

By: David A. Sargent

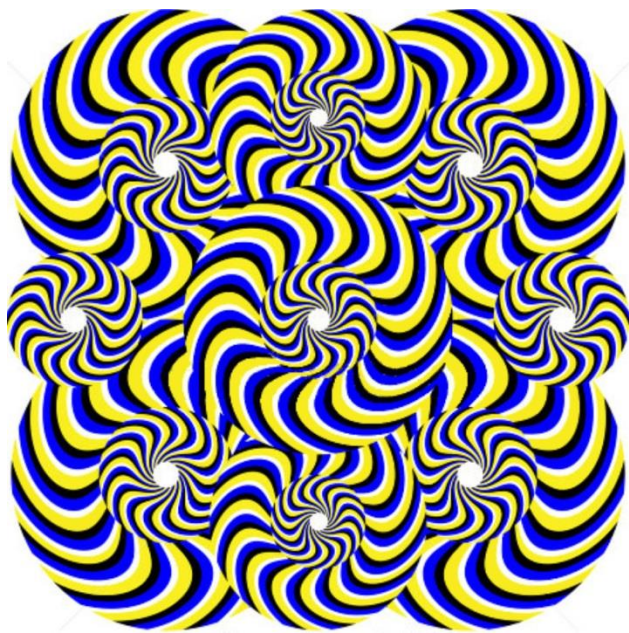
Ezekiel 8:12, “Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel **do in the dark**, every man **in the chambers of his imagery** for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth.”

Illusion is seeing something that is there but what you do not see that is hidden is right in front of you. It appears as one thing that it is not. The above appears to be rotating from left to right if you look at the image and move your eyes across it in any direction. It is an illusion, because it is NOT moving. The deception of imagery can be achieved by sleight of hand, misdirection and outright illusion. Now I am not dealing with magic here although that is a misappropriated name for the three above imagery deceptions. Magic in the Bible is associated with a familiar spirit and is not the same thing because it is outright Satanism. The illusionary things I am dealing with here is not actually magic in the Bible sense of the word however I am dealing with the cunning devices of Satan in a more subtle way.

Satan doesn't have to get you worshiping him to get you on his side. You get on his side by NOT being on God's side. I know that is a simple way of saying it all but the truth is if you are NOT with God you are with Satan. This is how God set things up. You want an alternate lifestyle; other than what God wants for you? Then you have chosen a satanic lifestyle. There is no other choice out there. You say you are choosing your OWN lifestyle? Let's see if that is what you are actually doing, or do you believe in an illusion.

Jeremiah 17:9, “The **heart is deceitful above all things**, and **desperately wicked**: who can know it?” That is YOUR heart. It is in YOU that the illusion resides. When the Lord rebuked Peter it was not for being a Satanist and drinking blood and committing human sacrifices on an altar of Satan. All Peter had to do is think in his own heart what was not the things of God, but those that be of man; not Satan. All the devil needs to do is make you worship SELF and he has succeeded in what his goal is. Matthew 16:23, “But he turned, and said unto Peter, **Get thee behind me, Satan**: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest **not the things that be of God**, but **those that be of men**.” And Mark 8:33, “But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, **Get thee behind me, Satan**: for thou savourest **not the**

things that be of God, but the things that be of men.” What a rebuke! One more time for the sake of the spirit world: Luke 4:8, “And Jesus answered and said unto him, **Get thee behind me, Satan:** for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.”



So what’s all the fuss about? Genesis 6:5, “And GOD saw that **the wickedness of man was great in the earth,** and that **every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”** This came from a hybrid group of people combined from Angels and women that constituted an abomination to God and drowned out all the people but eight. But that did not alter the imaginations of man’s hearts.

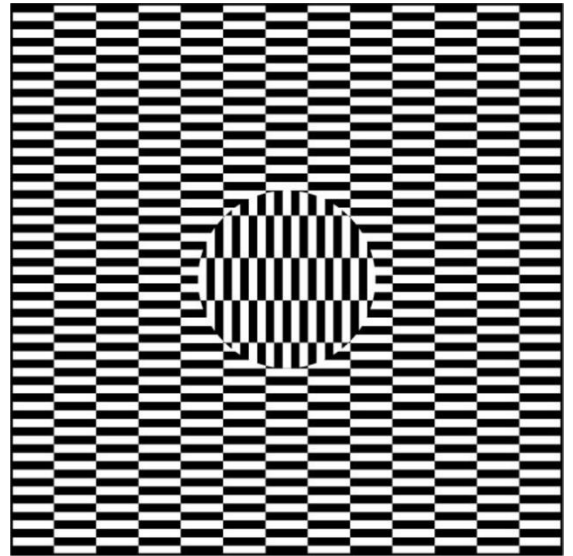
Men deceive themselves with their thinking in their heart and imagination of the heart not realizing the danger they place themselves in. Deuteronomy 29:19-20, “And it come to pass, **when he heareth**

