

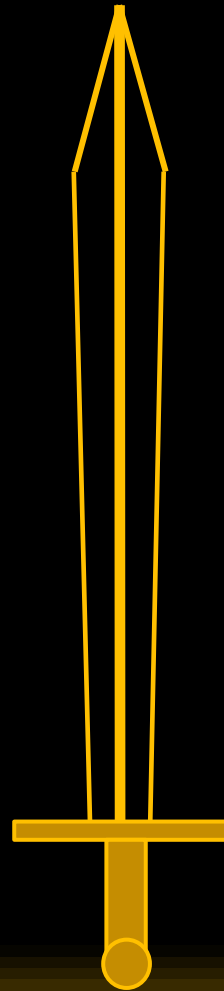
DISCRIMINATION: CHOOSING TO SEE THE DIFFERENCE

A Lesson in Perception versus Truth

And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; and they shall judge it according to my judgments: and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

Ezekiel 44:23-24

**HOLY
CLEAN**



**PROFANE
UNCLEAN**

I once went on a rafting trip. Waste disposal was a problem. A phrase I heard a lot was
“Dilution is the Solution to Pollution.”

I think they were saying you could pee in the river water (among other things) and not worry about it.

The idea is that if you mix a little bit of waste with a whole lot of clean (water), you won't notice the waste...or the waste will have no consequence.

We've all heard of the number of bug parts per million that are permitted in our food supply, so I guess that idea has caught on.

And our environments are now heavily polluted.
Over time, our tolerance for pollution has
grown. We keep moving the standard.

Actually, 'standard' is the wrong word to use.
Standards are absolute, unchanging. A
movable standard isn't a standard...it's an
oxymoron.

So we live in an age of deceit: pollution is acceptable to an ever-increasing level, and standards...aren't.

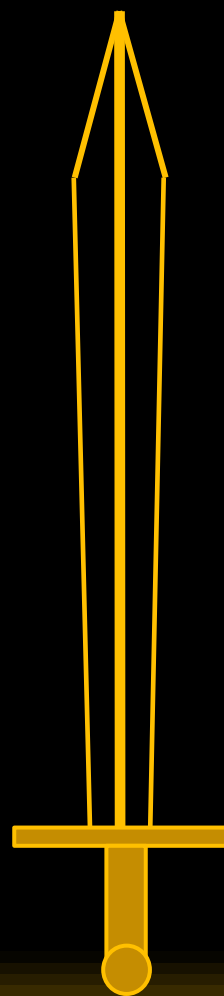
Worse, we seem to think that if we see things that way, God must see them that way as well.

He doesn't.

And this is the message that we have heard from Him, and announce to you, that God is **light**, and **darkness** in Him is **not at all**; if we may say—'we have fellowship with Him,' and in the darkness may walk—we **lie**, and do not the **truth**;

1 John 1:5-6

**HOLY
CLEAN
LIGHT
TRUTH**



**PROFANE
UNCLEAN
DARKNESS
LIE**

A stone and a stone, an ephah and an ephah,
both are hateful to Jehovah. (LITV)

A stone and a stone, an ephah and an ephah,
Even both of them are an abomination to
Jehovah. (YLT)

Proverbs 20:10

Two stones when there should be just one
stone; two measures when there should be just
one measure.

Both really similar, but enough difference to
give an unfair advantage.

One is TRUE, the other is FALSE.
FALSE...not 'almost true'.

Speaking of stones:

When you throw a rock into a pond, you'll see a series of rings going out from where it hit.

The ring takes on the shape of the rock.

If it is a round rock, the rings will be circular

If a square rock, the rings will be square.
Initially...

Some people think the rings are all circular.

A little bit of reflection shows this can't be,
though:

Can a casting take on any shape except the
mold which made it?

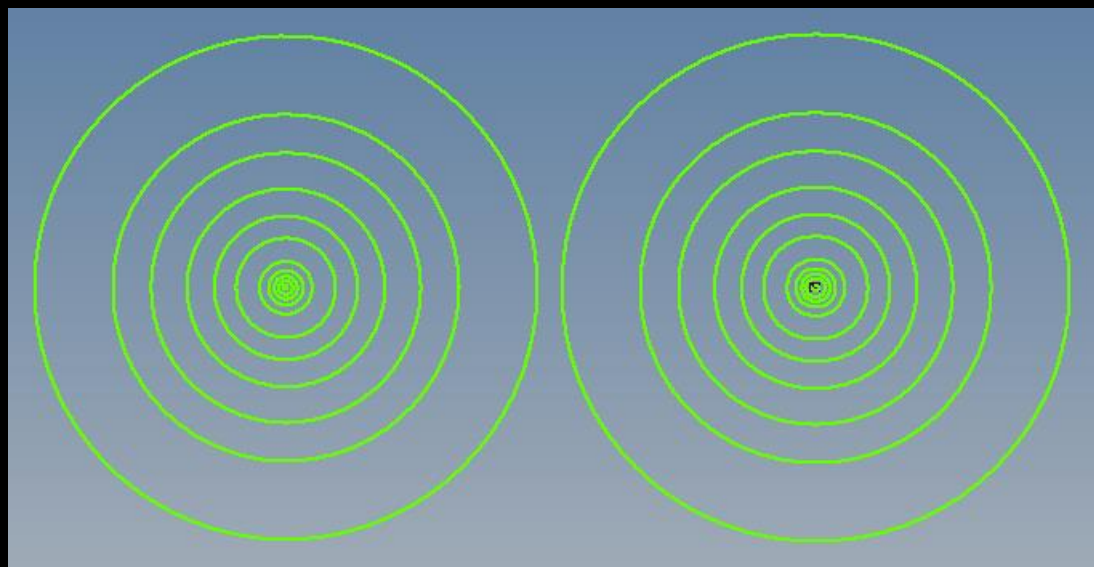
Must not a shadow take on the shape of that
which cast it?

