

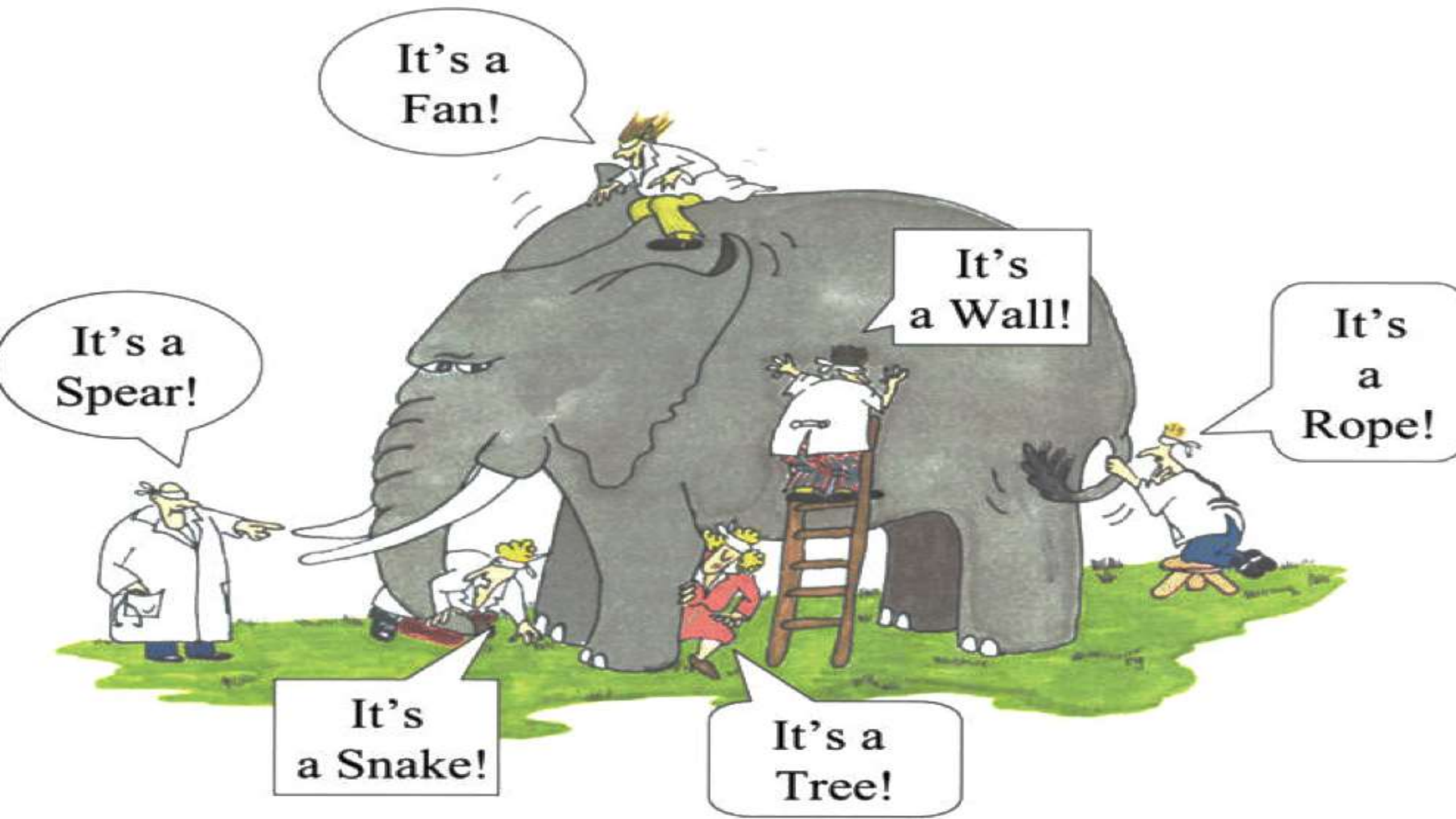




**Keeping Both Eyes Open**

# One-eyed Approach

- Fully see only one or the other of a two-sided proposition.
- Need to open both eyes and bring both sides into focus as one complete picture.
- Psalm 119:160
  - Consider all of God's truth, not just a portion.



It's a Fan!

It's a Snake!

It's a Wall!

It's a Rope!

It's a Snake!

It's a Tree!

# An Example

- **How is man saved?**
  - **Baptism? Acts 2:38**
  - **Faith? Romans 5:1**
  - **Grace? Ephesians 2:5, 8**
- **The entirety of God's truth on the subject is not given in a single passage.**
- **It is dangerous to have an one-eyed approach to studying this vital subject.**

# Goodness and Severity of God

- **Romans 11:22**
- **There are those who incorrectly focus (or emphasize) one trait to the neglect of the other.**
- **Some focus so much on God's goodness they become complacent and careless in their service.**
- **Some focus so much on God's severity they grow discouraged and fear they can never be pleasing to Him.**



# Goodness and Severity of God

- **God is good.**
  - Created in His image. Genesis 1:26, 27
  - Gave His Son to save us. John 3:16
  - Offers salvation to all men. Acts 10:34, 35
  - Blesses (Eph. 1:3) and rewards (Heb. 5:8, 9).
- **God is severe.**
  - Adam and Eve were driven from the garden, a flood was sent, Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed, Ananias and Sapphira were punished, and Herod was killed.

# Goodness and Severity of God

- **Both are seen in Jesus.**
- **Matthew 12:18-21**
- **Matthew 21:12, 13**
- **If your reading of Scripture only allows you to see one side of Jesus, you need to open both eyes.**



# Sharpness and Gentleness

- **Concerning those who sin...**
  - **There are some who approach every situation with gentleness.**
  - **There are those who approach every situation with firmness.**
  - **Both are needed at different times.**
- **A two-eyed approach will work best in these situations, as circumstances oftentimes play a role.**

# Sharpness and Gentleness

- **Sharpness is, at times, needed.**
  - **Titus 1:13**
  - **1 Corinthians 5:1-5**
  - **Paul strongly rebuked Peter.**
- **Gentleness is, at times, needed.**
  - **Galatians 6:1 deals with one “overtaken” or surprised rather than one who willfully walks directly in to sin.**

# Sharpness and Gentleness

- In many cases though the sin may be the same, there may be different ways of dealing with it.
- **1 Thessalonians 5:14**
  - Warn the unruly
  - Uphold the weak
  - Comfort the fainthearted
- **Jude 22, 23**

# Security and Danger

- **“Once saved, always saved” does not see danger.**
- **“Cannot be sure of salvation” does not see promises.**
- **Both views are unhealthy and unbiblical.**

# Security and Danger

- **Danger**

- **The dangers Christians face are very real.**
- **1 Corinthians 10:12**
- **Hebrews 3:12**

- **Security**

- **Don't allow the possibility of apostasy to rob you of the assurance we have in Christ.**
- **1 Corinthians 10:13**
- **2 Peter 1:10**