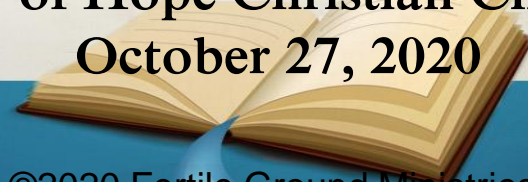


Refocusing Our Perspective On Our Troubles

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Ray of Hope Christian Church
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John 16:33



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Perspective

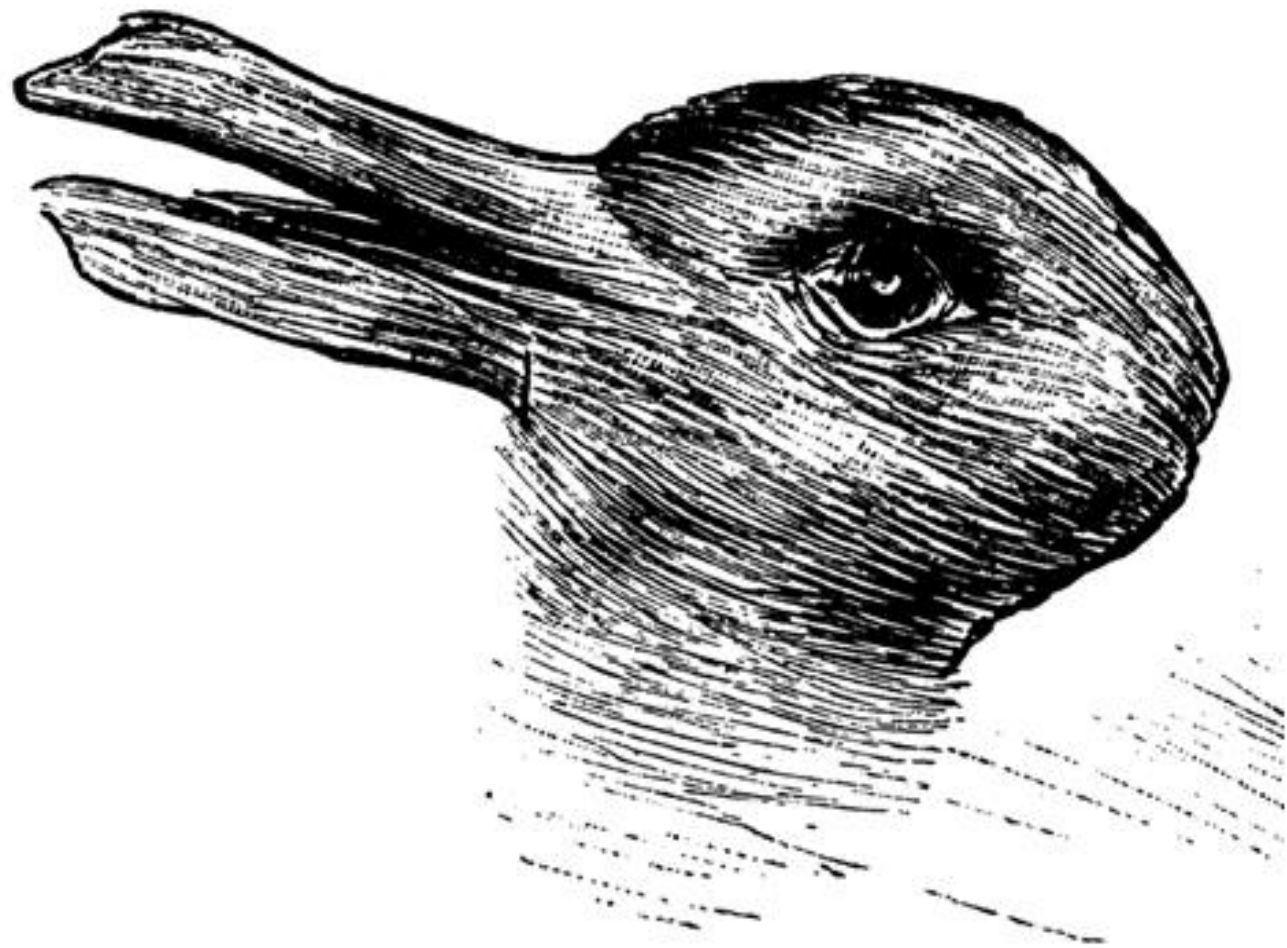
- a mental view or prospect
- the interrelation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed
- a visible scene
- the capacity to view things in their true relations or relative importance



**Do you have the capacity
to view things truly and
with proper importance?**







**What is it that you see
when you assess
a situation?**



**“A new command I give you:
Love one another. As I have
loved you, so you must love
one another.”**

John 14:34



“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.”