Most people haven't considered this.

I mean, in what it means to their lives.

The following slide has an image of two sets of
concentric, offset rings.

Or so it appears....



There are lots of ways to look at things: up close, or from a distance.

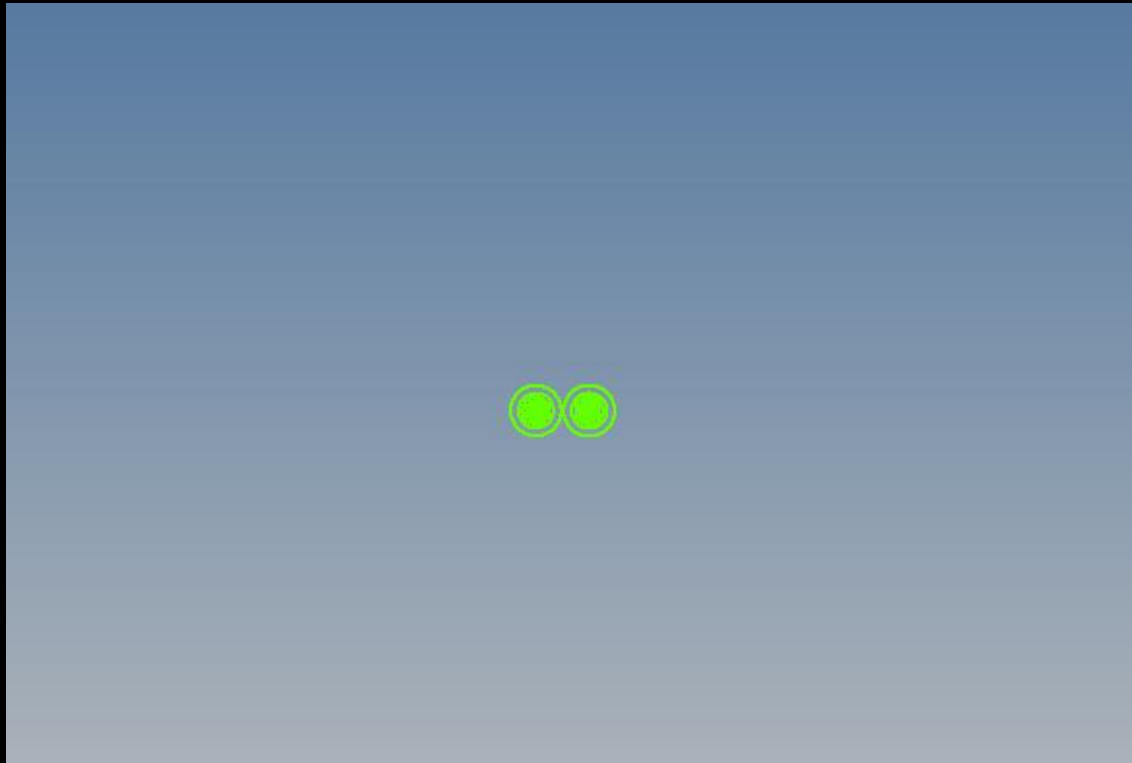
You can decide how you want to look at them.

You can decide what you want to focus on.

Some people don't want to discriminate or discern, because they know there are consequences.