the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk **in the imagination of mine heart,** to add **drunkenness** to thirst: The LORD will not spare him, but then **the anger of the LORD** and his jealousy shall **smoke** against that man, and **all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him,** and the LORD shall **blot out his name from under heaven.”** See how serious this is? Why go on in darkness and deception when God provided a way out. The hatred of the Lord on the sinner is very serious indeed: Proverbs 6:16-19, “These six things doth the LORD **hate:** yea, seven are an **abomination** unto him: A proud **look,** a lying **tongue,** and **hands** that shed innocent blood, An **heart** that deviseth wicked **imaginings,** **feet** that be swift in running to mischief, A **false witness** that **speaketh lies,** and **he** that soweth discord among brethren.” All seven of them are people that are hated by God because of their actions. The lie that God hates the sin and not the sinner is just one more deception which is NOT found in the Bible. Psalms 7:11, “God judgeth the righteous, and **God is angry with the wicked every day.”** It is because the sin is committed by somebody and if God is not angry with the wicked, why put them in hell fire for eternity? Someone is feeding you with an illusion. The way of thinking of man is backward from God. There is counsel in the Lord, but are you willing to hear it? Jeremiah 7:24, “**But they hearkened not, nor inclined their ear, but walked in the counsels and in the imagination of their evil heart, and went backward, and not forward.”**

So we see that the trouble with man is man. The problem with the human race is human nature. The trouble with people is SELF! So people become hopeless and feel lost in this world. And they turn to their own devices: Jeremiah 18:12, “And they said, **There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart.**”

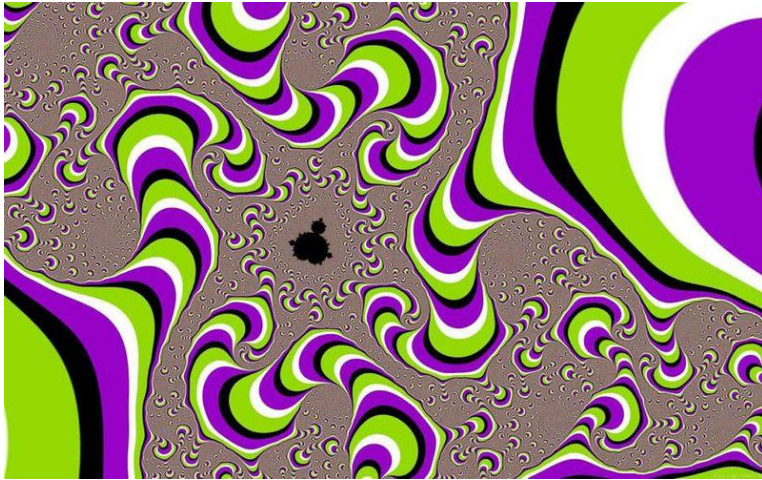
And continue to despise the Lord. They lie to themselves deceiving themselves till it is too late and they wake up in hell fire. Jeremiah 23:17, “They say still unto them that despise me, **The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.**” If you want deception, then there it is for you. People are saying that the Lord said something and they are lying about it. We hear it from the television from people professing to be preachers and preaching prosperity saying that God told them this. They will even use the Bible to promote their treachery:

Psalms 118:25, “Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.” See it says save now and send now prosperity: and there you have the prosperity gospel. Good news: salvation is in prosperity in the here and now! You can make the Bible teach anything; but what does it SAY? The context of that text above is: Psalms 118:27, “God is the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar.” Without a sacrifice you have NOTHING! Prosperity comes at a cost. Without the true Gospel, prosperity is an illusion. Prosperity is NOT the Gospel, and it does not always follow the Gospel. The fact is wicked people prosper; and many of God’s people suffer. We live in a sin cursed world. You cannot go by prosperity as a rule to know that God is in something or someone. You MUST go by God’s words, because God said it, that settles it regardless who believes it or not.



The trouble here is that God holds you and everyone in contempt and without excuse: Romans 1:19-21, “**Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; **so that they are without excuse:** Because that, **when they knew God, they glorified him not as God,** neither were thankful; but **became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.**” The lost remain lost because they are lost by their own choice in that they chose sin over God’s revelation to some degree in a person’s life. And they crossed the line and became a fool in God’s eyes.