John 14:1



“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

John 15:4



“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.”

John 15:18-19



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Why God?

Why are you allowing this?



**We are looking at the facts, the
circumstances, the situations and
making the wrong deductions.
God is not punishing us.**



**By faulting God for things that
God didn't set in motion, we end
up hurt, disillusioned and bitter.**



Peace = eiréné

**Quietness, rest,
peace of mind, wholeness**



Thlipsis = trouble

**Tribulation, affliction,
distress, persecution,
pressure that hems one in**



**Your anxiety is
not from God.**



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Peace is not circumstantial.



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**Far too many people
end up in faith crisis,
mad at God because they had
the wrong perspective.**



Remain = meno

Abide

**Continue, dwell,
to stay and to live.**

**The only way that we can
achieve anything is through
total dependence upon God.**



**Are you walking in total
dependence on God? Have you
really given your life and the
situations and circumstances
of your life to God?**



Jesus says that despite the foolishness, you will have peace, internal stillness, quietness, wholeness, Eirene, if you remain in me.



**“They are not of the world,
just as I am not of the world.”**

John 17:16



**The world = the cosmos.
The universe; worldly affairs;
the inhabitants of the world; the
ordered system of the earth.**



**Defines the kingdom of God as
“God’s government. It is his
rulership and dominion over
heaven and earth.”**

Myles Monroe



**“The Kingdom is the
place where the will of God is
done as perfectly on earth
as it is in heaven.”**

Pastor Cynthia L. Hale

“Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.”

Revelations:7-9

**Satan, the devil, the evil one, your
adversary is ruler of the world.**

**Jehovah, Yahweh,
El, your God is ruler of
the kingdom of God.**



**As citizens of the Kingdom
of God, we work each day to
impact and transform this
present world into the
Kingdom of God.**



**The world has its own
way of doing things. It's
own norms and practices.**



Each time we believe these lies that Satan has whispered in our ears, we find ourselves disappointed and devastated.



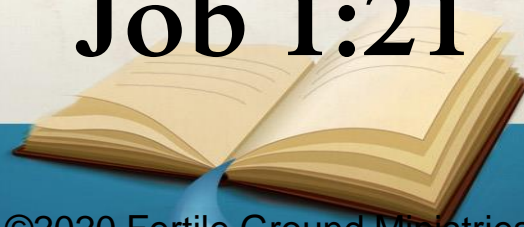
“That you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”

Matthew 5:45



**“Naked I came from my mother’s
womb, and naked I will depart.
The Lord gave and the Lord has
taken away; may the name of the
Lord be praised.”**

Job 1:21



“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds.”

James 1:2



**“We are hard pressed on every side,
but not crushed; perplexed, but
not in despair; persecuted,
but not abandoned; struck down,
but not destroyed.”**

2 Corinthians 4:8-9



“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

Ephesians 6:12

**It is because our God
loved us. He told us
trouble would come.**



**“All this I have told you so
that you will not fall away.”**

John 16:1



**Our minds are transformed
as we study God's word.**



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**Our minds are
transformed as we pray.**



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**Our minds are transformed
as we worship God.**



**Our minds are transformed
as we obey God.**



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To take heart is “tharseó.”

**It means to be of good
courage, good cheer, bold,
emboldened from within.**



**“Have I not commanded you?
Be strong and courageous. Do not
be afraid; do not be discouraged,
for the Lord your God will be with
you wherever you go.”**

Joshua 1:9



**“For God gave us a spirit not
of fear but of power and love
and self-control.”**

2 Timothy 1:7



**“Wait for the Lord; be strong,
and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!”**

Psalm 27:14



Jesus overcame in the wilderness when he was led there to be tempted by the devil.



**Jesus overcame satan once
and for all through his death,
burial and resurrection from
the grave.**



**The spirit of the resurrected
Jesus lives in us.**



**“Greater is he who lives
in you than the one who
is in the world.”**

1 John 4:4



Discussion:

- Do you have the capacity to view things truly and with proper importance?
- How have the negative circumstances of your life impacted your relationship with God in the past (or present)?
- Have you really given the circumstances of your life to God?



Discussion:

- How have the norms of the world influenced your expectations for your life?
- How can you more faithfully abide in Christ (e.g. more prayer, worship, studying the word, etc.)?

