

## Frequency Illusion

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Our eschatology determines how we live now. What I mean is that whatever we believe is going to happen in the end, determines how we live now. If we believe that it will be really bad and things will get worse and worse in order to usher in the end for Christ's return, then all we will see is the bad.

Actually, it is part of a phenomenon called frequency illusion, or "the Baader-Meinhof phenomenon." A frequency illusion is a **cognitive bias**, which takes place in the mind and affects the way we perceive the world around us. The idea was that we become more aware of things when we learn about them for the first time and that that can cause us to think that they are happening more often than they are in reality.

It's the premise that if you decide you want a new car. Say a blue bronco. You think you want that color because it is unique. Then you begin to see blue Broncos everywhere.

So, if you believe things are getting worse, that is all you will see, when in reality, things are getting better. Besides, the world is full of promises of how much God loves us and His victorious ending for us. I fully believe in a victorious eschatology, and it will just keep getting better and better.

The crazy that we have experienced over the last 4 or more years has been traumatic to say the least, but God was still there. Now we are seeing revival and reformation popping up all over the world.

Spontaneous worship on college campuses, people standing up against evil in schools and government. Young people are choosing to study the bible and follow Gods word in their lives, and older generations are still hanging in there to create a legacy for the Lord in their families.

The children of Israel experienced the same thing. Let's look at Psalm 107.

- 1) Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!  
His faithful love endures forever.
- 2) Has the LORD redeemed you? **Then speak out!**  
**Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.**
- 3) For he has gathered the exiles from many lands,  
from east and west,  
from north and south.
- 4) Some wandered in the wilderness,  
lost and homeless.
- 5) Hungry and thirsty,  
they nearly died.
- 6) "LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble,  
and he rescued them from their distress.
- 7) He led them straight to safety,  
to a city where they could live.
- 8) Let them praise the LORD for his great love  
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.
- 9) For he satisfies the thirsty  
and fills the hungry with good things.
- 10) Some sat in darkness and deepest gloom,  
imprisoned in iron chains of misery.
- 11) They rebelled against the words of God,  
scorning the counsel of the Most High.

- 12) That is why he broke them with hard labor;  
they fell, and no one was there to help them.
- 13) “LORD, help!” they cried in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress.
- 14) He led them from the darkness and deepest gloom;  
he snapped their chains.
- 15) Let them praise the LORD for his great love  
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.
- 16) For he broke down their prison gates of bronze;  
he cut apart their bars of iron.
- 17) Some were fools; they rebelled  
and suffered for their sins.
- 18) They couldn’t stand the thought of food,  
and they were knocking on death’s door.
- 19) “LORD, help!” they cried in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress.
- 20) He sent out his word and healed them,  
snatching them from the door of death.
- 21) Let them praise the LORD for his great love  
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.
- 22) Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving  
and sing joyfully about his glorious acts.
- 23) Some went off to sea in ships,  
plying the trade routes of the world.
- 24) They, too, observed the LORD’s power in action,  
his impressive works on the deepest seas.
- 25) He spoke, and the winds rose,  
stirring up the waves.

- 26) Their ships were tossed to the heavens  
and plunged again to the depths;  
the sailors cringed in terror.
- 27) They reeled and staggered like drunkards  
and were at their wits' end.
- 28) "LORD, help!" they cried in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress.
- 29) He calmed the storm to a whisper  
and stilled the waves.
- 30) What a blessing was that stillness  
as he brought them safely into harbor!
- 31) Let them praise the LORD for his great love  
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.
- 32) Let them exalt him publicly before the congregation  
and before the leaders of the nation.
- 33) He changes rivers into deserts,  
and springs of water into dry, thirsty land.
- 34) He turns the fruitful land into salty wastelands,  
because of the wickedness of those who live there.
- 35) But he also turns deserts into pools of water,  
the dry land into springs of water.
- 36) He brings the hungry to settle there  
and to build their cities.
- 37) They sow their fields, plant their vineyards,  
and harvest their bumper crops.
- 38) How he blesses them!  
They raise large families there,  
and their herds of livestock increase.

- 39) When they decrease in number and become impoverished through oppression, trouble, and sorrow,
- 40) the LORD pours contempt on their princes, causing them to wander in trackless wastelands.
- 41) But he rescues the poor from trouble and increases their families like flocks of sheep.
- 42) *The godly will see these things and be glad, while the wicked are struck silent.***
- 43) *Those who are wise will take all this to heart; they will see in our history the faithful love of the LORD.***

Verse 2 in this passage tells us “Has the LORD redeemed you? Then speak out!

Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.”

Then in vs 42 *Those who are wise will take all this to heart; they will see in our history the faithful love of the LORD.*

Author Kris Vallotton says that when we declare history, we are really telling HIS STORY!

Not only do we need to look back to history and declare HIS Goodness, His Story, we need to look forward to the victorious future and a glorious eternity.

There is a very popular quote, written by George Santayana in 1905.

*“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”*

A version of this quote has been attributed to many, but mainly Winston Churchill.

*“Those who fail to learn from the past are doomed to repeat it.”*

The premise being that if we don't purpose to learn and understand history, of America, of the world and many other things, we will repeat it. As a country, as a global people and individually in our lives.

The psalmist declares

*Let them praise the LORD for his great love  
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.*

*Let them exalt him publicly before the congregation  
and before the leaders of the nation.*

He encourages us to tell of God's redemption and praise him for it!

But looking at the current circumstances and only seeing the doom and gloom negates all of the wonderful things He does.

When the Covid pandemic showed up in America and everything shut down, people rushed to stores to stock up....I was never scared of running out of anything. I got off the couch, went to my pantry and then my freezer and realized how overstocked we were on everything. It was crazy and suddenly I realized how ridiculously blessed we were. Please know that I'm not bragging, but you see what you are looking for. If you get into fear of what may be coming, that is all you will see. The bad, and totally miss the good. Then at some time, not only will you not see the good, you will actually downplay it because it doesn't fit your worldview of what should be happening.

Believe it or not, our eschatology drives that. Maybe you need to ask God to show you truly what the word of God says.

Revelation 21:1-7 says

- 1) Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone.
- 2) And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.
- 3) I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.
- 4) He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”
- 5) And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new!” And then he said to me, “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.”
- 6) And he also said, “It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life.
- 7) All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

Quit looking for the wars and rumors of wars and what you think is supposed to happen before His coming. Look for God the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit and see what they are doing, then tell others about it. Praise Him for all He does and give Him glory. Then you will see it more and more...at least according to **Frequency Illusion** you will.