously Examine Ourselves!
        - Can A True Christian Forget This?
  - If There Is No Ongoing Fruit In Your Life:
    - Then You Have A Serious Problem!
    - Not Just A Problem With Your Sight - But Your Soul!
    - What Is Your Personal Condition?
      - Next Need To See:

## 2. ***Your Personal Commission!***

- 1:10 - “Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall!”
  - For Those Who Are Concerned About Their Condition, Peter Recognizes Them As “Brethren!”

- To Encourage Us To Keep Cultivating The Character Of Christ In Our Lives!
- And To Encourage Us To Apply God's Own Prescription For Our Assurance!
- **IE:** Just Like When You Go To An Eye Doctor / They May Give You A Prescription / Near-Sighted / Far-Sighted / Astigmatism! A Solution - Only If Filled!
- You Can Know That You Have Spiritual Vision / Sight If There Is Christ-Like Fruit In Your Life!
- John Newton - Amazing Grace - "I Once Was Lost, But Now I'm Found; Was Blind, But Now I See!"
  - How Could He / Can You Know For Sure?
- Requires A Personal Commitment!
  - "Wherefore The Rather, Brethren, Give Diligence!"
    - Same Key Word Seen In 1:5 - "Giving All Diligence!"
  - You Can Be Sure You Belong To Christ: ("See")
    - But It Will Take Diligence On Your Part!
    - You Must Give It Your All! All You've Got!
  - How Much Effort Do You Put Forth:
    - To Discern & Develop Your Personal Relationship With The God Who Created You & The God Whom You Will Meet Some Day Face To Face?
  - Assurance Only Comes Through A Personal Commitment!
- Requires A Personal Confirmation!
  - "To Make Your Calling And Election Sure!"
    - "Sure" - To Make Certain / To Confirm!
    - **IE:** How Can You Make Sure That I Am Who I Say I Am? Check My ID! Ask For Witnesses! My Mom! There Will Be Evidence You Can Check!
  - How Can You Make Sure That You Are A Child Of God?
    - There Will Be Evidence You Can Check!
    - Looks Back Again To The Christ-Like Character In 1:5-7! That Virtue / Knowledge / Temperance / Patience / Godliness / Brotherly Kindness / Love!
  - What Will This Confirm?
    - Some Amazing Things!
    - Both "Your Calling And Election!"
    - These Two Terms Are Closely Related & Reveal To Us What God Does In Salvation!
      - "Election" - God's Own Choice Of Whom He Will Call To Himself!
      - "Calling" - God's Own Process Of Bringing Whom He Chooses To Himself!
      - Both Of These Are Things That God Himself Knows & Does - Not Based On What He Sees In Us - But Based On His Grace & What He Can Do To Us For His Glory!
  - But Even Though These Belong To God:
    - They Can Be Confirmed By Us! (Are To Be)
    - And Are Confirmed / Made Sure / Through The Evidence / Fruit Of Christ-Like Character In Our Lives!
  - Even Though:
    - The Process Of Calling & Choosing Belongs To God!
    - The Process Of Responding & Confirming Belongs To Us!
  - Assurance Only Comes Through A Personal Confirmation!
    - "Give Diligence To Make Your Calling & Election Sure!"
- Requires A Personal Confidence!
  - "For If Ye Do These Things, Ye Shall Never Fall!"
  - You Will Never Have Assurance If You Are Not:
    - Cultivating The Fruit Of A Christian!
    - Confirming The Faith Of A Christian!
  - These 2 Things Must Continue In Your Life!
    - Development & Discernment! **IE:** Farmers!
    - Is Your Fruit Real? Lasting? Abundant?
- If You See That Your Condition Is Serious:

- Then You Need To See That Your Commission Is Serious!
- Then See:

### 3. **Your Personal Cure!**

- 1:11 - "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!"
  - **IE:** When You Go To An Eye Doctor - Sometimes Your Vision Problem Gets Better / Sometimes Stays The Same / Unfortunately, Sometimes Worse! No Cure! No Hope! But For The Christian, There Is Hope! The Lord Jesus Christ Is Our Hope!
    - Listen Again To The Solution Given To The Church In Laodicea In Revelation 3:18 - "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see!"
    - Jesus Christ Himself Is The Cure For Our Blind / Near-Sighted / Forgetful Condition!
- Through The Promise Of His Cure!
  - "For So An Entrance Shall Be Ministered Unto You Abundantly!" (In The Future!)
    - Here, The Lord Promises To Welcome With Open Arms His People Who Have Been Diligent In Cultivating Their Fruit & Confirming Their Faith!
  - "It Will Be Worth It All When We See Jesus!"
    - Your "Abundant Sowing Will Be Followed By Abundant Reaping!"
  - The Word "Minister" Here:
    - Same Word "Add" In 1:5-7 - Means Supply!
    - God Will Supply & Fulfill All That We Need, In An Abundant & Generous Way!
- Through The Place Of His Cure!
  - "Into The Everlasting Kingdom!"
    - Our Greatest Harvest Will Be In Heaven!
  - Galatians 6:9 - "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not!"
    - This Is Our Greatest Reward!
    - But It Is All From God's Great Grace!
  - We Don't Deserve Redemption From The Lord!
    - Why Would We Deserve Rewards From The Lord!
    - Because Of His Goodness & His Grace!
- Through The Person Of His Cure!
  - "Of Our Lord And Savior Jesus Christ!"
    - He Is The One Who Alone Can Bring Us:
      - From Our Spiritual Slumber & Stupor:
      - To His Everlasting Kingdom In Heaven!
- We Must Go To Him & Him Alone!
  - For Our Cure!

### **Conclusion:**

1. How Is Your Spiritual Vision?
  - What Have You Forgotten?
    - About What The Lord Has Done For You!
  - Where Is The Focus Of Your Heart & Life?
    - Is It "The World & The Things That Are In The World?"
  - Are You Blind?
    - You Are If There Is No Christ-Like Fruit In Your Life!
2. You Need To See:
  - Your Personal Condition!
  - Your Personal Commission!
    - Take Your Responsibility Seriously!
    - Don't Just Cultivate Your Christian Fruit!
    - But Confirm Your Christian Faith!

- "Give diligence to make your calling and election sure!"
- Your Personal Cure!
  - O soul, are you weary and troubled?  
No light in the darkness you see?  
There's a light for a look at the Savior,  
And life more abundant and free!
  - Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,  
In the light of His glory and grace!

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