The Cracked Mirror:

Before man fell from grace, God’s creation could be viewed as a shiny new hand-held mirror. Looking into this mirror reflected his perfect image, the image we were created to embrace and reveal. God intended for us to live in a perfect environment in his perfect likeness, as reflections of his grace. (Imago Dei) Genesis 1:26. After the fall, Genesis 3:24, the mirror cracked, and the image now reflected is distorted and at times, ugly.

Ugliness in this life is all around us. Many Existentialists (who study existence) regard reality and the human situation as farcical or absurd. We suffer, get sick, endure pain, and die.

The existentialist view rests on the premise that there is no God. Therefore, if there is no one to give sense to the universe it must be senseless.

On the other hand, Christian Existentialism considers life along with the existence of God. This notion rejects atheistic existentialism since God provides order, character, and dignity of life when we listen to him. The Russian Christian Existentialist Fyodor Dostoevsky righty said “If there is no God then anything is permissible.” This may be one reason why so many have left the church today. Belief in God has become relevant. That is, God and meaning in life are defined by individual preference. This attitude lends itself to the creation of new gods. The Book of Judges observed: “In those days there was no King, every man did what was right in his own eyes.” Judges 21:25. Our King, Jesus Christ, has been relegated to a new and ill-informed status of just one of many gods. Just one example can be found in the cosmetic industry with its false promises by way of commercial advertisements. The worship of the body has become a new god of contemporary life. This industry has skyrocketed from 4 billion in sales 50 years ago to 130 billion today - and counting.

Bable in Genesis chapter 11, offers a fine example of the denial of God and man’s attempt to take his place. The narrative illustrates how confused we can become when we reject Divine authority.

Our language becomes ugly and inaccurate because our thoughts are foolish, and the slovenliness (messy, untidy) of our language makes it easier to have foolish thoughts. Confusion sets in.

Confusion is the playground of propaganda where truth, virtue, and moral purpose are seen as obstacles to the pursuit of pleasure. This is achieved by the manipulation of language by using euphemisms to mask the true meaning of a given subject. We are being encouraged to challenge societal norms. Reason and understanding are given new definitions resulting in a slow, and steady social anesthetizing of what is good and sound, in exchange for a false reality masquerading as “new and improved.”

The poisonous influences of hell have slithered their way onto the human stage and have numbed the minds of our young, strangling their imaginations, and filling their heads with dulling sloth. They are being fed a daily diet of charlatans, politicians, demagogues, and fanatics revered by journalists.

The mirror is indeed cracked. But it can be repaired and restored to that divine image and goodness of God, focusing once again, on the authority of Holy Scripture the precepts outlined in the Gospel, and the pursuit of Christian morality. A return to things of God where a distorted view of the past is a distant memory and a welcomed beckoning to God’s blessed paradise.

The Bishop