

**Outline for  
Objects in Mirror are Closer than They Appear**

**Specks as Mirrors  
April 10, 2010**

A new religion of tolerance is emerging in modern Israel- a religion which refuses to judge against sin, either in ourselves or others, but instead desensitizes us to evil. Over the years the Protestant antinomian emphasis upon cheap grace and no works has desensitized a whole culture to evil.

**Matthew 7:1-5** "Judge not, that you be not judged."

**Romans 2:19-24** . . . and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind,

**James 1:25** the perfect law of liberty

**II Corinthians 10:12** We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise.

A Yiddish Proverb reads *Der Spigel iz der greste farfirer*, meaning "The mirror is the great deceiver when we apply it to ourselves, but so clear when it comes to the faults of others."

Purpose statement: The very things that intensely annoy us or anger us about other people's behaviors should serve as warning indicators of the very things that God finds offensive in us.

Walt Whitman's Poem *Song of Myself*: "In all people I see myself, none more and not one a barley-corn less, the good or bad I say of myself I say of them."

Mark Twain added to that sentiment: "What any man sees in the human race is merely himself in the deep and private honesty of his own heart."

A challenge: When we see spiritual faults in others that we convert them into mirrors examining our own spiritual progress, looking for parallel things in ourselves that grieve God's Holy Spirit.

Psychologist Carl Gustav Jung studied a phenomenon he called a *Doppelganger*—or psychological double—a person recognizes in someone else an aspect of his own personality.

**Numbers 14:18** The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation."

**Children Learn What They Live**

By Dorothy Law Nolte, Ph.D.

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.

If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.

If children live with fear, they learn to be apprehensive.

If children live with pity, they learn to feel sorry for themselves.

If children live with ridicule, they learn to feel shy. If children live with jealousy, they learn to feel envy.  
If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.  
If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.  
If children live with tolerance, they learn patience.  
If children live with praise, they learn appreciation.  
If children live with acceptance, they learn to love.  
If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.  
If children live with recognition, they learn it is good to have a goal.  
If children live with sharing, they learn generosity.  
If children live with honesty, they learn truthfulness.  
If children live with fairness, they learn justice.  
If children live with kindness and consideration, they learn respect.  
If children live with security, they learn to have faith in themselves and in those about them.  
If children live with friendliness, they learn the world is a nice place in which to live.

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### Cats in the Cradle

My child arrived just the other day; Came to the world in the usually way  
But there were planes to catch and bills to pay. He learned to walk while I was away.  
He was talkin' 'fore I knew it. And as he grew he said,  
"I'm gonna be like you, Dad. You know I'm gonna be like you."

### CHORUS:

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon, Little boy blue and the man on the moon.  
"When you comin' home ?" "Son, I don't know when.  
We'll get together then. You know we'll have a good time then."

Well, my son turned ten just the other day.  
He said, "Thanks for the ball, Dad. Come on, let's play.  
Could you teach me to throw ?" I said, "Not today. I got a lot to do." He said, "That's okay."  
And he walked away and he smiled and he said, "You know, I'm gonna be like him, yeah.  
You know I'm gonna be like him." Chorus

Well, he came from college just the other day, So much like a man I just had to say,  
"I'm proud of you. Could you sit for a while ?" He shook his head and he said with a smile,  
"What I'd really like, Dad, is to borrow the car keys. See you later. Can I have them please?" Chorus

I've long since retired, my son's moved away. I called him up just the other day.  
"I'd like to see you, if you don't mind." He said, "I'd love to, Dad, if I could find the time.  
You see my new job's a hassle and the kids have the flu, But it's sure nice talkin' to you, Dad.  
It's been sure nice talkin' to you."

And as I hung up the phone it occurred to me, He'd grown up just like me.  
My boy was just like me.