



SEEING CLEARLY

Exploring Perspective

Who doesn't want to see clearly?

Whether through physical eyes or the eyes of the heart, who doesn't want to *see* (understand, observe, comprehend) clearly?

Point of view – your perspective – affects every area of your life.

So, what do *you* see?





THERE IS STREET LEVEL PERSPECTIVE



THEN, SLIGHTLY HIGHER PERSPECTIVE

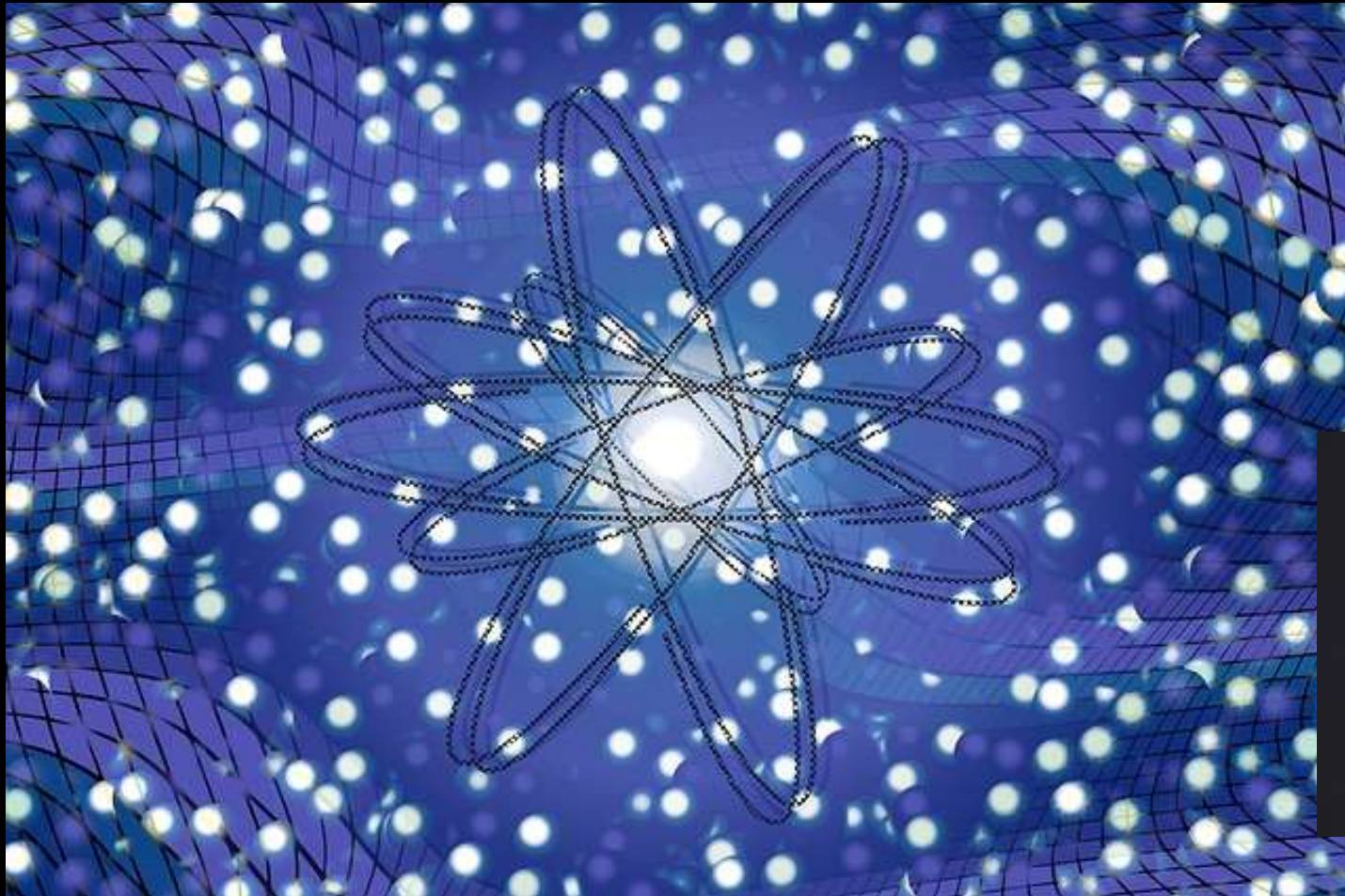


**AND PERSPECTIVE THAT IS
YET HIGHER STILL**



OR PERHAPS SMALLER
PERSPECTIVES PREVAIL...

QUANTUM KIND OF SMALL



In a world full of differing
perspectives, is there any
particular one that is better
than another?

Or, is there one that
encompasses or supersedes
them all?

Only One does

Let's take a look



PERSPECTIVE, ON POINT

Webster's Dictionary defines Perspective as:

- A mental view or prospect
- A visible scene; vista
- The interrelation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed; point of view
- **The capacity to view things in their true relations or relative importance**



**Putting your own perspective down...
Grab a pen and paper to take some notes.**

Jarl demonstrated perspective, along with humor and humility, in several ways. We'll look at a few from Chapters 31-40,



And being found in **human form** (perspective), he (Jesus) humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Philippians 2:8

CHAPTERS 31-40

Reasons to be thankful-

- Who did Ted thank for the food in Chapter 31? What perspective was he coming from there? Who was Ted in relation to who he prayed to?
- What was Jarl's perspective on "the difference a day can make" in Chapter 32? What contrasting emotions had he experienced during that one day?
- Who did Ted say looked after Jarl while he was trapped in the oubliette?