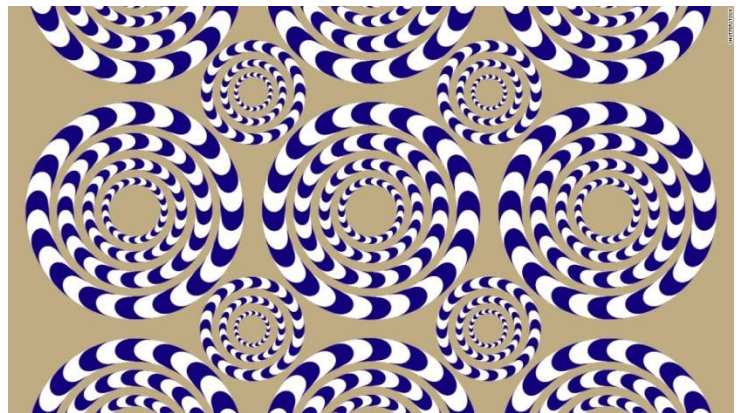
Saved people are not far from this problem as well. They tend to pick up the baggage left from their lost life or get caught up in the world's alluring illusions and become like the lost in many ways. We have a way to fight this. Many of God's people just don't fight; they do not avail themselves of the wherewithal to fight the good fight of faith. They get tired of the fight and become complacent and apostate and God puts them on the shelf.



If the people of God do not fight, who will? 2 Corinthians 10:3-6, “For **though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:** (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) **Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And**

having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.” This fight is NOT you against your brothers; it is not your fight against the lost people to see how much you can offend them. THIS fight is IN YOU. It is in YOUR imagination, it is the high thing IN YOU; you are to bring into captivity every THOUGHT IN YOU to the obedience of Christ. You are revenge all disobedience IN YOU to make YOUR obedience fulfilled IN YOU. You are NOT to persecute anyone for their beliefs or disbelief. If our warfare is NOT carnal, then you are NOT to fight other people physically, only spiritually by prayer and intercession.

Finally if you are not born again and you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal saviour you stand at the edge of life with one step between life and death. Eternity is on the other side and your soul hangs in the balance between heaven and hell while you are alive in this life. What will you do with the resurrection of Jesus Christ? The fact is the Bible says this happened and the Bible calls itself the words of the living God. Are you going to call God a liar? If not then what will you do with this knowledge? Now you know and now you can make the right decision. Take God at his word: 1 John 5:11-13, “**And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.** These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son



of God; **that ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

Two reasons for the record to be written is so that you CAN believe on the name of the Son of God, and then so you can KNOW that you HAVE eternal life.

Luke 18:13, “And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, **God be merciful to me a sinner.**”



Romans 5:8, “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**”

1 Timothy 1:15, “This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners**; of whom I am chief.”

Romans 10:9-10, “That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus**, and shalt **believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved**. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Acts 16:30-31, “And brought them out, and said, Sirs, **what must I do to be saved?** And they said, **Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.**”

John 11:27, “She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: **I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God**, which should come into the world.”

Acts 8:37, “And Philip said, **If thou believest with all thine heart**, thou mayest. And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.**”

2 Corinthians 5:17-21, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, **he is a new creature**: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath **reconciled us to himself** by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that **God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself**, not imputing



their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. **Now then we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's

stead, **be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**”

The illusion illustrated eludes illusion alluded allusion by the words of Almighty God. In other words: Illusion (deception or lies) illustrated (shown) eludes (avoids) illusion (itself: the lie) alluded (introduced by) allusion (citations or proof) by the words of the Bible. It is not enough to be born in this life with all the trappings of lies and deceptions and illusions out there you have to also lie to yourself with by the imagination of the thoughts of your own evil and wicked heart. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ today and step into the light only then will you see the illusion for what it is and break free from the deception that is hidden in darkness.