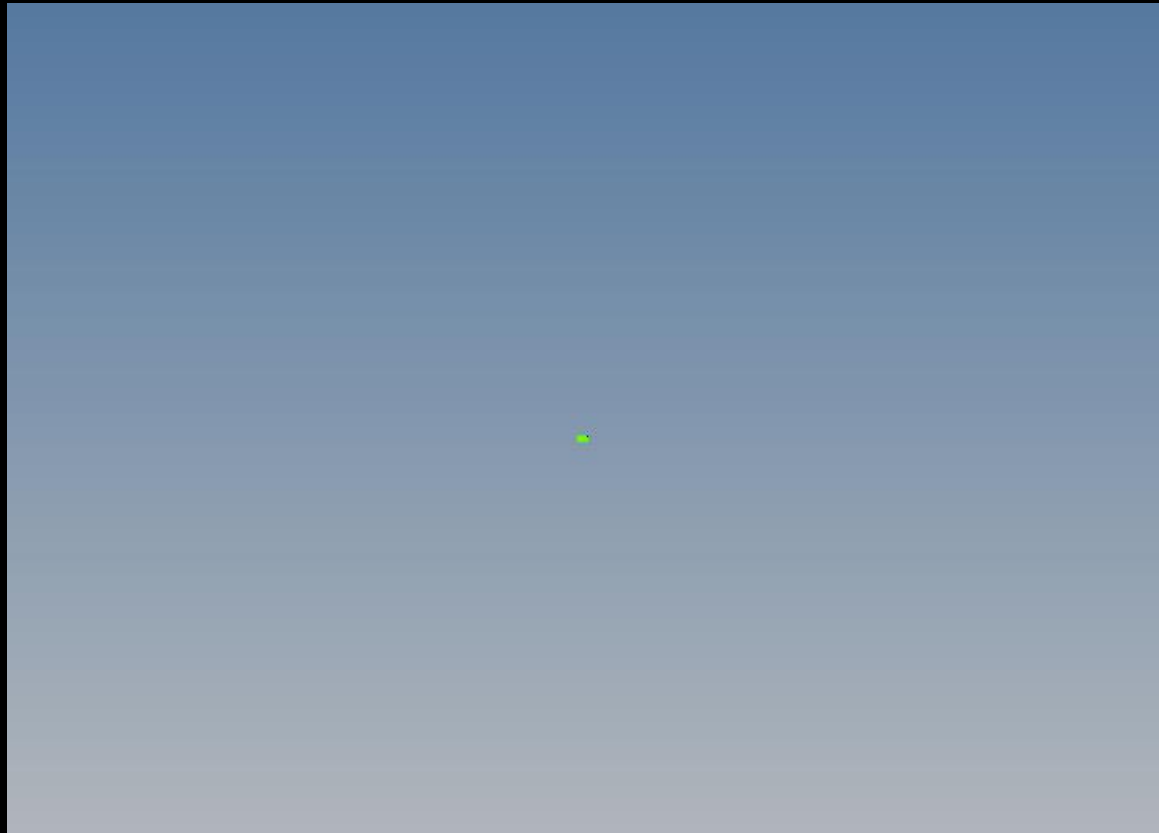
So they back up until everything looks the same. Like this:

Zoom out: lose detail



Maybe that's not far enough?

Zoom out more: just a dot



Ah, that's more comfortable!

Now they look exactly the same!

Get far enough away, and everything becomes
'one'.

Delusions are for those who prefer lies.

Sight is for those with courage, who choose the
responsibility of **truth**.

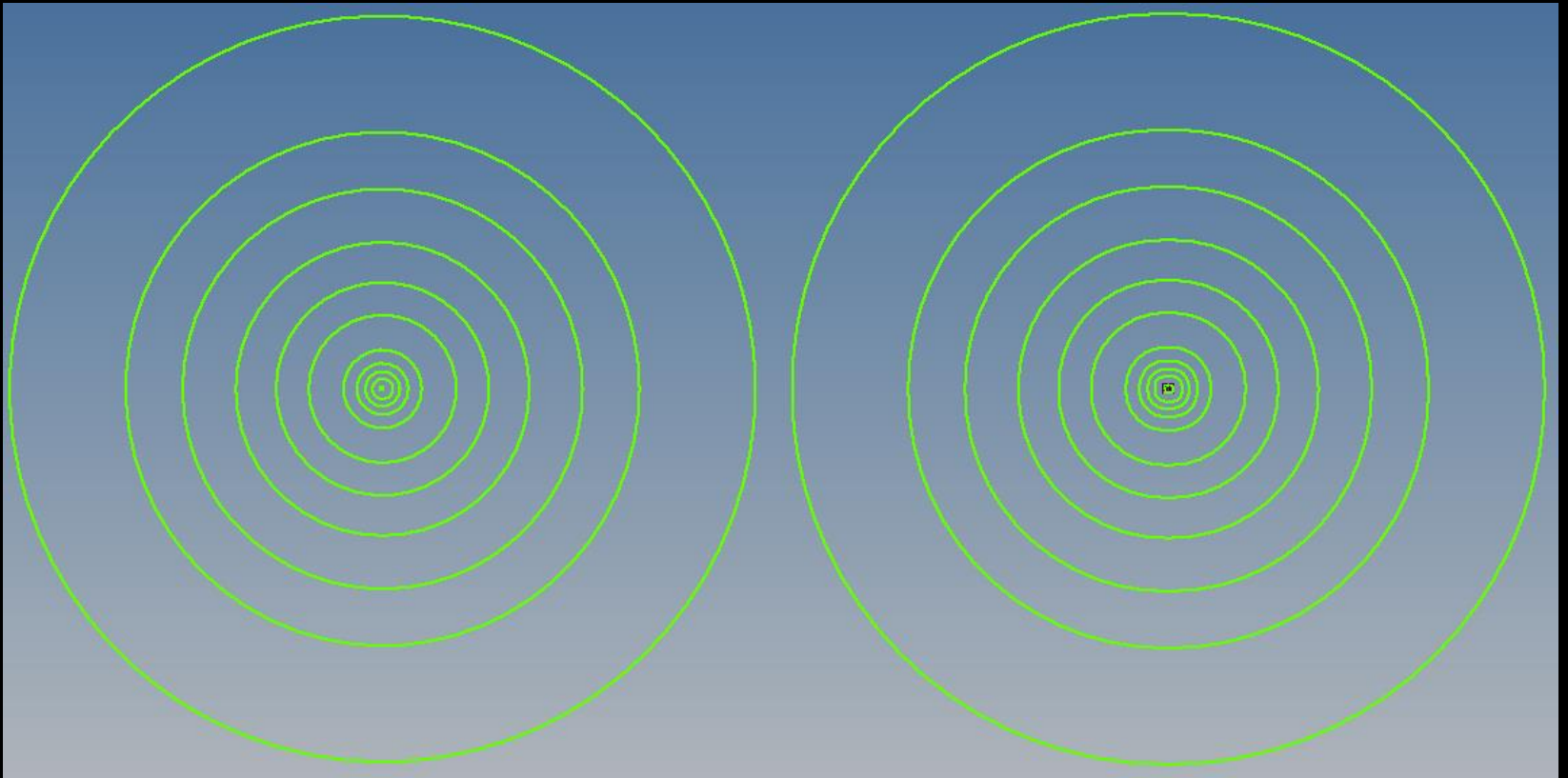
There are those who aren't satisfied with
appearances.