Seeking perspective -

- Jarl found himself in an emotionally new situation in Chapter 33. Who did he ask for help? Why?
- In Chapter 34, Tessa related a story about her Granny and potatoes. How did Tessa's and her Granny's perspectives differ?
- Have you embraced the **big life** God has for **you**? What is one thing you can take action on to discover His perspective for your life?

DISAPPOINTMENTS AND SNAGS

Jarl and Tessa found each other in Chapter 35, but couldn't be with each other at that time.

What was Jarl's perspective on this disappointment?

Did what Markus told Jarl and Tessa in Chapter 36 offer any hope?



EARTHLY VERSUS HEAVENLY PERSPECTIVE

People needed manna on earth in order to survive.

Jarl delivered that manna. We see two places in Chapter 37 where he did this. A Chinese underground worship service and a cottage in the Scottish Hebrides.

Imagine for a moment that you were in their place, running out of food – what would your perspective on delivery of the manna be?



THE KEY

Where does the perspective
that encompasses all
perspectives lie?

God
is...

**"OMNISCIENT
ALL KNOWING"**



"...Stand and consider the
wonders of God. Do you
know how God establishes
them, and makes the
lightning of His cloud to
shine?"

Do you know about the
layers of the thick clouds,
the wonders of **One
perfect in knowledge.**"

Job 37:14-16

TIMING IS EVERYTHING

Just in time...

The first paragraph of Chapter 38 shows a difference in perspective.

Jarl followed the scroll to deliver the manna. What did he discover in every place he went?

What kind of perspective did the one who ultimately provided the scroll to Jarl have?



**From
this...**



**To this after
Jarl's visit...**



REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES OF PERSPECTIVE

John

The Apostle John was just hanging out, praying, one day when he had a visitor.

The resurrected Jesus stopped in, eyes blazing like fire, glowing like burnished bronze. John dropped like a dead man.

Jesus revived him and then, later, took him to heaven to show him many things that would occur in the future. He wrote them down for us to read.

Earthly perspective dramatically altered by heavenly perspective!

You can read his story in Revelation Chapters 1, 4

Elisha and his servant

It looked like Elisha was in a deadly, tough spot.

Elisha's servant got up early and went out of the house, only to see an army with horses encircling the city. He ran back in, scared to death, to tell Elisha.

Elisha said, in a nutshell, "No worries!" then prayed for the servant's eyes to be opened. *Bing* The Lord opened the servant's spiritual eyes and he saw that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of FIRE! Man's army was no match for God's army.

Earthly perspective dramatically altered by heavenly perspective!

You can read this story in 2 Kings 6:8-23

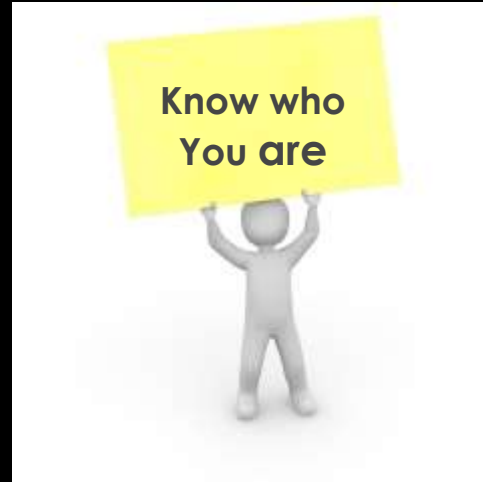
HOW DO YOU GET GOD'S PERSPECTIVE?

(IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HARD...)



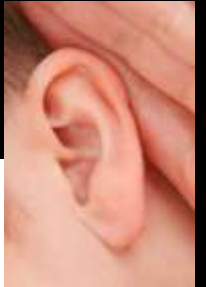
Jesus said in Matthew 7:7 -

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”



Jarl knew this in Chapter 40 -

Jarl knew he was **in** Jesus and Jesus' Spirit was **in** him. He knew he had the “mind of Christ” (1 Corinthians 2:16) and could access his perspective.



LISTEN!

When you ask for God's perspective, expect an answer. Then LISTEN for what He says!

“For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.” Matthew 7:8

WE ALL COULD HAVE A BETTER PERSPECTIVE



We usually have a pretty good handle on our own perspective.

But there are times, maybe many times, where we need a better...or different...or more accurate perspective.

Go to the One who has it and ask Him!

WRAPPING IT UP



Main Takeaway -

What is your one main takeaway from Jarl's acting with perspective in Chapters 31-40?



Perspective -

What are your thoughts on how **perspective** played out in this section?



Application -

How is your perspective?
Narrow? Wide?

How can you increase proper perspective in relation to God?
Family? Friends? Employer?