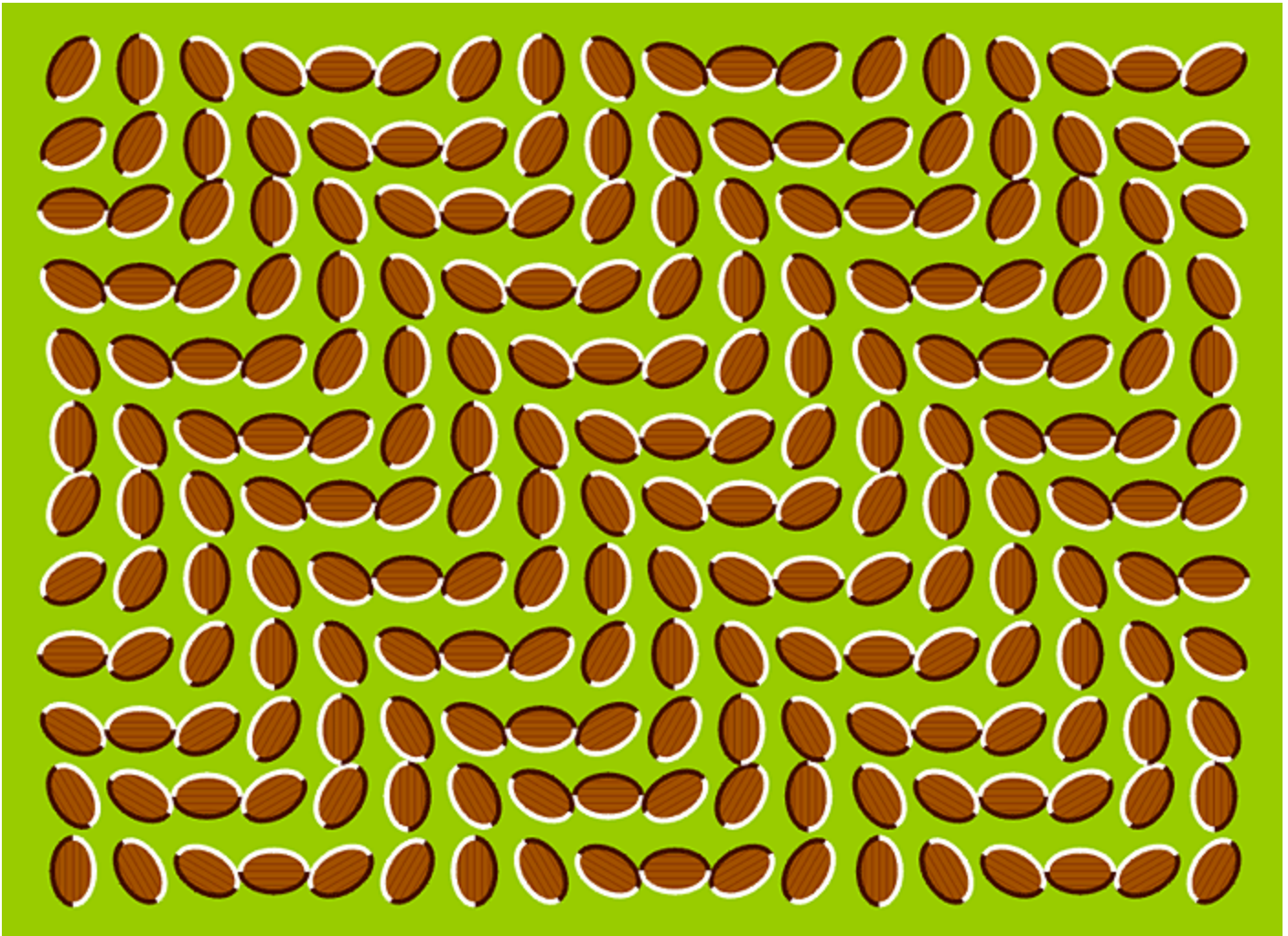
Illusions come in all forms, shapes and sizes. They come in all forms of beauty, charm and poise. They are illuminating, illustrious and alluring. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. The enemy of every soul is under attack through illusion, deception and subtility. He is relentless, restless and has total resolve to remove this message from reaching you.

2 Corinthians 11:3-4, “But I fear, lest by any means, as the **serpent beguiled** Eve through his **subtility**, so your minds should be **corrupted** from the **simplicity** that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth **another Jesus**, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive **another spirit**, which ye have not received, or **another gospel**, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.” And 2 Corinthians 11:13-15, “For **such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves** into the apostles of Christ. And **no marvel**; for **Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light**. Therefore **it is no great thing** if his ministers also be **transformed** as the **ministers of righteousness**; whose end shall be according to their works.”

Galatians 6:7, “**Be not deceived**; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man **soweth**, that shall he also **reap**.”

Illusions are all around us. When you drive down the road and see a mirage of water across the road ahead but never get to it. When in the desert, dry and thirsty; don't head in the direction of the water; instead go in the direction of the TREES!

The straight flat road that goes out in to the horizon gets narrower till it disappears in a dot on the horizon. But the road sides are parallel.



Illusions are everywhere the greatest illusion is the ones you have set up in your heart. The deception that just because you cannot see HELL means it does not exist is folly. I don't see your brain, therefore it does not exist??? Think about it; what if HELL does exist and God wanted to hide it from us because it would be too terrifying. So instead He told us about it in the Bible.

Luke 16:20-31, "And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither

can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.”

Revelation 20:11-15, “And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

Revelation 21:8, “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”

Revelation 14:11, “And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.”

Revelation 20:10, “And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