They want the truth, at any cost.

They want the truth, *even when it condemns
themselves...*

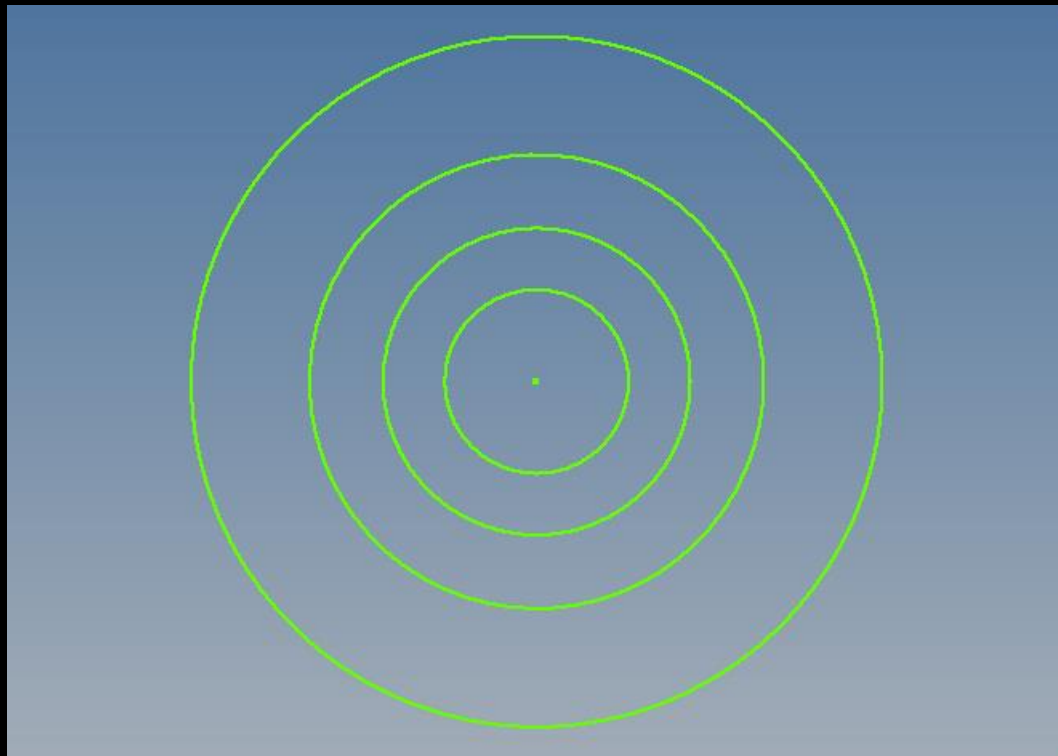
So they move in for a closer look:

Zoom in: gain detail

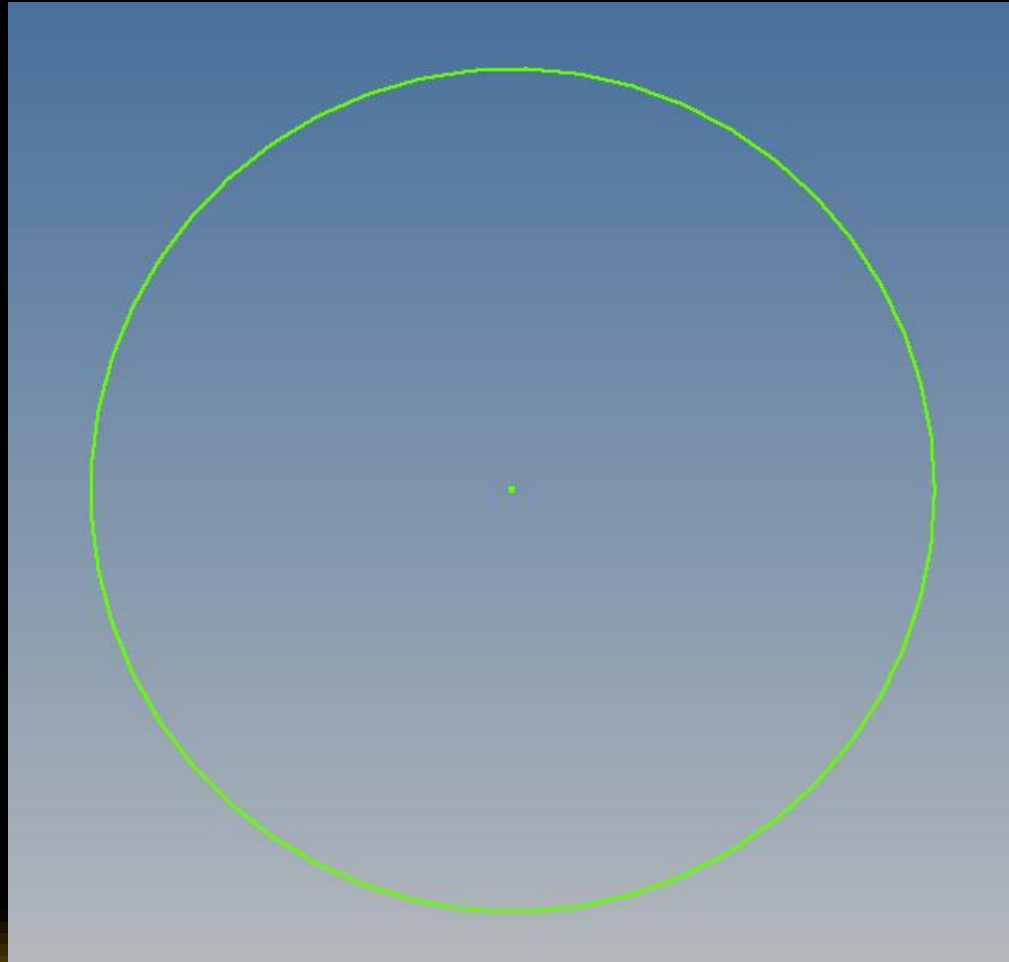


Things are beginning to look a little different
now.

The left side rings:



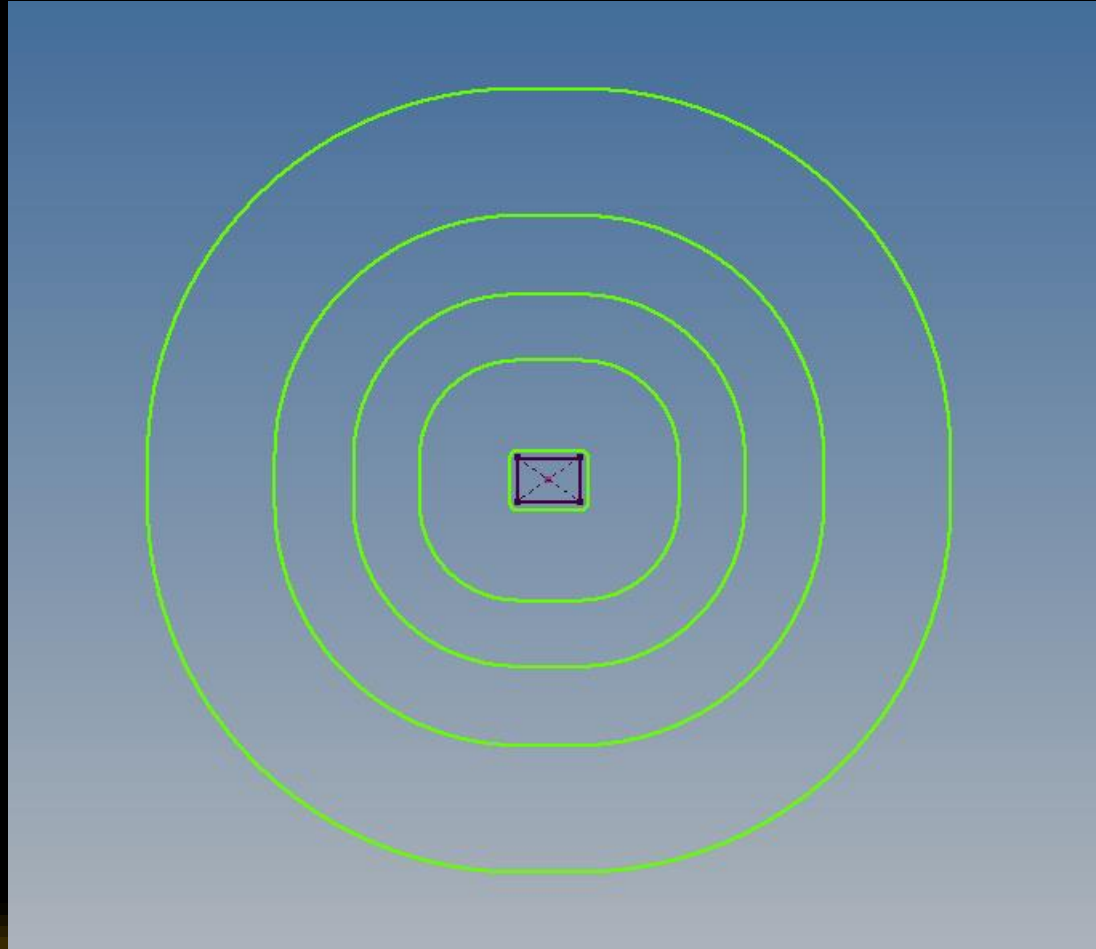
The smallest ring:



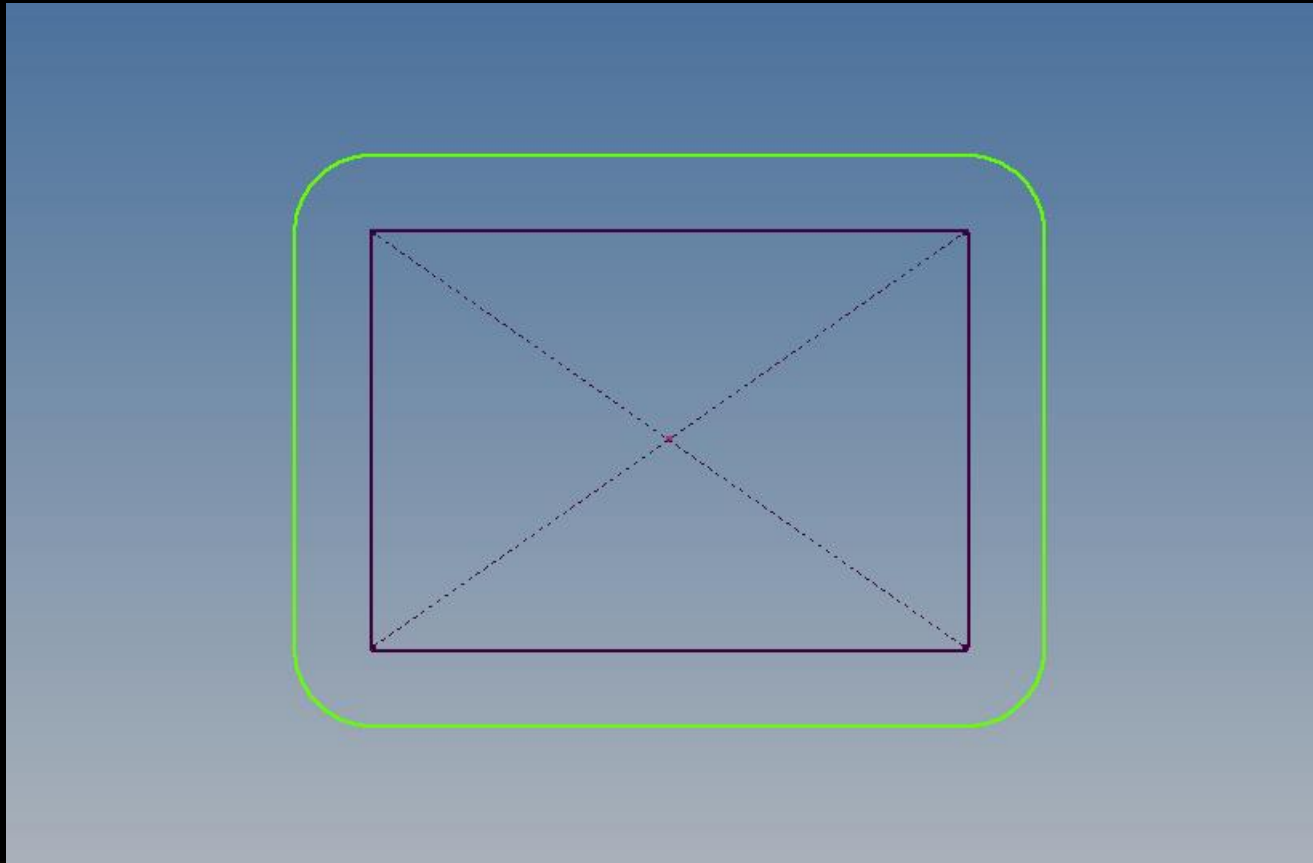
The left side is concentric circles.

What about the right side?

The right side: Not rings!



The right side: a rectangle!



Some people will have noticed right off that something was not quite right.

That there was just a miniscule straight section on four 'sides'.

Some people will see that, and ignore those straight sides, focusing instead on the curves.

After all, the radius of each curve corresponds exactly to the radius of the respective circle on the left...close enough, right?

“Hey, let’s ignore our differences and focus on
our commonalities!”

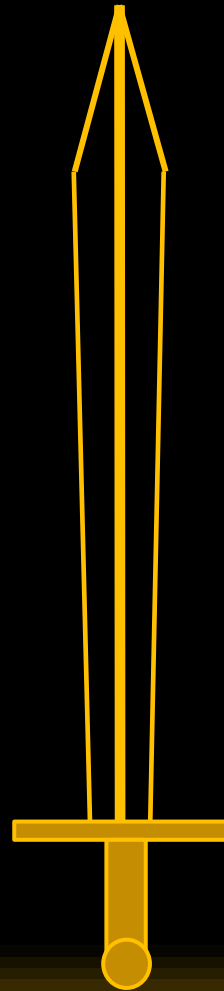
“We can just agree to disagree!”

That’s much more comfortable!

Or so we've been taught.

But does that really sound like God to you?

**HOLY
CLEAN
LIGHT
TRUTH
SHEEP
DAY
LIFE**

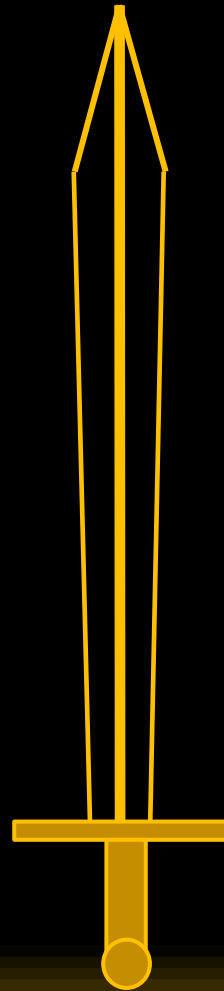


**PROFANE
UNCLEAN
DARKNESS
LIE
PIG
NIGHT
DEATH**

And lo, one having come near, said to him,
'Good teacher, what good thing shall I do, that I
may have life age-during?' And he said to him,
'Why me dost thou call good? **no one is good
except One—God**; but if thou dost will to enter
into the life, keep the commands.'

Matthew 19:16-17 (YLT)

**HOLY
CLEAN
LIGHT
TRUTH
GOOD**



**PROFANE
UNCLEAN
DARKNESS
LIE
EVIL**

Only God is good, because God is perfectly good...no evil whatsoever.

That's God's standard: Himself!

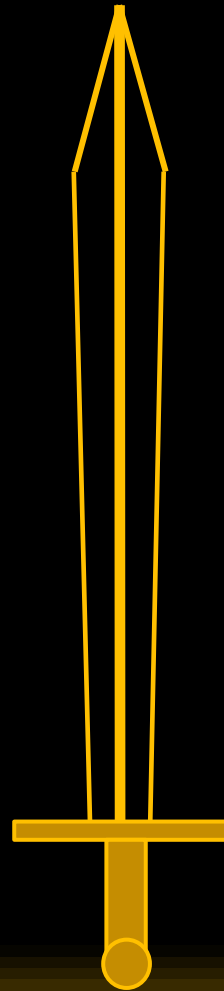
Is it okay to be 'just a little bit different' than
God?

Just a little bit 'imperfect'?

And Abram is a son of ninety and nine years,
and Jehovah appeareth unto Abram, and saith
unto him, '*am* God Almighty, **walk habitually
before Me, and be thou perfect**; and I give My
covenant between Me and thee, and multiply
thee very exceedingly.'

Genesis 17:1-2

**HOLY
CLEAN
LIGHT
TRUTH
GOOD
PERFECT**



**PROFANE
UNCLEAN
DARKNESS
LIE
EVIL
IMPERFECT**

Do you want to argue what 'perfect' means?

WHY ? What MOTIVE?

Perfect:

H8549

תָּמִיִּם

tâmîym

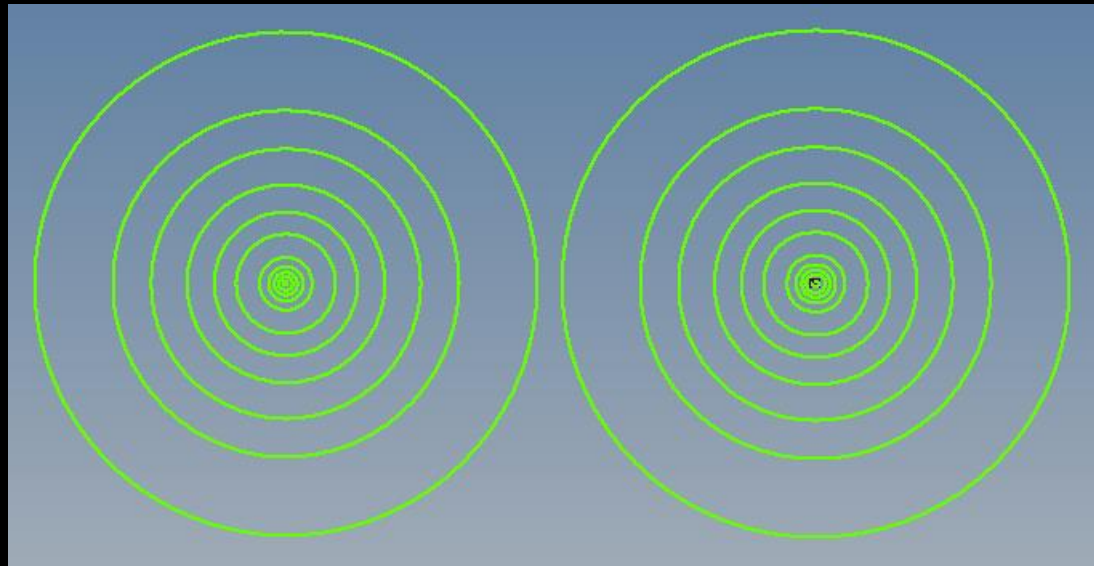
taw-meem'

From H8552; *entire* (literally, figuratively or morally); also (as noun) *integrity*, *truth*: - *without blemish*, complete, full, *perfect*, sincerely (-ity), sound, *without spot*, *undefiled*, upright (-ly), whole.

Be not led astray, my brethren beloved; every good giving, and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, with whom is no variation, or shadow of turning;

James 1:16-17

Are these the same? NO.



Outwardly, they 'might' look the 'same'.

But God looks deep inside...at the heart...to the
source.

What 'spirit' created those ripples? His? Or a
stranger's?

So about that pollution.

You can keep offsetting those shapes outward, until eventually they become *virtually* identical.

You can 'dilute' the 'pollution' of the straight sides with the curves.

But that will never change the fact that the
sources are *completely different*.

They are not 'one'.

They are utterly distinct.

A thought to ponder:

The **best** counterfeit is the one which is most like the original...yet isn't.

The 'polluted' parts are so small, they become 'diluted' into obscurity.

But they are still counterfeits.

In fact, the worst kind of counterfeits: they are most likely to be accepted as the genuine.

The difference between the real and the fake is not what they look like. Looks are deceiving:

Who hath given credence to that which we heard?
And the arm of Jehovah, On whom hath it been
revealed? Yea, he cometh up as a tender plant
before Him, And as a root out of a dry land, He hath
no form, nor honour, when we observe him, nor
appearance, when we desire him. **He is despised,**
and left of men, A man of pains, and acquainted
with sickness, And as one hiding the face from us,
He is despised, and **we esteemed him not.**

(Isa 53:1-3)

The difference is the **source**.

So what kind of person are you?

Do you close your eyes to the differences
because you dislike the discomfort?

Do you back away from the truth until the
discrepancies between you and the standard
becomes tolerable?

Are you okay with 'just a little bit' of pollution,
so long as it is highly diluted?

Maybe a fly in the ointment isn't such a bad
thing after all, so long as there is a lot of
ointment?

Thought exercise:

Find a dogpile in the grass on the street; collect a teaspoon full of it.

Buy a fifty gallon drum of chocolate peanut butter; mix them up together, blend them up real nice.

Spread it on your bread, and eat it.

Good idea?

If you find that revolting:

Isn't that exactly what you are doing in all the other, more important areas of your life?

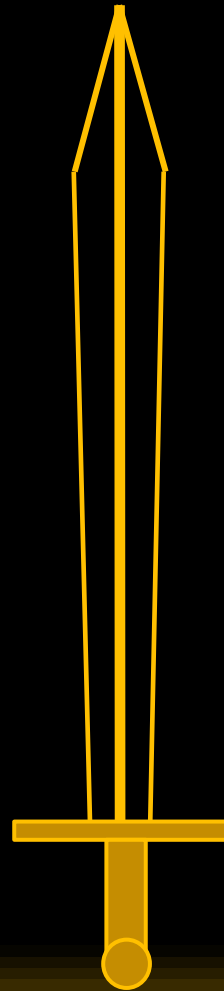
Like your 'religion', your 'entertainment', your 'education'?

Where do you go for your knowledge?

Two trees in the garden of Eden.

From which tree do you habitually eat?

HOLY
CLEAN
LIGHT
TRUTH
GOOD
PERFECT
TREE OF LIFE



PROFANE
UNCLEAN
DARKNESS
LIE
EVIL
IMPERFECT
TREE OF
KNOWLEDGE

When a person ought to understand a spiritual reality from their physical surrounds, and yet fails to take a lesson from it,

Jesus calls it 'hypocrisy.'

How much dilution of poop to peanut butter are you okay with? One part in a million?

And if you rightly turn away the contaminated *food*, why do you not the same with something much more important: what you put into your head, and heart?

...and then shall be revealed the Lawless One, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the manifestation of his presence, *him*, whose presence is according to the working of the Adversary, in all power, and signs, and lying wonders, and in all deceitfulness of the unrighteousness in those perishing, because the love of the truth they did not receive for their being saved, and because of this shall God send to them a working of delusion, for their believing the lie, that they may be judged—all who did not believe the truth, but were well pleased in the unrighteousness.

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 (YLT)

Is a *little bit* of the **lie** is okay to you, so long as it is watered down with the 'truth'?

Is the **unadulterated** truth a little too uncomfortable for you?

Are **you** a candidate for deception given by God in judgment for that attitude?

You will NEVER learn the Truth by studying the LIE.

You will ONLY learn the Truth from the Truth.

Simon Peter, therefore, answered him, 'Sir,
unto whom shall we go? **thou hast sayings of
life** age-during; and we have believed, and we
have known, that thou art the Christ, the Son of
the living God.'
(John 6:68-69)

Time is running out to change your choices!

The **truth** is not a game, not a perception.

It is an absolute, an unchanging standard,
unpolluted, undiluted.

Do you love it, or do you hate it?

And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart. Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it.

Malachi 2:1-3

And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts. My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him *for* the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name. *The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity. For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.*

Malachi 2:4-7

But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts. Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law.

Malachi 2:8-9

Divers weights, and divers measures, both of
them are alike abomination to the LORD.

Proverbs 20:10 (KJV)

Do you want the truth regardless of cost?

Or do you prefer a delusion?

It is high time to grow up and judge righteously.

It is high time to exercise discretion,
discriminating between 'spirit' and Spirit.

It is time for faces of flint, which choose to see.